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Dec. 11, 1912.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV, No. 400. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 7, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Nov. 13	Hankow,	Dec. 31
San Francisco,	,, 14	Yokohama,	,, 10
Hongkong,	Dec. 29	Nagasaki,	,, 26
Tientsin,	,, 23	Foochow,	Jan. 1

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Oct. 3
Shanghai, ...Sept. 27
} Received 11th Nov.

BIRTH.

On the 2nd instant, the wife of L. A. TAVARES, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st December 1874, at St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Father Desjacques, MIERS CORYELL to MARIE LEONTINE BENETT.—No cards.

At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on 28th December, by the Rev. R. H. Kidd, Colonial Chaplain, THOMAS WILLIAM DUFF, Esq., of Chinkiang, to HELEN HARRIET SMITHERS, daughter of John Inglis, Esq.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Costa Rica*, for Nagasaki—Mr. Fukushima and servant, Mr. A. Visscher. For Yokohama—Messrs. O. B. O'Malley and E. J. Frazer. For San Francisco—Mr. Jno. Lawson and Mrs. F. F. Hardy. For New York—Mrs. J. J. Henderson. Per M. M. str. *Anadyr*, for Hongkong—Miss Clark, Messrs. Jno. M. Forbes, Laiprack, and Baldwin. For Marseilles—M. Blarez, L. de V.; Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Master C. H. Maclean, Mr. and Mrs. Maitland, child and servant, Messrs. D. R. Clark, A. F. Wheeler, G. Feliz-Freille, surgeon F.N., John Mesney, and Berthet, A. Nicholas, J. Nahre, P. Le Pain, seamen of the French barque *St. Francois*.

ARRIVED.—Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Japan—Messrs. R. Schlick and servant, Jno. Thorne, Jno. Middleton and servant, and Bigsby and servant. Steerage—1 European and 15 Chinese. Treasure—$62,250. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—Honble. P. Ryrie, and 47 Chinese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. Fraser, and 32 Chinese. Per str. *Yungching*, from Hongkong—60 Chinese. Opium—40 chests. Per str. *Glengyle*, from Hongkong—Mr. Jameson and servant. From Amoy—Mr. Henderson, U. S. Consul, Mrs. Henderson child and servant, R. Fukushima, Japanese Consul, and 16 Chinese. Per str. *Amoy*, om Hongkong—Messrs. Markwald, Leesman, Bruchen, and 23 Chinese.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Dec.	″	°	°	°					
31	30.500	33.5	33.0	28.0	7	b	..	4	N. N. E.
Jan									
1	30.500	34.0	38.0	27.0	7	b	..	3	N. E.
2	30 402	37.0	43.0	30.0	7	b	..	0	Z.
3	30.450	37.0	43.0	31 0	7	m	..	3	N. N. W.
4	30.302	39.0	46.0	32.0	7	b	..	0	Z.
5	30.302	37.0	43.0	31.0	7	f	..	3	N. N. W.
6	30.350	38.0	42.0	33.0	8	c	..	2	N. E.

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm, Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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Advertisements.

SUEZ HOTEL.
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VISITORS will find every comfort in this OLD-ESTABLISHED HOTEL, universally acknowledged the best in Egypt.

The Hotel has been thoroughly renovated, and large additions made this season.

This is now the best point to commence travel in Egypt, and very suitable for Passengers waiting Canal Steamers.

GEORGE WESTCOTT, *Manager.*
o-a-f 24ju 37

NOW READY,

A TRANSLATION OF THE "PEKING GAZETTE" for **1873**; 8vo. cloth Price—$ 2.

For Sale, at the *North-China Herald* Office, and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s, No. 1*a* Canton Road.

ALSO,

A TRANSLATION of the GAZETTE for **1872**. Price—$2. Reprinted from the *N.-C. Herald & S. C. & C. Gazette.*
tf 666 no-a-w Shanghai, 4th March, 1874.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.
tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

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THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, JAN. 7, 1875.

THE evidence and finding of the Court of Enquiry, held at Hongkong, to investigate the circumstances attending the loss by fire of the Pacific mail steamer *Japan*, which we publish to-day, clears up much of the obscurity hitherto surrounding that lamentable occurrence. The examinations, which extended over three days, appear to have been pursued with very great care and minuteness; and if the result shows that the catastrophe was one that might have been averted by the exercise of forethought in a particular department, it also places in a favourable light the organisation and discipline on board. Impartial witnesses testify that everything possible was done to save the ship; but there can be little doubt that to the prolonged efforts made in this direction, absorbing as they must have done the whole strength of the crew, was due the somewhat hasty abandonment of the vessel, without full advantage being obtained of the life-saving apparatus, and that serious loss

Dec. 11, 1912.

CARD CATALOGUED

of life, besides mails and treasure was the consequence. The enormous loss of life is, with one or two exceptions, confined to Chinese passengers, and it is conceivable that under the conditions detailed in the evidence, this was to a very great extent, if not altogether, beyond the control of the ship's officers. The fire had cut off communication amidships, and the Chinese forward, helpless and probably demented, too hastily, it would appear from the evidence, jumped overboard, weighted with the money which, in returning to their native country, they usually carry in a waist-belt, instead of buoyed by the life-preservers placed on board for their use. Some few, however, were picked up by the boats, and it is noteworthy that those saved had on life-belts. The fact that the fire broke out forward of amidships was also against the unfortunate Chinese passengers, not only because it cut off communication with the after part of the ship at an early stage of the occurrence, but because, having rushed on deck at the first alarm, they would be afraid to go below to obtain the life-belts which they had neglected at first to secure. The life-rafts would appear to have been got overboard somehow—Captain Warsaw says that at any rate they were not on the ship when he took a final survey of it; but if, as we are informed, it takes about an hour to launch them in an effective condition, it is to be feared they were practically useless in the emergency. The boats aft were in a proper state of readiness, and were launched successfully, and it is satisfactory to note that the Chinese abaft the fire, as well as the Europeans, were all rescued by them. The Purser's evidence explains how it happens that, seeing there was an interval of an hour-and-a-half to an hour-and-three-quarters between the outbreak of the fire and the abandonment of the ship, the mails could not be got out. The mail room was filled with smoke, and the unaided efforts of the purser resulted only in his getting at a few bags, which he was unable to carry to a place of safety. It seems a mistake not to have given more attention to such an important consideration as the saving of mails, but we have to remember that all hands were engrossed by their fire duties until it became too late to save anything but life. Still, had the mail-room been more readily accessible from the deck than it appears to have been, and had the purser received the assistance of one or two men, which he applied for, it would seem that the loss of mails might have been at least partially avoided. Two theories were advanced by those on board as to the origin of the fire. The first, supported by the captain and officers, and borne out by the evidence generally with a clearness which places it beyond all reasonable doubt, is that it broke out in a bunker forward. This bunker contained some 150 tons of coal, mostly shipped at Yokohama in a wet condition, but mixed with some former surplus, and had not been inspected at the time the other bunkers were. The Chief Engineer and his assistants incline to the belief that the fire occurred on the freight deck over the bunker, but though they may feel entitled to hold and express this opinion, the weight of evidence is decidedly against them, and the Court had no option but to find that the fire was spontaneously generated in the bunker referred to. The finding further points out, in the clearest and most impartial manner, whatever defects in organisation the evidence discloses; its suggestions are extremely sensible; and it awards praise and blame with commendable discrimination.

Summary of News.

We have had no mail arrival since last issue. The London mail of 20th Nov. is expected to-morrow, by the M.M. str. *Provence*; that of 27th Nov. left Hongkong to-day in the P. & O. Str. *Gwalior*. The American mail from San Francisco 30th Nov. is also expected to-morrow..

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week.

The survivors of the *Queen of the South* (the burning of which was mentioned in our telegraphic news last week) subsisted on the bodies of their companions.

By an Alphonsist pronunciamento at Madrid, Alphonso, the son of Isabella, is proclaimed King, and recognised by the armies.

A Conference of party leaders has been convened by MacMahon. They are unanimous to discuss the Constitutional laws integrally, but there is divergence concerning the transmission of powers.

Alphonso is everywhere peaceably recognised.

The movement has been effected without bloodshed.

The supposed Nana has been declared to be an impostor.

It is reported that there are hostile relations between Afghanistan and Persia.

Obituary—Ledru Rollin; The Duke of Montrose.

The index to Vol. XXX. of the *N.-C. Herald* and *S. C. & C. Gazette* (June-December, 1874) is circulated with to-day's issue.

It is satisfactory to know that the P. M. S. S. *China*, concerning the safety of which some rather disconcerting rumours were prevalent during last week, has arrived safely at Yokohama on the 30th ult. It will thus be seen that the *China* was a week overdue between San Francisco and Yokohama, a period sufficiently long in these times of successive disasters at sea to excite some degree of apprehension, although a considerable detention in crossing the Pacific at this season is by no means unusual.

We have to acknowledge the volume of Reports on Trade at the Treaty Ports for 1873, published by the I. M. Customs Statistical Department. We have also received the *Chinese Recorder* for November-December.

Contemporary with the issue of the Reports on Trade, we have also to notice the publication by the Customs of the Returns of Trade at the Treaty Ports, for the year 1873, giving statistics of the trade at each port. We hope soon to be able to review both volumes.

A Notice to Mariners by the Engineer-in-chief to the Customs intimates that the new first-order light on the N. E. Shantung Promontory is now in operation. It is elevated 200 feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather the white light should be visible at a distance of 21 nautical miles.

Professor Young, of the American Transit of Venus party to Peking, delivered a lecture on the Spectroscope and its contributions to Astronomical Science, in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday night, which was fairly attended. It would have been better, however, had the front room, which was used on the occasion of the previous lecture of the Course, been employed again, the acoustic properties of the large hall being unfavourable to public speaking. Professor Young gave an exhaustive and able exposition of his subject in simple but clear and forcible style, and illustrated it happily both in a verbal manner and by diagrams drawn on the blackboard. At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded the lecturer, on the motion of Dr. Macgowan, seconded by Mr. Forbes.

The Shanghai Temperance Society have received two valuable presents during the past week. The first is a handsome billiard table, from Captain Harmon, of the steamer *Hupeh*; the second, a cheque for Tls. 100, from W. Mesney, Esq., of the Chinese Military service, stationed at Chên-too-foo, but at present residing at Hankow.

We hear that the suggestions contained in the circular addressed by London Shareholders to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Directors, which we published last week, have either been anticipated or are already put into practical shape. Mr. David Maclean is to return to China as Inspector, while Mr. T. Jackson, formerly Manager at Yokohama, will take charge in London. Mr. Rowett, lately a member of the Board at Hongkong, will it is reported advise with Mr. Jackson on the home side.

The Chinese Imperial Loan which we announced as forthcoming a few weeks since, has been advertised by the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. It is for £627,615 altogether, but the first issue is to be for £539,748; security, certain portions of the Imperial Foreign Maritime Customs Revenue, which have been assigned to the Bank in trust for the bondholders.

Interest, 8 per cent per annum ; 3/20ths of principal repayable, in Foochow, on 19th June, 1876 ; and 1/20th every 6 months till 1884. The issue price is 95 % at exchange 4s. 1¼d. per dollar, or 5s. 7d. per tael—$462.94 or Tls. 340.30 per £100 bond.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce was held on Tuesday, R. I. Fearon Esq., Chairman, when the Report and Accounts were passed. The former was published by us last week. The new Committee appointed are Messrs. W. Keswick, E. Cunningham, C. J. King, A. Hennequin, F. Nissen, M. Gubbay, F. H. Bell, J. A. Taylor, E. H. Lavers, and J. G. Purdon. The questions discussed were the compilation of Stocks of Imports ; a proposal for the establishment of a Pilotage Board ; Reuter's Telegrams, and Transit Dues. A full report will be found elsewhere.

Expression has been given in the Shanghai Press to a strong feeling of indignation, and we may add disgust, which has been excited in the community by the appearance of an offensive paragraph in the *London and China Express* of 13th November respecting the death of a popular and much-regretted member of H. B. M. Consular Service in China.

We have pleasure in placing before our readers the text of the despatch by G. F. Seward, Esq., U.S. Consul-General, which was referred to in our notice last week of the Annual Report on the Commercial Relations between the United States and Foreign Nations, for 1873. It is a thoughtful and suggestive review of the position of our relations with China, present and to some extent prospective, and as such it will be read with much interest.

Dividends have been notified for the half-year ending 31st ult. by the following Companies :— Yangtsze Insurance Association, 7½ per cent.; Shanghai Steam Navigation Co., 3 per cent. ; Shanghai Gas Company, 5 per cent.

The hearing of the case of the French brig *St. Francois* against the steamer *Cawdor Castle*, was brought to a close yesterday afternoon, before R. A. Mowat, Esq., sitting as Registrar, and Messrs. A. J. Little and M. Coryell, as Merchant Assessors. The owners of the brig were represented by Mr. Robinson, and those of the steamer by Mr. Wainewright. The forenoon was taken up by the hearing of evidence as to the ship's capacity, measurement of cargo, and other minor details ; and the afternoon with speeches of counsel, who severally referred to and commented upon the evidence given and points raised in favour of and against the numerous items of which the plaintiff's claim for damages was made up. The Court and Assessors took time to consider their award.

At the Supreme Court on Tuesday, before Sir Edmund Hornby, Chief Judge, James Malone, late Captain of the schooner *Alexandra*, sued Mr. Joseph Walton, the owner, for $264, balance of wages due, and $550 as per account stated, for disbursements, &c., and the cost of a passage from this port to Australia. Mr. Hannen appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Wainewright conducted the defendant's case. Mr. Hannen, in placing the case before his Lordship, said the main facts to go upon were that the plaintiff was engaged by the defendant at Adelaide in May last year, and was subsequently made Captain of the vessel at a salary of £15 per month. The ship was to go to Freemantle and Singapore, and back to the Colonies. The plaintiff was engaged for six months, and according to the terms of the articles to be discharged in the Australian Colonies. If he were discharged in a foreign port, then a passage was to be provided for him back to Australia. This was endorsed upon the articles. The other claim was for expenses incurred on shore, and for money paid by plaintiff on defendant's behalf. Plaintiff had been discharged at Shanghai after having fulfilled the terms of his agreement, but the defendant had refused to pay or provide him with a passage or refund the amounts he had disbursed. The case for the defence was that plaintiff was engaged by the defendant in the first instance as superintendent of riggers, while the vessel was on the slip at Adelaide, on the 23rd May, 1874, at the rate of £14 per month (captain's pay.) On the 15th of June plaintiff's name was placed upon the register as captain at £15 per month. The ship went from Freemantle to Singapore, and on to Shanghai. Defendant always transacted all shore business, except entering and clearing the ship, shipping men, &c. Defendant, in giving evidence, also swore that his agents in Adelaide, Elder Smith & Co., had told him that an agreement had been signed by them in conjunction with Capt. Malone, but that the latter had since told him he had torn it up ; and again, that he (the defendant) had never seen the articles or the clause in writing providing for plaintiff's passage home. He discharged the captain for personal reasons and because he did not suit him, but not until after he had served his term of agreement, viz., six months. He had agreed that if the plaintiff was discharged *within* the six months from the date of signing articles, he would give him one month's pay and £10 towards his passage money. After some conversation respecting the items of the account rendered by the plaintiff, both Counsel addressed the Court on behalf of their respective clients, at the conclusion of which his Lordship reserved judgment.

The sum of $175 has been collected by the exertions of Captains Peters and Thomson, of the British ships *Inverness* and *Omba*, from some of the vessels in harbour, on behalf of the crew of the *Horatio*, who lost their property in the fire which destroyed that ship. Yesterday, at the U. S. Consulate, Mr. O. B. Bradford distributed the money in suitable proportions.

A seaman of the U.S. corvette *Kearsage* was drowned early on Tuesday morning under peculiar circumstances. The man was seen by a policeman on duty on the Bund coming from the direction of the French Settlement in a jinricksha. He got out when opposite Messrs. Russell & Co.'s, and walked along the jetty to the pontoon, followed by the jinricksha man. From words he overheard, the constable walked along the jetty towards them, and suddenly hearing a plunge in the water, he hastened forward and saw the seaman clinging to a cargoboat, the force of the current quickly dragging him under. The constable sprang on to the cargoboat, and tried to reach the poor-fellow, but could not, for he soon disappeared, and was of course drowned. The constable got into a sampan and made a thorough search at the spot, but found only the unfortunate man's cap, which bore the badge of the *Kearsage*. Yesterday, at the U. S. Consulate, before O. B. Bradford, Esq., a deposition was made by the police constable, who in addition to the factsmentioned above, said he saw no indication of drunkenness on the part of the deceased, and that the jinriksha coolie was not near him when he fell into the river.

A case of successful highway robbery has been reported at both the English and French police stations. It appears that a French gentleman while proceeding homewards along the French Bund from a party, at about 1.30 on Sunday morning last, was violently assaulted by a Chinaman, who struck him a severe blow across the face with a bamboo, knocking him down. While he was on the ground, the thief robbed him of his watch, chain, and trinkets, valued at $42. The number of the watch is 30,907, and this may possibly lead to identification and recovery. The unfortunate gentleman also had his hand much hurt in endeavouring to defend himself.

It appears from our PEKING correspondent's Notes, that although the illness of the Emperor from small-pox caused considerable uneasiness, the Imperial patient was already convalescent when the latest advices were despatched. Another correspondent, noticing a rumour that the illness was of the most serious character, says the attack was very slight, only twenty-six vesicles appearing. There was a report that his Majesty would by and bye proceed to one of the temples to offer sacrifice, when he would be visible to all. Whether this had reference to some special thanksgiving service on his recovery, or to the Winter Solstice ceremonial, which Prince Tun has been deputed to perform, we are unable to say. It seems not unlikely, however, that after the three months during which his Majesty is to remain in seclusion, he should make a public appearance, for the former purpose and the satisfaction of his subjects. Later news from the capital, received yesterday, informs us that the Emperor continues to progress toward recovery. A great festival was to be held on the 23rd ult., in honour of the Goddess of Smallpox, when a quantity of paper offerings were to be burnt in front of the Palace.

It is reported that Li Tsung-shi, Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, has applied for leave to retire, owing to bad health. In the event of his request being granted, it is thought not improbable that he will be succeeded by Tseng Kin-tsuen a younger brother of the late Tseng Kuo-fan. There seems to be a fatality connected with the post of Viceroy at NANKING ; no one appears able to hold it long without being either murdered, dying, or falling sick.

OUTPORT, COAST and JAPAN news will be found elsewhere.

Editorial Selections.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT.

It is significant of the continual backwardness of the Chinese Government, that year after year the annual report of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce should be of so similar a nature. A little variation takes place this year, from the Chamber of Commerce at Hankow having pointed out as flagrant a breach of the treaties with regard to transit passes as has been noticed for some time. It is almost wearisome to have to go over old ground again and again, and to reiterate year after year the same old arguments, yet this is exactly the position in which the Chamber finds itself at the termination of the year 1874. It is now some four years since it was supposed that all difficulty with regard to import certificates had been removed, by mutual consent. At all events, practically, no obstacles were placed in the way of transit certificates being taken out by anyone on imported foreign goods, the only questions asked being such as were necessary to prove the identity of the goods. The claim was founded on the express stipulation in the Treaty of Nanking, confirmed by that of Tientsin, that goods of British import having paid import duties, and a further sum in commutation of transit exactions, would, whether in native or foreign hands, be held exempt from further impost. At the time, we commented on the curious point that, although the plain meaning of the treaty had at last been accepted, and that notifications had been issued, taking away all disabilities attaching to natives applying for transit passes, no notice had been given of the fact by the Foreign Ministers at Peking.* Whether it was beneath ministerial dignity to take notice of a matter which affected most intimately the entire of our import trade, or whether Ministers knew nothing of what was going on around them, we had no means of discovering. The negligence, or ignorance, of those charged with foreign mercantile interests has, however, as might have been anticipated, borne fruit. The once exploded attempt to recognise distinctions of ownership is again brought up; and a British Consul at Hankow, apparently unconsirous of all that has been previously accomplished with regard to the very same question, does not find himself in a position to prevent a serious breach of treaty rights being perpetrated in his own jurisdiction. Were we in a country in which official ignorance was less common than in China, we should have a difficulty in comprehending this curious position of affairs; but when we discover that our ex-minister has never even read an Order in Council which ruled in China for some years after he had occupied an official position there, we cannot be surprised at similar errors on the part of subordinate officers. With regard to the Woosung Bar, it is instructive to compare the course of action on the part of the Chinese Government with the proceedings of that at Yeddo. Foreign merchants at Yokohama have never had to urge the same complaints with regard to harbour accommodation, as we in Shanghai have had to do from year to year, and as yet without a sign of having made any impression. It was only a few weeks ago that we had to notice the remarkable fact that, notwithstanding that the improvement of Yokohama harbour has never had to be made an international question, the Japanese Government is of its own motion coming forward with a scheme to perfect the harbour arrangements at an estimated cost of nearly two million dollars. That Government is fully alive to the fact that in improving and extending mercantile facilities, it is in reality strengthening its own position. Such an example should not be lost sight of in the present juncture. Why, if it cannot see its way to strengthening its own position, should Japan desire to carry out such works? And why should the Chinese Government, with all its desire to thwart every scheme having for its object the advantage of trade, be continually losing ground, not only in the estimation of foreigners, but in its relations with its own subjects? A similar instance of objectless obstruction, where no possible advantage can be supposed to accrue, is exhibited in the refusal to amend the tariff for certain goods differing slightly in size from those ordinarily imported into the Shanghai market. Why, if it were not for the love of obstruction for its own sake, should any opposition be made to a request to alter the import rate on pieces bearing but a fractional proportion to those on which the tariff rate has been already fixed? If Figured Lustres 29 yards long and 31 inches wide are required in the market, why could not even a Chinese official be made to see that reason itself called for a proportionate rate of duty as compared with precisely similar goods 40 yards long and 36 inches wide? These matters, trivial in themselves, are but indications of the perverse policy which at present rules everything in China, from the highest to the least important. That the Chamber does not embody a longer string of complaints in its reports than it has done, arises not from any feeling that these are the only matters needing amelioration, but from the knowledge that till some desire to get rid of aimless obstructiveness is exhibited at head-quarters, the more numerous its complaints the less likely are they to meet with attention.

* See *N.-C. Herald* June 16th and 23rd, and again Oct. 18th and Nov. 1st, 1871.

SUPERNATURAL FAVOUR TOWARDS CHINA.

China is a very wonderful country, if we are to believe the Peking Gazettes. In fact it enjoys, on the same authority, quite a monopoly of celestial powers. The only wonder is that, enjoying this wonderful monopoly, it yet continues to get so persistently stuck in the mud. Not only are the supernatural powers continually lending their aid to get the empire out of its messes, but the question of the manner in which they shall be rewarded is a matter of State policy. The Emperor is, we are aware, all powerful on earth, and not only able to command such feeble States as England, France, or the United States, but he has lately shown his prowess in utterly demolishing the Mikado of Japan. His prowess does not, however, end there. The Peking Gazette assures us, and the Peking Gazette never errs, that the all-powerful spirits of the unseen world equally wait on his behests. Does he desire the grain junks to come safely to Tientsin, he has only to bribe the *Tienhow* by the offer of an extra title or two, and the mighty Queen of Heaven at once sets herself to the task of preserving the junks, and with them one of China's worst curses—the grain tribute. Does the Peiho overflow its banks, the Emperor can stop it by canonising two wretched little snakes; or, as we learn from the Gazette of the 7th December, does the Yellow River threaten to inundate the country, the Mandarins have only to carry out the image of the defunct Li Yü-mei, and to promise to ask His Majesty to confer a reward on his spirit, when suddenly the thing is done, and the water goes down. The proofs of this power of the Emperor are so numerous and so specific, that we can only wonder that the spiritualists of Shanghai have not applied to the Throne to get rid of a certain very officious and very vulgar-minded ghost said to haunt their *séances*. Indeed, we may go further, and express our astonishment, seeing that the spirits who influence these matters are so very easily cajoled into giving their assistance, that the Emperor should not arrange such a liberal system of rewards that the Empire might be governed, the taxes raised, and content and good order established, by some such ready system. People in Kiangsu are notoriously displeased that their trade should be impeded by the present exorbitant rate of taxation. Suppose the Emperor was to confer additional honours on T'ai-peh, call him an Imperial Highness, or something of the sort, and give the poor old spirit the smoke of some yellow rags to clothe himself withal, would it not be signally certain that the promised reward would be as effective as in the case of the Governor of Shantung and the spirit of Li Yü-mei? Surely we are entitled to reason these things out to their legitimate conclusions. Why should not T'ai-peh (we only adduce his name for an example, as having borne a respectable character, and as having founded the state of Woo,—say Kiangnan) be as easily caught

with soft sawder as Li Yü-mei? If it be an honour to the spirit of the latter to get a place beside the Four Golden Dragons in order to ease the irritation of his spirit nature, why should not the same influences affect the spiritual essence of the other? If spirits can bring their shoulders to the task and strengthen an embankment, while Mandarins stand by and admire in place of hurrying on the work, why should they not equally well save the latter the trouble of ruling their people or administering justice? There are spirits of vastly superior character to any Mandarins going nowadays, who are doubtless only waiting for a nod of the imperial head to set the empire on its legs.

AN EXPLANATION.

At the Chamber of Commerce meeting on Tuesday, the Chairman, R. I. Fearon, Esq., in expressing the satisfaction of members with the action of H. B. M. Minister in the settlement of the Formosan difficulty, took occasion to notice an article in one of the local papers which he thought was calculated to give a wrong impression of the general state of feeling among the mercantile community regarding that affair. We are probably right in assuming that we were the journal he referred to, and it is fitting that we should offer some explanation of the circumstances under which we were led to put forward what we are not sorry to find was the view of a minority. When the terms of the convention were made known, we hastened to give public expression to the approval with which we believed the settlement would be universally received, and more especially to congratulate Mr. Wade on having accomplished a difficult task in a manner apparently so satisfactory to both countries. "Mr. Wade," we wrote, "as representing Great Britain, could have had no interest in setting the two countries by the ears, and every reason, in the interests of legitimate trade, to reconcile them if possible." But the subject was one regarding which there was much divergence of opinion at the time, and we felt constrained to give a place to the consideration of it from a different point of view. "A great many," we said, "seemed to think that more benefit was likely to redound to foreigners and foreign commerce generally, out of a prolongation of the misunderstanding, than out of its summary removal; an impression which is to be attributed, not at all to any sanguinary desire to see two nations engaged in mortal combat, but, we verily believe, to a painful sense which pervades the minds of all classes of foreigners in China that we foreigners stand politically in a false position, and that any change, no matter at what cost, would be an enviable one." And our article generally was the expression of what we understood to be a prevalent sentiment, that some new and positive advantage to foreign interests should follow from the essential service which Mr. Wade had been able to render to China. At the same time we were careful to remark: "Nothing has as yet transpired to prove that Mr. Wade has not fully availed himself of the favourable opportunity afforded him, to secure some positive advantage to his country and its trade." And we concluded: "But should it not have occurred to him to have used the occasion to good purpose, it is much to be feared that the existing discontent with the state of our relations will be seriously intensified, and that China will only too soon forget the lasting service which has been rendered her in her time of need." On a subsequent occasion, without losing sight of the considerations of ultimate advantage to foreigners advanced in the article we have quoted from, we re-affirmed distinctly our first view, that Mr. Wade had done well to procure a settlement of the dispute. We hope, therefore, we may claim to have endeavoured solely to present in an impartial manner the various aspects under which the settlement appeared to us to be regarded by our fellow-residents; and if the divergent opinions which certainly did exist have become consolidated into one of "unqualified satisfaction," we can only say that it now gives us much pleasure to record the fact on the excellent authority of the popular and courteous Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

Outports.

PEKING.

Considerable uneasiness has been felt throughout Peking during the past week, owing to the news that his Majesty the Emperor has been attacked with small pox. The disease declared itself on the 9th inst., the day of the transit of Venus, and shortly afterwards was reported as having assumed a severe type. The *Peking Gazette* of the 14th inst., contained the first public intimation of his Majesty's illness, in the shape of a decree appointing the Seventh Prince, youngest of his Majesty's three uncles, to offer the winter solstice sacrifices at the Temple of Heaven.

The observations of the Transit on the 9th inst were very successfully made at the French, Russian, and American observatories. Although the morning proved cloudy, and the sun was at intervals obscured, the four important periods of contact were all successfully recorded. The French astronomers succeeded in taking nearly 150 perfect photographs. At the American observatory about 90 were secured. The Minister Chung How was present at the French Legation throughout the observations, in which he appeared to take great interest; and he invited the astronomers a day or two afterwards to visit the old Jesuit observatory, where he acted as cicerone to the interesting scientific relics which form one of the best known "sights" of Peking. A similar compliment was paid to the American astronomers.

Peking, Dec. 16.

CHEFOO.

Father Christmas has come upon us in very genial guise, for the 25th was more like a fine spring day than such as is generally considered appropriate to his advent. As may be supposed, festivity has been the order of the season, and last night was no exception to the rule, when at the house of one of our leading merchants—a gentleman no less famed for his universal hospitality than for the splendour of his entertainments—we passed a most enjoyable evening. The guests were numerous, and the fun was kept up until an *early* hour, every one seeming loth to leave such pleasant quarters.

On the 25th, service was held for the first time in the new chapel, and was conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Greenwood and Scott, clergymen of the Church of England, in presence of the largest congregation we have ever seen in Chefoo. We believe this is the first Christmas service at this port which has been performed by ministers of that Church; and everything that care and choral effect could do to make it complete, was most thoroughly carried out. And here let us remark on the obligations under which the community are placed to the different members of the choir, and more especially to the ladies, who, sparing neither time nor trouble, rendered possible the production of the fine vocal and instrumental music with which we were favoured.

The chapel has been a long time in attaining completion, and that it has done so even now is mainly due to the great generosity of two gentlemen of this community, one of whom made a most munificent donation at the outset, while the other, besides subscribing liberally at first, eventually advanced the funds still wanting for the completion of the building. The edifice, without being possessed of marked architectural grandeur, yet presents an amount of chaste and symmetrical simplicity which justifies us in describing it as a pretty and tasteful structure, doing credit alike to the architect and the community. We are sure we are only echoing the general wish, when we express the hope that ere long there will be sufficient money forthcoming to pay off the debt, and put up the remaining necessary fittings, for the perfect carrying out of the church service.

H.I.G.M.S. *Arcona* is looked for daily from Nagasaki. She has gone there, as you are doubtless aware, for the purpose of comparing and obtaining observations, with a view of fixing the position of Chefoo. It is said that she will make another trip to Japan and back before taking her final departure from our port. The astronomers are still very busy, and we hear they purpose remaining until the middle of February.

There is a great dearth of news at present, and we hear of nothing startling in the business world. There are a number of vessels in the harbour, a rather unusual circumstance at this time of the year. The *Bridgetown*, an English vessel, six months out from England, is daily looked for.

Dec. 26th.

NEWCHWANG.

From Newchwang we have dates via Peking to the 1st Dec., being the first of the overland fortnightly mails for the winter. The China Merchants Co.'s str. *Fusing* had arrived, but the Company take things so leisurely, writes our correspondent, that she did not discharge all her inward cargo, and only took in some 3,000 pieces of beancake. Business was quiet, and winter had well set in. The lowest range of the thermometer (Fahr.) was on 24th Nov., when it marked 8 degrees, but it was expected that it would yet go 18 or 20 degrees lower, giving about 42 degrees of frost. Skating had begun, but the ice was bad and it was hoped would be improved by the fall of snow which had begun before the mail left. Messrs. Bush Brothers report as to business:—

Small parcels of goods continue to be sold, viz.: *Grey Shirtings* 8.4-lb. (Lion Chop) Tls. 1.68. *T-Cloths* 7-lb. Tls. 1.52; 8lb. (Tiger Chop) Tls. 1.60. *English Drills*, (Dragon) Tls. 2.40.

Rates for produce are as follows :—

Cash now, Delivery in the Spring.

Beancake,	Tls.	2.60	per 10ps.
Pea,	,,	1.90	,, 300c.
Oil,	,,	2.90	,, picul

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* states that after a temperance meeting held by the Rev. Wilton Hack, at Hiroshima recently, a native was so impressed with what he had heard that he went straight home, emptied the contents of his *saki* bottles on the floor, and then proceeded to smash the bottles. This incident caused Mr. Hack to think that a temperance society might be successfully worked among the natives. The idea was soon practically carried out, and a society formed, conducted by Japanese, for the purpose of opposing the drinking customs of the day. There are at present eleven members.—Mr. Hack has preached through a native interpreter successfully, 13 Japanese having professed the Christian religion and been baptized publicly. Negociations are pending for the erection of a church at Hiroshima, capable of holding 1,000 persons.

HIOGO.

The *News* announces that telegraphic communication was established with the town of Ichinoseki in Oshiu (Mutsu) on the 20th ult.—The failure of another great native banking house is reported, that of Shimada, the doors of whose establishments at Yedo and Osaka were closed on the 18th ult.—The sale of another river steamer, the twin-screw *Victoria*, to Japanese, is reported, the sum named being $18,500.—A camp of exercise was established in the vicinity of Miki, a town about 15 miles to the Westward of Hiogo. The troops had some field guns with them, and the manœuvres, which commenced on the 19th ult., occupied a week.—The Kobe Hunt had another good run on the 19th ult., the country selected being just beyond Hiogo.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* states that Yedo was lit with gas for the first time on the night of the 18th ult.—The papers are much exercised in discussing the proposal of the Government to construct large and expensive harbour works at this port. The *Mail* is dubious as to their probable usefulness, and says such works "would facilitate trade somewhat, but will not make it. What we want to see is the expenditure of money on works which will make trade. The Minister of Public Works who will give a good system of macadamized roads to the empire, will deserve the first place in the memory of posterity, and write his name imperishably on the face of the country."—Another shock of earthquake was felt at Tokei, at 2.40 P.M. on the 19th ult —The Formosa fleet arrived at Shinagawa on the night of the 18th ult.—The *Herald* says that the losses of the Japanese during their temporary occupation of Formosa, from fever and dysentery, are stated to be not less than six hundred, and a still larger number are debilitated by disease, and probably will never recover their pristine health. One way or another, not a few fighting men who have hitherto taken a heroic and romantic view of war, may be regarded as entirely cured of their military ardour, and are not likely to prove in that way troublesome to the Government again.—The interesting spectacle of the presentation of colours by his Majesty the Emperor to the regiments of his body-guard was witnesed on the 19th ult.—The residence of Mr. John Henderson, known as the Firs, was destroyed by fire on the 17th ult., and so rapid was the spread of the flames that not a single article of value was saved, the inmates barely escaping with their lives.—On the morning of the 20th ult., the publishing office of the *Herald* had a narrow escape from destruction by fire. An office on the premises, in the occupation of Mr. E. Abbott, bill and bullion broker, took fire, and the flames were not extinguished until the contents had been almost entirely destroyed. The origin of the fire is a mystery, but it is supposed to have been the result of carelessness by somebody smoking, and it had evidently smouldered during the entire night.—Small-pox is so prevalent at Tokei, that the authorities have been bestirring themselves to adopt measures for the prevention of its dissemination, by instituting a rigid system of examination, followed, where necessary, by vaccination. Several cases among Europeans at Yedo have been reported, and it is said that one of them has terminated fatally.—M. Verny, of the Imperial Arsenal at Yokoska, has undertaken the plan and superintendence of the execution of the monument to the memory of those who lost their lives by the wreck of the M.M. Company's steamer *Nil*.—The *Gazette* announces that the Oriental Bank Corporation is prepared to receive at par, from customers, the American trade dollar; and, adds the above paper, "there can be no doubt that the coin is fully equal in value to the Mexican dollar, and has only been kept out of legitimate circulation by a prejudice as unjust as unreasonable."—On the 20th ult., James H. Austin and Murray were drinking with some others in a public house. One of the party noticed an old gun in a corner. Murray took it up, and pointed it close to Austin's head, not knowing it was loaded, when it went off, tearing away almost all the flesh from Austin's left cheek, but without injuring the bone.—The Prefecture of Police of Tokio has addressed the following curious circular to all the *cho* of Japan :—"Any person, in European costume, meeting His Imperial Majesty, will be obliged to salute the Emperor by holding his hat under his left arm, and lowering his right hand to his knees. Those who do not wear a hat will be obliged to lower both hands to the knees whilst bowing before the Emperor."—The *Herald* states that on the morning of the 18th ult., Chevalier von Schaeffer, Austro-Hungarian Minister Resident to Japan, had an audience of H. M. the Mikado, to present his letters of credence. The Minister's suite was composed of Mr. von Roretz, Chevalier von Siebold, and Baron Oesterreicher, Captain of the Austrian corvette *Freidrich*, who, together with Count de Batthiany, were also introduced to the Emperor.—Some time ago a Chinaman employed in a tea-firing godown in Yokohama, in a fit of passion kicked a Japanese employed under him, wounding a vital part, and causing an injury from which the victim died. The aggressor has had the severe sentence passed upon him by the Japanese Court of imprisonment for life.—The first snow of the present winter fell on the night of the 21st ult., but quickly melted as the sun rose.

HONGKONG.

The *Mail* supplies the following details of the floating of the *Alaska*:—The *Alaska* floated last evening (22nd ult.) at 5.10, and shortly after was hauled off to her moorings. She then drew 10 feet forward and 11 feet 8 inches aft. The pontoons were then filled and sunk, and next morning were removed. Since their removal the steamer draws 14 feet forward, and 14 feet 10 inches aft. She will first take in her new shaft, and then go into the dock at Aberdeen. More especially, in view of recent calamities, are we rejoiced to hear, for the sake of the Company, of the success attending the attempt to carry the *Alaska* off the beach, and we are glad to congratulate Captain Roberts upon the ingenuity of his conception of, and the skill with which he has made practicable, the means of taking the huge vessel off a rocky beach into deep water. When the ship was lifted, she was moved some 50 feet astern, and held there until a further rise of the tide, when she was floated broadside out, bodily, and is now lying in about 7 fathoms water.—The *Press* of the 24th ult. says the operations for raising the steamers *Albay* and *Leonor* are being carried on with every prospect of success. One of the steamers is already sufficiently raised to enable the divers to get under her, and it is expected that they will both be up in a few days.

We give elsewhere to-day the evidence together with the finding in the Enquiry into the burning of the steamer *Japan*, which was held on the 24th, 26th and 28th ult. The finding of the Court which sat to enquire into the loss of the steamer *Mongol* has also been published. The master and chief officer being drowned, the Court refrain from expressing any opinion on the subject, but beg leave to offer the evidence for submission to the Board of Trade. As the *China Mail* remarks, however, "it is possible to carry even the maxim of *de mortuis nil nisi bonum* too far. The memory of the deceased should be cleared if no blame attached to them, and censure if merited would not have hurt their bones. The public had a right to look for the expressed opinion of the Court." The public certainly had a right to expect that the Court would express an opinion on evidence before it, with such reservation as to it might seem just, in view of the unhappy circumstance that the captain and chief officer could not appear to give evidence or defend themselves. The inference to be drawn from silence naturally is that the opinion if expressed would have been unfavourable.—Fire broke out in the house of Mr. Algar, Hollywood-road, on the evening of 24th Dec., but was extinguished before serious damage was done.—The sunken steamer *Leonor* has been successfully removed to opposite the City Hall.—An inquest has been held at the Military Hospital, on the body of a private soldier named Thomas Yates, who, with two others, got a quantity of bad liquor in Sailor Town on Christmas Eve, and was found dead in his bed on Christmas morning. The other two had the liquor succesfully pumped out of them.—The *Daily Press* has the following :—A very large tiger has been entrapped in a pit over on the Kowloon side, about twenty miles inland. The Chinese who caught the animal, came over here to invite some Europeans to go and shoot it, to enable them to make medicine out of it. Two Europeans accordingly set out on Monday morning, but one of them broke down five miles off the place, and the other went on. On his arrival at the spot, seeing the tiger was such a fine specimen, he at once struck a bargain and bought it. It will shortly be brought over to Hongkong to be exhibited.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

December 7th.—The acting Governor of Shantung memorializes soliciting an acknowledgment of the divine protection afforded by the presiding spirit of the Yellow River. It was requested last year, by the Governor Ting Pao-chêng, in consequence of the aid supernaturally manifested on divers occasions on behalf of the embankment works at Kün Ch'êng by the Great Prince Li 栗大王 (the canonized spirit of a former Governor-General of the Yellow River, named Li Yü-mei

栗毓美), that an honorific title be Imperially conferred upon this divinity, and that he be included for purposes of worship within the temple of the Four Great Golden Dragon Princes. The latter portion of this request was acceded to, on confirmation by the Board of Ceremonies, but the bestowal of a title of honour was ordered to be held in suspense pending further manifestations of divine response in time of need. The Governor now reports that in the sixth moon of the present year, when officials were employed under his orders in attending to the safety of the embankments, the waters of the river became swollen, and a time of danger presented itself at the confluence of the Tsi Ho. The banks appeared as though shaken, and a day and a night were spent in labours of repair without ensuring safety. It was not until the following day, when [the effigy of] the Four Great Golden Dragons and of the Great Prince Li were brought to the scene of the works, that the current abated its force, and the abutments were securely strengthened. At another moment of danger, on the 3rd of September, when the banks were in imminent peril, the civil and military officials, with the people and militia, threw themselves for a long while on their knees and offered up supplications; the effigy of the god having arrived at the spot, no further sapping away of the embankment took place. Earlier in the year, when the grain-junks from the South were waiting at Pa-li Miao to enter the northern section of the Canal, on prayers being reverently offered up by the acting Governor, the waters suddenly rose to the needful height,—and the Governor proceeded to Chang-ts'iu to prostrate himself in the temple and return thanks. (See *Gazette* of Aug. 4th). Similarly, when the grain-junks were on their way back, after discharging their cargoes, and were stopped at Tung-ch'ang for want of water, the Yellow River rose sufficiently to increase the volume of the Canal, and the squadron sailed on its way southward. These repeated instances of divine interposition are considered sufficient to warrant the bestowal of a title of honour.—Rescript: Let the Board of Ceremonies consider and report.

Dec. 8th.—The Superintendents of the Granaries report the delivery of the total amount of the year's supply of grain, remitted from the provinces, in the storehouses at Peking and T'ung Chow, and apply for appropriate rewards on behalf of the officials concerned in the service. They have already reported the delivery in full of the contingents due this year on account of the regulation supplies from Kiang-su and Chekiang, forwarded by sea, and from Kiang Peh and Shantung, forwarded by canal, as well as the quantities purchased and sent forward from Kiangsu and Chekiang, together with the complementary amounts of grain from Newchwang on account of the years 1872 and 1873. The officers in charge at T'ung Chow have now presented their report to the effect that by the 22nd November there had been carried into the granaries at Peking ration rice and grain to the amount of 1,275,030 *piculs* 5 *tow*, 6.8.8.3. It is further reported that there had been lodged in the T'ung Chow granaries 87,326 *piculs*, 1 *tow*, 6.7.8.6. of white, "king," and "*nomi*" rice; making a total of deliveries, including rice, millet, wheat, and peas, of piculs 1,362,356.7.3.6.6.9. There have further been swept up, under the orders of the superintendents, *piculs* 5.9.4. of rice from the different locks and portages between T'ung Chow and Peking, which have been duly carried into store.—The remainder of the *Gazette* is chiefly occupied with recommendations for promotions and brevets.

Dec. 9th.—(1) The Governor-General of Chihli reports that the Taotai of Tientsin, Ting Show-ch'ang, has been placed in mourning retirement by the death of his father, and dwells upon the necessity for an officer possessed of special capacity to succeed in the ensuing vacancy. The Taotai has two prefectures, embracing eighteen departments and districts, under his rule, and has to attend to duties connected with the grain transport service and the conservancy of the Grand Canal, beside supervision over military affairs and the defence and police of the coast. He is likewise constantly required to act in concert with the Customs' Taotai in matters affecting foreign relations, and it follows, therefore, that the incumbent of the post must be at once skilled in the duties of civil administration, and versed in foreign affairs and military matters. An officer who unites these requirements with general capacity and an upright character, is the Taotai Wu Tsan-ch'êng, whose appointment to officiate in the vacant post is consequently recommended.

(2) The Governor-General of the Two Kiang reports his temporary assumption of the seals of office as Governor of Kiangsu, pending the arrival of Wu Yüan-ping from Hupeh.

Dec. 10th.—(1) A Decree commanding that a district Magistrate, who has been impeached by the Governor of Kiangsi as a defaulter to the extent of Taels 5,000, be stripped of his office, made a prisoner, and proceeded against.

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with administrative details.

Dec. 11th.—The Court Circular announces that the Grand Secretary Wên-siang, and the President Shên Kwei-fên (members of the Grand Council, who are on congé from duty), offered enquiries respecting his Majesty's health. (This in consequence of the attack of small-pox with which the Emperor has been visited since the 9th inst.)

The Governor of Yünnan memorializes reporting the result of the trial of certain yamen underlings and police implicated in the case in which a military officer had been fatally injured after a dispute with the Prefect of Tung-ch'wan Fu, who was subsequently assassinated in revenge for this by Yang Ju-tsi, the son of his victim. (See *Gazette* of March 29th). The case occurred as follows. In June, 1870, a denizen of the district of Hwei-tsêh brought a complaint against a native of the district for the abduction of his wife, justice for which was delayed by means of bribery on the part of the accused. The complainant had a connection, Major Yang Yü-lin, who was at Tung-ch'wan Fu awaiting the delivery of certain military supplies, and he moved some of the retainers of this officer to seek redress on his behalf. The retainers attacked the district magistrate's police and gave them a beating; but on complaint being made, they were handed over by Yang Yü-lin and placed in custody. After some further disputes about the affair, the Prefect requested Major Yang to call at his yamên, and asked him to explain his conduct in allowing his retainers to meddle in public concerns. Major Yang stated his case, upon which the Prefect, growing irate, snatched off his official hat and button, throwing them upon the ground, and shouted out: "Tie him up!" A number of his servants hereupon rushed up, with weapons and sticks in their hands, and belaboured Major Yang, whom they felled to the ground. The Prefect at the same time ordered him to be beaten as a criminal and sent to the magistrate's jail, whither his son, on coming forward to remonstrate, was shortly afterwards likewise sent. His house was next broken into by the police, and plundered of its contents by them and by the populace. A number of the police who were guilty of this outrage have been made prisoners, and it is ruled, in the sentence now proposed for the sanction of the Board of Punishments, that they should rank as accessories to the crime of which the principal guilt rested with their master, the Prefect. Of the prisoners in question, the greater number have died in confinement. Three remain, who are sentenced to the penalty of 100 blows and transportation for three years.

December 12th.—(1)—The Governor-General of the Yellow River, K'iao Sung-nien, memorializes urging the abolition of the office he holds. Beginning with the observation that the establishment of offices is decided in general by the requirements of circumstances, and may be modified either by addition or reduction according as special attention may be needed or duties may be taken in conjunction with others, he goes on to point out the changes which have taken place of late years in connection with his own post. The functions it formerly involved were of a highly onerous nature when the Yellow River pursued its ancient course through Honan and Shantung, and when, in addition to the 14 guard stations connected with the Yellow River embankments, there were six other stations appertaining to the Grand Canal, and the continuous stream of junks proceeding northward with grain tribute in its full amount of some millions of piculs, requiring administration and control. A change supervened when the Yellow River burst its banks at T'ung Wa Siang early in the reign of Hien Fêng, whereupon five of the stations in Honan were abolished, and the whole of the river-work service in Shantung was done away with. What remains for the Governor-General of the Yellow River to do lies wholly within the province of Honan, and he is of opinion that greater efficiency would be secured if the functions of his post were concentrated in the hands of the provincial Governor. A change in this sense was recommended so far back as 1862 by a Censor, and in 1863 by Sêng-ko-lin-sin. There is now the greater reason for urging it, inasmuch as in the whole of Shantung there no longer exist any embankment works supported by Government, the river being wholly embanked by the people of the adjacent country. Although there might be reason to look forward to some future resumption of Government works in Shantung, such a period is still distant, and the office may well be done away with in the meantime. The seal, however, need not be destroyed, but may be preserved in the Provincial Treasury until such time as it may be again required, should circumstances change in the course of some tens of years from now.—For rescript referring this memorial for consideration, see *Gazette* of Nov. 30th.

(2)—The Financial Commissioner of Kiangsu (on behalf of the Governor-General) memorializes reporting that he has received the following statement from Tsêng Ki-tsêh, (eldest son of the late Tsêng Kwoh-fan): "Having left my home on the 4th September for the purpose of proceeding to Peking to prostrate myself in gratitude for the Imperial favour (see *Gazette* of Oct. 17th), I had reached the district of Ts'in-ho in Kiangsu on the 9th October, when I received letters from my family informing me that my mother had died on the 3rd of the same month. I am consequently bound to return to my home, it being the mother who bore me, to conduct the funeral arrangements and observe the prescribed period of mourning. I beg that a memorial to this effect be presented on my behalf." The fact is accordingly brought to his Majesty's notice.

(3).—The same official, as acting Superintendent of the Grain Transport, refers to decrees heretofore issued with respect to increased supplies of revenue in kind from the Southern provinces, and to the consequent necessity of attention to the maintenance works on the River and Canal. Since the Yellow River broke its way across the Canal, the passage of the junks both ways is dependent upon the rise of the river water, and if the breaches in the

banks at Shih Chwang Hu 石庄戶 and elsewhere be not repaired, it is to be apprehended that the course of the Yellow River will gradually move southwards. This work is consequently urged on the Imperial attention.

(4) In a further postscript, the same official speaks of the rise of the waters in the autumn freshet season, as reported in a previous memorial (not yet published.) The floods in P'ei-Chow and Suh Chow shew no sign of abating, although the commencement of winter is at hand, and the Hung-tsêh Lake has risen to a height of eight *ch'ih* and upwards. Fortunately, the continuance of fine weather has been favourable to the works of maintenance. The population of Sü-chow Fu and Hai-chow Fu who have been driven from their homes by inundations are moving southwards in search of means of subsistence, and it is proposed to establish relief agencies, as has heretofore been done at T'sing-kiang P'u.

Official Papers.

MR. SEWARD ON THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

Despatch addressed to the Secretary of State, and published in the U. S. Reports on Commercial Relations, for 1873.

Shanghai, Oct. 24, 1873.

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a copy of the annual report of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, together with two sets of tables, the first of which shows the trade at the open or treaty ports of China, the second the trade at Shanghai. I have arranged these tables in a natural order, indicating upon each one the series to which it belongs, and its subject. They are taken from the reports of the custom-house, as published by the Inspector-General of Maritime Customs, and are very complete and accurate. The report of the Chamber of Commerce is entitled to the credence which should be given to the utterances of the largest and most respectable body of merchants of Eastern Asia.

It has been my purpose to comment, at some length, on the statistical and other information contained in the matter mentioned above, but my time has been so far engaged since my return from America, that I have been unable to carry out this intention.

There is a general point, however, upon which I am disposed to speak, even if I do so in a brief and inadequate manner.

It may be said that the position of foreign traders in China is unsatisfactory. They have but limited privileges as compared with natives, and are therefore at a disadvantage. They seize upon trade, develope it, and in doing so educate the Chinese to its requirements, and these latter then displace them. I have long believed that the Chinese would drive out foreigners from competition in all departments, excepting the importation and exportation of the great staples, and the carrying business. There seems to be no reason why the Chinese merchant, from dependent ports or the interior, should not purchase at Shanghai or Hongkong cotton goods or other merchandise, and sell his teas and silk at these and other marts of exportation. The foreign merchant can only compete with the native in the domestic part of trade at a great disadvantage, for the reason that he is a stranger, knowing less of interior markets than the native; that he is excluded from settling in the interior, and that even at the ports he is necessarily, as a stranger, and a man of superior refinement, at greater expense in doing business and in living. But I believe that the foreign merchant has, by reason of his origin and education, and his readier access to foreign markets, the advantage of the native in all foreign transactions, and that this advantage will more than counterbalance the superior economy of the native, although foreigners in the East are notoriously extravagant in their habits of life and conduct of business. And I believe, further, that the superior intelligence, honesty, and capacity for organization of foreigners will enable them to hold the carrying-trade to and from China, and between the ports of China, for a long time to come. Just now a Chinese steam-navigation company has been put in operation under circumstances calculated to give them, in some directions, a decided advantage over corporations under foreign management. For instance, they are the carriers of government-owned rice from the Yangtsze and Southern regions toward Peking, at prices far beyond what would be paid in an open market. They are said to be given certain other advantages resulting from the withdrawal of vexatious charges long and still imposed upon goods carried by foreign vessels. But to counterbalance these advantages is the prospect that Chinese-owned steamers will fail in punctuality, certainty of movement and safety, and that peculations will take place in their management.

I do not believe that foreigners come here for mere sentiment, yet I know there exists among foreign merchants sentimental or rather generous conceptions of the situation. I am not disposed to say that Foreign Governments should guide their policy from selfish considerations, but I am prepared to urge the proposition that a generous sentiment toward the Chinese is perfectly consistent with a policy which would tend to the immense advantage of trade. I do not mean simply, what all men will admit, that trade is a great civilizer, and that it should be protected for this reason; I mean that it should be actively promoted by the use of that moral power which Foreign Governments may, in my opinion, legitimately exercise in China.

The Government of China is undoubtedly decrepit and weak. The dynasty has apparently gone into the decline which dynasties elsewhere have exhibited. It deals vigorously in no direction. It is a great shadow of authority, respected as authority generally continues to be respected long after it has lost all the conditions which should entitle it to respect. It has had able men about it, at the capital and in the provinces. Some of them have been earnest, patriotic, far-seeing, and active, but it has crushed them, or is in the way to crush them. Wan Tsiang, a man of extraordinary ability, as judged by western standards, has almost retired from the unequal contest with the supineness of the ruling classes. Li Hung-chang, who has combined clear judgment with a rapidity of action almost unknown among latter-day Chinese, is now, to my knowledge, breaking down under the thousand and one vexations of the Peking Boards.

I do not mean to say that the Government is entitled to no respect. But I do believe that it is only imperfectly fulfilling the high purposes of Government; that it lacks energy and vigor, and that if it were not for the services which some of its officers outside of the capital—for instance, Tseng Kwo-fan and Li Hung-chang—have rendered, and the moral and active support which Foreign Governments have given to it, it would perhaps have already fallen.

If my authority for so broad a statement be asked, I may refer to the statements of all travellers, and to the reports of Chambers of Commerce and of newspaper correspondents.

If something that is more pointed and definite be asked, I may point to the audience question. Was there any reason which an intelligent human being would be likely to urge why China should not readily yield to Foreign Representatives this earnest of good-will and of gratitude for the favors which Foreign Governments had extended to it? If it be answered that the traditions of the empire forbade such action, then it may be responded that this answer begs the whole question, and Chinese blindness is to be the excuse for itself. I assert this blindness, and no more. If a further instance be asked, I may state the fact that the Government declares that telegraph-wires shall not be landed at the open ports. If it should say we prefer to have no wires in the interior, we might be ready to yield assent to their judgment, while failing to perceive any reason for it; but when they say that foreign merchants may not have the privilege of ready access to the wires brought in from distant countries by sea, while they fail to urge anything more logical than that the "distinctions between land and water must be kept in view," we can only lose patience with the extent of their unreason.

Now, if the premises be granted that the Government is a great shadow of authority; that it only indifferently fulfils its purposes of government; that its life has depended on the exertions of men who have been, or are being, crushed by its want of appreciation and its unnecessary and unreasonable interferences, and upon the forbearance and active support of Foreign Governments, then may not these Governments very well take up a position of urgency, if there be occasion therefor?

The occasion I have already somewhat indicated: foreign interests in China are languishing. They will languish until the restrictions upon trade are withdrawn. They will never attain a normal development until railroads are built, mines opened, and a free access to the interior permitted. Such measures would tend to the great development of the empire, and the welfare of its people. The advantages to be derived would no doubt be very beneficial to foreigners, but they would be beneficial to foreigners only because they would be so to natives. We may urge such measures for our own advantage, but we are not disloyal to China in doing so. We are doing for her the greatest service which can be rendered.

If such a policy would seem to combat with the policy advocated by Sir Frederick Bruce and Mr. Burlingame, my response is that they were in China when China was in great straits, and that then a policy of generosity, of forbearance, and of cordial support was altogether appropriate. To-day a policy of generosity, of forbearance, and of cordial support is not less appropriate, but the situation is different, and calls for something more. The Government has been long out of its difficulties, but it has failed to appreciate its responsibility. We could not expect that progressive measures would be systematically entered upon when the State was in the throes of rebellion. The duty then was to tide over the period of difficulty. The duty now is to fulfil the natural and right duties of government. These consist, among other things, in the promotion of commerce, mining, and manufactures, the establishment of highways, canals, and railroads, the diffusion of education, &c.

In all these directions what is it that the Government is accomplishing? Compared with the vast extent and numbers of the empire, one may well say that it is so little as to be almost hopelessly insignificant. I know of no highway in the empire which is in tolerable order. I know of few canals which are not utterly abandoned for any purposes of conservation or improvement. I know of no mines, of all those immensely rich ones possessed by the empire, that are worked to any appreciable extent. I know of no manufacturing establishments in which more than the members of a family are engaged. I see no disposition to introduce railroads and telegraphs. I find no adequate grappling with popular superstitions, such as those that precipitated the Tientsin

massacre, and from time to time threaten the safety of foreigners at that and other points. I find petty officials here and there allowed to impose all kinds of extortions upon trade. I find the people debarred from opportunities for legitimate enterprise, and actively betaking themselves to opium as a means of dissipating the tedium of existence.

I find the directions in which only progress has been made, for instance, the establishment of arsenals and navy-yards, the employment of foreigners in the customs, and the education of a few youths in western ways, subject to the criticism that a lack of confidence in themselves and a fear of foreign arms have been the considerations which have led to these steps.

Am I going too far, then, in saying that the time has at last come when Foreign States should take up a more positive attitude in this empire?

The basis for such an attitude has been laid. Mr. Burlingame, Sir F. Bruce, Monsieur Berthémy, General Vlangally, and others have not failed to impress China with a favorable idea of our benevolence. The co-operative policy has familiarized Foreign Representatives with the proposition that the interests of Western States in China are sufficiently near being identical to admit of perfect harmony among Foreign Representatives. Time enough has elapsed since the approach of foreign merchants to the ports and the ministers to Peking to allow the Chinese to survey the situation and conquer a natural aversion to us. The Regency has come to an end. The empire may be said to be as nearly at peace as it ever has been or is ever likely to be.

If it be asked what good can simple urgency do, I respond that, in my opinion, it can accomplish a great deal. I am not disposed to make a considerable argument upon this point, for I am already writing at too great length. I venture, however, this assertion, that there is no request within reason, according to our standard, that Foreign States may make in an urgent way from the Government of China that will not be granted. That Government feels its own weakness, its own igorance as compared with Western Governments, and its dependence upon them, in so great a degree that, while it will hold always to a great show of independence and opposition, (wave its ragged battle-flags, as it were, to frighten us,) it will succumb to any great evidence of vigor. The Tartar is, in fact, a stranger in the empire, and he trembles always lest the native Chinaman shall expel him. In face of this predominating fear, which, I confess, he conceals well as a rule, he turns to us for countenance and support.

Are we, then, throwing away our opportunities in China? I most certainly believe that we are. Our representatives, failing sometimes to perceive how firmness may be mingled with moderation, and judgment with urgency, have drawn back from due responsibility until the policy of England, for instance, has been emasculated to a pitiable degree. The self-respect of Western States, the well-being of the millions of this empire, will not permit this condition of affairs to continue. There was once undue and inconsiderate pressure exercised in China. It was the pressure of consuls and gunboats. We want now the pressure of the intelligent opinion of Western States discreetly exercised at all points of contact.

GEORGE F. SEWARD.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the offices in Szechuen-road. The following members were present:—Robt. I. Fearon, Esq., chairman; Messrs. J. G. Purdon, W. Keswick, W. Lang. G. Harrisson, E. W. Batt, M. S. Gubbay, F. Nissen, D. Brand, W. Howie, F. B. Forbes, C. J. King, A. Hennequin, H. P. Hanssen, A. J. Little, H. S. Morris, P. Maclean, T. Olyphant, J. Hart, C. Emil Bade, and Geo. R. Corner, officiating Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, in commencing the proceedings, said the business to be brought before the Chamber was somewhat of a routine character, presenting scarcely any features of more than ordinary interest. The report of the Committee had been for some time past in the hands of the members, and it was to be regretted that it had not been possible to chronicle some more useful and tangible results. He thought matters were now, however, evincing an improvement from which a hopeful augury as to the future might be drawn; though the day seemed still remote when treaty rights should be so far recognised and observed, as to enable foreign goods to reach distant places in the interior of the country, without those obstructions and exactions which now rendered the transit regulations almost a farce. At the same time he might allude to another very grave fact,—the deteriorating quality of much of the goods sent out to China from Manchester, as being specially a further source of loss to the importer, and one which might yet react in a very unfavourable way upon the industry of Lancashire. Attention had, on the other hand, been directed to the great success which had attended the institution of large spinning and weaving establishments in India; and that success suggested the possibility of adopting similar institutions in Shanghai. The development of such establishments in this part of the world would be of the very highest importance in the progress of commerce, and was certainly one of the possibilities of the future. Another subject that demanded continued attention, was the condition of the Woosung Bar; as regarded that subject, it was matter for regret that no actual result could as yet be reported as having been obtained. Nevertheless, he had reason to believe that the matter was not nearly so hopeless as it had hitherto seemed, and that the representations of the Ministers at Peking had had some effect with the officials at the Tsungli Yamên; so much so, in fact, that a member of the Chamber who was at Peking about two months ago, had been told by Mr. Hart that the Chinese authorities intended to proceed with the dredging of the Bar, and that it was merely a question of ways and means. He (the Chairman) was sure that the action taken by the Ministers at Peking on that primary subject, coupled with the result he had just stated as having been so far obtained, would be regarded as a source of congratulation by the Chamber. That body had sometimes shown that it could animadvert on occasion upon the supineness of Ministers at Peking, but it was nevertheless equally ready to offer congratulations. While expressing satisfaction in recording the efforts of Mr. Wade in the case of the Woosung Bar, there was another matter alluded to in the report of the Committee, to which he (the Chairman) might draw the attention of the Chamber, and in regard to which the name of Mr. Wade had been brought prominently forward. The matter alluded to was the Formosan difficulty. It would be remembered that one of the local journals, which was generally considered a faithful exponent of public opinion in Shanghai, published a leading article shortly after the settlement of the Formosa dispute, which he (the Chairman) thought did not give a fair critique on Mr. Wade's action in that matter, for he believed that in Shanghai there would be found but one opinion respecting the course then taken by Mr. Wade. (Applause). They believed that he had successfully mediated between the two nations, not only in the cause of humanity, but that he had also, by the course he had taken, promoted the true interests of legitimate commerce. (Applause.) In conclusion, the Chairman moved the first resolution—

That the Report as presented be passed.

Mr. HART seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

PASSING ACCOUNTS.

Mr. A. J. LITTLE moved the second resolution, as follows:—

That the Accounts as rendered be passed.

M. HENNEQUIN seconded the resolution, which was also carried without comment.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

MR. HOWIE proposed the third resolution—

That the following gentlemen be requested to act on the Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. W. Keswick, E. Cunningham, C. J. King, A. Hennequin F. Nissen, M. Gubbay, F. H. Bell, J. A. Taylor, E. H. Lavers, and J. G. Purdon.

Mr. FEARON seconded the motion, which was passed.

STOCK OF IMPORTS.

Mr. PURDON moved the fourth resolution—

That in the opinion of this meeting, it is very desirable for the Chamber to resume the collection and publication, semi-annually, of statistics of the stock of foreign imports in Shanghai; and the Committee are requested to give the matter their special attention.

He said the motion was almost the same as one he had moved five years ago, to which all then present had after a time acceded, there being in fact only one dissentient, who would not then give way, but who afterwards saw the error of his way, and contributed the information wanted. There had been an impression abroad recently, however, that some of the statistics so given had become known in detail to some members of the Committee before they were published, and it was desirable to let the fact be fully sent forth that such a thing was impossible. The statistics were handed to the Secretary, and as soon as he had extracted from them what he wanted for publication, they were destroyed by him. No one else saw them. The names of the firms even were not known until they were published in the circular. He (Mr. Purdon) was authorised by Mr. P. Maclean to mention, in reference to the report he himself published, that when he issued his application a few days ago for the returns, he did so under the impression that the Chamber had given up the collection of statistics; but he considered the Chamber was the proper source from which the information should come, and wished they would resume the publication, as it would not be interfering with his report. If it was a good thing for a private person to do, it would be much better for the Chamber of Commerce to do it. A private person might at any time stop or withdraw his publication, but with a Chamber of Commerce it would be a permanent institution. He therefore now moved the resolution.

Mr. HART asked how it was that it had fallen through with regard to the Chamber?

Mr PURDON replied that it was through a firm refusing to give their returns, because they believed some of the members of the Committee saw them, as he had before said, but that was not the case. That was the objection he had heard given.

The OFFICIATING SECRETARY remarked that no reason whatever was given.

Mr. HART said if the motion were carried, he thought, if firms declined to give their statistics, their names should be published.

Mr. D. BRAND differed from that view, because it would tend to interfere with liberty of action in business matters.

Mr. Hart still thought it would be the proper thing to do, and one to which there could be no objection. To publish the names of firms declining to supply the necessary returns could do no harm, and would not be a libel.

Mr. Purdon thought, if the resolution were carried, some plan could be devised to ascertain the feeling of the various firms on the subject, and if there should be any objection to Mr. Hart's suggestion, the Committee could then consider the whole matter.

Mr. Hart said that would be replacing them merely where they started from.

Mr. Keswick said if it were known that the returns were not seen by any member of the Committee, but that they were confided to the hands of the Secretary only, who took the necessary figures from them and then destroyed them, it would have a very different effect. He did not think it was now known who were the firms who supplied the information. The matter was kept so far secret as that.

The Chairman said the information given in detail was known only to the Secretary, whose object was to obtain total results. The Secretary alone had access to the information, and he had never even named the firms who had supplied it to him, as Mr. Keswick had said. He (the Chairman) therefore saw no valid reason why the returns should be refused, and hoped that when the firms read the statements that had been made on the subject, they would reconsider it, and consent to give their quota of information. For, after all, it was a very good thing to enable the Committee to publish those semi-annual statistics, and he hoped the result of the resolution would be to give the Committee the power to apply more pressure to carry out the subject successfully. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Hanssen expressed the opinion that it ought to be known to the Committee what firms had refused to supply the statistics necessary to enable the returns to be published complete.

Mr. King coincided with the previous speaker, that this was desirable if only for the sake of correctness; for there had not only been some who had refused to give the required figures, but some very false returns had been made. The Chamber must take that observation for what it was worth, but it was so.

Mr. Maclean asked if it would solve the difficulty if the names of those firms who did send in their returns were published, and all the rest left out. (Laughter.)

Mr. Hart said the question had been discussed at Hongkong over and over again, where the refusal of one or two firms to make the returns had destroyed the value of the statistics; and here in Shanghai it was proposed to start again at the same point as before. What was the good of doing that if some of the firms had refused to give their returns?

Mr. Purdon repeated the objections previously mentioned, as showing the reason why the returns were refused. The impression was that the information had been allowed to be too widely known, and that to have the quantity of stock held by each firm publicly known would be a disadvantage. But if it was thoroughly understood by the firms at large that such a knowledge could not be obtained, he was confident it would do away with the objections.

Mr. King said he clearly understood that the lists were destroyed by the Secretary, and that he only gave the results.

Mr. Maclean said there was some mistake made in the returns for last year, and there being an impression that the Committee knew the figures, a second return was asked for.

Mr. Forbes said the second return was asked for by the Secretary on account of the mistake that had been made.

A general conversation here ensued, which lasted some minutes, when

The Chairman said that once in the totals of stocks published it was seen that a palpable error occurred, and it was decided that it would be well for the Committee to republish them. The Committee had even then, however, no means whatever of seeing or publishing the details.

Mr. Purdon thought the Committee ought not to know what the total stock amounted to before the public knew it, and that if the Secretary saw there was an error, he should not lay it before the Committee until it was before the public.

The Chairman said when it became known that the strictest good faith was kept in the matter, he was not without hope that the knowledge would lead to good results.

Several members expressed concurrence in the suggestion just previously thrown out by Mr. Purdon.

Mr. Batt asked, if no one but the Secretary was to see the list, how was he to guard against error himself. He might possibly make an error in some thousands of pieces, and not notice it himself.

The Chairman said if there was an error, it would be corrected afterwards.

Mr. Batt therefore thought that some one else must see them.

The Chairman replied, not necessarily till afterwards.

The resolution was then put from the chair, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Hart asked how it was to be now understood the statistics would be published?

The Chairman said it was understood that the Committee would publish statistics as furnished by such and such firms. That seemed to be the sense of the Chamber, and would be considered by the Committee.

Mr. Maclean said he had reason to believe from his own success in collecting those statistics, that, with the understanding arrived at, there would not be a single firm in the Settlement that would not give the returns. (Hear, hear.)

Alteration of Rule.

Mr. Forbes, after a few introductory remarks in advocacy of the resolution he was about to propose, moved,

That in Rule 13, of the regulations of this Chamber, the word "January" shall be henceforth substituted for the word "July," after the words, "be held in the month of."

Mr. Nissen seconded the motion.

The Chairman, in submitting it, said it was merely a formal resolution which no one, he thought, could object to.

The resolution was carried *nem. con.*, and the Chairman then announced that those were all the resolutions before the Chamber, and if any member had any further business to lay before them, he would be happy to receive it.

Proposed Establishment of a Pilotage Board.

Mr. H. S. Morris, of the North China Insurance Company, in introducing this subject, said he believed some of the pilots of this port had addressed a letter to the Chamber, stating certain grievances under which they represented themselves to be labouring. He had no wish to remark upon the contents of the letter generally, but he thought a portion of it warranted observation from him, especially regarding it from an insurance point of view. It appeared to him that there should be a Pilot Board established in this port, under the supervision and executive management of the Harbour Master. At present there were no direct means of obtaining information as to accidents to ships, and it sometimes happened that ships arrived and left the port without any pilot on board. This was not as it should be; and the Pilots had applied to him, as representing a Company which had at stake a large amount of insurance on ships, expressing their wish that some sort of board should be formed, to the consideration of which all such things as those he had alluded to might be referred. He was not prepared to go fully into the matter now, but he saw the letter lying on the table, and thought it merited consideration by the Chamber. Some administration of the pilot service now appeared to be very much needed, for there was no Court of Enquiry into such matters. The Consul had the appointment of the pilots, but there was no compulsion upon them to work at all, and such a want of system might lead to there being no pilots on the coast in time of need. In the event of such a want arising, the Harbour Master might take up the matter, but if anything could be done to assist the men now, it would be very desirable.

The letter alluded to by Mr. Morris, is as follows:

To the Consuls of Powers having Treaties with China, resident in Shanghai:

The Harbour Master, for the Port of Shanghai; and, the Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commmerce.

Gentlemen,—We, the undersigned, Licensed Pilots at the Port of Shanghai, do most earnestly call your attention to the present existing state of the Pilot service.

Since the last General Pilotage Regulation, which runs as follows:—Rule 1st, "The number of Pilots for the Port of Shanghai shall be reduced to forty-five," the shipping of the Port has fallen off a half, owing to the large carrying capacity of the Ocean steamers, which enter this Port in direct competition with sailing vessels, carrying as much as three of the latter, at the same time giving employment for only one instead of three Pilots. Coasting steamers also go in and out of the Port without our assistance, also the majority of coasting sailing vessels.

The Pilots at the present time do not earn sufficient to keep their boats in running order, much less in case of accident. In the face of these facts, it is at present in contemplation to strike all the old Pilots off the list, who to better themselves, and temporarily to assist the others by their absence, have taken charge of ships, &c., to make other men in their places, who have had situations, but now find them gone, have applied to their Consuls to become Pilots.

We most respectfully submit that if such a state of affairs is allowed to go on, our boats will soon be worn out, and all respectable men will be obliged to seek other employment. We would suggest the number be reduced to twenty-five, or at the outside thirty, including those absent on leave not to exceed five.

These important facts we trust you may be pleased to take into your early consideration, and that the result may be, as licences are surrendered or fall in, no vacancies may be filled up until the total number of licenced Pilots has been reduced to twenty-five, and that hereafter twenty-five may be the limit, with discretionary power to the Harbour Master to appoint more, should in his opinion the number of Foreign vessels visiting the Port increase so much as to warrant it. We leave the matter in your hands, and subscribe ourselves,

Your most obedient servants,

D. Martin.	J. R. Mooney.
John F. Taylor.	W. Adams.
J. W. Hume.	W. v. Corbach.
H. Wilson.	R. Andersen.
D. C. Campbell.	F. A. A. Kofod.

Shanghai, December 1st, 1874.

The Chairman said the letter seemed to mention that there were too many pilots at Shanghai, and to suggest that the number might be reduced to twenty-five.

Mr. Morris went on to say that there was no system with reference to pilotage at Shanghai. A man merely got his license, and went to work; but if he got wrong no notice was taken. He might be drunk, or neglect his duty, but there was no appointed authority to take the matter up. A case came under his notice a few weeks ago, which ought to have been investigated, and he thought that some board of enquiry should be instituted, with the Harbour Master as executive chief, so that such matters might not pass unnoticed. It was a very important matter to the insurance companies, who had great interests at stake, for as was well known, a pilot was a very important and responsible person on board ship. He merely threw out the suggestion now, in the hope that the subject would be ultimately taken into consideration.

The Chairman said that as the case was put by Mr. Morris, it assumed a very important aspect. The Committee would take the matter into consideration at their next meeting, and would doubtless be glad of any information that could be given them.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Mr. BATT asked with reference to the agreement between the Chamber and Reuter's Telegraph Company, whether the Chamber were bound to continue receiving the telegrams?

The CHAIRMAN said the agreement with Reuter provided that it could be terminated by the Chamber giving six months' notice either from the 1st January or the 1st July. The 1st of January having now passed, the Chamber was committed to Reuter for the current year.

Mr. BATT had hoped they were in a position to settle it earlier, because from the way in which the telegrams were exhibited in so many offices for the information of Chinamen, he thought they would be better without them. He had intended to move that the telegrams be discontinued, but if the contract ran for another twelve months, it would be of no use doing so now.

The CHAIRMAN said if the telegrams were stopped by the Chamber, some firms would still get out private telegrams, which Chinamen could read just as well as now. It was true that complaints had reached the Chamber as to inaccuracies in Reuter's telegrams, and they had done what they could to remedy the evil. But they could not throw all the blame upon Reuter's people. They got their information from persons in England, and therefore the Chamber was really dependant upon people at home, and it was hardly fair to put the onus of blame upon Reuter's Co. alone.

Mr. BATT said he merely referred to them as being the agents of the Chamber. He considered it was not to the advantage of the Chamber to continue the telegrams, because they were losing from Tls. 1,100 to Tls. 1,200 per year by them.

The CHAIRMAN said the telegrams were intended for the benefit of the members of the Chamber, because it was not likely that members could obtain private telegrams at the same rate. Therefore the Chamber set apart a portion of its funds for that purpose, and the members subscribed the difference.

Mr. KESWICK said he thought Mr. Batt should have addressed his remarks to the incoming committee.

Mr. BATT considered it unfortunate to have public telegrams at all, as they appeared to be as much for the benefit of Chinamen as for themselves.

A desultory conversation of some duration here ensued, several members intimating that Mr. Batt had better bring his motion forward, wording it so as to take effect six months hence.

Mr. BATT must say that the majority of the Chamber had agreed with him in private on the point during the past year, but he was not aware how they would now express their opinion in public. He was not directing his remarks against Reuter, but against the introduction of more public telegrams.

Mr. KING said if the public telegrams were stopped, private telegrams would be obtained, which perhaps might not be so correct as the others.

Mr. PURDON pointed to the fact that the Chairman had adverted to the same thing, when he said if the Chamber ceased their contract with Reuter, private members would obtain telegrams and show them to the Chinamen. That was a thing that could not be stopped. A motion to cease the agreement with Reuter, simply meant that the Chamber would not pay anything for information for them.

Mr. WESTALL said by way of illustration, that he had himself been told by Chinamen what was contained in a telegram received before he had himself seen it. That showed they had the means of obtaining the information they wanted very quickly.

Mr. NISSEN was of opinion that if such a resolution was to be brought forward, it would be better to send round to all the members of the Chamber, and ascertain their opinion, especially as there was a large number absent. Many of them might desire to continue the telegrams.

This suggestion was endorsed by several members, and a circular was mentioned as the best means of ascertaining the general opinion.

Mr. PURDON objected to this course. If a small meeting adopted such a plan, it would be opening the door to a bad precedent, and it would always probably have to be done. If carried out, it would result in small numbers always being present, because absentees would say, "if we are not there, a circular will be sent to us." It would be much better to let each meeting take its own course in deciding matters brought before it.

The CHAIRMAN said this was a question that did not appear on the agenda, or there might have been a larger meeting.

Mr. MACLEAN asked why should those who did not wish to have those telegrams be compelled to pay for them? He said, let those who wanted them bear the expense of them.

The CHAIRMAN did not see the possibility of one member declining to pay his subscription to Reuter, because, if that were allowed, the Chamber would be open to pay the Tls. 88 for his share.

Mr. MACLEAN knew that several objected to be continued on the list.

The CHAIRMAN said he had been looking through the rules, and could not find anything in the form of a notice of motion being necessary in such a case, only in case of alteration of rules. The proposed motion would therefore be in order.

Mr. BATT said under the circumstances mentioned previously by the Chairman, he hardly knew how to put the motion.

The CHAIRMAN said it might be put in the way of a recommendation to the Committee to terminate the agreement with Reuter as soon as possible.

Mr. BATT asked if he could include in it a stipulation that the Committee should not enter into an agreement with any other Company?

The CHAIRMAN said there was nothing to prevent it, as it would have to come before a meeting.

Mr. BATT ultimately moved—

That the required notice of discontinuance of the commercial telegrams be given to Reuter's Telegraph Company.

The motion having been duly seconded,

The CHAIRMAN said that in accordance with the agreement with Reuter, the motion could only take effect in July, and end in December, of the present year. In putting this motion, he would express his own opinion that it would be much better to endeavour to obtain an improvement in the quality of the telegrams than to discard them altogether. He was sure they would also be less in pocket by the discontinuance of the telegrams, which were obtained for much less cost than would have to be paid for private information. He did not see either how their discontinuance would remove the difficulty of which Mr. Batt complained. The Chamber could not prevent Chinamen getting the information when it arrived in some way. But he would now put the resolution.

Mr. FORBES begged to submit the following amendment:—

That the incoming Committee be requested to give their special attention to the improvement of the public telegrams received by the Chamber, and that they be authorised, if necessary to this end, to give the required notice for cancelling the present contract with Reuter's Telegraph Company.

Mr. KESWICK seconded the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the amendment to a show of hands, when there appeared *for* it, 11; *against* it, 2. It was therefore declared carried, and the resolution was not put, the Chairman saying it should be entered on the minutes.

Mr. BATT—Thank you, Sir. (Laughter.)

TRANSIT DUES.

Mr. MACLEAN asked if the Chamber had received any information as to a reported arrangement between the Government and the Native Guilds, whereby the transit dues on foreign goods sent by Chinese hence to the interior had been commuted for Tls. 20,000 per annum?

The CHAIRMAN said no such notice had been received by the Chamber.

This terminated the business, and with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. KESWICK, and seconded by several, the meeting broke up.

Law Reports.

MARINE COURTS OF ENQUIRY.

Re LOSS OF S. S. *Mongol.*

The following Report of the Marine Court of Inquiry into the loss of the British Steamer *Mongol*, is published in the Hongkong Government Gazette.

FINDING.

1.—We find that the British Steamer *Mongol*, Official Number 68,496, 1463 tons, of London, left Hongkong bound for Japan at 10.30 a.m. on the 12th instant, and that at noon of the same day she struck on a rock—marked on the Admiralty Charts—lying about nine-tenths of a mile East of the South Ninepin Island, and became a total wreck from five to eight minutes after the time of her striking.

2.—We find that out of a crew of fifty-two and one passenger (the Captain's Wife); the Master, Chief and Fourth Officers, Second and Fourth Engineers, and twelve others, including the Captain's Wife, were drowned.

3.—The Master and Chief Officer being drowned, the Court refrain from expressing any opinion on the subject of the loss of the *Mongol*, but beg leave to offer the evidence for submission to the Board of Trade.

The Court attribute no blame to the Survivors, but are of opinion, that, considering the circumstances under which they were placed, they all did their duty.

Given under our hands at Hongkong, this 18th day of December, 1874.

C. MAY,
First Police Magistrate.
H. G. THOMSETT,
Navigating Lieutenant, R.N., *and Harbor Master.*
H. H. NELSON,
Un-Official Justice of the Peace.
ROBT. MCMURDO,
Government Marine Surveyor.
W. H. POCKLEY,
Commanding British Str. "Orissa."

Hongkong, 24th Dec.

Re LOSS OF P. M. S. S. *Japan.*

An official enquiry into the loss of the above vessel was begun at the American Consulate on the 24th December. The Court was composed of H. S. Loring, Esq., Vice-Consul, president; Commander Lewis, U.S.N., *Yantic*; Lieut. Kilpatrick, U.S.N., *Yantic*; and Captain Clough (mercantile marine), American ship *Malay*.

EDWARD R. WARSAW said: I am a master mariner, and have been so for eighteen years. I have been in command of steamers for seven years, six of these in the Pacific Mail service. My last command was the steamer *Japan*. I was in command of that vessel when she was destroyed by fire. The fire broke out at 11.25 p.m. on the night of the 17th instant, The first I knew of it was a confusion among the passengers on the main deck, and about a minute afterwards there was a cry of "fire." Upon hearing this confusion, I sprang towards the pilot house door, which connects the pilot house with my room. The second mate, who was the officer of the deck, then called out "fire." I then rang the gong to stop the engine, and at the same time sounded the fire alarm. I ordered all ventilators to be turned from the wind, ported my helm, and ordered the topsail halliard to be let ago, in order to bring the vessel to the wind, so as to keep the smoke from the deck. The smoke was issuing from amidships, which was the first indication I saw of fire. It was coming

from the fire-room ventilator. I then ran immediately to the stairs at the fore hatch to get down on the main deck. I then went to the ash-shoot, which is situated forward of the smoke stack, and over the fire. I saw large volumes of smoke issuing from the fire-room. Immediately after the alarm of fire was given, three streams of water were brought to bear upon it, and also three streams on the engine room, from which dense volumes of smoke were also issuing. All available hose and connections were brought into use. We had altogether twenty-one streams bearing on the fire within ten minutes from the time of the alarm. At the same time, we cut holes through the steerage deck on the port side, abreast of the engine and fire room, and applied three streams and covered the holes with blankets. I then gave instructions to the officers with me to cut holes in the after steerage hatch, communicating with the freight deck. I saw large volumes of smoke but no fire. I applied two streams at those holes, and covered the holes with blankets. About that time the chief officer took off the fore hatch to see if he could make out the fire. He could not. The chief officer and myself then went on the after freight deck to see if we could discover any fire. We did not, but saw considerable smoke. I returned forward to the place where the fire was supposed to be in the fire room. The first blaze that I saw was issuing from the ventilators over the forward fire room. During this time all available hose and connections were laid to bring all the hydrants to bear fore and aft, making in all the 21 streams I have already mentioned. I now gave orders to my messenger to tell the Chief Officer to detail men to swing out and clear all boats ready for lowering. That messenger was Sutton, the quartermaster, and I never saw him afterwards. I then went below again to the steerage, cut a hole abreast of the foremast through the deck, and saw fire. At the same time I cut two holes in the fore hatch and applied streams to them. I applied a hose to the former, and then went aft on the port side, pulled the butt out of a hole which we had cut before, and saw fire. Apparently all the deck below, between the engine-room, fire-room and wing bunkers on the port side was on fire. I inserted the hose again into the hole, covered it up, went up on the hurricane deck, and saw the third officer and a gang of men swinging the forward boats, the second officer and another gang of men swinging the after boats. During the whole of this time every effort was being made to extinguish the fire. I advised Dr. Tyndal then to make ready to leave the ship, and placed the women in his charge, telling him that I thought we would be compelled to leave, and if so he would take them with him. I then went back to the scene of the fire, where my officers and men were doing their utmost to extinguish it. At this time a man ran past me, named Dennon, an oiler, crying out, "Every man for himself." I called him and asked him who gave him that order, and he said the Chief Engineer. I said if he repeated it again I would blow his brains out, and I ordered him to work with the rest. We fought the fire for about fifteen minutes after this. We found that all our efforts proved unavailing, and that it was rapidly gaining on us, and that the water was failing in supply in the fire engines, caused by the fire and smoke issuing from the fire room and engine room. It would have been impossible for any man to enter that part of the ship. I then started with a view of saving life. I went aft as far as the engine room door on the port side, where the flames cut me off. I then ran forward, passing through the smoke abreast of the ash-shoot, passing round on the starboard side which was the weather side, and aft through the store room and pantry, and thence to the hurricane deck by the saloon stairs. It would have been impossible to go forward then. I took a general survey of the weather side, saw all starboard boats were lowered and from the ship, and those people forward had apparently life preservers on them. I passed over on the port side, and saw two boats still hanging by the davits. At that time several Chinamen made an appearance, together with Mr. Crocker, a saloon passenger, and the ship's storekeeper, and I advised them to get into a boat. Not seeing any one there to assist me to lower a boat, I put Mr. Crocker forward to assist in lowering it. When the boat was down, I sent him down the fall into it. The boat went off, and I did not see him again till I picked him up next day. A few minutes afterwards I saw the second officer standing aft by the forward tackle of the only remaining boat on the ship, abaft the wheel. I then assisted him to lower the boat. In it went all the Europeans and Chinese abaft the fire, which was extending across the ship at the engine room. I then gave orders to the second officer to wait for me, and I returned to the weather side of the quarter deck, took a general survey of the ship, saw that the metallic life raft forward was overboard, saw that the captain's gig was gone, and the nonpareil raft, and that all the settees on the quarter deck had also disappeared. I opened the door of the engineer's room, called for him, but got no response. I then went aft, lifted the skylight, called out to see if anyone was there, and not getting any reply, concluded to leave the ship. I went over the ship's side at a quarter to one o'clock a.m. on the 18th instant. We shoved the boat clear of the ship, came round under the stern, and used every endeavour to save life. We picked up a number of Chinese, all of whom had life preservers round them. Some of them were floating on chairs, and one was on a coffin. We remained to windward of the wreck until daylight, and then went in search of the other boats. We fell in with and engaged a fishing smack, in which I cruised about, and succeeded in picking up five boats, and saving 117 souls. At about 2 p.m. on the 18th, seeing no more life, I stood in for the land. At 6.30 p.m., about a mile from the land, I communicated with the steamer *Yottung*. The captain kindly took us on board to Swatow. I then took passage in the steamer *Yesso* for this port, and arrived here at 2 p.m. on the 20th. The fire originated I think in the forward bunker.

Captain Lewis—After making the trips from San Francisco to Hongkong, what is done with any surplus coal remaining in the bunkers?

A.—It was generally left there.

Q.—Is fresh coal heaped down upon it?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Is the surplus coal used up first?

A.—No, the fresh and surplus coal is usually used together.

Q.—Was any damp or wet coal taken on board before leaving San Francisco, or at Yokohama, or were the bunkers leaking?

A.—No damp coal was taken at San Francisco; 140 tons, said to be Sydney, was taken on board at Yokohama, and about 480 tons Takao—a new coal. This latter coal was wet, as it rained heavily during the night we were taking it in. The bunkers were not leaking.

Q.—Was this new coal stowed in the bunker where you supposed the fire originated?

A.—Yes, the coal said to be Sydney was stowed there.

Q.—Were the boats on the steamer always kept provisioned and watered, and filled with oars and sails, compass, and so forth, complete?

A.—They were perfectly fitted and equipped, and examined every day. They were ready to be lowered at a moment's notice.

Q.—Was any provision made by stationing the officers and crew, in case of the emergency of having to leave the ship, to take charge of and lower the boats, and see to the disposal of the passengers?

A.—There was; the second officer and quartermaster Harris had charge of the eight after boats, with men to swing and lower them. The third officer and boatswain had charge of the four forward boats, with men to handle them.

Q.—Were the officers instructed to superintend in telling off passengers and filling the boats after they had been lowered?

A.—They were not.

Q.—Were officers appointed to superintend getting the rafts in the water?

A.—The second officer had charge of the rafts aft, and the third officer the raft forward.

Q.—What was the full capacity of the boats and rafts, for the saving of human life.

A.—The full capacity of rafts and boats was 650, under ordinary circumstances.

Q.—How many life preservers were on board?

A.—1,500.

Q.—Do you take the temperature of the bunkers?

A.—No; the chief engineer does that.

Q.—Were you in the habit of examining the chief engineer's log daily, to see that all regulations had been complied with, and that he had taken the temperature of the bunkers?

A.—No. I looked the log over to see the quantity of coal consumed.

Q.—What was the nature of the cargo stowed in the locality where the fire was supposed to have originated?

A.—Flour and fish.

Mr. Loring—Where is the position of the Chief Officer in the case of fire?

A.—He immediately proceeds to the scene of the fire with his men.

Q.—Were all the officers at their posts on this occasion?

A.—Yes, with the exception of those who were compelled to leave the fire and engine room by the smoke.

Q.—How about the crew?

A.—They were all at their posts, and worked remarkably well.

Q.—Was there any hesitation on the part of anybody?

A.—None whatever. All did what they could.

Q.—Was fire practice and drill gone through at regular intervals?

A.—It was. Every night at eight o'clock I stretched the hose along all the decks.

Q.—When was the last fire drill before the disaster?

A.—On the passage from San Francisco to Yokohama.

Q.—When did you inspect the ship last yourself that night?

A.—About half-past eight o'clock.

Q.—How many boats had you on board?

A.—Twelve metallic life boats, one wooden boat, and two rafts.

Q.—Were they all available for use?

A.—They were, every one of them.

Q.—Were they all made use of that night?

A.—They were, except one boat. It was impossible to get this one away in consequence of the fire and smoke.

Q.—Were the life preservers easily accessible to the Chinese passengers?

A.—They were.

Q.—Did the Chinamen take every precaution to save their lives?

A.—They did, and behaved remarkably well. There was no panic amongst them whatever. All who were picked up had life preservers round them.

Q.—Will you state how many streams were available in case of fire?

A.—24 streams from the engine, and a little hand pump in each end of the ship.

Q.—You have stated that there were 24 streams available, why were they not all brought to bear on the fire?

A.—From the fact that there was not sufficient hose to concentrate all these upon that part of the ship. The hose from the hydrant in the lower saloon, and the hydrant in the after main saloon, and the hydrant in the after steerage were connected with hose in other parts, in order to bring as much water to bear on the fire as possible.

Frank Wm. Hart said: I was first officer on board the late steamship *Japan*. I first heard the alarm of fire on the night of the 17th inst., sometime after eleven o'clock. I was then in my room. At the alarm of fire I saw all the officers and crew at their respective stations. I opened the valves of the fire hose, directed the hose down to the engine and fire rooms, with about eight streams. I went down the after steerage and took off the hatches and could see nothing but smoke coming from forward. I ordered the carpenter to open the steam valves which lead to the holds of the freight deck, and took off the fore hatches in the steerage. I found very little smoke there, and I put on the hatches again. I opened the steam valves which connected with hold and freight deck so as to smother the fire. At this time it was my opinion that the fire was in the coal or port bunkers, or in that vicinity, as it smelt of coal. I then disconnected hose in the saloons aft, lower and upper, and after steerage, in order to lengthen the hose and bring all the streams to the fire. There were fifty feet of hose attached to each hydrant with the exception of one. I cut holes in the deck in afterpart of the forward steerage, and put two streams of water there. I cut a hole through the little hatch, and found some flour sacks on fire. Took off the fore hatch again and saw fire. Replaced the hatch, and cut a hole in the steerage on the port side, and placed two jets there. I ordered the third officer to swing out the fore and aft boats, and take two quartermasters with him. One was told to keep the

Chinamen from crowding the boat. Went down below and found all the pumps working well. Went down the steerage on the port side, and saw the casing round the steam chest on fire. I found the fire was cutting us off from the after part of the ship, and I ordered men to leave the steerage. When I went on deck again there seemed to be no pressure of water in the hose, the pumps evidently having stopped working by becoming heated by the fire. I then escaped through the fire on the port side, and the only people I saw were one of the quartermasters and the second steward. I afterwards went on to the hurricane deck, and saw all the boats on the aft deck were lowered with the exception of one, which the Captain and second mate were in the act of lowering. The communication between fore and aft was at this time entirely shut off. I looked about and could not see any one on board, so I then got into the Captain's boat.

Captain Lewis—What is your opinion as to the origin of the fire?

A.—I think it was spontaneous combustion of the coal.

Q.—Was there any fresh coal taken in at Yokohama?

A.—Yes, I think there were 600 tons.

Q.—Was it wet or dry when taken on board?

A.—The coal must have been wet, as it rained very hard during the ten hours of coaling.

Q.—Was any of the coal taken on board at Yokohama stowed in the bunker where you supposed the fire originated?

A.—Yes.

Mr. Loring: Did the Captain's messenger (Sutton) come to you with an order to swing out the boats?

A.—No, I received no order through Sutton. I never saw him but once.

Q.—How often do you inspect the ship at sea as chief officer?

A.—Every night at eight o'clock I have a general inspection, and make my report in writing to the Captain. I am about the ship all day.

Q.—Did you inspect the ship that night at eight o'clock?

A.—I did.

Q.—What condition was the fire apparatus in then?

A.—Ready for immediate use, and everything in perfect working order.

Q.—How many streams were brought to bear on the fire.

A.—I believe twenty.

Q.—How long after the fire broke out was it when you left the ship?

A.—From an hour and three quarters to two hours.

Q.—Did you consider you took every precaution against fire on this night?

A.—I did.

Q.—Do you think there was a good watch kept throughout the ship that night?

A.—I do.

Captain Lewis.—Were the boats properly equipped?

A.—They were all complete, and had been inspected by the Captain.

Q.—Where is your station in lowering the boats?

A.—I have no particular station, but superintend the lowering generally.

Mr. Loring—Were all the officers and men at their duty?

A.—They were.

Q.—Did they all obey orders?

A.—They did, without exception.

Q.—With regard to the regulations for fire, do you think they were all carried out?

A.—As far as the fire would permit, they were carried out to the letter.

Q.—Was there a good supply of life preservers on board?

A.—There was. They were convenient and were brought into use.

Q.—How was it, in your opinion, that more of the Chinese passengers were not saved?

A.—The sea was very rough, and many of them overburdened themselves with money, and others trusted themselves to pieces of wreck instead of taking life preservers.

At this stage, the Court was adjourned till nine o'clock on Saturday morning.

Saturday 26th December.

JOHN HENRY COSGROVE stated—I was chief engineer of the *Japan*. I have been chief engineer of different ships between seven and eight years. I have been in the service of the P.M.S.S. Company since 1856. The fire originated about half-past seven o'clock on the night of the 17th inst. The first intimation I had of it was the sounding of the engine room gong to stop the engine. At the moment of the first alarm I was in my room. I was not on duty. I went directly to the engine room to see what was the matter. I next went to the steam pumps. I had a difficulty in getting to the pumps. I could not get to the midship pumps on account of the fire and smoke. After starting the forward pumps, and getting two or three streams of water to bear on the fire, I succeeded in reaching the amidship pumps. I was calm and collected at this time. All the outward discharges were attended to. The third assistant and the first assistant engineers were in charge when the alarm was given. I asked if the pumps were started, and being told "no," I went to them myself. Not two minutes had elapsed from the time of the first alarm till the starting of the pumps. The room was full of smoke when I got there, and all the lights were out but one. Fire was coming through the forward bulkhead, dividing the engine room from the freight deck. I do not know what freight was stowed there. I saw that all pumps and gear were in proper working order. I made an inspection in San Francisco, and found everything in proper working order, and reported to the Captain. I made an inspection of everything on the night of the fire at eight o'clock, and all was in proper order. I first saw fire at the bulkhead mentioned, and then saw flames coming through a door near the engine room. I next saw the engine room all on fire, and flames were coming up both fire room skylights. Every man was at his post, and all orders were obeyed, so far as I know. The conduct of the officers and men in my department was very good, all working well and doing their best. I never gave the order "every man for himself;" I mean I never gave it in that way. I told my messenger that I wanted to see the first assistant engineer on the upper deck, and that he (the messenger) was to look out for himself.

Captain Lewis—Was any fresh coal taken on board at Yokohama?

A.—Yes.

Q.—What kind of coal?

A.—140 tons of Sydney coal, and 480 tons of Tako coal.

Q.—What was its condition, wet or dry, when put in the bunkers?

A.—The Tako coal was dry. I did not see the other when it came on board.

Q.—In which bunkers was the coal stowed?

A.—The Sydney coal was stowed in the forward and after bunker, and the Japanese coal in the side bunker.

Q.—When surplus coal happened to be in the bunkers after a voyage, was it your custom to heap the fresh coal down upon it?

A.—In some cases I did do it.

Q.—Was any care taken that the surplus coal should always be used first?

A.—No.

Q.—Was there any surplus coal in the bunkers in which the coal was put at Yokohama?

A.—There was none in the forward bunker, but 5 or 6 tons in the after.

Q.—How often were you in the habit of taking the temperature of the coal bunkers when steaming?

A.—We never took it at all.

Q.—Where, in your opinion, did the fire originate, and from what cause?

A.—I think it must have originated on the freight deck, the cause I cannot say.

Q.—When you were first aware that the ship was on fire, what kind of a smell pervaded the vicinity—that of coal, or gas, or wood?

A.—It was a smell as of burning wood.

Q.—How is the freight deck, where you supposed the fire originated, situated as regards the coal bunkers?

A.—It is situated immediately over the forward athwart ship bunker.

Q.—At what stage of the fire did you leave the engine room?

A.—When I saw there were no hopes of saving the ship.

Q.—Could you have remained any longer at your post?

A.—I could not.

Q.—What was the pressure of steam at the time of the fire?

A.—I cannot say, but I believe 20 lbs.

Q.—How long after trimming the fires would there be sufficient steam to work the pumps?

A.—About half-a-day.

Q.—How often are the fires trimmed?

A.—About once an hour.

Q.—How long after the mending of the fires was the alarm given?

A.—I do not know.

Q.—How long did the pumps work after the fire broke out?

A.—As near as I can say about two hours.

Q.—In your opinion what caused the pumps to stop working?

A.—I think it was the action of the fire.

Q.—At what stage of the fire, and when did you desert the vessel?

A.—When I left I had already seen five boats in the water pulling away from the ship; I do not know the hour.

Q.—Who gave the order to lower the boat that you reached Hongkong in?

A.—I gave no order; six Chinamen lowered it on their own account.

Q.—What was the capacity of that boat, and how may had you in it?

A.—The capacity was about 15, and we had nine people in it.

Q.—Did you assume charge when you got in her, and order her to be shoved off?

A.—No, I simply got into the boat, and pushed clear of the ship.

Q.—Did you, immediately after pushing off, desert the wreck and steer for Hongkong?

A.—No.

Q.—Did she render any assistance in endeavouring to save the lives of any the passengers or crew?

A.—No.

Q.—From what reason?

A.—There were only three oars in the boat, and she was unmanageable.

Q.—Did any one assume command of her?

A.—A Chinaman did. I was too sick to do any duty.

Q.—How many streams from the steam pumps were brought into requisition in the endeavour to subdue the fire?

A.—Eight streams around the engine room were all I saw.

Q.—How many streams were there available by the steam pumps altogether?

A.—Twenty-four.

Lieut. Gillpatrick—What time did your boat leave the vicinity of the wreck for Hongkong?

A.—About half-past five in the morning, as near as I can judge.

Q.—Did you assume charge of the boat at any time before reaching Hongkong?

A.—No, I did not.

Mr. Loring—Had you any difficulty in reaching the deck from the engine room?

A.—I had not.

Q.—What was your condition then?

A.—I was suffering severely from inhaling the smoke.

Q.—How long were you on deck then before you left the ship?

A.—About ten or fifteen minutes.

Q.—When you left the ship, what was her condition as regards the fire?

A.—Her condition was hopeless. The whole of the amidship section abreast the engine room was on fire.

Q.—What was the cause of your sickness in the boat?

A.—I was suffering from the effects of inhaling the smoke, and from sea-sickness caused by the motion of the boat.

Q.—Do you still feel any ill-effects from inhaling the smoke?

A.—I do, and have been under medical treatment since reaching Hongkong.

Q.—Was any surplus coal in the bunkers when coal was taken on board at San Francisco for this last voyage?

A.—All the bunkers were clear to the best of my knowledge, except the after one.

Lieut. Gillpatrick—What kind of lights were allowed in the bunkers?

A.—Common open petticoat lamps.

Q.—Are these lamps always uncovered when in the bunkers?

A.—They are.

JAMES HENRY stated.—I am an engineer, and have been so for nineteen years. I have been in the employ of the P.M.S.S. Co. off and on since 1850. I was third assistant engineer on board the *Japan*. I believe the fire broke out at 28 minutes past eleven p.m. on the 17th inst. The first intimation I had of the fire was that I saw smoke coming from the freight deck on the port side through the

coal bunker. I was in the engine-room on duty, and had full charge there. When I saw smoke I called out "fire," and the gong to stop the engine was sounded in less than half a minute afterwards.

Mr. Loring—What was your next action?

A.—I stopped the engine and eased two safety valves.

Q.—What did you do next?

A—I shipped the starting bar.

Q.—How long after the alarm did you see the Chief Engineer, or receive any communication from him?

A.—I did not receive any communication from him. I saw him seven minutes afterwards on the top platform. He could not have got down on the working platform then.

Q.—What further action did you take in regard to the fire?

A.—I attempted to return to the engine room after I had been driven out by the smoke, but could not reach the working platform.

Q.—How long after the first alarm did you see any streams of water bearing on the fire?

A.—About two or three minutes.

Q.—What was the nature of the smoke in the engine room?

A.—It was thick and black, with a strong smell of pine wood.

Q.—Had you time to do all you ought to have done as engineer in charge?

A.—I did all I had orders to do.

Q.—How long after the first alarm did the steam pumps continue to work?

A.—They were working up to the time I left the ship, so far as I know.

Q.—In your opinion where did this fire originate?

A.—Somewhere forward on the freight deck.

Captain Lewis—Were you on duty when the coal was taken on board at Yokohama?

A.—I was on duty, but not looking after the coal.

Q.—Do you know if it was wet or dry?

A.—I do not know.

Q.—Were the bunkers at any time previous to the breaking out of the fire visited by any one, and any unusual heat noticed in them?

A.—Men were working in the side bunkers behind the boilers, and they reported no unusual heat?

Q.—Was there any surplus coal in the bunkers in which the coal taken on board at Yokohama was placed?

A.—I do not know.

Q.—Was the Sydney coal taken in at Yokohama in the forward athwart ship bunker exhausted when the fire occurred?

A.—At that time there was Sydney coal in it, but I do not know when it was taken in.

Q.—What was the pressure of steam at the time of the alarm?

A.—Twenty pounds.

Q.—How long before the alarm of fire had the fires been trimmed?

A.—A few minutes, I think.

Q.—What sort of lamps did you use in the bunkers?

A.—Common uncovered lamps sometimes, and sometimes covered ones.

Q.—Were any of the bunkers in a leaking condition?

A.—Not that I am aware of. She was a remarkably tight ship all over.

Q.—How many streams are available in case of fire?

A.—Twenty or twenty-one.

Q.—At what stage of the fire did you leave the vessel?

A.—When I received orders.

Q.—Who gave you the order?

A.—The second engineer told me that the Captain had passed along the order "every man for himself."

Q.—Did you consider the safety of the ship hopeless at this time?

A.—I did.

Q.—Who ordered the boat to be lowered that you escaped in?

A.—I don't know. The third officer was present.

Q.—When that boat left the ship, was she full?

A.—She was, she had about 65 people in her.

Q.—Who assumed charge of her?

A.—The third officer. She had provisions, and was fully equipped.

Mr. Loring.—Did you see the Captain when you left the ship?

A.—I did not. I had not seen him for some six or seven minutes previously.

Lieut. Gillpatrick—You say you received no orders from the Chief Engineer; did he question you whether the pumps had been started?

A.—He did not.

Mr. Loring—Did you see him on deck during the fire?

A.—I did, and he was working very hard.

Captain Clough—Did you suffer from the inhalation of smoke?

A.—I did, I was made sick.

Mr. Loring—So far as you observed, was every one doing his duty?

A.—All I saw were doing their best to save the ship.

Q.—In what part of the ship did you see flame first, and where were you at the time?

A.—I was standing on the main deck near the engine room door, and the flame was issuing from the spot where I first saw the smoke.

Michael Jordan stated—I was employed on the steamer *Japan*, and had made ten voyages in her. I was a water tender. The first alarm of fire was given about twenty-five minutes past eleven. I was in the fire room, and perceived the smell of wood burning. I called out that there was wood burning somewhere, and the gong was sounded and the engine stopped almost immediately. I was on watch at the time. I then pulled down the dampers, and opened the smoke and fire doors.

Mr. Loring—At this time did you see any fire at all?

A.—No. But as soon as the ship was stopped I saw the smoke coming from forward.

Q.—Did you see the smoke coming from any particular door?

A.—It came from the door of the freight deck, and along the bulkhead.

Q.—How near this was the coal?

A.—There was coal in the bunkers directly underneath.

Q.—How long was it from the time of the alarm till water was brought to bear on the fire?

A.—Almost immediately.

Q.—Do you know how many streams?

A.—I think seven or eight.

Q.—How long did you stop in the fire room till you were driven out?

A.—I left the fire room, not on account of the smoke, but to look after the donkey engine.

Q.—Did you try to return to the engine room again?

A.—I did, and held a lamp to the steam gauge and read it at 24lbs. I could not go farther, and made no efforts, as my lamp was extinguished by the smoke.

Q.—During all this time what orders did you receive?

A.—I received no orders, but proceeded to my regular station in case of fire at sea.

Captain Lewis—Was the Yokohama coal wet or dry when you took it in?

A.—I don't know. I was not on duty.

Mr. Loring—Did you see the Chief Engineer at all during the fire?

A.—Many a time.

Captain Lewis—Had you visited the coal bunkers that night previous to the fire?

A.—I had.

Q.—What bunkers did you visit?

A.—The side bunkers abaft the boilers.

Q.—Did you notice any undue high temperature in them?

A.—No.

Mr. Loring—Did the Chief Engineer give you any orders that night?

A.—Yes, and I assisted him to take some hose aft.

Q.—Did you hear him give any orders?

A.—I did, plenty. I know he was at the pumps himself.

Q.—Did you hear any one give an order something like this, "every man for himself?"

A.—I did not.

Q.—Did you see the Captain about?

A.—I did, several times. I heard him give several orders about the fire.

Q.—How long after the first alarm was it when you left the ship?

A.—I cannot say.

Q.—How did you get away?

A.—I got away in the second port aft boat.

Q.—Was that boat lowered when you went there?

A.—No, she was only swung. I lowered one end, and I think the saloon watchman lowered the other. No one had charge of her.

Q.—What was the condition of the fire when you left?

A.—The amidship section was all on fire. I could have got forward by rushing through the flames.

Q.—Who took command of your boat?

A.—No one. I steered and was relieved once or twice. There were no sailors with us. We had thirteen persons in her, it was a small boat.

Q.—Who was the last man you saw on board?

Q.—The Chief Engineer, at the door of his own room.

Q.—How many boats were lowered before you got into this boat?

A.—I cannot say.

Q.—Did you attempt to save life after you left the ship?

A.—We saw no one in the water.

Q.—How was your boat equipped?

A.—She was perfectly equipped, and had bread and water in her.

Lieut. Gillpatrick—Were the pumps working when you left the ship?

A.—They were.

Captain Clough—Did you receive orders to leave the ship?

A.—No; I left when I saw all the others leaving.

Lieut. Gillpatrick—Was the Captain on board when you left?

A.—I don't know.

The following evidence we give only in a condensed form:—

Henry Harrison Andrew, second officer, said he was officer of the deck, and rang the fire bell. He was relieved by Quartermaster Harris, and went aft and called the chief officer and the third officer. Cleared away all the boats aft. Left the ship in the last boat with the Captain and chief officer, and this boat saved some ten or fifteen passengers and crew and lay by the ship all night. In answer to questions, he said he left the ship about an hour and a half after the alarm of fire. He thought the fire originated in the fire room or forward bunkers. Was of opinion that everything was done to save the ship. The capacity of the despatch boat in which the chief engineer left was 60 persons, and the total capacity of the boats and rafts was 700 persons, there being besides the life-preservers. The fire, however, prevented many of the Chinese from getting aft, and they did not avail themselves of the means of saving life because they were paralysed with fear. Some jumped overboard, weighted with money, and were drowned, and there was a cross sea running. This officer, it will be observed, coincides with the captain and chief officer as to the locality in which the fire originated, and inferentially the cause of it, the wet coal taken in at Yokohama, and said there was only flour on the freight deck. The next witness

David Fulton, second assistant engineer, agreed with his chief in the opinion that the fire broke out on the freight deck. He inspected the coal bunkers, all except the forward one, at 7.30, and did not observe any rise in their temperature. While at his post, witness heard a voice, which he thought to be the Captain's, say, "every one for himself," and he at once dropped the hose and passed the word to the third assistant engineer. Thought there was hope of saving the ship till he heard that order, then concluded it was hopeless, and left the ship about an hour and three-quarters after the outbreak, in a boat containing fourteen people. The boat could carry 25, but the men in her could not work her properly, being sick and unable to pull.

Harry Lester, steerage watchman, described his proceedings, and said he thought the fire originated right amidships on the port side, in or around the fire-room or in the bunkers. Being forward on duty, he had to run through the flames to get off, and left the ship in the Captain's boat, the Captain being the last man to leave the ship.

Monday, 28th December.

John Rooney, purser, described his efforts to save the mails, in which he was unsuccessful on account of the smoke. Confirmed the former evidence as to the Captain being the last man on board.

Captain Warsaw was then recalled and questioned as follows:—

Capt. Lewis—State the complement of crew and deck hands allowed the *Japan* by the Company.

A.—24 deck hands, including the boatswain and messboy.

Q.—Had you a full complement on board at the time of the fire?

A.—I had.

Q.—State their nationalities and the number of each?

A.—All Chinese.

Q.—How many seamen, including officers, had you on board at the time of the destruction of the *Japan*, that you considered capable of taking charge and managing a boat properly in a sea-way?

A.—26 Europeans and 22 Chinese, in all 48.

Mr. LORING—Whereabouts in the ship did you meet the man Drennan, alluded to in your former evidence, calling out "every man for himself."

A.—On the port side of the main deck, abreast of the ash-shoot.

Q.—When you stopped the man, did you say something like this "who gave you that order 'every man for himself?'"

A.—I did not repeat the words, but asked him who gave the order, and said if he repeated it again I would blow his brains out.

Lieut. GILLPATRICK—Who has charge of the freight deck, and whose duty is it to inspect it at sea?

A.—The Chief Officer,

JAMES DRENNAN said he got the order referred to from the Chief Engineer, who said to him, "Jamie, go and see Bennett, and tell him it will be every body for himself." Witness then went below on the main deck and met the skipper and several men, and supposing Bennett to be amongst them, called out "'bos,' it will be every one for himself." The skipper stopped him, and told him he would blow his brains out unless he went to his duty. The Captain also asked who gave the order, and witness said the Chief Engineer.

The Chief Officer (Hart) recalled, said there were no standing lights on the freight deck; and globe lanterns were used in inspecting it. No one had been on the freight deck for about thirteen hours previous to the fire, and all ways of access to it were locked, with the exception of the doors leading from the engine room to the side bunker, which was a continuation of the freight deck. Saw nothing to lead him to believe that any one had been on the freight deck from the engine room.

A Chinese fireman thought the fire originated in the bunker. Believed the fact that so many Chinese passengers were lost was due to the rough sea. Some of the Chinamen he saw in the water had life preservers and some not. The life preservers were easily accessible to all the Chinese on board. Some of the boats went off from the ship as soon as lowered, but others lay near the ship a long time. He only saw the third mate's boat remain. Witness jumped into the sea and swam to this boat.

ROBERT MORRIS TYNDAL, passenger, spoke highly of the cool and collected manner in which the officers and especially Captain Warsaw conducted themselves in the emergency. He considered every exertion possible was made to save the ship.

P. V. GATES, surgeon, said his boat had orders to leave some time before it did. There were twelve persons in her, and she was as full as safety would allow, as the sea was very rough. There were no sick or helpless men on board the *Japan* at the time of the fire. Everything was done to save the ship. The boat he was in was properly provisioned and equipped.

The steerage cook (a Chinaman) said he left in a boat which a Chinese sailor took charge of. The Chief Engineer assisted to lower this boat, but gave no orders. Witness himself took charge of the boat next morning, relieving the sailor. All the ship was on fire when they left. They remained by the ship about twenty minutes after the boat was lowered. The Chief Engineer gave no orders. He was sick and vomiting.

This concluded the evidence taken.

At the close, the Court delivered the following—

DECISION.

We, the undersigned, composing the Court of Enquiry assembled at the U. S. Consulate, on the 24th day of December, 1874, to enquire into the cause of, and circumstances attending, the loss of the P. M. S. S. *Japan*, Capt. E. R. Warsaw commander, after hearing and carefully considering all of the testimony adduced in the case, do find as follows:—

1st.—That the P.M.S.S. *Japan*, of 4,351. 21/100 tons register, registered at the port of New York, sailed from the port of Yokohama on the 11th day of December, 1874, at four o'clock p.m., fully manned and equipped in every particular, bound for the port of Hongkong.

2nd.—That on the night of the 17th of December, when off Breaker Point, at the hour of 11.25, or thereabouts, an alarm of fire was sounded, the approximate position of the ship being Lat. 22.45 N., Long. 116.36 E.

3rd.—That the fire in our opinion originated in the forward bunker, immediately under the freight deck.

4th.—That the fire was caused by the spontaneous combustion of the coal placed there when coaling in the harbour of Yokohama, the coal having been taken on board during a violent rain storm, and consequently stowed in a wet and damp condition.

5th.—That at the last inspection previous to the fire, the engineer on duty failed to inspect this bunker, although he did inspect all others containing coal, the reason assigned being that no coal had been used from this bunker since 5 p.m. that day.

6th.—That at the last inspection of the vessel at 8 p.m. the inspecting officers failed to detect any evidence of the presence of fire.

7th.—That such was the condition of affairs at 11.25 p.m., when the first alarm was given, and smoke seen to issue from the vicinity of the coal bunker referred to.

8th.—That at this moment no flames were seen, only a dense volume of smoke.

9th.—That immediately the engine was stopped, a general alarm sounded, ventilators turned from the wind, and in fact, the rules and regulations of the Company, made and provided for such an emergency, strictly complied with, and that the officers and crew at once put forward every effort in their power to subdue the flames.

10th.—That under the direction of Captain Warsaw, all available streams, some seven or eight in number, were brought to bear in the immediate vicinity of the fire, located in the engine and fireroom at that time.

11th.—That all the available fire apparatus was brought to bear on the fire within about 10 minutes, some 21 streams in number.

12th.—That the fire apparatus was in excellent condition, and was used to its utmost capacity, until the increasing heat prevented the pumps from working.

13th—That everything was done on the part of Captain Warsaw and the officers and crew generally, under his command, to save the vessel.

14th.—That after all human efforts had proved futile, as shown by the evidence, to subdue the fire and save the ship, she was abandoned by all on board at 12.45 on the morning of the 18th, the commander being the last man to leave the ship, but we find that in abandoning the vessel there was an evident lack of organisation in lowering and manning the boats properly, although they were properly equipped and provisioned.

15th.—That we are of opinion that there should have been established a Boat Station Bill upon this steamer, providing for the emergency of abandoning the ship, with a view to the greater security of the lives of the passengers as well as the ship's company, and to prevent confusion and disorder, as well as the lowering of the boats unauthorised by the commanding officer.

16th.—That a more rigid inspection of coal bunkers, a greater care in regard to burning surplus coal first, and a more careful supervision of the condition of the coal when coaling should be exercised, and that the temperature of the coal bunkers should be taken at least once every four hours for the purpose of preventing and the detecting any incipient signs of combustion going on in them.

17th.—That from all the evidence, we gather the Captain was cool, calm and collected, that he did his duty nobly and well, and exerted himself to the fullest extent to save the vessel under his command, and after her abandonment, in remaining by the wreck until all hopes of saving further life was gone.

18th.—That we consider the conduct of the chief engineer reprehensible, both in passing an unauthorised order calculated to dis-spirit the persons engaged in subduing the flames, and in allowing the largest boat, in which he was the only male European, to leave the ship only partly filled, without endeavouring to save the lives of those remaining on board and in the water, although from the evidence, he appears after reaching the boat to have been suffering from inhalation of smoke, and not to have been actually in command of the boat.

19th.—That we consider the great loss of life among the Chinese passengers arose from the communication between the fore and aft ends of the ship (at which latter end most of the boats were placed) being cut off, their paralysation by fear preventing any efforts to save their lives, the roughness of the sea and darkness of the night, and the weight of the money in many cases slung upon their persons, although life preservers were abundant, and were extensively made use of.

H. S. LORING,
Vice-Consul in charge and President of the Court.

R. T. R. LEWIS,
Commander U.S.N., and Senior Officer present.

W. W. GILLPATRICK,
Lieut U.S.N., Member.

BENJ. P. CLOUGH,
Master, American Ship "Malay."

Clippings.

The list of Silk shipped per P. & O. steamer *Thibet*, on the 1st instant, gives: for London 473 bales; for New York 119 bales; for Marseilles 50 bales; for Lyons 173 bales; for Milan 72 bales; for Venice 39 bales; for Suez 3 bales; for Bombay 68 bales; for Hongkong 12 bales. Total 1,009 bales; and 32 bales waste for London, from Japan and Shanghai.

The bright cold weather of New Year's Day made the holiday a most enjoyable one, more particularly for those who spent it out of doors. A large field assembled at Oliver's Bungalow, to follow the paper, which, after an easy "throw off," led away in the direction of Jessfield, and then turning towards Sicawei, returned along the line of the Sicawei road, finishing at the second bridge from the Bubbling Well. The frost of the previous evening having yielded to the genial influence of the sun, the ground was very heavy, and told severely on the ponies. The jumps were well selected and were easily cleared by the better ponies, but the finish, like the start, did not present any noteworthy features. Mr. Hinckley, on a griffin, came in winner of the light weight prize, and Mr. J. Keswick, riding *Ghillie Callum*, who took his jumps in fine style, gained the honour for the heavies. Another meet was held on Monday. The weather was perfection for hunting, and at three o'clock a field of over thirty ponies had assembled near the Hermitage. The route from Sicaway lay almost straight for Jessfield, and then followed the Creek until a line was made direct for the finish. The foxes had taken pains to avoid the old paper, but apparently were not sufficiently careful to mark their own course, and the consequence was an unusual number of checks and a late finish, scarcely a full mile of straight running being afforded throughout. A few rather severe jumps were given soon after leaving Sicaway, and one or two more and some fencing about Jessfield, but as a rule mudlarking was left out, and the course gave every satisfaction to the hunt, although the laying of the paper did not. The finish was to be in the neighborhood of "Mount Shastra," and was within about three-quarters of a mile of that architectural eminence. Two flights of hurdles and a small ditch were here provided, and the first of the light weights to get over them was Mr. Walker on *Apollyon*, and of the heavies Mr. Brandt on *Seabird*. The checks enabled the field generally to be well up.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Season 1874-5.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May 28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	.. 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687 24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July 16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	.. 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark .. ... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ..... ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses .... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda .. .. ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.. ..	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong..... s.s.	.. 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
		Total.....	488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO UNITED STATES.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mikado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... ,,	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
		Total.....	10,317.59	83,914.43	187,032.02

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam ..... s.s.	May 30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ... .. ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
		Total.....	4,145.49	5,265.03	9,410.52

Shipping Reports.

The str. *Yungching*, Capt. Gibbon, left Hongkong Dec. 24th, 1874, at 5 p.m. Arrived at Amoy on the 26th, having had rainy and thick weather and heavy sea. Left Amoy on the 29th at 4 a.m., and arrived at Shanghai Jan. 1st, at 5 p.m., having experienced a succession of heavy N.E. gales with thick and rainy weather throughout the passage.

The str. *Yangtsze*, Capt. Corner, left Hongkong Dec. 24th at noon, with moderate N.E. breeze and cloudy weather, which increased with thick drizzling rain to a strong gale with a heavy sea, lasting until 4 p.m. of the 27th. On the 29th it again set in thick, with a strong N.E. gale, which veered to N.N.W., and obliged ship to anchor until daylight of the 30th. From thence to port had fine clear weather with strong N.E. breeze.

The steamer *Dragon* left Foochow on the 1st inst., and arrived at Shanghai on the 3rd inst. at 4.30 p.m. Had strong N.E. gale with clear weather throughout the passage.

FOOCHOW SHIPPING.

Arrivals during the week ending December 23rd :—Haining, from Shanghai ; Achilles, from Shanghai ; Kestrel, from Tamsui ; Douglas, from Hongkong.

Departures :—Kwang Tung, for Hongkong, general ; Haining, for Shanghai, general ; Adele, for Shanghai, general ; Achilles, for London, tea.

In Port :—Kestrel ; Douglas, for Hongkong.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JANUARY 6TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—The steamships *Ocean* from Glasgow, and the *Glenroy* from London.

TELEGRAMS.—London, 2nd January, 1875.—*Cotton Mid. Orl.*, 7¾d.; 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, 9s. 6d.; *Iron*, £10 10s.; *Lead*, W.B., £24 10s.; *Discount*, 5 per cent.

PIECE GOODS.—Considering the broken character of the past week, a very fair business in PIECE GOODS has been transacted. Demand has been active, and although a goodly portion of the settlements are for distant clearance, and so presumably speculative, the LOCAL, NINGPO, and YANGTSZE Traders have bought extensively for immediate or early delivery. The CHEFOO men have also been in the market, and trifling purchases of *Shirtings*, *Plain Black Lustres*, and *Figured Orleans* have been concluded by the JAPANESE dealers. The following is a *précis* of the business reported since last mail day :—

9¾-lbs. Grey Shirtings	5,500	pieces at Tls.	2.55 *a* 2.62½	per piece.
8¼-lbs. Do.	14,500	,, ,,	1.60 *a* 1.91	,,
7-lbs. Do.	9,000	,, ,,	1.37 *a* 1.46	,,
6-lbs. *T*-Cloths	10,500	,, ,,	1.05 *a* 1.06	,,
7-lbs. Do. Common	25,000	,, ,,	1.17 *a* 1.21	,,
7-lbs. Do. Mexicans	55,000 *a* 60,000	,, ,,	1.30 *a* 1.55	,,
8-lbs. Do.	7,240	,, ,,	1.60 *a* 2.15	,,
White Shirtings	22,950	,, ,,	1.95 *a* 2.20	,,
Jeans	6,900	,, ,,	1.84 *a* 1.89	,,
Drills	1,460	,, ,,	2.25	,,
Linens	1,000	,, ,,	3.05	,,
White Spots	1,000	,, ,,	2.10 *a* 2.25	,,
White Brocades	1,000	,, ,,	2.20 *a* 2.25	,,
Dyed Damasks	400	,, ,,	4.80	,,
Blue Mottles	360	,, ,,	0.05½	per yard.
18-in. Velveteens	210	,, ,,	0.14¾	,,
22-in. Velvets	450	,, ,,	0.18 *a* 0.19	per piece.
Plain Lustres	1,250	,, ,,	3.70 *a* 3.75	,,
Figured Orleans	640	,, ,,	3.20 *a* 3.25	,,
Long Ells, Scarlet	120	,, ,,	7.25 *a* 7.30	,,
Spanish Stripes	2,040	,, ,,	0.56 *a* 0.62½	per yard,
Crape Lastings	1,500	,, ,,	4.00 *a* —	per piece.
Lastings, Scarlet	100	,, ,,	11.60 *a* —	,,

It will be observed from the foregoing that GREY SHIRTINGS do not show up quite so prominently as usual, and the logical inference is that they have not received the customary attention. There has been some enquiry for the article, however, and there would have been more extensive operations, were it not that the buyers are afraid of the market dropping upon them before the Northern season opens. As it is, good chops still hold their own, but some of the commoner descriptions have declined in value 2 *a* 3 candareens per piece, while all are weak and in little request at the close. *Dewhurst's Eagles*, 8¼ lbs., have been sold at Tls. 1.88 *a* 1.91 per piece. *Collie's Lion-on-Bale*, at Tls. 1.74, and other chops from Tls. 1.60 up to Tls. 1.70 per piece. 6 *a* 7 lbs. goods require no special notice, there having been scarcely enough done in them to affect quotations, but *Heavy Shirtings* have been frequently asked for, and are wanted at the close, on the basis of last week's current rates, viz.: Tls. 2.62½ per piece for *Dewhurst's Taeping* chop.

White Shirtings.—No change to report in the nature of the trade, saving that the market is a trifle quieter than it was. Buyers have found that although there is a scarcity of 64 *a* 66 Reed Cloth in Shanghai, there are quantities afloat, and abundance still in Manchester. Their purchases during the last three weeks are said to amount to between 600 *a* 800 cases.

T-Cloths.—Speculation has been the preponderating element in these. Indeed, almost every piece of the ordinary description of 7 lbs. *Mexicans* has been settled on the three weeks to a month clearance principle, and in some instances delivery has been extended till after China New Year. Buyers—and chief among them are the TIENTSIN and HANKOW dealers—have, however, a good opinion of the article, and have advanced a little upon their offers of last week. Thus, *Collie's Eagle*—for which only Tls. 1.37 could be got on 30th ultimo—has been placed at Tls. 1.40 per piece, and other goods, for which there was no market at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.32, have been disposed of at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.33 per piece, and the demand is not yet quite satisfied. The finer qualities have also been wanted, but these, together with the settlements of the lower counts, have been more for immediate requirements, and their value shews no perceptible alteration. A few common 6-lbs. have been taken at about last week's rates, and a better business both in enquiry and price in 8-lbs. has to be recorded. Good medium of the latter weight is wanted at from Tls. 1.60 *a* 1.65 per piece.

Drills.—One lot of *Dutch* at Tls. 2.25 per piece is the sum of the business reported since this day week, but 14-lbs. *English* have been enquired for. The rates named, however, are below those last quoted, and in the present position of Stocks, it is not likely that holders will submit to any decline.

Jeans.—Trade in these seems to have terminated on 31st ultimo; at all events there has been little demand since, and scarcely any transactions reported.

Sheetings.—No change to note; the *Americans* "to arrive" still engross the dealers' attention.

Fancy Cottons.—Enquiry has existed for *Dyed Spotted Shirtings*, of which the stock seems exhausted, *White Spotted Shirtings*, *White Brocades*, *Dyed Damasks*, *Irish Linens*, *Velvets*, *Velveteens*, 18 inches, and *Blue Mottles* or *Denims*, and, it is satisfactory to find that prices have not been materially affected by the long prevailing inactivity in the market for these.

Woollens.—The chief business has been in *Spanish Stripes*, of which about 2,000 pieces—exclusive of the auction sales—have been sold. *Scarlet C.P.H. Camlets* have been much wanted, but evidently there are none here, or holders refuse to break their assortments, at Tls. 14 per piece, which is the rate offered. *Long Ells.*—The price for C.P.H. Scarlet was Tls. 7.30 less ½ per cent. when last mail left, and up to yesterday; it is now Tls. 7.25 per piece, with little enquiry. *Plain Black Lustres* have been sold to the Japanese dealers at an advance of 5 candareens per piece on their offers of a week ago, or Tls. 3.75 per piece for a good medium Lustre, and some *Figured Orleans* have been taken by the same buyers at Tls. 3.20 *a* 3.25 per piece. *Lastings.*—A sale of 100 pieces Scarlet at Tls. 11.60 per piece, and one of 1,500 pieces No. 2 *Crape Lastings* are the only transactions to chronicle in these articles.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, nom.....per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	12.5.0	13.8.0	12.7.0	13.0.0	...	...	12.0.0	12.5.0	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.5	7.0.0	6.8.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.0.0	6.7.5	7.0.0
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.2	0.5.3½	0.5.5	0.5.6	0.6.2	0.5.7	0.5.7	0.6.2	0.5.4	0.7.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1874.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
H.H. Camlets, p. pce....Tls.	13.10/13.15	12.00/12.05	13.40/13.42½	12.35	12.35/12.40	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.25/13.37½	12.25/12.27½	13.60/13.67½	12.55/12.65	12.65/12.70	...	.....	11.95	12.30/12.40	12.40
G.G.M. ,, ,, ... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.63/0.63¼	0.56¼/0.56½	0.57¼/0.57½	0.58½/0.59	.....	0.57	0.57	0.63½/0.64	0.56/0.56¼	.....

SALES.—*Camlets*, H.H. 400 pcs. av. Tls. 12.92; S.S.G. 600 pcs., av. Tls. 13.06 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs., av. Tls. 0.59¼ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Indiaman, 1,750 pcs., at Tls. 1.69½ *a* 1.69¾ per piece; Two Lamp, 1,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.66½; C.P.H. Peacock, 3,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.59½ *a* 1.60; and 7-lbs. Indiaman 3,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.39¼ per piece.

G. E. Grey Shirtings—	*T.m.c.*	*T.m.c.*	
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₩ pc.	1.3.7	to	1.5.3
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.2.0	,,	2.4.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.5.0	,,	2.7.0
G. E. White Shirtings—			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.3	,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3	,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0	,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed ..... ,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.0
Drills, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.0	,,	3.4.5
English. ,, ... ,, ...	2.3.2	,,	2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0	,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs. ...	2.2.5	,,	2.3.5
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.5	,,	1.9.5
American ,, ,, ,,	None.		
Sheetings—			
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.5.0	,,	3.6.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7 5	,,	3.0.0

T-Cloths—			
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.5	,,	1.1.0
7-lbs., do. do. ... ,,	1.1.8	,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.1.5	,,	1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0	,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.3	,,	1.7.0
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0	,,	2.1.5
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.5	,,	0.5.2
Brown... ,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.2
Spotted Shirtings, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5	,,	2.6.0
Brocades—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0	,,	2.9.0
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0	,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings..... ,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5	,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.0	,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.4.0	,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0	,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0	,,	4.0.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0	,,	2.0.5
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in... ₩ yd.	0.1.8	,,	0.2.0
Velveteens—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4½	,,	0.1.5½
26 in. ,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.0½

Blue Denims ..... ,,	0.0.3½	,,	0.0.5½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....₩ pc.	1.2.0	,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0	,,	1.5.0
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0	,,	0.7.2
Camlets, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0	,,	13.5.0
G G ,, ,,	13.2.5	,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.1.0	,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths ₩ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	0.5.6	,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.6.0	,,	... ..
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.2	,,	.....
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₩ pc.	7.2.0	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.2.5	,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.0	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.1.0	,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds ..... ,,	9.5.0	,,	11.5.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres ..... ,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black ..... ,,	3.7.0	,,	3.8.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.8.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—The position of the market has not improved, and no further transactions are reported. There are rumours of transhipments to Japan, but the extent to which the stock here is likely to be relieved, in that way, is probably trifling. *Lead.*—Importers do not seem quite so confident in regard to the future as do the late speculative operators, for while the latter hold for Tls. 6.30 per picul and upwards for L.B., the former have sold to natives at Tls. 6.10 and Tls. 6.05 per picul, free of commission. To-day's quotations are therefore reduced to Tls. 6.05 *a* 6.10 per picul. In other metals, there is no alteration to notice.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.		*Tls. m. c.*			
QUICKSILVER—American, nom. .....per Pcl.		1.8.0 *a*		COTTON—Common New .....per Plc.		7.6.0 *a*	8.2.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....per Box		6.4.0 *a*		,, Medium ..... ,,		8.6.0 *a*	9.2.0
Small ,, ... ,,		....		,, Best..... ,,		9.3.0 *a*	9.8.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.		6.5.0 *a*	6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....,Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,		5.8.0 *a*	6.6.0
18 ... } no demand. ,,		7.0.0 *a*	.....	,, 2 ..... ,,		5.3.0 *a*	6.0.0
19/23 } ,,		7.7.5 *a*	8.0.0	,, 3 ..... ,,		4.8.0 *a*	5.4.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.... ,,		20.0.0 *a*	20.2.0	Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,		5.2.0 *a*	5.4.0
Fok Chok ..... ,, ... ,,		19.6.0 *a*	.....	,, 2 ..... ,,		4.8.0 *a*	5.0.0
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,		14.5.0 *a*	.....	,, 3 ..... ,,		4.5.0 *a*	4.7.0
STEEL .....per Tub		3.3.0 *a*	3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,		3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.		4.4.0 *a*	4.5.0	Common ... ,,		2.8.0 *a*	3.0.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,		..... *a*	.....	,, —Canton, ... ,,		3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0
Slab, best ..... ,,		18.2.5 *a*	... ..	,, — ,, Common ... ,,		2.4.0 *a*	2.8.0
Ore ..... ,,		15.8.0 *a*	16.2.5	PEPPER—Black ..... ,,		10.4.0 *a*	.....
HOOP IRON .... ,,		3.3.0 *a*	3.4.0	—White ..... ,,		15.0.0 *a*	18.0.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton		33.0.0 *a*	34.0.0	RATTANS—Common ..... ,,		2.8.0 *a*	3.6.0
				—Good to fine .... ,,		3.8.0 *a*	4.0.0
NAILROD IRON—				—Best..... ,,		4.2.0 *a*	4.4.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.		3.0.5 *a*	3.1.0	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,		2.8.0 *a*	3.0.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,		2.7.0 *a*	2.8.0	5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,		1.8.0 *a*	2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,		2.9.0 *a*	3.0.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,		3.7.0 *a*	3.8.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,		2.9.0 *a*	3.1.0	Timor ..... ,,		9.0.0 *a*	10.0.0
Round ..... ,,		3.0.0 *a*	3.3.0	Malabar ..... ,,		16.5.0 *a*	18.0.0
				MANGROVE BARK ..... ,,		0.7.0 *a*	1.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,		6.0.5 *a*	6.1.0	FLINT STONES, ... ,,		0.4.5 *a*	0.5.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,		6.1.0 *a*	.....				

COTTON.—Quotations are maintained at last week's currencies, but the business is diminishing, and will probably grow smaller as the native holidays approach. Thus, prospects warrant the expectation of lower rates before long. The supply is rather, but not much, over current necessities.

EXCHANGE.—Rates are weak, the best rate for Bank paper being 5s. 8⅞d., while Credits have been sold as low as 5s. 9⅛d. There is very little Private Paper appearing. On India, the closing quotation is Rs. 302½ wire for Feb. On Hongkong, 26¾ is still the quotation for Bank paper.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7⅛d.		₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 8⅞d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9⅛d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9½d.		,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight ..... Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.31¼		,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 302½		₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 302½		₩ 100 ,,
On Hongkong,—Bank Bills, demand, 26¾ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅜ per cent. disc.		
Interest.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.		

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.85 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—88.80 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 171 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,595 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The following settlements have been reported during the week :—

Black—355 chests at Tls. 13. Stock—630 chests.
Green—Fychow and Moyune... 8,705 ½-chests, at Tls. 18 *a* 36½ } Stock of all kinds—89,500 ½-chests.
Pingsueys..... 2,229 ,, ,, 23 *a* 25 }

Total...10,934 ½-chests.

There is no change to note in the value of Green Tea. Some parcels of common quality are slightly easier, but fine chops keep very firm.

Our Export to Great Britain (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—

	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black.....	64,845,598 lbs.	against	58,502,484 lbs.
Green.....	9,516,338 ,,	,,	8,136,952 ,,
Total.....	74,361,936 ,,	,,	66,639,436 ,,
To America and Canada—			
Black.....	1,612,500 lbs.	against	588,424 lbs.
Green	12,530,066 ,,	,,	17,899,511 ,,
	14,142,566 ,,	,,	18,487,935

SILK.—Telegrams from London, report the silk market firm, and quote 15s. as the sellers' price for Red Peacock;—and 12s. 6d. for common No. 5 Tsatlee. The English mail steamer *Thibet*, which left on the 1st instant, took 1,009 bales of silk (473 bales for London, 337 bales for the Continent, 80 bales for India and Coast, and 119 bales for America). Since then the market has remained quiet until the past two days, when fully 700 bales have found buyers, increasing total settlements from 1st June, 1874, to date to 59,400 bales. The following prices are reported to have been paid:—

	Per picul.	*Per lb.*	*Per kilo.*
Blue Elephant	Tls. 327½	=16s. 2d.	Frs. 45.65
Yellow do.	,, 302½	=15s. 0d.	,, 42.20
"Chay-shen"	,, 275	=13s. 8d.	,, 38.20
Market No. 4½ & common Tsatlees	,, 260 @ 305	=13s. 0d. @ 15s. 2d.	,, 37.55@42.30
Medium Hangchow Tsatlees	,, 250 ,, 260	=12s. 6d. ,, 13s. 0d.	,, 34.80,, 36.20
Common to No. 3 Kahing Taysaams	,, 240 ,, 280	=12s. 0d. ,, 13s. 11d	,, 33.50,, 38.90
Re-reeled Hainings	,, 330 ,, 350	=16s. 4d. ,, 17s. 4d.	,, 45.65,, 48.35
China Trams	,, 305 ,, 350	=15s. 2d. ,, 17s. 4d.	,, 42.30,, 48.35

Red Peacock is offered by some holders at Tls. 320, and for "Koo-fong-sing's" chop 3 Tls. 417½ per picul have been offered and refused. Arrivals continue very small, and the unsold stock is reduced to barely 9,000 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the Week ending 4th Jan., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 302 @ 304 and 1.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	7,100	3,070	1,600	8,250	8,799	...	...	...	550	1,100	850	...	...	3,500
T-Cloths ..... ,,	680	640	1,260	3,975	5,075	...	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	2,920
White Shirtings ..... ,,	800	450	200	600	250	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	1,280
Drills ..... ,,	445	315	105	1,530	995	...	...	...	240	...	...	...	...	450
Jeans ..... ,,	510	30	...	500	480	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	50	...	50	350	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	202	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	60	60	...	...	50	...	...	...	117	540	...	...	...	480
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	50	170	...	...	1,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	78	...	50	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	144	...	...	60
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	200	600	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	1,280
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	132	144	72	144	102	48	...	...	...	168	144	...	...	96
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	46	66	18	50	...	...	...	...	8	...	36	...	...	132
Camlets ..... ,,	50	100	140	1,050	40	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	60
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	160	260	1,700	...	...	...	...	420	...	...	...	...	60
Lastings ..... ,,	40	...	60	220	30	90	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	40
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	500	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	340	150	...	820	725	...	...	...	120	540	360	...	...	300
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	413	1,136	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	250	...	38	...	126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1874.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1874.	At date *	Against. 6/1/74
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	34,819	5,118,926	107,245	5,425,477	848,200	406,200
T-Cloths ..... ,,	14,800	2,314,077	35,045	1,677,304	509,200	1,255,900
White Shirtings ..... ,,	3,730	584,370	2,998	539,853	16,900	37,300
Drills ..... ,,	4,080	782,699	7,200	526,733	144,400	295,200
Jeans ..... ,,	1,580	329,808	7,710	270,333	36,000	97,100
Sheetings ..... ,,	.....	79,616	690	27,373	?	49,500
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	800	47,130	1,079	47,479	?	?
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	300	.....	2,697	3,300	6,400
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	7,950	.....	290	?	?
Brocades, White ..... ,,	100	5,761	499	7,079	?	?
,, Dyed ..... ,,	750	74,244	1,249	78,591	21,500	15,400
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	322	20,460	200	33,830	9,900	3,000
Chintzes ..... ,,	1,307	209,622	3,710	166,457	61,900	83,600
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	1,360	126,837	3,040	91,577	?	33,900
Velvets ..... ,,	380	46,095	1,170	41,010	1,400	6,300
Velveteens ..... ,,	21	11,868	120	8,633	4,600	11,500
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	2,680	241,573	5,100	151,026	56,100	127,300
Muslins ..... Pcs.	.....	38,017	.....	30,508	12,800	16,200
Dimities ..... ,,	150	14,610	.....	19,427	13,100	9,600
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,050	59,853	936	40,600	16,600	15,200
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	356	36,016	436	26,983	9,100	17,300
Camlets ..... ,,	1,510	82,626	3,187	75,067	15,600	22,100
Long Ells ..... ,,	2,600	90,858	3,100	71,322	?	11,200
Lastings ..... ,,	540	39,980	2,320	41,272	10,200	13,900
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	20	9,775	1,840	13,498	5,600	2,300
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	750	25,005	1,000	10,105	3,600	16,400
,, Figured ..... ,,	3,355	200,017	8,730	152,476	76,600	91,200
,, Crape ..... ,,	100	40,017	1,150	43,398	11,100	17,700
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	414	87,939	.....	96,723	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	1,549	73,860	12,195	140,417	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Horatio, Bangalore, Omba, Sindh, Crocus, Glenlyon, Achilles, Star of the West, Hankow, Menelaus, Ajax, Anadyr, Golconda, Agnes Muir, Ocean, Glenroy* and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

January 7, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not given above)—January 3rd, Brit. barque *Moss Glen*, from Kaipara, N.Z.; 4th, Brit. barque *Wm. Turner*, from Sydney.

Departures.—December 31st, American ship *Mary Whitridge*, for New York; January 1st, British steamers *Glenearn* and *Menelaus*, for London; 2nd, British barque *Conqueror*, for New York; 4th, British barque *Laju*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Anadyr* takes about 600 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8⅞d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅜d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9⅛d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 302½ *a* 303. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 302½ *a* 303. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26¾ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 74.175 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 81.10 per 100. Copper cash, 1,560 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. Bisset & Co. report:—Business has again been restricted by the holidays.

S. S. N. Shares.—A small business has been done at Tls. 81 cash, *cum* dividend of Tls. 3 declared payable on 12th current.

Banks.—A few sales have been made at 2 per cent. prem. and Ex. 73½, but shares are scarce.

Insurance Shares.—In *Fire Shares*, a few *Victorias* have been placed at $127, and *Hongkongs* are wanted at $530. In *Marine Shares*, *Yangtszes* have been placed at Tls. 606 and Tls. 610, *cum* dividend of Tls. 37.50, declared payable on 13th current. *China and Japans* are offered at quotations.

Hongkew Wharf Shares have again been sold at Tls. 90, and are now obtainable at same price.

Shanghai Gas Shares have been placed at Tls. 140, *ex* dividend of Tls. 5 paid on 5th instant.

The Weather continued very cold till after New Year's Day, but is now somewhat milder, and is very enjoyable. Thermometer—min. 30; max. 43.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	2 % prm.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	81 cash c. div.
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		8
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 73
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	„ 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 140 ex div.
French Gas Co. ..	50	5 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 73¼
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 30 „	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	$ 610 c. div.
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 78
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) .	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 200 Exc. 72¾
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.6 p. sh.	530
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	127
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)		6 p. c.	134
Miscellaneous			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	4 p. c.	90
S'hai Racket Club.	120		
Bridge of Boats (Ningpo)	500		
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate 73½

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.
☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

Crystal Glass Chandeliers,

Wall Lights, Mirrors, Lamps, Table Glass, China, Earthenware, & Fountains, for India, South America, &c.

The Patent Challenge "Punkah Lamp."

Table Glass, Cut, Engraved & Jewelled,

in great variety.

GILT DINNER SERVICES,

From £3, 10s. to 1,000 Guineas.

DESSERT, TEA, AND BREAKFAST SERVICES, IN GREAT VARIETY.

NEW DECORATIONS FOR THE DINING TABLE.

J. DEFRIES & SONS, Manufacturers of Storer's PATENT PERPETUAL CRYSTAL TABLE FOUNTAIN,

which, when complete with Flowers and Fruits forms the most Elegant Ornament for Dining, Rooms, Ball-Rooms, Drawing-Rooms, and Conservatories. They are portable, most elegant and new in design, and rich in appearance. Also the CONSERVATORY FOUNTAIN, 4 to 6 feet high, which is quite independent of a service of water pipes, tanks, and other expensive accessories, *most important for India*, and having no mechanism, cannot possibly get out of order.

The most wonderful invention of the day.

FOUNTAINS in Great Variety. For Perfumed Waters, from £2, 17s. to 100 Guineas.
FOUNTAINS in Crystal and Gilt, for the Dining-Room and Drawing-Room.
FOUNTAINS in Crystal, Electro Plate, or Gilt. } For India and other Markets.
FOUNTAINS for Conservatories. }

A large assortment to be seen at the extensive Show Rooms.

CLOCKS.

CLOCKS for the DINING and DRAWING, ROOM, VESTIBULE, LIBRARY, and CARRIAGE, &c.

THE ANNUAL CLOCK with CALENDAR, BAROMETER, &c., goes accurately for Twelve Months when once Wound, in Marble Bronze, and Ormolu.

THE SINGING-BIRD CLOCK, quite new. MUSICAL BOXES and MECHANICAL PICTURES.

CHANDELIERS IN CRYSTAL, BRONZE, ORMOLU AND SILVER.

CANDELABRA FOR GAS OR CANDLES,

With the True Oriental Colours.

FOUNTAINS and MOSQUES for INDIA.

Registered designs of Mirrors, Wall Lights, Lamps, and Chandeliers for India.

ESTIMATES AND DESIGNS FREE.

J. DEFRIES & SONS,

Manufacturers to Her Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and Contractors to Government.

City Show Room and Principal Depôt—

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Works: London, Birmingham, and Paris.

Established 1803.

*** Orders must be accompanied by a Remittance or Reference to a Firm in England.

o-a-f 6fe-75 11 Feb. 7th, 1874.

INSURANCE.

THE undersigned, as Agents for The British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (Limited), are prepared to issue Policies on Silk and Tea, by Steamers of The P. & O. Co., Messageries Maritimes and Ocean Steamship Co., at the following premiums:—

	All Risks.	Free of Particular Average.
Shanghai to London, Silk,	1½ %	1¼ %
Shanghai to London, Tea,	2½ %	1½ %
Hankow to London, Tea,	2¾ %	2 %

Subject to a Discount of 15 %.

Risks accepted on other first-class Steamers and sailing vessels at current rates.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

19my 2084 Shanghai, 20th May, 1874.

London and Provincial Marine Insurance Company.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in Shanghai for the above Company, are prepared to grant Marine Risks at current rates.

(s.a.) AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.

tf 2058 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV, No. 401. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 14, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₽ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Nov. 27	Hankow,	Jan. 8
San Francisco,	Dec. 12	Yokohama,	Dec. 30
Hongkong,	Jan. 7	Nagasaki,	Jan. 6
Tientsin,	Dec. 28	Foochow,	,, 7

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Oct. 22 } Received 30th Nov.
Shanghai, ... ,, 16 }

BIRTH.

At Foochow, on the 4th of January, Mrs. WILLIAM HENRY HARTON, Jr., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 22nd Oct., in Boston, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. F. E. Towers, FREDERICK HELLYER, of Nagasaki, to GEORGIANNA, daughter of JESSE TIRRELL, of Boston.

On the 12th Nov., at St. Stephen's Church, Westbourne-park, by the Rev. Charles Jerdein, M.A., Rector of Gayhurst and Stoke Goldington, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Herbert Rowsell, M.A., EVERARD T., son of EDWARD T. LUCK, of the Hermitage, West Malling, Kent, to GERTRUDE, third daughter of JOHN JERDEIN, of 24, Porchester-square, Hyde-park.

DEATH.

On the 12th Nov., at Clevedon, Somerset, after premature confinement, ISABELLA RITCHIE, the beloved wife of Maurice FitzGibbon, of Crohana House, Co. Kilkenny, and eldest daughter of the Rev. John Stronach (London Missionary Society), of Amoy, China.

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE*.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance*. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day established myself as a BILL AND BULLION BROKER.

JOSEPH MOSCROP.

o 47 Shanghai, 6th Jan., 1875.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. RUSTOMJEE DHUNJEESHAW in our firm ceased on 31st December, 1874.

FRAMJEE HORMUSJEE & Co.

o 45 Shanghai, 14th Jan., 1875.

NOTICE.

THE business of the undersigned is dissolved from 31st December, 1874.

M. D. GHANDY & Co.

o 46 Shanghai, 14th Jan., 1875.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, JAN. 14, 1875.

IT is suggestive that the topics just now agitating the minds of Indian financiers are of a very similar nature to those we are called upon to discuss in China. The legacy left by past misrule in both countries, and the contravention in both cases of many of the simplest rules of political economy, have in both had results, differing in degree indeed, but not in nature. Yet when we come to enquire into the question of degree, we see how immensely superior is the position of affairs in India; and yet, small as are the actual defects, we can plainly see their results in a state of the finances, not indeed hopeless, but such as to need much care, and give much anxiety in their readjustment. Some of the difficulties arose from errors in the settlement of the land, but the greater ones seem to have had their origin from the want of means of intercommunication, and from too heavy fiscal duties. In India, the natural means of communication are of a very inferior description. Few of the rivers are really navigable, and even those that can be made use of, vary at the different seasons of the year from foaming torrents to shallow and sand-obstructed streams. The British Government has established the outline of a system of railways, to afford the means of communication denied by nature; but as yet, although constructed at enormous cost, the lines made can only be considered as the skeleton of what is necessary. Works of irrigation and canals have only of recent years been taken in hand with any real amount of energy, and their construction has been made too dependent on the varying requirements of the finances of the moment. Did income at any time fail to reach its estimated amount, the most ready way of equalising it with the expenditure seemed to consist in at once stopping the public works. Great injury was thereby done, as not only was a severe loss thus entailed in again having to take up works stopped when half executed, but the landholders of the districts likely to be affected were kept in a state of uncertainty. Hence, it in a great measure happened that, when at length such works were ready for the accommodation of the public, it was found that the public had made on its part no preparation. Canals were not made use of for transport, and actually a prejudice had arisen against utilising the water conveyed by the irrigation works. In addition to these, it was felt that a part at least of the debt for which the Indian Government was responsible, was incurred rather in Imperial than in Indian interests; and seeing the great benefit directly gained to Great Britain by her connection with her great dependency, it has been held that for such portions of the debt it was unfair to tax the latter. Without lending any ear to the prophecies of those who predict the bankruptcy of the Indian Government within a term of years, there is in all these statements much ground for

anxiety. It is, however, a hopeful sign that they have been put forward, and still more hopeful that they have been generally acknowledged to have at least the foundation of truth. Compared with China, the Indian Customs duties are of small amount, while the country is happily free from those internal imposts which in the more Eastern State are rapidly sapping the existence of trade. Small as the amounts are, wise financiers point out that they interfere with free circulation, and in many cases propose a reduction. There can naturally in these matters be no hard and fast line drawn. A tariff of two per cent., or of five per cent., on all articles indiscriminately, may seem to be both equitable and reasonable, yet experience seems to show that such hard and fast tariffs are not desirable. Products there are in every country, the imposition on which of even so light a rate of taxation will practically cause their expulsion from the markets of the world; while others will, without difficulty, bear a much larger percentage. Thus, a three per cent. duty on tanned hides in India is detrimental to trade, and therefore to the revenue, and it is proposed to substitute a duty of one per cent. on all hides tanned or untanned. Three per cent. is likewise found to be an unprofitable rate on re-exports of manufactured cottons. Whether from this or other causes, the export is diminishing, and the fair inference therefore is that the cottons of India cannot be laid down at saleable rates. It will readily be seen how small these rates are as compared with the imposts levied even by the Maritime Customs in China. But the duties directly paid to the Customs here are, as a rule, high when compared with the irregular levies exacted before commodities arrive at a port of shipment. On one article, perhaps, of the whole number, duties seem to have had but a slight effect, and that is the article of tea, in the production of which China occupies a unique position. Yet there are signs that tea cannot hold that position long; Japan and Assam are treading closely on her heels; and as in both those countries foreign supervision is much more directly exercised over the preparation of the article, the proportion of tea exported from the three countries is rapidly changing, to the detriment of Chinese trade. Silk duties have been known by the experience of the past few years to press heavily on the export of another of China's staples. Here she has a keener contest than in the case of tea, to enter into, and it would be wise to equalise her chances as much as possible. Tea and Silk are at present almost the only articles which China can export; and this not from any want of industry in her people or fertility in her soil, but because, by a false system of finance, prices are raised to an artificial pitch which renders it unremunerative to export. India is blamed for being too slow in her works for improving communication; but China, as a matter of policy, sets herself to obstruct those she has got. The Indian Government attempted again to introduce a system of land tenure, but unlike that of China. Every man was to be lowered to the same dead level, and the old aristocracy was in a fair state of being destroyed. The result was the Mutiny of 1857, in which not only the landed proprietors, but the persons supposed to be benefited, joined. The mistake has fortunately been in a great measure corrected, with manifest improvement in the condition of both classes alike. In all these things, much may be learned from a comparison of the two countries. China, vastly more rich in its soil and natural productions, is going rapidly down the hill; while India, with many mistakes to rectify, is certainly on the whole in a better position than she has ever occupied before. The evils under which the two countries were undeniably labouring can be traced to the same causes. The difference in result is owing to the fact that in the one case every attempt is being made to correct past errors, while in the other those errors are religiously preserved, and made daily to press heavier on the people.

Summary of News.

The mail of 20th November arrived by the M.M. steamer *Provence* late on the 9th instant, and that of 27th idem by the P. & O. steamer *Gwalior* early on the 11th. The American mail from San Francisco November 30th arrived on the 8th instant; that of December 12th arrived to-day.

A homeward mail leaves to-morrow, by the P. & O. str. *Golconda*. The American mail left this morning by the P. M. str. *Golden Age*, which connects with the *Alaska*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week.

At the Encyclical Council, the Pope proclaims a Jubilee in 1875.

The *Verulam* has been wrecked at the Cape. The crew were saved.

The message of MacMahon asked the Chamber to vote for the first and second Chamber Bill. The Assembly rejected the proposal by 420 against 250. The Ministry resign.

MacMahon's endeavours to obtain a new Ministry have failed. The present Cabinet have agreed to remain in office provisionally.

Alphonso has landed at Barcelona amid great enthusiasm, and an imposing religious procession. Russia, Germany, and Austria have agreed to recognize Alphonso.

Intervention Sheridan Orleans (?) caused great indignation in America, and the Senate have requested Grant to furnish an explanation.

Fire broke out in the sailroom, forward, of H. M. S. *Curlew*, on Monday, but was extinguished before serious damage was done. Particulars of the occurrence are given elsewhere.

The remainder of the hull of the late ship *Horatio*, after having all the charred portions of the timbers removed, and replaced by new, is now being decked over, so as to make it available either for a pontoon or a hulk.

The steamer *Leven*, lately purchased by the China Merchants Co., is being fitted out for her intended occupation at th Taku bar. A hurricane deck is being built fore and aft, thereby greatly increasing her cargo space.

We have pleasure in announcing that H. M. the King of Denmark has conferred on G. F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul-General, the high decoration, "Commander of Dannebroge," in recognition of the services Mr. Seward has rendered to Danish interests in China.

We are informed that H. M. the King of Denmark has also conferred on Edmund Pye, Esq., (of Messrs. Elles & Co., Amoy) the decoration of "Knight of Dannebroge."

We give to-day the texts of two judgments delivered by Sir Edmund Hornby at the Supreme Court on Saturday. The first is in the case Chay-a-Sahichi *v.* Mourilyan Heimann & Co., appealed from the Consular Court at Hiogo, as to which his Lordship reverses the decision of the Court below. Being of opinion that a breach of charter-party had been committed on which some damage may have been sustained, his Lordship remits the case back, to be reheard on that point, the plaintiff to be at liberty to adduce evidence of damage. Each party (for reasons stated) to pay their own costs of the appeal, but costs in the original cause to depend on the result of the new trial.—In the case Malone *v.* Walton, of which we gave a summary on Thursday, his Lordship allows plaintiff, late master of the *Alexandra*, 12s. 6d. beyond the amount paid into Court by defendant, the owner of the vessel,—each party to pay his own costs.

We also give *in extenso* the report and award by the Registrar and Merchant Assessors on the reference in the *St. Francois v.* the *Cawdor Castle*. The report contains also the reasons upon which the Court sustained Mr. Robinson's contention that the owners of the *St. Francois* were justified in treating the sinking of their vessel as a total loss, in refusing to receive her back if raised and repaired, and in claiming that the defendants should pay them the full value of the brig, her freight, stores, crew's wages and expenses. The plaintiffs claimed Tls. 17,235.53, and are allowed Tls. 11,929 41, the principal deductions being on the estimated value of the vessel and on the freight claimed for the sandalwood which remained in her at the time she was sunk.

At the Mixed Court, on Saturday, was resumed, before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., Consul-General, U.S., and H. E. the Taotai of Shanghai, with Dr. Yates acting as interpreter, the remarkable case, "C. E. Hill *v.* Yang Taikee." It is a claim for no less a sum than Tls. 54,000, with interest for eleven years, arising out of the chartering of a steamer, the *Keorjeor*, or *High Bridge*, during the Taeping rebellion. The evidence adduced was in a way a narrative of the measures taken, by means of the "Ever-Victorious Army," to suppress the Taiping rebellion in this province. On Tuesday the Consul-General made a *vivâ voce* statement with regard to the two arbitrations held by

arrangement with Woo, the then Taotai of Shanghai, with a view to the settlement of the claims of Americans and Europeans who had served with the army. The historical nature of the case gives it more than a passing interest; and a lengthy report of the proceedings will be found in our Law columns.

The delegates of the respective Companies of the Shanghai Fire Department, attended at the Municipal Council room on Friday, for the purpose of electing a chief and district engineers for the year. The voting resulted in the reelection of the old officers, Mr. Robert Mackenzie, as chief engineer; Mr. C. J. Ashley, first district engineer; Mr. B. A. Clarke, second ditto; and Mr. A. Charrier, third ditto.

The annual meeting of the Mih-Ho-Loong Hook and Ladder Co. was held on Monday. The officers of the past year—Mr. Rice, foreman; Mr. Groom, 1st assist.; Mr. Tobin, 2nd assist.—were re-elected by acclamation. Dr. Henderson was re-elected Surgeon, and Messrs. Low, Pryer, Welch and Hawtrey were chosen as a Committee. The accounts were then discussed and passed; after which the Rules as amended were read; but although these were approved, it was found there was not a sufficient number of members present to render their adoption valid, as by the old bylaws the votes of two-thirds of the Company would be necessary to enable any alteration to be made. It was therefore proposed and carried, that a copy of the new rules should be circulated, to be signed by the members; and that if a sufficient number of signatures were obtained, the rules as amended should be adopted. At the meeting of the Mih-ho-loong Rifle Company, Messrs. Rice, Mackenzie, Groom, Dunman, Hawtrey, and Cheverton were elected committee. The accounts for 1874 were then read and passed. Some discussion took place as to the advisability of holding the annual ball, and the votes of the meeting being unanimously in favor of it, a committee was chosen, and it was resolved to give the ball as usual, at an early date.

The first battalion drill of the S. V. C. under the command of Major Hart, took place on Tuesday, in the Consular Compound. About 90 rank and file mustered at the appointed time, and were put through some rather severe but serviceable field movements, the drill lasting more than an hour. At the conclusion of the evolutions, Major Hart expressed gratification at the way they had been performed, and hoped to see a better turnout on future occasions.

On Tuesday, at the Masonic Hall, Professor Watson, of Michigan College, chief of the United States expedition for the observation of the transit of Venus, delivered a lecture on that subject and its relation to the problems of Astronomy. The lecture was given under the auspices of the Shanghai Temperance Society, being one of the winter series. Mr. C. P. Blethen occupied the chair; and notwithstanding unfavourable weather, an audience of nearly 200, including a large proportion of ladies, was present. The subject was treated in a popular manner, and was illustrated by diagrams on the blackboard, drawn by the Professor as he proceeded, as well as by copies (by Mr. Saunders, of Shanghai,) of three of the 99 photographs of the transit taken in Peking, showing the first and second contacts and the appearance when the planet was fairly on the sun's disc. It is impossible to give even an outline of the lecture within the limits at our disposal, and it can only be said that those present received a rare intellectual treat. At the close of the lecture, a vote of thanks to Professor Watson was proposed by Mr. Taintor, and seconded by Mr. Wylie.

The minutes of the French Municipal Council meeting of 22nd December, which we give elsewhere, are largely of a routine character, although at the same time they form a report of useful municipal activity. Various proposals of the Committee of Works were approved, relative to the carrying out of the system of drainage, the planting of trees, the metalling of the Yangkingpang bund, &c. An application by jinricksha owners, that wheelbarrows should be placed under the same restrictions and regulations with their vehicles; and a letter from the other Municipal Council, relative to the reconstruction of Yang-king-pang bridge No. 4, and the rectification of the line of the Creek bund, were referred to the delegates of both Councils, for arrangement. The Council decided to appoint an arbitrator to act with one nominated by Mr. Hanssen, in settling terms for a piece of land required for widening the Rue du Consulat. It was resolved to submit to the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, certain proposals by Mr. Viguier, Harbourmaster, regarding signals in case of fire in the anchorage. The Chairman was requested to address the Belgian Minister, with a view to obtaining the return of documents deposited at the Belgian Consulate as proofs in the Godaert case.

A very serious accident occurred on the river on Monday evening, in the sinking of a Chinese passageboat by collision with the steamer *Europe*, involving an estimated loss of fifteen lives. The *Europe* was coming to an anchor below the harbour limits about 7 p.m., and her engines had been stopped some few minutes, preparatory to letting go the anchor. Miscalculating their position probably in the darkness, and misjudging the force of the tide, the boat people rashly attempted to cross her bows, and their boat came into collision with the starboard bow of the steamer, or with the descending anchor, and was at once sunk. A boat was immediately lowered from the steamer, in charge of the second officer, and picked up two of the unfortunates before they were carried astern of the ship. Ten others were recovered, but although the boat pulled some distance down the river and a careful search was made, no more could be found. One of the rescued was in an insensible state, and though every effort was made to restore animation when the vessel was reached, it proved in vain. Dr. Burge was sent for, but before he could arrive the man was quite dead. The people saved were all passengers, and they state that, seeing the danger, they advised the lowdah of the boat to put about, but he replied "No fear; I can cross her bow."

We regret to hear of another outrage on a foreign resident, by a rowdy Chinese. As a European lady and gentleman were setting out for an afternoon walk, on Wednesday, and were about turning into the Foochow from the Szechuen road, towards the Bund, a Chinaman jostled them and suddenly struck the lady across the eye, inflicting a severe cut. He then ran away, and succeeded in escaping from his pursuer, the lady's husband, who was divided between the necessity of attending to the sufferer, and the desire to secure the fellow. Unfortunately there were no police in the vicinity.

There was a very good but rather severe hunt on the Hongkew side on Saturday. The start was from a point off the Woosung road, about a quarter of a mile from the rifle butts, and the tract of country beyond was traversed and re-traversed till a course was laid for home, just opposite the S. S. N. lower wharf. A large number of people had as usual made the direction of their afternoon drive or walk depend on the movements of the hunt, and from 2.30 till 3.30, there was a steady exodus from all parts of the Settlement to a common centre on the Yangtszepoo road. A widish and well-filled creek was selected as the rubicon, and was boldly charged by the first arrivals, Mr. Vincent on *Caradoc* winning the light weights. The names of horse and rider were of good omen, Mr. Vincent *conquering* in the local contest on the namesake of the animal which, the mail tells us, has won world-wide fame by carrying a certain Lieutenant Zubowitz from Vienna to Paris, a distance of 800 miles, in 15 days. Mr. Turnbull won the heavy weight prize again on *Steam Whistle*.

A memorial in the Peking Gazette of 15th December shows that the Chinese still maintain a semblance of suzerainty in their relations with Loochew, although the Japanese have formally taken the islands under their protection. True, the junk with tribute arrived at Foochow in the end of last year, before the Formosan difficulty arose; but a year before that, it had been officially intimated to foreign powers that the sovereign of the islands had been reduced to the position of an ex-daimio and assigned a residence at Yedo. The departure of the junk on her return voyage is now noticed; and according to precedent, the duties on Chinese merchandise shipped by her have been remitted. In acknowledgment of the graciousness of the "Sacred Ruler" to the men from afar, however, the Envoy, followed by his attendant officials and the crew of the junk, has had to perform the ceremony of the *kotow*, at the Custom-house!

The numerous friends of Mr. A. C. Dulcken, who was for many years connected with the Press in Shanghai, and who during the past five years has edited the Hongkong *Daily Press*, will be pleased to hear that he was invited to a farewell banquet, on the 30th ultimo, by his Hongkong friends, on the eve of his departure for England.

Editorial Selections.

THE CHINA LOAN.

If getting in debt be a sign of progress, the Chinese Government has made a small step in that direction. The new Chinese loan of two millions and a quarter taels, secured as it is on the Foreign Customs' Revenue, will doubtless meet with ready acceptance at the proposed rate of nearly 8½ per cent. Economically speaking, the proposed loan has much to recommend it; but it is characteristic of the false position which China holds among nations, and the bad name its Government has earned for itself, that it has had to go into the market at a rate so much less favourable than has the Government of Japan. The securities offered are, as we have stated, ample, provided care is taken that the revenues assigned are duly placed aside for the intended purpose. There is no reason to believe that the Chinese Government is other than desirous to do its duty in this respect; in fact, we believe that those who control the executive are quite sensible that in a matter of this sort thorough honesty is their best and only policy; and their good intentions are guaranteed by the statement that a certain portion of the Customs' revenue is assigned to the introducers of the loan, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, in trust for the bondholders. So far, we believe the loan to be satisfactory, but there is a question to be asked the reply to which is not of so clear a nature. We are not told the object of the loan, nor what are the circumstances which have impelled China to go into the market, and become a debtor to Europe. Were the money raised to be devoted to some useful project, as in Japan, we have little doubt that China bonds would rapidly become a favourite in the market. It has been our unpleasant duty lately to comment on the extremely unsatisfactory state of Chinese finance, and the issue of this loan lends considerable proof to the arguments that we have advanced, that China in this respect has fallen into a position whence she sees little hope of extricating herself. Yet this condition of affairs has occurred in a time of profound peace, when the empire is settled—so far as China can for years hope to be settled within the eighteen provinces—and when the only external foe to be guarded against is the Ameer of Kashgar. It is true that the threatened rupture with Japan cost a good deal of money; but it augurs ill for the finances of a power like China, that the few weeks of preparation really undertaken should have so utterly exhausted its resources as to need an application to foreigners for capital. Had the finances of China been in a moderately sound condition, they should without difficulty have borne this strain, but so involved had they become, that it rendered necessary the present appeal to right them again. These circumstances are not hopeful for the future of the empire, as the government is at present administered; and now that China is about to take the first leap and become a debtor to the world at large, it will behove her to see that her revenues are administered in a less extravagant manner than at present. That the empire is capable of occupying a high financial position, no one who has studied the economy of the country, its resources, both mineral and agricultural, and the character of the people, can doubt. But all those things are rendered nugatory by a Government feeble and yet grasping, and which by unluckily always adopting the very worst means to an end, has succeeded in involving itself in its present complication. The breakdown of Chinese finance when exposed to the light strain put upon it by the threatened rupture with Japan, cannot, however, but have left its impress on the minds of those who direct the Government. If the mere rumour of a war with a small power like Japan so seriously interfered with the car of State, the consequences of any serious difficulty with one of the Great Powers would be overwhelming. When China was ignorant of the ways of the rest of the world, as at the outbreak of the first war, it seemed but a slight thing to offend a Power like England. Men there were in abundance, and the rude munitions of war within the experience of Chinese mandarins were readily obtainable without any very great expenditure of money or discomfort to the country. Experience has twice shown China that things have changed, and that even such measures as might have been effective in 1840, in 1875 would be of no avail. Even within that brief space the expense of war has probably quadrupled, and what China was unable to do then, with a comparatively uncrippled exchequer, is now altogether beyond her utmost endeavours. As we have pointed out, the very measures recently adopted to increase the revenue of the empire are in reality sapping its existence; but we fear that, although known to many Chinese officials, these unpleasant facts have not yet presented themselves in their nakedness to the *de facto* Government of China. The present loan may afford a breathing space to enable some relief to be introduced, but we fear that this will hardly be its result. To amend its ways, unless under the extremest pressure, would be contrary to all the traditions of China's policy. The slight relief afforded will, we anticipate, not be turned to the most useful, or to any useful, purpose. The terms of the loan are as we have stated fair, but one point attracts comment. Issued at £95 per £100 bond, the repayment of the principal by lot will effectually prevent the scrip ever rising above par. The future quotations of the loan will thus never be a fair criterion as to public opinion with regard to Chinese financial resources. Perhaps, on the whole, this will be an advantage; though it might, on the other hand, be useful if the Chinese Government had some external means of ascertaining the effect on its own credit of amelioration in its exchequer.

THE CHINESE RECORDER.

The concluding number for the past year of the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal* has been published in good time, and contains some extremely interesting matter. Readers of the periodical will be glad to hear that, under its present management, it has been found possible to increase its size, and that for the future each number will contain about seventy pages of reading matter, for the small subscription of $3 per annum. Although nominally a class organ, the *Recorder* has always opened its columns to papers of merit on miscellaneous topics connected with the East, and within its pages are preserved many valuable notes, and the records of many observations which in all probability would otherwise have been lost. The index, however, in the present number, is very defective, containing nothing more than a bald list of the headings of papers, and this, in a work of this nature, which will eventually become extensively useful as a work of reference, must be looked upon as a shortcoming. The November-December number opens with a continuation of Dr. Bretschneider's notes on Chinese Mediæval Travellers, and is devoted to a consideration of the *Si-shi-ki*, a small work describing the travels of the Chinese envoy Ch'ang-te, sent by the Mongol Emperor Mangou Khan in the year 1259, to his brother Houlagou, who had just succeeded in overthrowing the Caliph of Bagdad. This pamphlet had already been translated by Rémusat and Pauthier, but with the usual want of accuracy which unfortunately marks the Chinese labours of those two men. Their texts were, besides, incorrect, but for this latter they would not be held responsible, not having the opportunities at Dr. Bretschneider's disposal for comparing the various surviving texts. Dr. Bretschneider's notes are peculiarly valuable, he having made the history of mediæval China his special study; and he is thereby able to elucidate a rather poor description with valuable notes. It is only with the greatest care that the information concealed in the few records of travels of those times handed down to us can be put in an available shape, and yet few historical topics are at present of greater interest than the revolutions which have taken place in Central Asia. Never in fact was the civilisation of the West in so great danger of extinction as at the time when Ghengis Khan and his successors were masters of Asia from the Yellow Sea to the Caspian, and when already their victorious arms for a time eclipsed the infant power of Muscovy. Mr. Phillips' paper entitled *Zaitun Researches*, will, as touching more generally

these topics, doubtless appear to most of greater interest. No part of Marco Polo's book of travels has been so much called in question as that portion relating to Fuhkien. Mr. Phillips' present paper will, we think, set the greater portion of those difficulties at rest. In the old text of Ramusio, from which most of the earlier editions of Marco Polo were taken, the traveller is described as entering Fuhkien from the city of Gieza Kieu-chow-fu; Fuhkien is styled Koncha (of which more anon) and we are told that Fugiu is its capital. Afterwards, he is taken to Unguen, a great sugar district, thence fifteen miles we are informed took him to Cangiu, from whence across plains and hills he reached Zaitun. In the text made use of by Colonel Yule, several additions occur. The journeys agree in the main as far as Kelinfu (Kien-ning-fu) whence the traveller proceeds as before to Unkèn (Unguen of the former text.) Here, however, a discrepancy arises. Col. Yule's text proceeds (Bk. II., Chap. LXXX.), "There is no more to say of this place, so now we shall speak of the splendour of Fuju. When you have gone 15 miles from the city of Unken you come to this noble city, which is the capital of the kingdom. So we will now tell you what we know about it." The next chapter (Bk. II., Chap. LXXXI), proceeds: "Now this city of Fuju is the key of the kingdom, which is called CHONKA, and which is one of the nine great divisions of Mangi." The city is a place of great trade and manufactures, is inhabited by people very ready to rise in rebellion, is built on a river a mile wide, makes sugar, and trades direct with the Indies. Mr. Phillips finds here many difficulties. Foochow is not a great place of trade or manufacture, does not make sugar in any quantity, and is not within 15 miles of any sugar district like Unken. Ramusio's text, as Mr. Phillips shows, is plain—Kwelinfu is Kien-ning-fu; Unguen, as Mr. Kingsmill was the first to point out, is Yungchun-chow, a noted sugar producing district, and moreover near Cangiu, the port for which Col. Yule's authority substitutes Fuju. Chinchew, as Mr. Phillips shows, answers all the circumstances of the case. Whence then did Fuju come in the text? Mr. Phillips cannot answer, and is sorely taken to task about it. We will make a suggestion. On entering Chouka we were told by Ramusio's text that Fuju is its capital, a sentence left out by Col. Yule's authority, which speaks of our entering the kingdom of FUJU. Chapter XXXI. speaks of the place in dispute being the "key" of the kingdom. The Fuju then of the earlier chapter, the "capital," is confounded with Cangiu, the "key," and to try and make the latter fit, the first quotation from Col. Yule's text was inserted. Leave out the interpolation at the end of Chapter LXXX., and for Fuju in the beginning of the next, read with Ramusio Cangiu, and everything drops into its place. Mr. Phillips then proceeds to identify Zaitun with a place called Geh-kong 月港 formerly a sea port near Changchow, but as he promises to give in a succeeding paper other and weightier reasons for his opinion, we may await its publication. A visit to the Yün-shui-tung by the Rev. Mr. Meech is at least useful as a guide to an interesting locality; while the Rev. Mr. Ross' Journey to the Corean Gate gives us much useful information on a topic of great interest. Corea, as Mr. Ross suggests, is certainly playing the game of Russia in her present jealous and foolish policy, and is laying herself out in the plainest manner for absorption by that omnivorous power. The other papers are of a purely missionary nature. Though sufficiently interesting to those devoted to such subjects, they are not of a nature to need discussion in an ordinary newspaper. We wish the new issue of the *Recorder* every success, and hope that it will this year carry out the promise with which last year closed.

Outports.

NINGPO.

A correspondent has favoured us with an item of news, the occurrence mentioned in which has caused intense excitement among the Chinese population of this city and neighbourhood. It appears that on the night of the 5th inst., three natives were engaged in some occupation at a distance of about three miles from the west gate, when they were fiercely attacked by a tiger, the animal's onslaught being so sudden that escape was impossible. One of the unfortunate men was killed on the spot, and the other two seriously wounded; but while the animal was occupied with the dead body of their late companion, these managed to make good their escape, and hastened into the city. The circumstance was reported to the Che-hien on the following morning, and he at once ordered out a detachment of 200 braves, to endeavour to capture the animal or destroy it. The detachment scoured the adjacent country, and fortunately found the tiger about two miles from the north gate, when it was shot dead by one of their number. They returned with their prize to the city in the evening, and its appearance excited the utmost curiosity. In size it is said to be as "large as a full-grown donkey," and it is beautifully striped. Speculation is rife as to how such an animal could have found its way through so populous a region as that surrounding Ningpo, in which the existence of wild beasts has been unknown probably for very many years.

TIENTSIN.

Early on the 26th instant snow began to fall, with the wind blowing strongly from the Northeast. This weather continued till about noon, when the wind veered to the Northwest, and the snow ceased. A couple of hours later it was blowing a strong gale from the Northwest, with the thermometer rapidly falling, till at daylight on the 27th it stood at seven degrees Fahrenheit. The river off the settlement was covered with ice about an inch in thickness. Since daylight on the 26th, it has continued to freeze, and this morning, I saw people walking across the river on the ice, and I heard later that sledges had begun to run on it. We have to-day, in fact, our proper Tientsin winter weather, such as we used to have before the summer inundations of the last four years in this region.

Since Christmas Eve, the usual social banquets of this festive season have been the order of the day—having, I should mention, been properly introduced by an avalanche of good things.

In my last letter I mentioned that the Prince Tun, one of the uncles of the Emperor, had been, by Imperial decree on the 14th December, appointed to represent His Majesty at the Temple of Heaven, on the observance of the sacrificial ceremonies at the winter solstice. In a decree in the Gazette of the 22nd December, it is stated that for the purpose of thoroughly re-establishing his health, His Majesty will abstain from the transaction of public business till the 11th of the 2nd moon of next Chinese year (our middle of March 1875); and in the Gazette of 24th December, it is announced that the Empresses-Dowager will meantime represent His Majesty.

In the Gazette of the 24th December, an edict announces the appointment of Chung-how, one of the chiefs of the Tsung-le Yamun, to fill the post of Right Vice-President of the Board of Finances, in addition to that of Vice-President of the Board of War. A decree in the Gazette of the 18th December, as I have already written to you, appointed Paou Keun, one of the chiefs of the Tsung-le Yamun, a Minister of State. In the Gazette of the following day another decree appoints him a chief of the Board of Magistracy; and at an audience on that day he presents his thanks for the former appointment.

The Governor-General, his Excellency Li Hungchang, left Tientsin on the 23rd for Paouting-foo, the capital of the province, where he will stay till next spring. Of course, during the 100 days for which the Emperor abstains from public business, His Majesty will not grant audiences to foreign Envoys; and as the Empresses-Dowager do not receive those Envoys, the Danish Minister will not be able to have an audience till next April at earliest.

28th Dec., 1874.

NEWCHWANG.

From Newchwang we hear on 15th December that Father Ph. Simon, a French Roman Catholic Missionary, died two days previously, after ten days illness. Father Simon was well known and much liked by the residents generally, for his kind heart, social qualities, and gentlemanly, unobtrusive manner. As a missionary, he was zealous, like most of his brethren; and he had built a little church which for architectural taste and design put every other building in the shade. His death is felt as a great loss, not only to the mission of which he was an ornament, and to the community, but to the many poor people whom it was his delight to teach and feed.

The river was not yet frozen over, and the weather remained comparatively mild, thermometer 15.

Messrs. Bush Brothers report, as on 1st December, that there was still no news from the south, although the Chefoo mail was daily looked for.

The following parcels of Manufactures have been placed, viz:—

Grey Shirtings, 8.4 lbs.,		Pagoda Chop	Tls.	1.67,	20 bales.
T-Cloths.....	7 ,,	,,	,,	1.57,	10 ,,
Drills English	15 ,,	Chimney Chop	,,	2.40,	30 ,,
Do.		Horse ,,	,,	2.46,	40 ,,

Malwa in quoted about Tls. 480, nominally.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* regrets to have to record the destruction of Dr. J. M. Beaumont's residence, by fire, on the morning of 26th December. The fire is supposed to have originated in the roof—close to one of the chimneys. There was no wooden beam in the chimney, but the inference is that some soot had been ignited, and, smouldering for an indefinite period in the upper part of the chimney, had heated and charred the adjacent rafters. The alarm was given about 4.30 a.m., and the fire spread with such rapidity along the roof that Dr. Beaumont had much difficulty in escaping with his life—only partially dressed. Nothing whatever was saved.—

A notice to mariners intimates that the Beacon which was erected on the southern end of Middle Dog Island, in 1861, as a range mark to guide vessels into the entrance of the South Channel leading to the River Min, was blown down during the month of November last, and will not be rebuilt; as owing to the shifting of the banks it had ceased to answer the purpose for which it was intended, and the natural marks are now deemed a sufficient guide into this channel.—Regarding Tea, Messrs. John Forster & Co.'s Market Report of 2nd inst., states:—Owing to the near approach of the native New Year, the Teamen have been more anxious to clear off their remaining stocks, and in consequence more activity has been apparent in this market. The principal feature has been the resumption of business in Oolongs for America, the Teamen having been at length obliged to accept the much reduced offers of buyers. Arrivals from the country have ceased, and business for the season would be closed by the settlement of the small stock of Congous and Oolongs now left.—No departures of tea vessels are recorded, and there are none on the berth, while the only one expected is the str. *Ajax*, for London.

HIOGO.

The *News* says that small-pox, thanks to the want of a compulsory system of vaccination, is again prevalent in the native town, and that a foreigner resident upon the Concession is suffering from this terrible scourge.—A Japanese has been arrested in the Concession, charged with a murder committed in Main-street three or four years ago. The man has been working honestly ever since. —The *Tokio-maru*, having on board General Saigo and about 40 officers connected with his staff, Admiral Akamatz and Lt. Cassel, arrived in Kobe at about 1 p.m. on the 24th ult. As she passed Hiogo Bay she was saluted by the Japanese man-of-war lying there. The unfavorable weather somewhat interfered with the intended demonstrations of the people, who had made great preparations.—One of the bettos charged with murderously assaulting one of their fraternity for refusing to pay the "King of the Bettos" the usual poll tax, turns out to be "wanted" for a robbery of the Imperial Mails which took place several months ago on one of the roads in the vicinity of Yedo.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* in alluding to the new postal arrangements between America and Japan, says:—At each of the open ports, a foreign director has been appointed to look after the interests of the several foreign countries; and though they are all Americans so far as we know, still we have confidence there will be no favouring of one nationality more than another. At Nagasaki, the foreign department is to be under the management of Mr. J. W. Clarke, a gentleman who has been connected with the United States' postal service for nearly 13 years. The new Post-office is described as a very creditable building.—Christmas-day was well observed at Nagasaki, both ashore and afloat. The vessels in the harbour, says the *Sun*, were neatly decorated with foliage from the neighboring hills. Of course it was a free day for the sailors, and numbers being ashore, found their way to the grog-shops, in the absence of a Temperance Hall. Sundry free fights between seamen of different nationalities were the natural result; and some of the men of the *Mosquito*, who have behaved themselves in a very creditable way during their stay in Nagasaki, with a few exceptions, lost all control over themselves, and went so far as to threaten to pull down the Garibaldi Hotel about the ears of the landlord. —In a row between some Chinese and Malays, one Chinaman was badly wounded with a knife.—On the 27th, the steamer *Nanzing* left Nagasaki for Hongkong, loaded with coal and a general assortment of goods. She had on board also the distinguished Japanese personages who came in her from Yokohama for the purpose of transferring the Takasima Colliery to the new purchaser. On the day before the *Nanzing* sailed, the German man-of-war *Arcona*, while leaving the harbour, collided with her, carrying away the taffrail, stern davits, and a portion of the upper deck. The *Arcona* sent a boat to enquire into the amount of damage.—The state in which the books belonging to the Ono Bank have been found, does not appear to be very satisfactory, for a notification has been issued by the Governor stating that on examining the books no record was found of any transaction with foreigners.—The P. & O. S. N. Company's steamer *Orissa* put into Nagasaki on the 31st ult., short of coals.

YOKOHAMA.

The dearth of news in the Japan papers received by the *Costa Rica*, shows that the several Settlements, like Shanghai, have suffered from the effects of holiday-keeping, and that business of all kinds has been at a standstill.—Among the more important items just now, is one of much interest to the foreign community not only of Japan, but also of those ports at which ships arrive from that country, viz., that the most strenuous efforts are being made to avert the spread of small-pox, and that the Japanese are now submitting themselves to vaccination and to re-vaccination in large numbers. On the 25th ult., no fewer than four hundred operations, says the *Mail*, were successfully performed at the Japanese hospital, under the direction of Dr. Simmons and Japanese students. The prevalence of the disease among the pupils of the Kaiseigakko has alarmed the foreign teachers, who are stated to have "struck" work in consequence. Dr. Ritter, Professor of Chymistry and Natural Philosophy in the Imperial College at Yedo, has died from small-pox.—A proclamation has just been issued by the Comptroller of the Imperial Household, intimating that there would be at the end of last month, "a great concourse of poetry," wishing a happy new year to the Imperial family. Officers, daimios, samurai, priests, peasants, and in general "all who feel themselves capable of writing poetry," are invited to send their contributions, by post, for examination, to the Minister of the Imperial Household,—the sending by post being adopted for the first time.—The *Nichi Shimbun* states that Shimada the native banker stopped payment on the 19th instant. His business ramifications were very extensive. The liabilities are supposed to reach 900,000 *yen*, consisting chiefly of deposits from the various *ken*.—The *Mail* says the public entry into Yedo of the Formosan Army has been again postponed.—The German Club have given an amateur theatrical performance which fully sustained the reputation which the *corps* earned last year. The pieces were well selected, and the acting was for the most part full of spirit and consequent effect. The new Post Office, which is situated on the Main Street, adjoining the Custom House and facing the Kanagawa Kencho, is described by the *Mail* as an unpretentious edifice, erected with that indifference to durability of material which so largely characterises local architecture.—An order has been given to reconstruct the Imperial palace and the offices of the Ministry of the Imperial Household, on the same place which was occupied by the castle destroyed last year by fire. The *Herald* hears from private sources that it is intended to reconstruct the palace in the European style, and that it is also proposed to rebuild the whole of the public offices after foreign models.—The first paper hunt of the present season came off on the 29th ult., and was fairly attended by riders. There was a good course selected, including some stiffish jumps. Mr. Abbott on *Ivanhoe*, was the winner, followed by Mr. Tyler, on *Mormon*; Mr. St. John, on *Kingcraft*, third.—The *Gazette* states that H. E. Yanagiwara, Ambassador to the Court of China, and suite, reached Yokohama per P. M. S. S. *Golden Age*, on Christmas morning, from Shanghai. A salute of 21 guns was fired by the Kanagawa Forts, on his Excellency landing.

CANTON.

The transport of the remains of the late Viceroy will take place next Monday, the 11th inst. The land route is taken in preference to the sea transit. The cortège is said to consist of over 3,000 men, the coffin alone requiring 64 men to carry it. No doubt the ceremony will be a very interesting one, as no expense is spared to make it as imposing as possible. Requisitions will be made on the officials along the route the procession passes through.—Various robberies, and an attempted piracy of a passage boat, are reported. In one case a party of robbers intercepted a wedding procession, and began to possess themselves of the valuable dowry. Not satisfied with this, they broke open the bridal chair with the object of removing the costly ornaments from the person of the bride. The outcry raised by the men of the procession attracted the attention of the bridegroom's party, who fearing something wrong, turned out and arrived just in time to relieve the bride from the ignominy of being dragged out of her chair.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

The *Daily Press* understands that Colonel Loring, the U. S. Vice-Consul at Hongkong, has received a letter from the Consul at Swatow, stating that he had sent a messenger to the wreck of the *Japan*, and that its exact locality had been ascertained. He also mentions that the bodies of two Chinamen, with upwards of $2,000 in gold upon them, had been picked up.—Three men charged with being concerned in the *Spark* piracy and robbery, were committed for trial at the Magistracy on 30th ult.—A curious case is being investigated there, in which a man named Richards, a seaman on the ship *Weymouth*, is charged with the unlawful possession of a quantily of jewellery, suspected to be the proceeds of an extensive robbery in Newcastle, N.S.W.—An inquest has been held on the body of a soldier who is supposed to have met his death by a fall in the Gymnasium A comrade said deceased was on a parallel bar and was performing a feat known as the "muscle grinder" exercise. He was swinging the contrary way to that which the bar was put in; the bar sprang out and he fell heavily. The spine was dislocated and a vessel on the brain ruptured.—The *China Mail* states that the crew of the French brig *H. & L.* have been sent to Saigon by the M. M. S. S. *Sindh* for trial on a charge of murdering their late Captain, Planchet. —At a meeting of members of the Victorian Recreation Club, it was resolved that $3090 having been promised by subscription and donation, the rebuilding of the premises of the Club, destroyed by the typhoon, should now be proceeded with.—The *Mail* states that Captain Warsaw has left for Swatow, where he will join the str. *Yottung*, chartered to proceed from Swatow to search for the wreck of the S. S. *Japan*, and if successful in the

search, to buoy the wreck, with a view to obtain the treasure lost in her, if practicable. The surviving Chinese passengers from the *Japan* are holding a religious ceremony in the Sing Wong Josshouse, in commemoration of their safe deliverance from the calamity. They are evidently still in possession of large sums of money, from the expensive way in which they celebrate the thanksgiving.—Mr. Henry Kingsmill has published a letter he addressed to Mr. Greig, chief manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, enquiring as to the truth, in whole or in part, of the rumoured movements and changes in the staff of the Bank which we mentioned in our last issue. Mr. Greig replied on the 4th inst., that he is instructed by his Directors to inform Mr. Kingsmill that "Mr. McLean, who has recently acted as Manager in London, has, by order of the Directors, started from London on a tour of inspection of the Bank's Eastern Branches and Agencies. Mr. Thomas Jackson, lately Manager of the Yokohama Branch, has been appointed to act as Manager in London during his absence, and Mr. Rowett has been appointed to act as Sub-manager at the latter Branch for the same period. Beyond these appointments no other have been made as regards the London Office or the inspectorship of the Bank."—The *Fort William* has been towed to Canton, to be broken up.—H.M. ships *Elk* and *Avon* have finally left for home, *viâ* Singapore. The *Iron Duke* was to leave Hongkong on the 9th inst., for Singapore, which she will leave about three days after the arrival of H.M.S. *Audacious* for home.—A Cricket Match between the "Garrison" and the "Hongkong Club" was played on the Cricket Ground, on the 1st and 2nd inst., ending in a victory for the former.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Dec. 13th.—(1)—A Decree according memorial boards to the temple of the God of the Sea at Hai-ning Chow and Jên-ho in Chekiang, on the application of the Governor, who has represented the divine assistance rendered in maintaining the solidity of the coast embankments.

(2) The Governor of Shantung, Ting Pao-chêng, memorializes reporting his departure from his home in his native province of Kweichow, after completing the repairs of his ancestral tombs, on the 29th August, in order to return to his duty within the year graciously accorded him for leave of absence. He arrived at Wu-ch'ang Fu on the 19th October, and reports the harvests abundant and the condition of the people happy and contented along the line of his journey through Sze-ch'wan and Hupeh. As five years have elapsed since he was granted an audience, he is possessed with a continual anxiety to gaze upon the countenance of Heaven, as a dog or a horse longs for a sight of its master, and he entreats permission to visit Peking for this purpose before resuming his office. He intends to travel overland from Ts'ing-Kiang P'u northwards, and hopes to meet on the way the answer to his request.—Rescript in the vermilion pencil: There is no need for him to come and have audience.

The remainder of the *Gazette* is occupied with administrative details from Ngan-hwei.

Dec. 14th—(1)—A Decree. For the great sacrifice to be offered on the 22nd of this month at the altar of Heaven, We ordain that the Prince of Ch'un, Yih-hwan, do reverently perform the ceremony in Our stead.

(2)—The Governor-General of the Two Hu and the Governor of Hupeh memorialize reporting the outbreak of a popular disturbance at Lao Ho K'ow, in the Kwang-hwa district, bordering on the province of Honan. A military officer having been sent to that place to superintend the proper working of the system of salt supply from the Sze-ch'wan government agency, and to guard against the introduction of smuggled salt from the northeast (Liang Hwai) division, he discovered that a great abundance of counterfeit *cash* were in circulation, and both issued notices in concert with the local authorities stringently prohibiting this practice, and likewise took measures to arrest the offenders. Upon this a number of lawless vagabonds leagued themselves with the police of the district Magistrate, and taking advantage of an opportunity when the Magistrate had gone out of town, they convoked a public gathering on the 26th April last, compelled the shopkeepers to close their shops, and attacked and pillaged the Salt-office. One of the rioters was killed in the fray by a soldier of the local force. Some arrests have been made, but the confessions obtained are unsatisfactory, and a rescript is requested stripping the Magistrate of his button and holding him answerable for the apprehension of the actual ringleaders.

Dec. 15th—The Tartar General and Superintendent of Customs for the Province of Fuhkien memorializes as follows. It has already been reported that the junk with tribute from Liu-ch'iu arrived at Foochow toward the close of last year, when duties were remitted upon the merchandize imported by her, as the regulations provide. Her business being now at an end, the junk has sailed on her return voyage. The Customs' deputy at Nan-t'ai has reported to the effect that the envoy who was on board the junk, named Tung She-hien, has handed in a list of the Chinese merchandize purchased and shipped on board, from which it appears that the amount of duty for which exemption is to be accorded is Taels 283.1.9.8. The Superintendent of Customs has given orders hereupon to waive the payment of this sum, in accordance with precedent, and in furtherance of the profound benevolence displayed by the Sacred Ruler in tenderly cherishing the men from afar. He has notified the same in a mandate addressed to the foreign envoy. The Custom's deputy has further reported that the envoy, followed by his attendant officials and the crew of the junk, has performed the ceremony of the Kotow at the Custom-house, all with faces turned in the direction of the Imperial abode, in thanksgiving for the celestial favours, which have filled them with joy and gratitude. After this they had set sail on their return voyage.

December 16th. (1)—The President of the Court of Censorate reports that an accusation has been lodged by Wu-ying, a writer of the Court, against Têh-ts'ûan, a head-clerk of the same department, for extortion and intimidation. The complainant states that, on being posted to his appointment as writer, he lent Têh-ts'ûan Taels 30, and that, on sending in an application for leave to go to meet his parents, he made the same person a further loan of a like amount. On applying subsequently for repayment, he was told that these sums were amounts due on his appointment and obtaining leave; in addition to which various payments by way of gratification have been repeatedly demanded of him, and for two years past the whole of his office allowance has been withheld. Beside this, a claim of twenty odd taels by way of interest has been pressed against him, and he has not ventured in consequence to present himself at the office for the discharge of his duty. The accused person denies these charges; and it is requested that both parties may be handed over to the Board of Punishments for judicial investigation.—For rescript see *Gazette* of Dec. 4th.

(2) The Governor of Hunan exposes an individual holding the appointment of expectant Taotai, named T'ang Shêng-wee, who, originally a personal attendant of a sub-Magistrate in that province, has availed himself of the laxity which has been an inevitable concomitant of the purchase system, to obtain an official position. He has made himself notorious by divers acts of a disgraceful nature; and on enquiry being instituted, his base origin has been brought to light. It is requested that he be stripped of his official rank, and condemned to the penalty of 100 blows, beside being placed under rigorous surveillance.—Acceded to by rescript.

Dec. 17th.—The Court Circular announces that Tsiang Yih-li 蔣益澧, heretofore holding office as Judicial Commissioner of Shansi, has paid his respects on his arrival at Peking. (N. B. This is the once-famous Governor of Kwangtung, whose activity and zeal for financial reform led to his removal and degradation to a Judicial Commissionership in 1867. He has since then remained in retirement.)

(1) The Ministers of the Presence have received his Majesty's verbal decree as follows. Henceforward, in all cases when memorials are handed in from any of the departments of the Government in the Manchu language, let them be written in parallel columns with the Chinese text. (This is for the convenience of the Empresses Dowager, during his Majesty's illness; as the Imperial ladies do not read Manchu.)

(2) The Governor-General of Fuhkien memorializes reporting that the chief perpetrators of a daring robbery on a pawnshop within the city of Ts'üan-chow Fu (Chinchew) which took place a year and a half ago, have at length been apprehended. From the confession of the prisoners, ten in number, it appears that the gang consisted of 17 individuals. The prisoners are condemned to death.

Dec. 18th.—Imperial Decree. Whereas, on the happy occurrence of a visitation of smallpox which has this month befallen Us, We have been besought in unison by the Prince of Tun and his colleagues to undergo restorative attention in undisturbed tranquillity of mind, it has nevertheless seemed impossible, as We reflected on the solemn importance of the affairs of State, that We should dare to take thought for Our own comfort and repose. Yet, as our bodily frame at the present juncture is unequal to the effort of sustaining fatigue, it behoves Us consequently to give ear to the request. In deep apprehension, however, lest any neglect be entailed in the absence of attention to affairs, We have addressed reiterated supplications to their Majesties the Empresses Dowager, entreating that, in consideration of the fact that Our person is for the time being under restorative treatment, they will deign to suffer the submission of all representations from departments of the government in the capital or the provinces to their perusal and decision. To Our deep joy and gratitude their Majesties, in the affection with which they overflow toward Us, have consented to act in this manner. Let this be promulgated for the information of all, throughout the Empire.

(2).—A Decree. Lei Pao-yün 寶鋆 be appointed to the vacant post of Grand Secretary.

(3).—The Governor of Kiangsi denounces the late Magistrate of the Lin-ch'wan District for defalcation and acts of violent misconduct. When handing over charge to his successor he was found to be a defaulter in the amount of Tls. 5,430, under different heads of revenue collection. In the month of May last his daughter-in-law, having fallen out with him on her demanding payment of her expenses for the journey back to her native place, lodged

complaints at the Magistracy and Prefecture, and with the Financial Commissioner, accusing her husband's younger brother, Li Wên-shên, of having in his possession amounts appropriated from the public revenue. Upon this Li Wên-shên was arrested and imprisoned. His father subsequently burst into the Yamên of the Prefect of Fu-chow Fu, and insisted on having his son set at liberty; and some time afterwards he forced his way into the Yamên of the Financial Commissioner of the province, despite all opposition, and intruded within the private apartments, where he stormed like a madman on reaching the Commissioner's presence. It is requested that he may be stripped of his official rank and made a prisoner for trial. —Granted by rescript.

(4).—The Governor of Kiangsi further reports an attempt at insurrection in the province. From the reports addressed to him at sundry times by the prefect of Jao-chow Fu and the magistrate of the Po-yang District, it appears that a number of desperadoes have been captured, upon information received, together with arms of different descriptions, such as daggers, spears, etc., and on being brought to trial the following facts were elicited. Wang Shêng-yang and four other prisoners were agricultural labourers from districts bordering on the Poyang Lake, and another prisoner named Chow Yü-hien, a native of Hupeh, was an itinerant professor of the arts of self-defence and medicine, with whom they were acquainted. Wang Shêng-yang had fallen in by the roadside with another Hupeh man named Lin, who had entered into conversation with him on the advantage to be derived from combining with others to form a brotherhood, by which means aid could be mutually looked for in times of trouble, and resistance be offered to oppression from any quarter. Wang having agreed in this, Lin said he could set out at once to repair to the Ma-chêng district in Hupeh. In the month of January last, Wang had secured two confederates, named Li T'ien-ki and Chow Jih-hwei, who, in turn, had obtained the participation of sundry others whose names are given, and had further compelled or inveigled an additional number of persons into joining the brotherhood. In May last Chow Yü-hien came to Wang's house, where he took lodgings, and set up a pugilistic school, and he agreed to become a member of the confederacy. He devised for it the name of *T'ai-p'ing T'ien-shun* 太平天順, and it was arranged that confederates should be enlisted with a view to raising a rebellion. Wang Shêng-yang was unanimously elected as chief, with five assistants, two of whom respectively agreed to collect a body of 1,000 adherents, and it was further arranged that all were to meet on the 2nd September at a given rendezvous, using the password *T'ien Shun*, and kindling conflagrations as their signal. They were to be armed with daggers, but had no banners or firearms. If they should succeed in obtaining a memerous band of adherents, it was intended to capture the city of Jao-chow, and proceed to form a government; but if the numbers should be few, their object would be to gather plunder and go their several ways. It was while they were in the act of recruiting confederates that the civil and military authorities got wind of what was going on, and one of the party, named Chow Jih-hwei, having come forward to betray the rest, the prisoners were apprehended as above mentioned. The Governor reports that Wang Shêng-yang and two others have been summarily executed, some of the remaining prisoners being respited in order that they may be brought forward to give evidence when further arrests are made. Eleven of the persons who are proved to have been intimidated into joining the confederacy, without any complicity in the design to engage in rebellion, are sentenced to the penalty of the cangue and beatings, after which they are to be released under security.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 21st December, 1874.

Present :—Messrs. John G. Purdon (chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Hoyden, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

Volunteer Corps.—Resolved that the election of Mr. James Hart, as Major of the Corps, and of Mr. T. Brewer, as Captain of No. 1 Company, vice Mr. J. Hart, elected as above, be confirmed.

Iron Bridge—Spanning Hongkew Creek, Broadway.—Plan for lowering submitted, considered, and approved.

Width of Yang-king-pang Creek.—The following letter was received from Mr. J. P. Bisset, Agent for Mr. A. Cushny and ordered to be published :—

French Encroachment on the Yang-king-pang Creek.

E. B. Souper, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Council, Shanghai.

Dear Sir,—Observing from the published minutes of late Council Meetings, that the above question has again been brought up, I wish, on behalf of Mr. Cushny, owner of most of the land on the North bank of the Creek between the Shantung and Fokien Roads, to urge upon the Council the desirability of having the question brought to an issue, and the Creek restored to, and maintained at, its original width of 50 feet.

I am prepared to produce a survey of Mr. Cushny's property, made by Messrs. Gribble and Whitfield in 1862, by which it will be seen that the measurement of his land is taken from the centre of the creek, and that opposite to the most of his land, the said centre was 55 feet from the stones placed to mark the north edge of Sungkiang Road, allowing 25 feet for half the creek and 30 for the road. Mr. Cushny has informed me that he recollects being present when the creek measurements were made, and that a coolie waded into the creek at low water, placing a pole in the centre of the small stream then flowing, from which the measurements were taken. If I am not mistaken, this was done with the approval of a native official, who was present.

Allowing 25 feet for half of the creek on the French side, their bunding should be 80 feet from the boundary stones above mentioned, but it is now about 66 to 67 feet, being an encroachment of 13 to 14 feet. If the bunding on this side be carried out in the same proportion, (which, if justifiable in the one case, would be justifiable in the other), the width of the creek would be reduced to some 25 feet, and the traffic seriously interfered with.

Mr. Cushny having surrendered the 55 feet composing the Sungkiang Road and half of the creek to public use, is precluded from taking any active steps to protect his own and the public rights, but it is plainly the duty of the Council to do so. I beg, therefore, to ask the Council to use every endeavour to have these rights duly protected.

I am, Yours faithfully,
J. P. Bisset,
As Agent for A. Cushny.

Shanghai, 7th Dec,, 1874.

The Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Bisset that the French Municipal Council had already been addressed in the matter, and that the Council were waiting their reply.

Jinrickshas.—Considered petition from proprietors of jinrickshas, praying that the Municipal Regulations enforced against their vehicles with regard to loitering and carrying of lights, should be applied to wheelbarrows, as otherwise the jinrickshas were placed at a disadvantage in plying for hire. Referred to Watch Committee.

Arrest by Shanghai Municipal Police at Ningpo.—Read following letter from H.B.M.'s Consul, forwarding enclosures from H.B.M.'s Consul at Ningpo, and H. E. the Taotai of that place, lodging complaint relative to the arrest of a Chinese subject named Wu, in the neighbourhood of Ningpo, by two of the Shanghai Municipal Police.

British Consulate,
Shanghai, 19th Dec., 1874.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter, with its enclosure, from Her Majesty's Consul at Ningpo, complaining of an arrest without warrants, and within Chinese territory, by detectives acting under your authority; and I shall have much pleasure in being the means of conveying an explanation that will satisfy the Taotai of Ningpo that there has been no intention to set his authority at defiance, or to ignore Treaty stipulations.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, Your obedient Servant,
W. H. Medhurst, *Consul.*

J. G. Purdon, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

British Consulate,
Ningpo, 17th Dec., 1874.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that last Friday, about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, a party of Shanghai Municipal Police dragged a native named Wu from his mule, as he was riding near the West Gate, and took him in custody. The arrest was witnessed by one of Colonel Cooke's sentries, who wisely insisted on the man being taken to the Foreign Police Station, where an investigation could be held. On arrival at the Station, Mr. Golding, the Superintendent of Police, asked the Shanghai detectives by whose authority they had made the arrest, upon which one of them produced a paper as his warrant which ran thus :—"My dear Golding,—A man whom the bearer will be able to point out to you is charged with kidnapping a girl from No. 44, Woohoo Road, Shanghai. Two of his accomplices are in custody on remand, as the Magistrate wishes this man to be brought before the Court. If you can render them any assistance, and get the fellow sent back to Shanghai, you will greatly oblige yours faithfully, A. Stripling."

Mr. Golding refused to admit the validity of this paper, and detained all parties concerned until he could consult with Colonel Cooke. Meanwhile, the seizure of Wu,—who as a kind of foster-brother to the Intendant's grandson had been living at the Yamên,—came to the knowledge of the Taotai; and that official, believing that Colonel Cooke had ordered the arrest, sent an officer to him demanding the instant release of the prisoner, and explanation as to why he was arrested and by what authority.

The man was of course handed over to the Taotai, but the explanation that he had been arrested by some Shanghai policemen without the knowledge of Colonel Cooke or any one else in authority here, excited the Taotai's indignation to such a degree that he talked of at once abolishing the entire establishment under foreign control, including the fire department and foreign police. He wrote me an indignant despatch, and I assured him in reply that a mistake had been made which was not likely to occur again; and having promised to place the matter officially before you, the detention of the detectives who made the seizure was not insisted on. I enclose translation of the Taotai's despatch, for your information.

The affair is very unfortunate just now, because I am well aware that opportunities are being eagerly sought to get rid of the entire foreign establishment here, which has worked so well hitherto under the control of Colonel Cooke. The small officials, who have a keen dislike to everything foreign, will not fail to make capital out of Mr. Stripling's indiscretion, by pointing out this occurrence as the inevitable result of the employment of foreigners. The immediate result will be, I fancy, the escape of Wu, and the certain arrest and punishment of any detectives whom Mr. Stripling may see fit hereafter to send down here, without the consent of the local officials, to arrest a culprit. I hope you may see fit to bring the subject of this despatch to the notice

of Mr. Stripling, whose undoubted zeal may in consequence be tempered in future with more discretion.

I have the honour to be,
Sir, Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. J. FORREST,
H.M.'s Acting Consul.

W. H. MEDHURST, Esq.,
H.B.M. Consul, Shanghai.

(Translation.)

KU, *Taotai*, to Mr. FORREST.

I have received a petition from Wu Tsai-chia, a graduate of the district of Ying, which states as follows :—

My son Ying-ting is a merchant by profession, and has been guilty of no punishable offence. About noon on the 11th instant, he was unexpectedly accosted and arrested at the West-gate by a party consisting of one of Colonel Cooke's men and some runners, and thrust into the foreign police station. I humbly submit that if my son had been guilty of any crime, he should have been arrested by the local Authorities ; Colonel Cooke has presumed to arrest my son on his own authority ; I therefore beg that you will be pleased to have him brought before you, and issue orders for his release.

When a Chinese subject commits an offence where foreign as well as Chinese interests are concerned, the case should be investigated and dealt with by the local Authorities in conjunction with [the foreign officials.] In the present case, I was quite at a loss to understand how Colonel Cooke could have taken it on himself to arrest the man without authority ; I lost no time in communicating with him on the subject ; at the same time I had the accused brought before me, and released him on my own responsibility. I am now in receipt of Colonel Cooke's reply to my communication. He states that Wu Ying-ting was arrested at the West-gate by certain members of the Shanghai Municipal Police Force, and one of his men, who was sentry at the gate, seeing a disturbance take place, asked them what they were about, to which they replied they were taking a man to the foreign police station ; the sentry accompanied them to the station, but had nothing to do with the arrest. On their arrival at the Station [the Shanghai constables], produced a letter from the Central Police Station stating that Wu Ying-ting had swindled some one in Shanghai, and then run off to Ningpo ; and that orders had been issued to the Municipal Police by the Mixed Court to proceed to Ningpo and arrest him, but take no further action till the Court should have communicated [with the proper Authorities at Ningpo], when they could obtain the assistance of [the Ningpo-police] to conduct the accused back to Shanghai. Colonel Cooke goes on to state that he knew nothing whatever about the matter ; had issued no warrant of arrest, nor had his men taken any part in the arrest ; that he cannot therefore understand why Wu Ying-ting should have presented a petition so full of fabrications, and begs I may order him to be brought up for examination and severely punished. Whether Wu has committed the offence in Shanghai attributed to him or not, and run off in consequence, no steps can be taken in the matter till a proper official communication has been received from the local Authorities on the subject ; so that thus the matter stands at present. I cannot have the accused brought up for examination, and I have sent further instructions to Colonel Cooke how to act. By Treaty, when a Chinese subject commits any offence, it is the duty of the Consul to communicate with the local Authorities and request them to deal with the case. In the present case, whether Wu has swindled any one in Shanghai or not, though there is a letter from the Central Police Station, there is no official communication from the local Authorities, nor have I received any communication from yourself. What right have the Shanghai Police to come to Ningpo and take it on themselves to make an arrest in another province ?

I have therefore to request you will be good enough to write to the Consul in Shanghai, and beg him to take the case in hand.

11th Moon, 6th day.
14th December, 1874.

And the following reply agreed upon, embodying explanation of the circumstances and an expression of the Council's regret at the occurrence. At the same time stating that instructions had been given to the Police which will prevent similar proceedings in future.

Municipal Council Office.
Shanghai, 23rd December, 1874.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of 19th instant, with enclosures from Mr. Forrest, H.B.M.'s Consul at Ningpo, and from H. E. the Taotai at that place, relative to the irregular arrest of a Chinese subject named Wu, in the neighbourhood of Ningpo, by two of the Shanghai Municipal Police Force.

The Council regret exceedingly the occurrence of this affair, and I therefore hasten to inform you, and, availing of your kind offices, the Chinese Authorities at Ningpo, that the proceedings on the part of the detectives referred to were unauthorized, and are condemned alike by the Council and Mr. Stripling, the Acting Superintendent of Police, whose conduct in the affair will best be gathered from the following statement of the case :—

The Chinaman Wu is known to have been implicated in the abduction of a Chinese woman in the Settlement during the month of October last, and a warrant had been issued for his arrest by the Mixed Court Magistrate. Wu, however, managed to escape to Ningpo, and it then became necessary to obtain a fresh warrant, from H. E. the Taotai here, to arrest the man in Ningpo. This caused some delay, and in the meanwhile two detectives were sent to Ningpo to watch Wu, until this new warrant had been procured. They were furnished with a semi-official letter from Mr. Stripling to Mr. Golding, requesting the latter to afford them any assistance he could in this direction.

This letter was not delivered until after the arrest had been made ; and it is due therefore to the foreign officials at Ningpo, to state here that they knew nothing whatever of the steps that were being taken to keep sight of Wu. Before the warrant reached Ningpo, the police discovered that Wu was about to depart into the interior, and over-zealous in their endeavours to capture the fugitive, committed the act complained of. They had no instructions to make the arrest ; and in consequence of their behaviour on the occasion, both will be reprimanded and one dismissed the Force—further instructions being given to the Police which will prevent similar proceedings in future.

The Council beg you to note that H. E. the Taotai's warrant had been applied for and reached Ningpo before the seizure had been reported in Shanghai.

Trusting this explanation will be satisfactory, and remove any unfavorable impression that may have been formed of the conduct of the Council or the Acting Superintendent of Police.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient sevant,
J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

W. H. MEDHURST, Esq.,
H.B.M.'s Consul, Shanghai.

ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 22 Décembre, 1874, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents : M.M. E. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M.M. Hennequin et Lang empêchés n'ont pu assister à la séance.

Approbation de la proposition émise par le Comité des Finances tendant à stimuler le zèle de l'entrepreneur des vidanges en lui garantissant à l'expiration de son contrat une prime de Taëls 100, s'il en a rempli les conditions sans donner lieu à des plaintes fondées.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité des Travaux et de la Police, relativement :—

A la continuation progressive du système de drainage par l'exécution de travaux dans la partie Sud de la rue Touranne, dans la rue de l'Administration, et dans la rue du Consulat, sur une longueur de 257 changs ;

A la plantation d'arbres sur les voies publiques ;

A l'empierrement du quai du Yang-king-pang entre les ponts No. 1 et 2, et l'établissement de bordures et rigoles de trottoirs dans la même partie de ce quai ;

A l'application d'une couche d'huile sur les ponts de la route de Sikaway, du cimetière et sur le canal de la pagode ;

A la rectification d'alignement des murs d'entourage de l'Hotel Municipal, et à l'établissement d'une grille en fer sur la façade, ainsi que le remplacement des trois portes en bois par des portes en fer ;

Et enfin, au paiement des gratifications de fin d'année au personnel de la Garde Municipale.

Comme garantie des intérêts de l'Administration, le Président est chargé de prier M. le Consul-Général, de faire réclamer de tout postulant à un emploi dans la Garde Municipale, un certificat de validité signé par le médecin et approuvé par l'Administration.

Examen d'une pétition des détenteurs de licences pour jin-rick-shaws demandant d'assujétir les brouettes au même réglement de police que les jin-rick-shaws.

Aucune détermination ne pouvant être prise sans l'existence d'une entente entre les deux Administrations Municipales, cette question est renvoyée à l'examen des membres délégues par les deux Conseils.

Communication d'une lettre du Municipal Council présentant quelques observations relatives à la part de dépenses qu'il a à supporter pour la reconstruction du pont No. 4, et au désir d'une rectification d'alignement du quai du Yang-king-pang. Le reglement de cette affaire est remis entre les mains des délégués.

Accordé à M. Berthet, inspecteur du service de salubrité, son rapatriement dans les conditions suivantes :

Billet de passage Taëls 111.60.

Secours et gratification d'un mois de solde Taëls 167.50.

Appel est fait au personnel de la Garde pour le choix d'un inspecteur du service de salubrité.

Le titulaire continuera à figurer sur les rôles de la Garde, en portera l'uniforme avec marque distinctive de son service spécial, mais ne sera pas astreint au service ordinaire d'agent de la Garde. Appointements Taëls 45 par mois.

Des pourparlers ayant été entamées entre l'Administration et M. Hanssen, pour une cession de terrain à l'effet d'élargir la rue du Consulat, le Consul décide de faire appel à un arbitre pour s'entendre avec celui de M. Hanssen.

Réclamation de M. Yates au sujet de taxes. M.M. Hennequin et Maignan sont priés d'examiner les faits présentés dans la dite réclamation.

Accusé de réception d'une lettre de M. Viguier, capitaine de port. Sa proposition de signaux d'alarme en cas d'incendie dans la rade, sera soumise au *Chief Engineer* du *Fire Department*.

Afin d'obtenir la rentrée des documents déposés au Consulat de Belgique comme piéces de conviction dans l'affaire Godaert, le Président est prié de s'adresser directement à M. le Ministre de Belgique.

Refus d'une demande d'enregistrement d'une jin-rick-shaw sous un numéro déjà assigné.

Examen des rapports des Chefs de service.

Correspondence.

TIGERS AT NINGPO.

To Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—It may interest your sporting readers to know that I have just returned from the inspection, at the Taotai's Yamen here, of a magnificent tiger, shot, last Tuesday, at Ma Ming Chiao, five miles from the West Gate of Ningpo, in an empty house belonging to a Mr. Dzong, whither he had fled from his pursuers.

The beast, a male, was shot by a body of soldiers sent by the magistrate for his

destruction. He managed, however, to kill two of his assailants, and tear the side of the neck from another, before he fell pierced by some forty bullets of all sorts and sizes.

I measured the tiger, and found him to be 8 feet 2 inches in length from nose to end of tail ; 4 feet 4 inches in girth, just below the shoulders ; and 2 feet 2 inches from the eyebrows round the throat. The teeth were magnificently white, and the canines fully 3 inches long. He was in such splendid condition that neither vertebra nor ribs could easily be felt. I tried in vain to obtain the animal for the Shanghai Museum ; the skin had been already promised to the Taotai.

Yours very sincerely,
R. J. Forrest.

H. M. Consulate,
Ningpo, 8th Jan.

THE REVOLUTION IN COREA.

To the Editor of the
North-China Herald.

Dear Sir,—As you were good enough to accept and publish my first letter, I am induced to give you some further information on Corea, feeling assured that it will interest most of your readers. I would first, however, with your permission, rectify some errors which appeared in a letter published by you last April. Your correspondent, unintentionally no doubt, misled you in some particulars, which, as they are matters of history, it is necessary to put right.

1st.—The Queen (dowager), whose party has just triumphed, is not only not a Christian, but is inimical to Christians, she being the mother of the King who, in 1839, instigated the persecution in consequence of which a French Bishop and two Catholic priests, with a great number of native Christians, were murdered. This Queen's family have always been systematically opposed to the propagation of the Christian religion.

2nd.—This same Queen, named Tcho-taipi, adopted the King then actually reigning. Your correspondent says in error, that the widow of the last King (who died comparatively young) did so. This is really what I notice in a book lately published in Paris by the Catholic Missionaries from Corea:—(*)

"Notre jeune roi, Tchiel-tjong, est mort "le 15 Janvier, 1864, après un régne de "quatorze ans, et à sa mort une révolution "de palais a fait passer le pouvoir dans les "mains d'une famille qui avait toujours été "très-hostile aux Chrétiens. Quand Tchiel-"tjong avait été appelé au trône en 1849 "à l'age de 19 ans, les grands mandarins "qui allèrent le saluer roi dans son exil "à Kanghoa, le trouvèrent avec des vête-"ments couverts d'ordures, les mains sales, "le visage tout barbouillé du jus d'un "melon qu'il mangeait à belles dents. On "le lava et on l'amena à la capitale. In-"stallé dans son palais et reconnu pour roi, "il n'a pas fait de mal au peuple, car il n'a "rien fait. Sa famille (? femme) Kim a tou-"jours eu l'autorité en main, elle a disposé "de tout comme elle a voulu, le roi a "signé les décrets qu'on lui a présentés, "souvent même sans le savoir, car il était "constamment ivre. Chaque jour il ava-"lait une grande cruche de vin ; des "centaines de femmes étaient là pour "l'occuper le reste du temps."

The King always names, or is supposed to name, one of his children (if there be any) his successor, the eldest being ordinarily chosen. When he has no children, he chooses amongst his nearest relatives. The throne passes by the delivery of the Royal Seal, which is immediately received by the King elect, if of age. If not, the Seal, and therefore the Regency, is confided to the Queen, chosen by the dying monarch, who generally selects the first of his wives. Now, the King Tchiel-tjong, died on 15th January, 1864, without issue, and did not name a successor. There were then three widow queens in the Royal palace of Corea, namely :—1st, Queen Tcho, wife of Tktjong, mother of Hen-tjong ; 2nd, Queen Hong, wife of Hen-tjong ; and 3rd, Queen Kim, wife of Tchiel-tjong. Queen Tcho took violent possession of the seal, and thereby became Regent of the kingdom. Although she had a nephew, aged 20, by name Tcho-seung-hă who, as we shall see, was concerned in the revolution of 1873, the Regent would not put him on the throne, because according to the law of the country, a king must belong to the Ni family ; and she thereupon chose Ni-miong-pokei, a child of 12 years, second son of Prince Ni-keung-soung Koun (Regent), as related, with the result, in my previous communication.

3rd.—The changes in the Government of 1873 were not caused in any way by the troubles with Japan. There is no Japanese party in Corea, and when the Revolution occurred, there was not the slightest fear of war with that nation.

4th.—With regard to the cheerful hopes engendered by the news from Corea, they are the birth of your April correspondent's vivid imagination ; for you will learn by the following particulars, that the kingdom of Corea has positively not gained anything by the Revolution, but that the poor people have fallen from Charybdis into Scylla, and Corea remains closed as before, to Catholic missionaries as well as to European merchants. For this long, but necessary preamble, I must ask you kindly to bear with me. Let us pass on to the news on the state of the country.

§ 1*st—Revolution of November*, 1873.

The unsuccessful American expedition, as before said, only increased the power and dread of the Regent—whose will was become the only law in the kingdom—where every head bowed before him. Yet the spirit of opposition against the tyranny and oppression of the Ruler and his creatures, grew with the sufferings of the people and the humiliations of the nobility. One noble in particular, Tcho-sengha, real nephew of Queen Tcho, loudly protested against the iniquitous acts of the usurper, and the Regent determined to get rid of him, as he had done with many others. In November, 1873, everything was ready for this purpose, but Tcho-sengha being warned of the danger which he ran, sheltered himself with his Aunt in the Royal Palace. This lady (Queen Tcho,) had long been grieving over the miserable state of the kingdom, and did not of course forgive the Regent for usurping the throne as he had. Believing the time had arrived for turning the tables upon him, she prepared three cups of rice, with a good dose of poison in each, and then, having invited the Regent and her nephew, she addressed them somewhat to this effect :—"Everything is going to the bad, and the country suffers. I know that you and my nephew do not get on well together ; that you, Regent, have all prepared for his death. It is better for all three of us to die ; and I have, therefore, procured three poisoned rice cups, which we had better swallow in turn. If, however, I ate first, the Regent might object to follow my example. He must, therefore, begin, or make peace with my nephew, &c., &c." Rather than take the medicine, the Regent made all the promises demanded of him, and the old Queen then dismissed them. Tcho-seng-ha was thus saved, but the Regent was all powerful, and could any day place him under arrest, or have him assassinated. His rival felt anything but secure, and therefore did his best to overturn his adversary. He arranged with two high nobles to present a petition to the King. One was a great Mandarin named Tchen Tkyen-i, the other with the title of Doctor, named Hong-si-yeng-i. These were promised his protection, and his aunt's also, in case of non-success. So the two nobles wrote out the petition, describing the miseries of the people owing to the Regent's maladministration, and proposing urgent changes. The reforms principally required were eight in number, as follow, viz. :—

1st.—The suppression of arbitrary taxes. When the Regent was hard up he made a demand on the first noble or citizen for 1,000, 5,000, or 10,000 *teaous* (about ten *teaous* to a *tael*), as the case might be, which demand must be complied with at once, by selling lands, houses, and being reduced to beggary.

2nd.—Reduction of land taxes, which had been considerably increased by the Regent.

3rd.—Suppression of all the taxes imposed by the Regent, on goods and animals entering the Capital.

4th.—Prohibition of Chinese *cash*, in which a large business was done since the Regency. The Chinese *cash* was allowed to become current, although its intrinsic value was at least one-third less than the Corean *cash*, and as the importation was on a large scale, nearly everything useful became dearer.

5th.—Re-establishment of the worship and honors due to departed great men.

6th.—Equal rights, for gentry and peasants, in the acquisition of dignities.

7th.—Restoration of the old laws for the regulation of soldiers. Instead of receiving Government pay under the Regent's administration, the soldier had to pay yearly a certain sum as service money, and was allowed to extort by the greatest violence, all that he could from the poor people. As for many reasons the number of satellites had got smaller, the service money or impost was levied on the inhabitants of each district, including even the nobility, &c.

8th.—Power of life and death to be limited with the King. We have shewn already how much value the Regent attached to the life of anyone who became objectionable to him, whether aristocrat or plebeian. Unfortunately the example set by their august master was followed by all the Mandarins, great and small, who all arrogated to themselves the power of life and death.

Now when the two nobles named before, supported as they felt themselves to be by the nephew of the old Queen, risked their lives by presenting the petition, the King, after accepting it, dismissed them without a word. To assure himself as to the truth of the accusations against his father, he disguised himself, and surveyed his capital followed by a few guards. On every side he heard about the two nobles and their petition ; the conduct of the Regent was blamed, and the people complained bitterly of the administration. In one of his walks, the King entering an inn, asked for a cup of rice, the price for which so frightened him that he requested to know the cause. "Why (was the reply,) where does the noble gentleman spring from, that he does not know, since the introduction of Chinese *cash*, everything is trebled in price."

From nine o'clock at night, when the bells toll as a signal to keep in, till two in the morning, no man is allowed to be abroad, except it be absolutely necessary, on pain of being heavily fined. The object of this police regulation is to enable the women to walk out freely. A little while after his run out, the young King felt inclined to make a night survey of his capital, and was arrested by the police. "What," said he, "do you mean by stopping a nobleman?" "It is the law," he is answered, "to arrest every man, noble or

(*) Histoire de l'Eglise de Corée, 2 vol. in 8, chez Victor Palmé, rue Grenelle-St, Germain, 25 ; Paris, 1874.

not," and although he offered ten, even one hundred *teaous*, not to be interfered with, the police would not let him go. As the matter began to look serious, the King called his followers, and made himself known, whereupon the patrol, fearing consequences, fell on their knees and *kow-towed*. Next day they were recompensed by a dinner and a present of one hundred *teaous*—(about ten taels.)

Such incidents began to be noised abroad, and even the Regent was being moved by them, when the old Queen Tcho gave the final blow. Ever since the petition to the King, presented with her consent and under cover of her protection, Queen Tcho had retired to her palace, refusing to eat, and threatened to starve herself, so as to draw the King to her. One night two of her maidens were deploring the Queen's state, just as the King was passing by; and on his asking what they said, they pretended surprise, and throwing themselves before him, told him that Queen Tcho was dying for want of food. He at once went to the Queen, and said, "Why do you suffer?" "Never mind the cause, I must die." "Yet tell me why?" "Am I not the mother of my people, and does not a mother love her own? How can I live in the midst of the plaints and sufferings caused by the Regent?" On being invited to speak out clearly, the Queen only too gladly explained her grievances against the Regent, and when she had done, the King replied: "In future my father shall "not govern, as I shall do so myself. "Therefore rise and eat." All this was the doing of a few days only, during which the King had clearly seen the true state of things; and determining how to act, he called his father to him, and told him not to trouble himself any more with the government, as he meant to direct matters himself, forbidding his father also to leave the Palace. Having called the royal council together, as also the two petitioners, he addressed them as nearly as possible in the following words: "I have become King at an early age. "The Regent has been managing matters "beyond the Palace, whilst this has been "the care of the Dowager Queens. Till "now I have done nothing, and am un-"acquainted with matters—but I have "become a man, and as my father, who "governed for me, is old and fatigued, I "must direct everything myself in future. "You and all functionaries will help me "with your strength and intelligence, to "govern wisely and justly." After the meeting of this great council, *the King was induced, under the influence of the Queens Tcho, Tcho seng-hâ and some high officials*, to change the principal men, exiling one great Minister, degrading another, and replacing nearly all the high and low Mandarins. The chief points of the petition were acceded to, and it was promised that in future no opposition would be made to the introduction of European goods, such as cottons, needles, &c. As to the soldiers, the tax or service money was no longer demanded, but they would only be paid as heretofore on the days of exercise, five *cash* each; troops who are continually under arms, since the French expedition, to be paid monthly, and special instructors from the Capital appointed to teach them daily their drill.

You have now the most faithful explanation of this revolution, by which the Regent, odious as he had made himself to all Coreans, was displaced by others, who, not less than he, lived at the public expense. In my next letter I shall endeavor to communicate what I have been able to ascertain in October last (1874) as to the actual condition of Corea, and the results of the Revolution of November, 1873.

PHILO-COREANUS.

Newchwang, 1st Dec., 1874.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 9th, 1875.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge.*

His Lordship delivered judgment to-day in the following cases:—

CHAYA YAHICHI *(plaintiff) appellant*; WALTER MOURILYAN *and* CHARLES ADOLPH HEIMANN, *trading as "Mourilyan, Heimann and Co.," (defendants) respondents.*

On appeal from H. M.'s Court, Hiogo.

Judgment:—

It is not without considerable doubt that I have come to the conclusion that the judgment of the Court below must be set aside. The ground upon which the Court proceeded was that there was no breach of the charter-party, inasmuch as the accident to the steamer fell within the clause in the charter-party, "the perils or dangers of the seas and navigation excepted," and was not the result of any neglect on the part of the master or any one on board the steamer. It is clear from the cases with reference to these excepted clauses, that, in their absence, the master would be liable for non-performance of his contract of hire if, by reason of *any* accident, he failed to perform it, whether such accident was caused by circumstances over which he had or had not control. This being so, it is clear that his original liability exists except so far as he has protected himself by the wording of what is usually called "the excepting clause." In the present case, the delay which amounted to a breach of the charter was caused by an accident to the machinery while the ship was on her return voyage. Now, accidents to the machinery are not one of the exceptions mentioned in the charter-party unless caused by the dangers of the sea or navigation, and the evidence shews that the accident took place while the sea was calm and the vessel on her regular course. It is impossible, therefore, to say that it falls within the exceptions mentioned, by which the captain has limited his liability. I have, therefore, to consider next, whether the delay which occurred between the 5th day of November and the 10th day of December—(the dates respectively of the happening of the accident and the bringing of the action)—is to be considered as amounting to a breach. The trial did not take place, it appears, until the 14th January, at which date the vessel had not arrived at Kobe, nor, indeed, did she arrive there until the 17th of February. Now, it is impossible to read the charter-party without feeling that time was of the essence of it. The ship was to make three consecutive voyages—two days only were to be allowed for loading or discharging, after the captain had given notice that he was ready to load or discharge, and a heavy demurrage is imposed on the charterer if he exceeds this allowance; the captain is also bound not to detain the vessel beyond this time, unless compelled by necessity. The evidence shows that a voyage to Yokohama and back usually takes less than 10 days, allowing the time stipulated in the contract for loading and discharging, so that the vessel could have made three consecutive voyages within a month, and this, no doubt, was about the calculation of the parties. An interval, however, elapses between the departure of the steamer on her return voyage from Yokohama and the commencement of the suit, of 35 days, and, in fact, she does not arrive in Kobe ready to start on her second voyage for three months and half from the termination of the first. This conclusively shews the extent of the accident; and I think, therefore, that the plaintiffs were justified, under the circumstances, in considering that a breach of the charter-party had been committed when they commenced their action. There is nothing in the language of the charter-party which would lead one to assume that any delay was contemplated—on the contrary, it is clear from it that no delay was to be permitted; and as this was the evident intention of the parties, no construction must be given to it at variance with that intention. It is unnecessary to refer to the numerous authorities to be found in the Text-books and Reports, which shew that where, in a contract, no time for its performance is expressly mentioned, it is governed by what is reasonable—and what is reasonable is to be gathered from the nature of the contract itself, which should therefore be taken as a guide as to the time in which it should be performed; and in this case a delay of thirty-five days—taking it at the least—is certainly not a reasonable delay between one voyage and another, when all the three voyages might, under ordinary circumstances, have been performed within the month. I now come to the most difficult portion of the case—namely, whether the plaintiff is entitled to recover the total amount of the charter money by way of penalty or liquidated damages for the breach. I think the observations of the judges in the case of Betts *v.* Birch (28 L. of Ex. 267) are peculiarly applicable to this case. Both Baron Martin and Baron Bramwell lament that the cases which have drawn a distinction between penalties and liquidated damages have in their result practically overruled the principle applicable to the interpretation of the written contracts—namely, that the proper mode of ascertaining what a contract means is, first to ascertain what the express meaning is, and then to carry out that meaning; and that it would have been much better if Courts of Law had been left simply to ascertain what the parties had expressed, and then been permitted to compel the carrying out of such expressed bargains. To my mind it is perfectly clear that what the parties meant by the last clause in this charter-party is, that whoever committed a breach of it should pay to the other the total charter-money. I consider, however, that I am not at liberty to act upon that view with respect to this question, and however reluctant, I feel myself bound by the decided cases. The term used in the last clause is "penalty." The cases shew that where this word is used it is not to be held as meaning that the sum mentioned is to be paid at all events on the breach of the contract; but that the amount of damage proved to have been sustained is alone to be awarded; and the only exception seems to be, where the penalty is in the nature of a sum certain payable on the happening of *one event* only. Sparrow and Paris (31 L. of Ex. 137) appears to be the latest authority on this subject. The question then is, is the total charter-money to be recoverable on the happening of one event only, or is it intended as a sum to secure the performance of several matters? In the one case, although the word penalty is used it is so used as a convertible term for liquidated damages, and the party observant could recover it from the party delinquent; in the other case, the meaning I have before given must be taken as alone applicable to it. Now, although it may be said that the one event, upon the happening of which it becomes payable, is simply a breach, yet it is clear that it was intended to secure the performance of *several* matters: it was intended to secure the loading of the steamer by the charterer with a certain amount and description of cargo; it was intended to secure also the payment of a certain amount of demurrage by the charterer, on delay caused by him, as also a certain freight on each voyage; and it was intended to secure the performance of several conditions on the part of the captain. Thus, several events are secured, and not only one, and the case thus falls within the principle enunciated in the case of Sparrow *v.* Paris. Being, therefore, of opinion that a breach of the charter-party has been committed, upon which some damage may have been sustained, I shall remit the case back to be reheard on that point, the plaintiff to be at liberty to adduce evidence of damage sustained. As however, he had the opportunity before of doing this, and neglected to avail himself of it, I shall leave each party to pay his own costs of this appeal. The costs in the case below must depend on the result of the new trial. If the plaintiff succeeds in proving damage to have been sustained, as indeed it appears to me he must do, since the bargain money was paid by him in consideration of the full performance of the whole contract, and only one-third of it has been performed—he must recover, *plus* such damages and bargain money, costs of the original suit and the new trial.

JAMES MALONE *v.* JOSEPH WALTON.

Action brought to recover $264, balance of wages due, as captain of the schooner *Alexandra*, of Adelaide; and $550 as per account

stated, for sundry disbursements, and the cost of a passage from Shanghai to Australia. Defendant was owner of the schooner.

Judgment :—

In this case the late Captain of the *Alexandra* seeks to recover from the owner certain expenses incurred and paid by him as captain of the ship, on his owner's behalf; and he claims also damages which he says he has suffered and will suffer by reason of his having been discharged in Shanghai instead of in Australia. Those damages he fixes at $500. With the exception of 12/6, the cost of a telegram, I disallow all the items of expenses, first, on the ground that I have no proof they were properly incurred or necessary; and, secondly, because they are not vouched. I have always held and shall always hold, that a captain of a ship is bound to prove that every farthing he spends on his owner's account has been properly and necessarily expended, and that he should produce vouchers for all such items as it is possible to vouch. I do not consider that carriage hire is necessary to a man, in a place like this, who has the use of his limbs. I do not consider that hotel bills are necessary, when the captain can and ought to take his meals on board his ship; and in this case, I am not satisfied that he had any business to transact, except handing in his papers to the agents of the ship, and discharging one crew and shipping another. Moreover, with the single exception of the telegram, no receipts or vouchers are produced, and as to the bill for medicine, apart from all question as to the owner's liability, I would not allow it on principle. In the midst of a bill which consists of several items, is inserted an amount of £1.17.6. for medicines supplied to the captain; it may just as well be that £1.17.6 was lent to the captain. As regards the amount for wages, I accept the owner's account as the most probable, namely that, for the first month, the captain was merely superintending the repairs, at £14 per month; and that for the remaining six months, the time for which he acted as captain, he was to receive £15 a month. His agreement as captain was clearly for six months certain, and those six months I allow him at the increased rate. I pass on to the captain's claim for $500, as damages incurred by his discharge in Shanghai instead of in the Australian Colonies. The plaintiff says that he was first engaged on the 3rd of May, and that by his agreement, he was to be discharged at some port within the Australian Colonies; that subsequently, on the 5th of June, his wages were to be £15 a month, so that I am asked to conclude that although there was a distinct understanding about where he was to be discharged, on the 3rd of May, there was no understanding as to the rate of wages he was to receive until the 5th of June. If the captain had asserted that his engagement as captain only dated from the 5th of June, and that his six months run from then, I might have been inclined to attach some credence to it, but he distinctly states he was engaged as captain on the 3rd of May, and that it was then arranged he was to be discharged in an Australian Colony, although the ship was then on the slip and only fitting out. I do not believe this; it is to my mind most unlikely that the whereabouts of his discharge should then have been settled, and that the amount of his wages should have been left unsettled. I think that it is to the agreement of the 5th of June that we must refer, not only on the point of where he was to be discharged, but also as to the pay he was to receive. The captain said there was no written agreement; the owner affirmed that there was, and that the captain had told him that he had destroyed it. What its contents were—if it ever existed—there were no legal means of ascertaining. I am bound, therefore, to decide the case on the evidence offered at the hearing on either side. The plaintiff swears that it was arranged he was to be discharged in the Australian Colonies, and he urges that this is borne out by the fact that according to the articles, the crew were to be there discharged also; and if the two agreements had been contemporaneous, there might be something in the argument; but according to the captain's account of his agreement, and the time it was entered into, this arrangement, if made at all with him, was so made a month previous to the signing of the articles by the men. To this evidence, therefore, as corroborating the captain's statement, I am not inclined to attach much weight. The owner denies that he ever undertook to discharge the captain in the Australian Colonies; on the contrary, he swears that when asked he refused to promise to discharge him there, and that he never authorized the captain to insert or allow the insertion of such a clause, or of a fixed period of six months in the articles. Now the articles are foreign-going and not coasting articles, and it certainly does appear strange that the owner, if he contemplated going into the China Seas, seeking, as he says, should have allowed the insertion of so short a period. But the captain says that his owner did not contemplate, at the time the articles were made out, going further than Singapore. If he told the captain this, it is odd that the captain did not insert Singapore as one of the contemplated destinations of the ship; but the description of the voyage is left open—the ship is to go wherever employment offers. I must take it, therefore, that the ship was intended to go wherever employment offered, but that the captain agreed with the crew that it was not to exceed six months, and that they were to be discharged in the Australian Colonies. At the same time, as he does so contract with the crew, he inserts, or gets inserted, by the shipping officer, a clause relative to himself, and although this clause, if it was inserted without the knowledge of the owner, is not binding on him, or is evidence against him, it is evidence as against the captain of the terms on which he considered himself engaged. Now, what are the terms? They are to the following effect:—"This "agreement shall last for six months so far "as the master is concerned—or, in case the "master leaves before six months, he is to "have six months' wages and passage money "to Adelaide." The grammatical construction of this sentence only allows of one interpretation, viz., that if the captain leaves before six months he is to have his wages for six months and passage money to Australia. This is the distinction which the captain himself draws between the agreement made with the crew and with himself—if the crew are discharged before six months, they only get the wages for the time for which they may have actually served; but if the captain is discharged before the expiration of that time, he is to receive his full six months' wages, and a passage home. The owner agrees with this interpretation, and admits that it embodies the understanding that he had with the captain; but he declines to admit either that it bears the interpretation that in any event the captain is to have a passage home, or that he contracted to give him passage money to take him home. Here, then, the owner agrees with the memorandum which the captain himself has endorsed on the articles, and the only way by which the captain can escape from the inevitable conclusion that his owner and himself understood the contract in the same sense, is by saying that a different interpretation must be given to his own memorandum. The fact is, that the captain in seeking behind the owner's back to create evidence in his own favour, over-reached his aim, and has thereby put himself out of Court. I pass no opinion as to who is probably right or probably wrong, or what ought or ought not to be done in a spirit of fairness or liberality. The case is one of oath against oath—both witnesses are entitled to the same amount of credence; but it is the captain's business as plaintiff to make out his own case clearly, and he has not done so to my satisfaction; as it is only by straining the interpretation of his own memorandum, and thus making it mean what it does not say, while it does agree with what the defendant says, that I can give any effect or weight to his *viva voce* evidence. The verdict will stand for 12/6 over and above the sum paid into Court; but as I am of opinion that there must be some other cause for this litigation than appears on the face of the proceedings, I shall exercise the discretion I possess as to costs, and direct each party to pay his own costs.

The "St. Francois" and "Cawdor Castle."

Report of Registrar and Merchants, pursuant to the decree of the Court dated 7th December, 1874.

The schedule appended to the report contains the sums claimed by way of damage, and the amounts allowed. Such only of the items that seem to call for special notice, in connection with the principle on which we allowed or reduced them, are here remarke on.

Item 1.—"*Estimated value of the brig St. François, of* 253 *tons, after* 2 *years and* 9 *months service, Frs.* 95,000, *or Tls.* 13,380,28."

This is a convenient place to state the reasons that induced us to sustain the contention of the Counsel for the owner of the *St. F.*, that he was entitled to refuse to receive his ship back after she had been raised by the agents of the *Cawdor Castle*, and to demand from the owners of that vessel the value of his ship. We felt that we were bound by the authority of the *Columbus*, a case decided by Dr. Lushington in 1849, and that unless we saw, or had suggested to us, some broad tangible ground of distinction between the facts of that case and the present one, we had no alternative but to follow the rule there laid down.

Now three, and only three, points of difference were all that the Counsel for the *Cawdor Castle* could discover between the two cases. The first was that the *Tryall* (the fishing smack sunk by the *Columbus*) was sunk *at sea*, while the *St. Francois* was sunk *alongside a wharf* to which she was secured. But this was, we think, completely disposed of by Mr. Robinson, who pointed out that the *Tryall* was not left at the bottom of the sea, but was raised and brought into port before she was offered to her owner; and that consequently his refusal to accept her (in which the Court held he was perfectly justified) occurred when she was no more lost, and not a whit less safe, than the *St. Francois* alongside the wharf. Unless, then, the mere circumstance that one ship *had* been sunk off Dungeness before she was raised and tendered to her owner, while another *had* been sunk in the Whangpoo before she was raised and tendered to her owner—in other words, unless there is some radical difference between the effects of pure salt water and muddy fresh water on a ship submerged in them (which was not suggested), the first ground of distinction must fail.

The second was, that while the *St. Francois* was only 5½ days under water, it does not appear how long the *Tryall* was left there—that is, we were asked to presume that she lay there for a much longer period than 5½ days. But we had no right, in the absence of all information on the point, to presume anything. If we were to presume at all, we should certainly presume that a small fishing smack (her value was only £310) sunk off Dungeness—her masts probably partly above water—would not be left there for so much as 5½ days before she was raised and brought into port.

The third suggested point of difference was that there was no immediate abandonment of the *St. Francois*, while the owner of the *Tryall* from the first refused to receive her back. After consideration, we could not see in this sufficient on which to base a sound distinction between the cases. We thought that the effect of Dr. Lushington's decision was, broadly, and in all cases, to give the owner of a sunken ship, even after she is raised by the owner of the vessel in fault, the right, if he cares to claim it, to look to such owner for the value of his ship before the accident—abandoning of course to the latter the ship in the condition in which she happens to be. That being so, when once the right accrued, we did not see how anything that the other party did, could divest that right. If the *St. Francois* had never been raised, it could not have been contended that her owner could not abandon her: when she is raised by the *Cawdor Castle*, why should his right be altered or diminished? Then, ought his taking time to consider what is most to his interest, (*i.e.*, whether to have his ship repaired at the expense of the wrong-doer, or to leave her on his hands)—surely a most reasonable thing to do—to have the effect of a penalty, and cause him to forfeit a right which, had he in indecent haste asserted, he never could have been deprived of?

None, then, of the suggested grounds of distinction being sufficient, we had, as already stated, no other course open but to apply the rule of the *Columbus* to the case in issue. We conceived that it was not enough to justify us in not following that authority, that there *might* be fine points of distinction, or that, in principle, it was difficult to see why a rule of the kind should ever have been made to hinge upon the immediate consequence of the damage (the sinking) rather than upon the extent and nature of the damage itself—but that, on the

one hand, if there was a similarity in all the leading features of the two cases, and on the other the authority of the case had never been in any way impugned since it was decided in 1849, it was obviously our plain duty to recognise and apply it. It occurred to us as possible that in that case the *Tryall* was so injured that she was practically beyond repair, and that consequently it mattered very little on whose hands the wreck was left: but we were not at liberty to speculate upon the point; it was enough that that is not the reason assigned in the judgment.

To return now to the amount claimed as "estimated value of the *St. Francois*." Her master proved that she was built in December 1871, at a cost of Fr. 95,000; and his counsel, Mr. Robinson, contended that that sum was the value that must be put upon her for the purposes of this case. He did not even admit any deduction for wear and tear, claiming that he was entitled to set any that we might otherwise be disposed to make on that head against the present increased price of building materials and cost of labour, as compared with the price and cost in 1871. We cannot assent to this mode of estimating the value. It is sufficient to say that the decided cases have established another criterion as the proper one. In the *Ironmaster* (Swabey 441) it is said: "The best evidence as to value is the opinion of competent persons who knew the ship." In the *Clyde* (Swabey 23) the same rule is expressed more at length: "The value is the market price at the time of the destruction of the property.... It is the market price which the Court looks to, and nothing else, as the value of the property." So in Dobree *v.* Schroeder (2 My. and Cr., cited in Pritchard, page 697), it was "held that the value of the ship is the price at which she could be sold, which price must be ascertained, not by making deductions from her cost price proportioned to her age, but by a valuation and appraisement." Again, in the African Steamship Company *v.* Swanzy (25 L. J., Ch., 870), "The natural meaning of the words 'value of the ship' seems to be that which the ship will sell for." It is quite true that exceptional circumstances may make the price for which a ship would sell anything but a fair criterion of her value, but, in the words of the judgment from which this qualification is taken: "That is not the present case. There is here no suggestion that the ship would have been useless to anyone else."

Such being the principle on which we had to proceed, it was comparatively easy to assess the *St. Francois'* value. The only valuations supplied us were by the defendants, the plaintiff either not being in a position to supply us with higher ones or thinking them unnecessary. Two of the valuations, Captain Tucker's of Tls. 6,500, and Captain Barton's of Tls. 7,100) were manifestly too low; the third, (Mr. Riach's, of between Tls. 8,800 and Tls. 8,900) being that of a practical shipbuilder and of a perfectly unbiassed mind,—coinciding nearly as it did with the independent estimate of the one of our number who is best able to form an opinion on such a point,—we felt would be much nearer her true value, which we accordingly fixed at Tls. 9,000. We consider that sum her value to a man who was in want of a ship of the kind, and who was disposed to pay a full price for her.—Of interest (since the date of the collision to the date of payment) nothing was said in the argument on either side. We allow 8 %.

Item 2—"*Estimated value of stores on board at time St. Francois sank, Tls.* 711.96."—The stores stated to have been on board are charged for at Shanghai prices, and no evidence is offered of the price actually paid in any one instance. We think the captain must have known the price of some of the stores—wine, for example, put on board, probably by himself, in France for his own use and that of the crew—and that we ought to have been told what this price was. He has, then, only himself to blame if, in our conjectures as to what prices were paid generally, we have made too large a deduction. We allow Tls. 600.

Item 3—"*Freight on fifty tons of Sandalwood Tls.* 644.44."—We allow freight on twenty tons, or Tls. 257.77. This is thus arrived at:—Sixty piculs dry sandalwood *ex* the *St. Francois* measured 279 cubic feet—*i.e.*, 4.65 cubic feet to the picul. Mr. Lambert's measurement (which we consider the most exact) of the ship's capacity is 18,513 cubic feet, or at the above rate, 3,981 piculs; or at 16.80 piculs to the ton, 237 tons. Seven tons were taken off this quantity, as a fair allowance for the space that must, with the best possible stowage, have been unoccupied with cargo.

Item 5—"*Survey Fees, Tls.* 160."—We think survey fees are fairly chargeable to the *Cawdor Castle.* Surveys were necessary in order to enable the master of the *St. Francois* to ascertain the condition of his ship, and what it was best to do in the interests of his owners. At the same time, we think some of the surveys were unnecessary, and we disallow accordingly the fees of two of the three surveyors on the 4th, (when the ship was still sunk,) and the two on the 19th. Captain Bolton's must stand; if we were to accede to the contention of the Counsel for the *Cawdor Castle,* and treat it as a matter of costs only, it might never be recoverable at all, because the costs of the reference fall differently according to the amount of the claim that is allowed. Reduced to Tls. 96.

Items 6 *to* 12, *amounting in all to Tls.* 975.25, *are for* (1) *the wages and* (2) *the expenses ashore of the master and crew* from the 3rd of November last (the St. *Francois* was sunk on the night of the 2nd) till, with certain exceptions, the date of this report, and the departure of the first French mail thereafter, respectively. We think that part, at least, of these is chargeable to the *Cawdor Castle.* The transaction by which the owners of the *St. Francois* part with her, is in no sense a sale, as was attempted to be made out. It is true that the price for which she would have sold before the collision has to be taken as the nearest approach to her value, but there the analogy ceases. Had we had to arrive at a price for which her owners would have been willing to sell her, we should have had to name a much higher sum, for one reason if for no other—that out of her proceeds they would have had to provide the funds to meet the very expenses that it is attempted to make them meet out of her bare value. At the same time, we see no necessity for the detention of the *crew* beyond the departure of the first French mail after the defendants had filed their answer admitting their liability, *i.e.*, after the 10th of December, and we accordingly reduce the amount in respect of the crew's wages to Tls. 86.07 (which with the captain's up to date makes a total of Tls. 124.33 for wages), and their expenses to Tls. 290.27. The captain's expenses to the 21st January are allowed at $3 a day, together with the additional sum of $2 a day claimed for carriage hire, but this last for the first fortnight only, that is, Tls. 196.44.

Item 13.—"*Passage-money for Master and Crew from Shanghai to Nantes, Tls.* 922.53."—This must stand, for the reason indicated under the previous item, though perhaps strictly it is reducible, in respect of the captain's and chief officer's portions, in the respective proportions in which they were owners of the *St. Francois,* viz., 18/100ths and 7/100ths.

Item 15.—"*Commission to Agents of Ship, Tls.* 250.—This was admitted to be reasonable in amount, and the only question was whether it could be charged to the *Cawdor Castle.* We are of opinion that it can, on the simple ground that the necessity for the services of the Agents arose directly out of the collision.

It will be seen from the schedule that while the plaintiffs claim Tls. 17,236.53, they are allowed only Tls. 11,929.41—that is, more than one fourth, but less than one-third, has been struck off. The usual rule in such cases must be followed, and each party will pay his own costs of the reference.

Schedule.	*Claimed.*	*Allowed.*
1 Estimated value of vessel..	Tls. 13,380.28	Tls. 9,000.00
2 Estimated value of stores..	711.96	600.00
3 Freight on Sandalwood ..	644.44	257.77
4 Fee to I. M. Customs.....	20.00	20.00
5 Survey Fees	160.00	96.00
6 Expenses of Capt. Simon from 3rd Nov., 1874, to 22nd Jan., 1875	266.08	196.44
7 Do. Chief Officer do.	178.12	83.56
8 Do. Boatswain do.	73.67	41.78
9-10 Do. Crew do.	264.61	164.93
11-12 Wages of captain and crew from 3rd Nov., 1874, to date	192.77	124.33
13 Passage-money of crew from Shanghai to Nantes	922.53	922.53
14 Fees to French Consulate..	14.48	14.48
15 Commission to agents of ship	250.00	250.00
16-23 Private effects of captain and crew	157.59	157.59
Total,	Tls. 17,236.53	Tls. 11,929.41

R. A. MOWAT, *Registrar.*
MIERS CORYELL.
11th January. ARCHD. J. LITTLE.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

January 7th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

W. H. STANLEY *v.* MAWHOOD.

Claim for Wages, $98.00.

This was a claim for wages at the rate of $35 per month from the 6th of May to the 31st July last. Plaintiff stated that he was engaged by Mr. Edbrook as clerk and general overseer, but that he did not draw his salary, not being in immediate want of it. On Mr. Mawhood's return to Shanghai, he gave over charge on the 1st of August. He spoke to him about his salary, and received the reply that it would be paid as soon as possible. Subsequently the firm was sold out, and then he again made application for payment, but defendant refused to sign the bill for payment.

Mr. EDBROOK, sworn, stated that he was a partner in the firm of Edbrook & Co., and managed the business during the defendant's absence in England. Defendant acted as clerk, &c., and when he left engaged Mr. Menzies to do his work at a salary of $35 per month, which amount was paid by him and debited to Mr. Mawhood's account. Menzies left and Capt. Edwards was engaged upon the same terms. He remained six months, but subsequently obtained better employment; then plaintiff was engaged at the same rate of pay. He had a verbal authority from defendant to engage a clerk if Menzies did not suit, and in pursuance of that authority he engaged the present plaintiff, as he could not carry on the business without a clerk.

Defendant swore that he never at any time gave any authority either written or verbal to Mr. Edbrook to engage any one for him, and contended that he was not liable. The business had been a losing concern during his absence, and he did not think that the expenses should have been increased.

His WORSHIP said that there was a conflict of evidence, and that therefore he was obliged to take the most probable version of the matter. He considered that there had been an authority for Mr. Edbrook to engage a clerk, as it was clear that the business could not be carried on without a clerk. Therefore, he should give judgment for the amount claimed and cost of the first summons issued. The Plaintiff would have to pay the cost of the second summons, as he did not appear at the adjourning hearing.

11th Jan.

I. ZING *v.* J. SMITH.

Claim $6.25, for goods sold and delivered. The summons having been personally served, and defendant not appearing, judgment was given against him by default.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, January 5th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

Drunk and Incapable.

JOHN CREIGHTON, a fireman residing at the Sailors' Home, was charged by P. C. 23 with being drunk and incapable in Hongkew, yesterday.

Defendant said that he was not drunk, he had only one glass, and it seemed to take great effect on him. He promised not to drink any more if his Worship would let him go this time.

His WORSHIP observed that this was the third time defendant had appeared before him for drunkenness. He thought it was a great pity that a man should ruin his constitution in that way; the most charitable thing to do with him was to send him to prison for seven days.

Refusal of Duty.

FRED. WENTLANDT, a seaman of the *Agnes Muir,* was charged by Capt. Lloyd with refusing duty on Monday, the 4th inst.

Defendant, in answer to his Worship, said that he had not done any work since Thursday last.

His WORSHIP—Why?

Defendant—Because I was not sober.

His WORSHIP—But why did you not go to work yesterday, when you were ordered?

Defendant—Because my head ached.

His WORSHIP—Very likely—that's a natural consequence.

Capt. Lloyd explained that he had given all hands Friday and Saturday as a holiday, and next day being Sunday no work was done; but on Monday morning it was necessary to straighten them up a bit, as the ship was to leave on Thursday next for Manila and Home.

Defendant said that he wanted to leave the ship, and join the American Navy.

His Worship—But perhaps the Captain will not give you your discharge.

Capt. Lloyd said that he did not wish to discharge the defendant, as he was a very good man, and hitherto had given no trouble. This refusal of duty arose out of a drunken fight on board on Friday night, by which one of the crew was seriously injured and was at present laid up.

His Worship said that he had heard nothing of the disturbance mentioned, and thought it strange, especially as one man appeared to have been seriously hurt. (To defendant)—What do you say, will you go on board to your work?

Defendant—No, Sir.

His Worship—Well, I shall have to send you to prison until the ship is ready to sail, and then you will be put on board; and you will have to pay the cost of the summons.

Defendant—Are you going to send me to prison? I'll go back to the ship.

His Worship—I am glad you have thought better of it; you will only have to pay the cost of the summons now.

Jan. 7th.

Wm. Britwell was charged with deserting from the British barque *Deogaum*.

Capt. Burlar, of the *Deogaum*, stated that the defendant stowed away on board his ship at Nagasaki, and came to this port, where he was shipped. He had since learned that he had run away from the U. S. S. *Hartford*.

Defendant admitted having deserted from the *Hartford*, because he did not like her. He had joined her for the commission.

His Worship ordered defendant to go back to the *Deogaum*.

Jan. 11th.

Drunk and Disorderly.

William Stevens, A.B. of the British str. *Ocean*, was fined $1.00, for being drunk and breaking a pane of glass at No. 664, Hongkew Road. 30 cents of the fine to be paid to the proprietor of the shop as amends.

Robert Henry, a coloured seaman, residing at the Sailors' Home, was charged by Cale, constable of the Home, with being drunk and disorderly, assaulting him, and tearing P. C. H. Stean's uniform coat.

Constable Cale stated that defendant was in the Wharf Hotel, and making a great noise. He tried to persuade him to go across to the Home and go to bed, but he resisted, and was very violent after getting inside the Home compound.

Defendant.—Weren't you drinking and shaking dice with me in the Hotel.

His Worship.—Is that so? How can you expect to have any respect shewn you if you do such things?

George Graham, a lad also residing at the Home, stepped forward, and said that the Constable Cale struck the defendant first, knocking him down, and that then they had a fight, lying down in the road outside the Hotel. Both defendant and the constable were half drunk; previous to this they had been throwing dice for drinks.

Defendant admitted having torn the P. C.'s coat, but was willing to pay the damage.

His Worship ordered him to pay $8.00, and cautioned Constable Cale as to his future behaviour, reminding him that he had sent one constable to prison for similar behaviour.

[Mr. Bowen, superintendent of the Sailors' Home, informed our reporter that the Constable has been dismissed.]

W. H. Donovan, A.B., and John Higgins, fireman, of the str. *Glenroy*, for being drunk, were dismissed with a caution.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 9th Jan., 1874.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul-General, and H. E. the Taotai; Dr. Yates, Interpreter.

Charles E. Hill *v.* Estate of Yang Taikee.

Mr. I. B. Eames appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. Drummond and Mr. Cowie for the defendant.

This case, being a claim made against the representative of the late Taikee, for Tls. 54,000, and eleven years' interest to be added thereto, in respect of the alleged charter of a steamer named the *Keorjeor* in the year 1863, by the local authorities, to assist in the suppression of the rebellion, again came on for hearing, by adjournment from the 26th ult.

The Petition.

The representation and petition of Charles E. Hill, an American citizen, humbly sheweth as follows:—

1*st.*—That in the year (1862) Eighteen hundred and sixty two, General Frederick T. Ward (also an American citizen) was in command of a Force of disciplined Chinese troops, officered by Europeans (known as the "Ever-victorious Army"), acting for and in concert with Chinese officials against the Taeping Rebels, who at that time held the cities of Nanking and Soochow, and the great plain of the Yangtzse Kiang, between those cities and Shanghai.

2*nd.*—This force was stationed at Sung Kong, but General Ward drew all supplies for it from Shanghai, and the wages of the troops as well as all contingent expenses of the Force, were paid by Takee, then Government Treasurer, and residing at Shanghai.

3*rd.*—This necessitated constant communication between Sung Kong and Shanghai, which was mostly carried on by means of sailing boats, and these, owing to head winds and tides, were often delayed, causing great inconvenience, besides running great risk of being captured.

4*th.*—Ward therefore demanded of Takee an additional steamer for this work, to ensure both safety and dispatch.

5*th.*—In reply to this demand, Takee ordered Ward to charter a suitable steamer to be used as a dispatch boat, and Ward did, in the month of June, 1862, charter from me, the said Hill, a new steamer which the Chinese Officials named the Kiäo Chiäo *(Keorjeor)*, after a town near the mouth of the Whangpoo river, where by the aid of Ward they gained their first important victory over the Rebels.

6*th.*—The Charter-party was written in English and Chinese, and was signed by both Ward and Takee, and also bore the official chop or stamp of Takee. It was for four (4) months certain, at the rate of Taels (3,000) Three Thousand Shanghai Sycee per month, with the stipulation that the same sum should be paid for each and every additional month the steamer should be used by the Force, and contained an indemnity clause agreeing to pay in case of her loss a further sum of Taels (12,000) Twelve Thousand. It was further stipulated that the Charterers should furnish coals and stores and pay all wages and other expenses while so employed, reserving to themselves the right to appoint their own officers and men to command her, and to remove them without reference to me. The charterers were also allowed at their own expense to build a gun-deck and magazine, and make such other alterations as might be necessary to fit the steamer for active service as a gunboat if so required.

7*th.*—The steamer was taken possession of by Ward early in June 1862; was used by him for the force until his death in the following September; then by Burgevine, his successor, until some time in January 1863, when in consequence of a quarrel with Takee, the before mentioned Government Treasurer, he was dismissed; then by the officials in command of the Sung Kong Force until her capture on the first day of August following.

8*th.*—The steamer was therefore in the constant employ of the Sung Kong force, from the time of her being taken possession of by Ward until her capture (about fourteen months.)

9*th.*—After the quarrel between Burgevine and Takee, and his dismissal from the command of the Force by the Taotai in consequence, all claims against the Force were immediately sent to Takee for payment, but owing to the treatment Takee had received from Burgevine, Woo, Taotai, refused to sanction the payment of any outstanding claims against the Force. Application was therefore made to your Honor, for assistance in their collection. The result of this application was an arrangement between your Honor and Woo, Taotai, by which John Kearny Rogers and Frederick H. B. Jenkins were appointed Arbitrators to examine and pronounce upon all claims by American citizens against the Force.

10*th.*—After the appointment of these arbitrators Takee (and A. L. Freemen Esq.,) acting for Takee, came to me and earnestly requested me to put in a claim before these arbitrators for the use and charter of the steamer while Burgevine was in command of the Force, about four months, stating as his reason, that if he paid any of the expensese of the Force while under the command of Burgevine more than had been paid, without the sanction of Woo, it would not be allowed in his accounts, but he agreed to pay all due on the charter both before and after this time, to continue the steamer in use, and if I failed to collect from the arbitrators he would eventually pay me for the four months charter also.

11*th.*—In accordance with this request I appeared before the arbitrators, gave into their possession the charter-party, claimed under it Taels 12,000, for her use, four months, and was allowed the full amount claimed.

12*th.*—This award was not paid, neither did Takee pay as agreed, and the first time thereafter that I saw the steamer in Shanghai, I took possession of her with the intention of not allowing her to return to Sungkong until the full amount due for her charter and use was paid.

13*th.*—This action brought Takee again to me, who stated that the steamer came down with a Mandarin who had important business, and must return with the steamer at once, or he (Takee) would have great trouble; that I need not fear, for he would soon pay me every dollar; that he was hard pressed for funds to keep the Force together; that he had paid out large sums to fit out an expedition against the city of Nankin, which had failed to start, causing him much trouble to raise money at all; that there were still large sums due the English Government for guns, stores, and ammunitions, which must be paid at once, or they would not assist in taking Soochow and Nankin, in which case he would lose his place, his official rank, and perhaps his head; and he begged of me to wait until Soochow was taken, when he could easily raise money and would pay all.

14*th.*—Knowing some of these statements to be true, I released the steamer, and allowed her to return, and shortly after an arrangement was made with Takee whereby he agreed to pay me the full amount due on the charter, and in consideration of the amount of the charter money being so large, I agreed to sell him the steamer outright for an additional sum of Taels (8,500) Eight Thousand Five Hundred. A bill of sale was made to some Chinese official whom he named, and together with a memorandum in both English and Chinese, showing the exact amount to be paid me, were deposited in the safe of Mr. B. R. Lewis, then a clerk in the U. S. Consulate-General, to be shown to Takee whenever he should present my order for the same.

15*th.*—None of this money has ever been paid to me as agreed, and neither the charter-party, bill of sale, or memorandum, have been in my possession since delivered up, as within mentioned, nor can either of them now be found.

16*th.*—Shortly after this arrangement was made, the steamer was captured, while towing the Taotai's or Viceroy's chop to Sungkong, or immediately after their arrival at the Sungkong Creek.

As soon as this news reached me, I went at once to Takee, and demanded the money due me, when he again begged me to wait until Soochow was captured, which would be in a few days at most, when he would have plenty of money, and would pay me all with interest.

17*th.*—I waited on until Nankin was taken, after which I went to his house and again demanded the money due me. He was then sick, but promised to pay in ten days. After the ten days expired, I went often to his house, but he was always too ill to see foreigners, and I never saw him again alive, and never received any part or portion of the money due me for the use or loss of the steamer.

18*th.*—After Takee's death, Mr. Yates went to see the wife and heirs of Takee. She did not deny the debt, but said she would pay in full on production of the charter-party, but

although diligent search has been made for it, it cannot be found.

19*th.*—In support of my own statement that such a charter-party did exist, I hand in the sworn statements of John Kearney Rodgers and Frederick H. B. Jenkins, the before mentioned arbitrators, and also of E. S. Benson, who for a time was Quartermaster-General to the Force, all of whom have seen it, and had it in possession.

20*th.*—I hand in also the statement of J. Howard Nichols, who purchased the steamer for me in sections as she was shipped from England, who is cognizant of her erection here by me, of her subsequent charter through Ward for the use of the Force, and constant employment by the Force until her loss.

21*st.*—As collateral proof of the existence of such a charter-party there are the undisputed facts, that the steamer was in the constant employ of the Force for more than one year, that she was furnished with coals by the Chinese officials during this time. That they did alter the steamer to a gunboat by building a gun-deck and magazine, and arming her as such, and that they did place their own men in command of her, and discharged them at pleasure. As positive proof of this last fact, one C. F. Jones, whom they had appointed to command her, was accused by the Mandarin in charge of the steamer of having struck him, when he was immediately discharged by the Taotai, and his place filled with a Chinese captain.

22*nd.*—Charles J. Ashley, Quartermaster-General and Paymaster of the Force under Ward; J. F. McLaughlin, Engineer of the steamer *Confucius*, also employed by the Force; Mr. Lambert who made repairs to the steamer while employed by the Force, and others, both foreign and Chinese, are still residing in Shanghai, and can be produced to testify that the steamer was in the employ of the Force as above stated.

23*rd.*—In view of these facts, I most respectfully beg to submit my claim as follows:—

For charter and use of steamer *Kiaochiao* from June 1st, 1862 to August 1st, 1863—14 months at Tls. 3,000 per month...Tls.	42,000
Indemnity for her loss as per charter .... ,,	12,000
Taels.....	54,000

With interest on this sum at such rate as to the Court may seem just and proper.

24*th.*—I therefore humbly pray that your Honor will take such steps as to you seem fit and proper to secure payment by the representative of Takee, or by the Chinese Government, of the amount of my claim as above stated, and your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES E. HILL.

The Answer.

In answer to the said petition the said defendant says as follows:—

1.—That owing to the great length of time the plaintiff has allowed his claim to lie dormant, and to the fact that so many of the persons principally concerned (namely Woo Taoutai, Taikee, General Ward, and Burgevine) are now dead, the defendant finds it impossible to reply in detail to the various allegations set forth in the plaintiff's petition.

2.—That the defendant is informed and believes that the late Taikee did at the time mentioned by the plaintiff, and as admitted by the plaintiff, act as Banker and Agent for the late Taoutai Woo, and in such capacity and for and on behalf of the said Taoutai did from time to time pay monies to the forces engaged by the said Taoutai in the suppression of the Taiping rebellion, and for and on behalf of the said Taoutai was concerned in the recommendation of steamers to be used by the said Taoutai to aid the said force. And the defendant has been informed and believes that the said Taoutai did so engage several foreign steamers and affix his seal on the charters thereof, but no record has come to the defendants knowledge of any charter of the steamer *Keorjeor*, and he does not believe any charter of said steamer was ever made by the said Taoutai or the said Taikee.

3.—That it is incredible that the said Taikee chartered for the said Taoutai the said steamer on the terms stated by the said plaintiff, namely, for four months at Taels Three thousand per month, when the price of the said steamer was fixed by the said plaintiff at Taels Twelve thousand only.

4.—That the defendant has been informed and believes that soon after the suppression of the rebellion a claim similar to the present one was put forward by the plaintiff in respect of the said steamer *Keorjeor*, and that the same was referred to Messrs. Cunningham, T. Hanbury, and A. A. Hayes, as arbitrators, and that by their Award the said claim was disallowed.

5.—That the said Taikee had no official seal, and it was not his practice either to sign or impress his private seal on the charter of any steamer so hired as aforesaid.

6.—That the reference to Arbitration referred to in the 9th paragraph of the plaintiff's petition was, as appears by the said petition, made at the instance of the said Taoutai Woo and his Honour the American Consul-General for the consideration of the plaintiff's claim as against the Taoutai Woo, for service rendered the Government Forces and not as against the late Taikee personally.

7.—That throughout the transactions referred to by the plaintiff, he the plaintiff fully recognized the position of the late Taikee as Agent merely of the said Taoutai Woo.

8.—That by the 28th Article of the Treaty between China and the United States of America, it is clearly laid down, "that if con-,, troversies arise between Citizens of the "United States and subjects of China which "cannot be amicably settled otherwise, the "same shall be examined and decided con-"formably to *Justice and Equity* by the public "officers of the two nations, acting in con-"junction," and in accordance with such principles the lapse of time alone is sufficient to bar the recovery of any such claim as that of the plaintiff, even had it ever been admitted to be valid.

9.—Under the circumstances hereinbefore appearing, the defendant submits that there is nothing due to the plaintiff from him as the representative of the late Taikee, or from the Estate of the late Taikee and humbly submits that this honorable Court should dismiss the petition of the plaintiff with costs.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said he had sent a copy of the defendant's answer to the Taotai; and, as he had read it himself, he supposed there would be no necessity to read it in Court.

The TAOTAI, through Dr. Yates, acknowledged the receipt of the translation of the answer.

The Court proceeded to hear evidence on the petition; and,

Mr. EAMES first called the plaintiff,

CHARLES E. HILL, who, sworn, deposed to the facts contained in his petition.

The TAOTAI asked what had become of the steamer?

A reply was given that all such facts as that would be shown in the hearing of the case, and would be explained to him as it proceeded.

Plaintiff's examination resumed—I came to Shanghai in 1860, and left for a time in January, 1866. I was familiar with the proceedings of the force known as "The Ever-Victorious Army," and General Ward's command. I furnished supplies to the Force, my dealings being entirely with Yang Taikee. The final arrangements under which Ward was to take command of the Force, were made through me. I introduced Ward to Taikee. I never had anything to do with Woo Taotai (the then Taotai of Shanghai), nor did I know that he had anything to do with the Force until he disagreed with Taikee. Mr. Hayes had nothing to do with that arbitration. I filed a claim with the first arbitrators, Messrs. Jenkins and Rogers, for only four months' charter of the steamer, because Taikee asked me to do so, the steamer being then in use. I never filed any other claim, until this petition. I know by common report and newspaper report, that the steamer was captured somewhere about the 1st August, 1863, near Soonkong. This information I got from Dr. Macartney, who was there. The steamer has never been returned to me, nor has any offer been made to return her to me. I see the defendant's answer speaks of my long delay in making this petition, but I repeatedly sent in a claim to Taikee up to the time of his death; after that circumstance, to his wife; and until I went home in 1866, when I left the case in the hands of Dr. Yates. I returned from America at the end of 1867, or at the beginning of 1868—within a month either way. Taikee often promised to pay me; but when I applied to his widow and son, I was told I must wait until her period of mourning was over. While I was so waiting, it happened that my own family affairs made it necessary for me to go home. Taikee, and others connected with him, never denied that the steamer had been used. I have never received one *cash* for the use of the steamer, or for indemnity on account of her loss. When I returned to Shanghai in 1867 or beginning of 1868, I was in the employ of Jardine, Matheson and Co., and they sent me to Newchwang, where I remained three years. After I left Newchwang I again went home, and when I returned after that occasion, almost immediately went to America. These circumstances will account for a great deal of the delay that has occurred. As soon as Mr. Seward returned to Shanghai, I lost no more time, but immediately entered my plaint.

Cross-examined by Mr. DRUMMOND—On my first departure from Shanghai, I was absent about two years. It was in March, 1868, that I left Shanghai for Newchwang. I remained at Newchwang until the fall of 1870—not quite three years. I then returned to Shanghai. At that time I had business that took me South, to Canton and other places; and also to Japan. I left Yokohama, in February, 1871, for America, and remained home one year, returning to Shanghai about May, 1872. I have remained with the exception of short absences to Pekin and elsewhere, ever since my last arrival. I have talked over my private affairs with Dr. Yates frequently, and have probably had casual conversations on the same subject with other of my friends. I can give you the names of some with whom I have conversed—there are Mr. Seward, Dr. Yates, Mr. Eames, Mr. Bradford, Mr. Vail, Mr. Keswick; —with the latter, because he was agent and trustee for the other party. At Newchwang, too, during the two or three years I was there, I dare say I talked to some persons also—it was very likely in a small community like that. I have not, to my recollection, made this claim the subject of special conversation. I spoke to Mr. Albert Knight, at Newchwang, but do not remember any one else, except Dr. Yates, who was with me at Newchwang for a time. I cannot specify any others. I claim Tls. 54,000 and interest. I have never forgotten the fact of my having this claim. I have never made my property on expectations in regard to his claim, the subjects of special conversation. I am not in the habit of mentioning my private affairs or special prospects to any one promiscuously. Dr. Yates is, I believe, the only person who knows how much I am probably worth, but I do not believe there is one man in the world who knows what I owe, or who owes me, or what I am worth. I may have mentioned the particulars of my property to one or more of my private friends.

The TAOTAI, to whom the substance of this had been interpreted, wanted to know what it was all about, as he could not understand it?

Mr. DRUMMOND said the questions were necessary to the interests of the defence.

Cross-examination resumed.—Only one charter-party was signed by me, but my name appears in the charter-party twice. It was also signed by Taikee and Ward. The latter signed only by way of approval, and for no other reason. The charter-party proper was supposed to be in Chinese, but I wanted a translation of it in English. The charter party was never renewed by Burgevine. I am not aware that be ever refused the charter-party. He never did so with me.

The TOUTAI asked if, when the steamer was seized, Ward was still living?

A negative reply was given.

The TOUTAI further asked what had become of the charter-party?

A reply was given, that the plaintiff did not know. It had never been in his possession since it was given up at the first arbitration.

Cross-examination again resumed—When Ward died I took no steps with regard to the steamer or as to the renewal of the charter-party. I saw Taikee sign the charter party. I cannot read Chinese, but I know he took a Chinese pencil and wrote something. I do not know what characters he wrote. He signed what he said was his name. I have no doubt about its being his name. He also affixed a Chinese stamp to it—what we designate by the name of "chop." I saw him affix that also. I cannot describe what the chop was

like. It was not much larger than the hong chop that is used by compradors, rather larger than wide. It might have been about an inch long. The charter party was signed at Taikee's private house, at the corner of Honan and Kiangse-road, where I did all the business with Taikee and Ward. Taikee told me it was his own chop. I never saw him affix the same seal to any other document, nor ever had any business with him requiring a chop seal. I do not know whether Taikee had any other seal of the same kind, or whether he had an official seal. I saw the charter-party after it was signed and sealed. I held the charter-party in my possession until some time after a man named Benson was appointed Quarter-master-General under Burgevine. I kept it in my possession until I was called upon by the Arbitrators to produce it in evidence, as to chartering the steamer for the four months. I then gave it up, and have not seen it since.

The Taotai asked if Benson was here, and was informed that he was in Yokohama.

Cross-examination further resumed—When I had the charter-party in my possession, I have no recollection that it bore any other stamp or chop than the one I have mentioned. I know that when the Naukin expedition was fitting out, the Taotai's chop was required. That was under Burgevine. I know that by seeing the other charter-parties afterwards, but I did not know it at the time. General Ward, Taikee, and myself were present when Taikee signed and sealed the charter party in question. Rogers is an American citizen. I have put in an affidavit by him; I do not think he can read Chinese. Taikee went with me to Mr. Rogers, and acknowledged the charter-party, and I believe we also went to Mr. Jenkins; but I have not thought of that matter at all—you can ask him if you like. Jenkins was chosen as an arbitrator entirely by Taikee. He speaks and reads Chinese well. The steamer was chartered for four months certain at Tls. 3,000 per month, and her value was set down at Tls. 12,000, though her cost to me was Tls. 25,000. In case of the steamer being lost within the four months, I should have received Tls. 12,000 only—the money that was due upon her at the time; that is, supposing she had been lost just after starting, I should should only have got about Tls. 12,000. I did not agree with Taikee to wait until the whole of this province of Kiangsu was retaken from the rebels to be paid my money. When the disturbance took place with Burgevine, they were in great straits for money, and at the same time had to reorganise the entire Force, purchase heavy guns, etc. I was not in particular want of money at the time, and agreed to wait from time to time for payment. While I was waiting patiently for this money, I was, as a merchant, getting paid for other goods, as were also other merchants on account of other transactions. Taikee paid me $10,000 on account, but it was for the firm to which I belonged, and not to myself individually. My own personal money I waited for—I did as I liked about that. Taikee and myself were personal friends, and I did more for him than I would for any other man in China at the time. When Ward lay wounded, I gave up my own room to him, and sat up and nursed him, because Taikee thought he was then going to die. My waiting for my money was in fact a matter of personal arrangement between Taikee and myself, because he said if I pressed him for payment it would inconvenience him. Taikee was alive when the matter was first submitted to arbitration, and admitted my claim at the interview with Rogers, one of the arbitrators. Mine was only one of a good many claims, and was included among them at his special request. He said if he paid any of the claims which arose under Burgevine's command, he would not get his money back again from Woo Taotai. I therefore allowed mine to go in with the other claims, and depended entirely upon Taikee for payment. The difficulty in the way of paying me was not because Woo Taotai would not sanction my claim, but because of want of funds. I am not aware that any application was ever made to Woo Taotai on the subject. The newspapers reported at the time the vessel was taken by the rebels that such was the fact. Of my own positive knowledge, I am not aware that Burgevine had anything to do with her capture, but it was the general report that he had. The Chinese name of the steamer was *Keorjeor*.

Some conversation here ensued as to the name of the vessel, and her identity with the one in question; and Dr. Yates said the proper name was 高橋, the English equivalent being "High Bridge," the name of a place between Shanghai and Woosoong, where an important victory was gained over the rebels.

Cross-examination continued—I do not know who gave her that name. Up to that time the Chinese had only got three steamers. I cannot tell you of any other steamer named after the name of a place, nor do I know what the Chinese names of steamers mean. There is the *Yungching*, for instance, I do not know what that means. I do not know either that the Chinese name their steamers after quite a different principle to the names of places, such as "Good Luck," "Good Fortune," or some such names. I do not know whether, after Burgevine's dismissal, the steamers were in the hands of a person named Holland. I do not think that Colonel Gordon had anything to do with the *Keorjeor*. I never made a claim upon either of those, or upon Dr. Macartney, for payment of this money. I do not know that she was at one time in the possession of Dr. Macartney at Shanghai. I have been told that she was, but I was not here at the time. It was after she had been recaptured. I was told she was here, having new boilers put into her. I do not know that Taikee was ever disgraced. He had some "difficulty," but I never knew the facts—he would not be likely to tell me. I do not recollect if it was a matter of public notoriety. I never applied to any Chinese authority for payment of my claim. I agreed at one time to sell the steamer to Taikee for an additional sum of Tls. 8,500, and a bill of sale was made out then. That was in June or July, 1863, and was arranged on the ground that the sum due to me was so large. At the expiration of the four months, Taikee had the right to continue the use of the steamer as long as he chose, on the same terms. It was so stated in the charter-party. The steamer was not taken by the rebels during the currency of the first four months, nor until ten months afterwards, and she was in use altogether fourteen months. They never gave me notice that they wished to renew the charter party at the same rate, nor that they wished to break the charter. No fresh agreement was made between us. I looked upon Taikee, at the time the steamer was chartered, as chief of Ward's Force. He originated the Force, and undertook all things necessary for it; and I do not believe anyone ever saw Woo Taotai in the matter. Taikee did all this, not as agent of the Chinese Government, but for the purpose of suppressing the rebellion, for clearing this province of the rebels. Taikee acted as a sort of banker for the Forces, and paid them. He was the head of the Haikwan Bank at the time. Taikee acted from patriotic motives, I believe, all through, and I also believe him to have been a good and conscientious man. I further believe he did all this on his own private account, that is, when he started the Force, and not as agent for China. He made a great deal of money out of the Force, and I think he was the father of the whole thing, without any communication from his Government. I cannot speak more positively, and only express my opinion on this point.

The Consul-General—Do you know anything about it?

Plaintiff—No, I do not; it is only what I believe.

The Consul-General—Then why did you not say so at once.

The cross-examination of the plaintiff was continued for some time longer, and in the course of his replies, he said I had no claim upon the Chinese Government, excepting through Taikee. The award of Jenkins and Rogers, the first arbitrators, was in my favour, granting me all I asked on the four months' charter-party. I know there was another arbitration, before Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury, but cannot say at what time afterwards. I had no right to enforce the arbitration of Messrs. Jenkins and Rogers. I left that in the hands of the authorities.

The Consul-General said he knew more of that part of the matter than anyone else, and at a later moment, if it were thought desirable, he would take the stand and make a statement.

Cross-examination further resumed.—I do not know the result of the reference to Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury, and never asked what the result was. I left all the papers having reference to my claim in this case, in the charge of Mr. Lewis, who was clerk in the Shipping-office at the time. They were placed in a pigeon-hole by him. Those papers stated what was due to me. I have not seen them since. I believe they were lost, bill of sale, charter-party, and all.

The Taotai asked when they were lost?

Plaintiff.—I have not seen them since my return to Shanghai in the beginning of 1868. When I first went to Taikee's widow about the matter, she did not ask to see the charter-party, but only said her period of mourning was not over, and that I ought not to ask her to do any business.

The Taotai—How long after that was it before it was discovered these papers were lost?

Plaintiff—Not till about five years afterwards.

The Taotai—And have no steps been taken to recover them?

Plaintiff—I took all the steps I could think of.

Mr. Eames pointed out that the plaintiff did not say they had been lost all that time, but that they were discovered at a certain period to be missing.

Cross-examination resumed—I did not file the petition until ten years after the occurrences for the reasons I have given before. It did not occur to me that it would be dangerous to wait so long without filing a petition. The subject has never been allowed to drop, and I have never lost sight of the claim, but always had some one looking after it every two or three months.

Re-examined by Mr. Eames—I understood by Ward's signature that he was merely a witness to the matter between Taikee and myself, not making him in any way responsible to me. After Woo Taotai came into office, they continued to use the steamer, but took no exception to the charter-party.

Mr. Eames said he put those questions because he saw his friend Mr. Drummond was trying to cut the Chinese Government out of the case, with a view to ulterior proceedings.

The Taotai was asked whether he had any questions to put to Mr. Hill, to which he replied in the negative, as there must be witnesses on both sides to be examined. The charter-party must be produced, however.

Mr. Eames would make a suggestion. As the case was likely to last all through the winter at the present rate, he suggested that he should simply put in the next witness's statement, as sworn to, and Mr. Drummond could proceed with his cross-examination at once.

Mr. Drummond thought it would be better if the examination proceeded in the regular way, as the Taotai might wish to put some questions to the witness as it proceeded.

The Consul-General said it appeared to him desirable to take the witness's evidence as it stood in his affidavit, a translation of which had been supplied to the Taotai. Abbreviation was very desirable, for it was possible they might all catch their deaths sitting in such a building.

[The Mixed Court is very like a ruinous barn. It has an unceiled roof, and a front composed of glass and wood. Some of the panes are broken, and the wood is full of chinks and openings, giving free admission to the wintry wind, and fully justifying the Consul-General's remark.]

Frederick H. B. Jenkins was the next witness. It was decided that Mr. Eames should read his sworn affidavit in his presence, and he was accordingly called into Court. The affidavit was to the following effect:—Witness was an American citizen. In 1863, sometime after the death of F. T. Ward, there were certain claims against Ward, which Woo Taotai refused to pay. The said claims were referred to arbitration, witness and Rogers being the arbitrators appointed to act on claims of citizens of the United States; one of these claims was that of C. E. Hill, the plaintiff, and was based on a charter party for the steamer *Keorjeor*. The steamer was engaged in active service during the rebellion. The arbitrators decided to give Hill the sum claimed. (The affidavit confirmed other portions of the plaintiff's evidence, and was in fact corroborative all through. It was sworn

before O. B. Bradford, Esq., on the 2nd of December, 1873.)

In reply to the CONSUL-GENERAL, the witness having been sworn, said the contents of the affidavit were true.

Mr. EAMES asked the witness a few additional questions upon the affidavit, his replies to which were further confirmatory of the plaintiff's evidence.

Cross-examined by Mr. COWIE—At the time named in the affidavit, I was trying to make a living. I forget in what way. I did all sorts of different things. I owned steamboats for one thing. At the time of the arbitration, I was engaged in general business.

Mr. EAMES objected to this line of examination.

Cross-examination resumed—I had transactions with Woo Taotai. I do not recollect that I have any claims against the Chinese Government. I might have. Mr. Hill's claim was brought before us to decide upon, as near as I can recollect, with some other claims of foreigners, against both Woo and Taikee. I was appointed by Woo.

The CONSUL-GENERAL explained that the arbitration was appointed to consider claims of foreigners against the Chinese Government, some of which were incurred by Woo and some by Taikee.

Mr. EAMES—But the witness has not said so.

Mr. COWIE—No; but Mr. Seward has.

Cross-examination resumed.—We went through all the bills presented to us, and examined them. Not one of the claims submitted to the arbitrators was paid. I saw the charter-party alluded to, and to the best of my belief it was signed by Taikee. I have stated so in my affidavit. It is a long time to remember things exactly as they occurred. I do not understand Chinese very well. I think I might understand what the characters were that Taikee put to the charter-party. I think it was also sealed. I cannot state anything more than appears in my affidavit. I do not remember whether the Taotai's seal was on the charter. I know the steamer was employed with the Soonkong Force. The officers of the Force used her. My deposition and affidavit were written by Mr. Hill, and are as near as I can recollect. I dictated a portion of them to him, but before I swore to them I read them through several times, and am sure they are correct. I have no further interest in this claim than in any of the others. I do not know whether the award was enforced,—our work was done in making it.

A few unimportant questions closed this witness's cross-examination, and the Court adjourned.

Jan. 4th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate, CHEN; and W. G. STRONACH, Esq., H. M. Vice-Consul.

Serious charge against Native Detective Policemen and others.

This was a remanded case, the particulars of which, having reference to the alleged abduction of a girl, at the instance of an officer of high rank in the Chinese army, from a house in the Hoopeh-road, in this Settlement, were reported in the *N.-C. Herald* of the 3rd ult. Several Chinamen of respectable position were stated to the concerned in the matter, two of whom, who had apparently acted as principals, were the defendants in the present case. Their names were 傅晋友 (Foo T'shing Yao), a *tepao*, formerly in the employ of the Municipal Council as a detective policeman; and 葛棟山 (Qua-tung Seng), also a member of the detective force. The charge against them was that they had received the large sum of Tls. 3,000 from an acquaintance of the officer in question 楊 (Yang), for the purpose of abducting the young woman, and that with portions of the money they had bribed some other members of the native detective police to assist them in the nefarious transaction. The name of the acquaintance who consented to act as go-between, is 吳雲亭 (Woo-wing Ding), an employè of a foreign hong in Shanghai, and a relative of a *toutai*; and the case has been under remand in consequence of his having left for Ningpo shortly after the affair. His whereabouts was discovered, however, but before he could be arrested, he had gone on to Hangchow. At that place he appears to have been met by a European gentleman who knew him, to whom he made known the circumstances under which he was placed, and by whose advice he consented to return to Shanghai and explain the part he took in the transaction. On the case being called on,

WOO-WING-DING made the following statement—I made the acquaintance of a Yunan Mandarin named Yang, and went with him every night for two or three weeks to Sza Juai Lee. One night Yang asked a young woman whom he had met on several occasions, if she would go with him to Yunan, promising to make her his second wife. She said she would go with him willingly, and upon his further question as to whether he might rely upon it, she answered in the affirmative. Yang then sent his boy to the hotel where he was staying, telling him to get from thence one pair of heavy gold bracelets and another pair of jade-stone, also promising the young woman money. Next evening, Yang was told that she had gone to her mother's house, and that the mother refused to permit her to go to Yunan, as it was so far away. Yang went into a great rage, and on the advice of one of his followers, he went to the Paou Tang Ting, and there saw Foo T'shing Yao and Qua-tung Seng, who offered to settle the matter for Tls. 3,000 ($4,000)—and also guaranteeing to Yang that he should have no further trouble in the affair. They told him to send a boat to Jessfield Farm, and that they would take the young woman to the boat. Yang then agreed to pay the amount named. The same night, the boat was sent up the Soochow Creek to the place appointed, and Yang, in company with the witness, went there in a carriage. After waiting some time the young woman was brought to the boat by Foo T'shing Yao and Qua-tung Seng, and Yang handed to them a bank order for the Tls. 3,000. He immediately afterwards started with the young woman in the boat, for Soochow. After about fourteen days, the young woman's mother came to witness and said that she had been offered money by Foo T'shing Yao and Qua-tung Seng to say nothing about it, but that she would have her daughter back again or go to her. After some time, Yang came to this arrangement with her—that she was to have $2,800 of the money, and be allowed to go to Yunan with her daughter. The mother then signed a paper to the effect that she had received the money and was perfectly satisfied, and with that paper Yang returned to Shanghai, went again to the Paou Tang Ting in company with witness, and on producing the above-mentioned paper, Foo T'shing Yao and Qua-tung Seng returned to him $2,800, thus keeping $1,200 for their trouble as agreed. Witness himself never received a *cash*, had nothing to do with the matter, and only accompanied Yang as a friend.

The MANDARIN said he was not at all satisfied with the statement that the $2,800 had been given back as described.

QUA-TUNG SENG was next brought into Court, and placed upon his knees. He in part confirmed the statement of the witness, confessing that he and the *tepao* divided $1,000 between them, and that the remaining $200 were swallowed up in expenses.

The MANDARIN said it was remarkable how money would melt in such cases as this.

Acting-Superintendent STRIPLING said he could not understand how $200 were expended, as he had ascertained that the carriage hire had only amounted to $7.

FOO T'SHING YAO was next examined separately, and told a very different story to each of those preceding. He denied that he kept any of the money for himself, but said he gave it all away to other persons concerned, though he did not say to whom. He added that the first witness's statement was not true.

Mr. STRONACH said this defendant's statement, in the native language, was very confused, and he made no mention as to the repayment to Yang of the $2,800.

The MANDARIN, who for some moments appeared to be in a dilemma, suddenly and with seemingly great warmth of manner, ordered Woo Wing Ding on to his knees as a defendant.

This unexpected proceeding so terrified Woo, that his countenance assumed a most rueful expression; and on being told that he had already confessed enough to ensure his punishment in some way, he further confessed that it was he who gave the bank order for the Tls. 3,000 to the other defendants.

The MANDARIN then advised him, if he had got any of the money now, to give it up as quickly as possible.

Woo, after pondering a moment, said that he was ashamed to tell the Mandarin before that he had "squeezed" some of the money. He had done so, and now asked the Mandarin to fine him and let him go!

The MANDARIN—How much will you pay?

Woo—Say $50.

The MANDARIN—No; that is not enough.

Woo said he had only received $50 of Yang's money.

The MANDARIN—How much will you give to get rid of this affair? There is no fear of my wanting it for myself—it will all be in the newspapers!

The other defendants now said it was Woo who had got them all into the scrape.

The MANDARIN (to them)—Would not $50 be a ridiculously small sum to make him pay?

QUA and the *tepao* both said it would be too small a sum.

The MANDARIN suggested $500 as being nearer the mark, but this met with no response.

Mr. STRIPLING now caused to be ushered into Court, several other native detectives who had been found to have received bribes of $50 or thereabouts, to prevent the transaction coming to the knowledge of the Police authorities. All these men were ordered by the Mandarin to give up the money to the Police.

One of them, Chang-foo-szee, was the man who was appointed about two months ago to a responsible public office, and a few days afterwards was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for making a violent disturbance, but who it appears was liberated from the yamên on the score of ill-health or for some other cause. It was said that in his case the $50 had been paid to his wife, and he now said, in very good English, "What proof it was given my wife? I won't pay it."

The MANDARIN said he would deal with him presently, and then proceeded to decide the case. Foo, the *tepao*, and Qua, the detective, were each ordered to give up $300.

Mr. STRIPLING—But will not the Mandarin make them give up all that they received, and obtain the return of the smaller sums they have paid to the others? Both those men received $500, and he hoped the Mandarin would not only make them return that amount, but also punish them severely as well. If he did not do so, there would be plenty more "squeezing," besides other misconduct, for any lighter sentence would have no effect.

Mr. STRONACH consulted with the Mandarin, and afterwards said he could not induce him to alter his decision.

Mr. STRIPLING—Then the *tepao* receives $500, has to pay back $300, and so pockets $200; while the detective, who has admitted that he has received $350, will retain $50—about four months' pay for him.

The MANDARIN next ordered Woo to pay a fine of $100 for his share in the transaction, and a European gentleman in Court at once gave a bank order for that amount on his behalf.

The MANDARIN ordered that all the other amounts should be paid before the end of the Chinese year, and in reply to a question said the punishments to be inflicted would be considered.

Mr. STRIPLING said the community would not be satisfied with such a decision.

The men said they would rather go to prison than pay back any of the money.

Mr. STRIPLING said imprisonment in the yamen would be no punishment, because they could do almost as they chose—smoke, and see their friends, and have food brought in to them.

The case thus terminated.

Miscellaneous.

FIRE ON BOARD H.M.S. "CURLEW."

On Monday morning, shortly after ten o'clock, an alarm of fire was given on board H.M. gunvessel *Curlew*, Commander Church, which arrived at Shanghai from Hongkong (at which port she had been recommissioned), only on Saturday last. The fire broke out in the sail-room, just over the port forward magazine, and was fortunately discovered before it had obtained much headway. The crew were immediately called to fire-quarters, and went to their stations with customary alacrity and

coolness. The proximity of the seat of the fire to the magazine, rendered it necessary that the first step should be to flood that source of extreme danger. The valves were therefore quickly opened, the hose rigged, and large quantities of water poured in among the powder cases. In the meantime the signal for aid was run aloft, and was speedily answered from the signal station on the Pootung shore and from the other ships. But a very few minutes elapsed ere boats and launches were seen pulling hard for the scene of the fire. They were from the French gunvessel *Volta*, the U.S. corvettes *Hartford* and *Kearsage*; H.M. corvette *Modeste* and gunvessel *Ringdove*. The launches each carried a deck fire-engine, and were quickly alongside the burning ship and at work. The floating fire-engine from Kin-lee-yuen was also soon at hand, and the hose being run on board aided in the work of extinguishing the fire. Notwithstanding the vast body of water poured into the sailroom of the *Curlew*, it was evident that help had not arrived too soon, for smoke began to ascend through the hatchways in large quantities, showing that the fire would soon have obtained a serious hold of the vessel. One lower deck beam, indeed was so fully ignited, that it was found necessary to cut it away, to prevent the flames spreading; and it was not until so much water had been pumped on board, and the forehold so far filled that it reached within a very few inches of the lower deck beams, bringing the ship greatly down by the head, that all further source of danger was prevented. About the time this was achieved, the *Tsatlee* steamed to the scene to render aid, and brought up just astern of the *Curlew*, but her services were not required. At about 1.15 p.m., it was announced that the fire was extinguished, and the engines ceased working. Previous to this the men had been engaged in getting on deck the sails caught by the fire, and it was matter of surprise that comparatively little damage had been done to them. The closeness with which they were stowed will in a measure account for this; but sufficient damage was done, however, to show that had the fire broken out in the night time, the destruction would have been much greater. Of course until the magazine, sailroom, and lower hold are cleared of the water and *dèbris*, it is impossible to ascertain what amount of damage the ship herself has sustained; but it is believed this will be found to be no more than can be repaired without going into dock. Too much praise cannot be given to the officers and men of the several ships named, and also those of the Kin-lee-yuen engines for the readiness and skill with which they rendered aid in the emergency. Had the fire reached the powder, the destruction of life and property can only be imagined —the *Volta* and *Kearsage* lying so close to the *Curlew* that they at least could not have avoided the effects of the concussion.

SHANGHAI TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The Temperance Hall was again comfortably filled on Saturday night last. Mr. C. P. Blethen, President of the Society, officiated as Chairman, and requested Mr. Shaw to commence the proceedings with prayer, after which the audience sang an opening chorus. Captain Barclay, of the *Northampton*, who was cordially welcomed, recited *Campbell's* stirring poem, "Lochiel's Warning," a reminiscence of the days of the Stuarts and Culloden. The piece was suitably rendered, and was loudly applauded.—Mr. Weatherdon, chief gunner's mate of H. M. S. *Modeste*, next sang in very good style and voice, "The auld Scotch Sangs for me," and complied with a redemand, by substituting the pretty ballad, "Bell Mahone." Mr. Weatherdon has a very musical voice, and sings with remarkable taste, but excellent as his rendering always is, we think it would give more pleasure to the audience if he received the assistance, in the way of accompaniment, that is vouchsafed to other singers. The next selection was a reading by Mr. Triggs, of the A.D.C., who gave one of Robert Browning's pleasantest of children's poems, "The Pied Piper of Hamelin." The reading was admirably given. The succeeding number on the programme announced a song and accompaniment, the former by Mr. C. L. Simpson and the latter by Mr. J. Hoffmeyer. The song was Tennyson's "Come into the Garden, Maud," one of Sims Reeves' best musical *morceaux*, and was sung in the most finished style of amateur vocalism. Mr. Hoffmeyer's accompaniment on the piano was a source of great delight to the audience, and with the song was received with a storm of applause, which did not cease until both gentlemen again presented themselves. Mr. Simpson next sang, "When other Lips and other Hearts," from the *Bohemian Girl*, and the performance was equally successful.

Being given in connection with a Temperance Society, these entertainments would not of course be complete without a temperance address, and the speaker on the occasion under notice was Dr. Macgowan, whose observations rambled over the physiological, medical, moral, and statistical aspects of the question, and were in favour of the safety of total abstinence as compared with even the moderate use of alcoholic drinks.

A song by Captain Barclay, given by way of filling a gap caused by the unexplained absence of the vocalist under promise; and a recitation by Mr. Rogerson—Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade," capitally delivered—brought the programme to an end.

NOTE ON THE FORMOSA COAL-FIELDS BY A NATIVE EXPERT.

(Customs Reports on Trade.)

In closing his remarks on the coal trade of North Formosa, Mr. Hobson mentions that "rumours have been rife from time to time during the last twelve months of an intention on the part of the Fukien higher authorities to introduce Foreign machinery into the Kelung collieries, but that matters have not advanced in this direction further than the appointment of a Native expert to survey and report on the Coal measures. A rough translation of his memorandum is appended, and in connection with his remarks it should be stated that for the more practical of them he is in all probability indebted to M. Dupont, a French Engineer, and a professional, who whilst in the employ of the Foochow Arsenal authorities surveyed much the same ground during 1863. His Report has likely enough been lying in the archives of the Arsenal Director's office ever since, and if so, it may turn out that indirectly it was not penned entirely in vain. Apart from the really practical suggestions of the Chinese expert it is decidedly amusing to observe that he cannot steer clear of the bugbear "fêng-shui." No doubt he is right to refer to the subject though, as it must be consoling to the higher authorities to know that an innovation springing from an extended knowledge of Western appliances can be adopted without interference to the main pulse of the geomancy of the district."

The petitioner having been ordered to survey the Coal-fields of the island, begs to report as under:—Starting from Twaiwan-fu he travelled viâ Kia-i and Changhwa, crossing the Taoutow and Chuh-shui streams, remarking that the mountain ranges of the interior must contain rich Coal deposits. Of this fact however he judged by the colour of the waters he met with, and not by personal inspection of the base of the ranges. (N. B. These ranges would be adjacent to savage territory, and to which the surveyor would not care to proceed.—Translator).

In the New-tow-shan near Aoulan there are also large deposits, which is proved by the fact that mineral oil here exudes. In the line of country between Banka and Kelung much Coal exists, of both good and inferior qualities, whilst beyond Shui-fan-kioh and to the north of Ta-heaou, the presence of good Coal is betokened by the rock formation of Moo-teen-ling. The high road of the district crosses this range, and a river skirts its base, the Coal measures dipping to below water level.

Mining operations would here be materially interfered with by the river water, which even in winter would be on a level with the seams, whilst in summer and autumn it will be above them.

Such are the remarks he has to offer on the deposits noted on the line of march. After reaching Kelung the petitioner first called on the gentry of the locality to make enquiries of them, and afterwards started in company with the Coal office Weiyuen, to explore the adjacent hills.

Between Teenleaou-keang and Shengaou-kang, a distance of 10 *li*, ten mines were visited. From these following the range of hills on the seaboard, the Kelung mountain was reached and ascended.

It was noted that the main geomantic pulse thereof proceeds viâ Santseaou-ling in a southerly direction towards the *fu* city; another pulse issues to the right and trends west by the seaboard to Kin-paou-li. What others exist are simply side arteries, amongst which Coal exists, and which can be worked without detriment to the main geomantic properties of the district.

After passing the night in the Salt office at Kang-tsye-leaou, a round was taken to the eastward of the Kelung mountain, amongst hills at once high, rugged, and difficult to cross, but at this point further investigation was put a stop to by a continuance of rainy weather.

To sum up: Formosa abounds with Coal measures which it is possible to mine. So extensive is the Coal-field, that were the whole of the inhabitants of the isle called on to devote attention to mining, it is the petitioner's opinion that their united operations would not exhaust the supply in a thousand years. The Coal supply may therefore be looked upon as forming a mine of wealth to the country and its people. The quality of the Coal is nevertheless not superior, and as the present mining operations are conducted without method, the result is that working expenses are heavy; the cost of the article produced is therefore enhanced, its sale is interfered with, and profits are small; it is obvious then that the introduction of mining machinery is essential. On the other hand, in view of the poorness of quality, and the fact that the Coal seams are not thick—only some three feet, from which cause the miners have to work in a stooping position—the idea of introducing machinery may be deemed unworthy of attention. If argument be further required in support of the non-machinery view, it may be noted that the mines lie near the surface, are carried inward for no great distance, and are not to be compared with shafts sunk deep into the earth.

On this account, therefore, there is little to be contended against in the shape of inflows of water. For the present, by improving on the style of mining tools in use, and by introducing a few new ones of a minor description, some advantage may be reaped; but by far the most important matter is the necessity for an even and convenient roadway, along which coal-ladened carts drawn by horses or cattle might pass to and fro unceasingly.

Easy transport from the mines being provided for, expenses will be reduced, prices will become easier, sales will be large, and profits more handsome.

If the object be to get at the better quality Coal, it must be sought below the rock strata, and to reach it, durable chisels, &c., for cutting through the rock must be provided, and the Foreign system of boring attended to. Investigation of the lower strata proving satisfactory, the larger pieces of mining machinery can then be purchased, and the best of results may be looked for; but in this connection it is important that measures be advanced step by step, so that there be no hastening to expend funds in a lavish or futile manner.

For the present the petitioner appends a list of the implements which it is advisable to employ in the mines now open.

Another point demands attention; that is, that the Kelung neighbourhood is but a poor one, maintaining a struggling population; hence master-miners have difficulty in getting capital together. Were they advised then to invest in machinery, difficulties would intervene, not necessarily from a want of common sense on their part, but because their means are straightened. It remains for the Government to set an example by erecting machinery at a convenient spot affording water communication, when, after its utility has been thoroughly demonstrated, the miners can be advised to obtain similar appliances for themselves.

It behoves the petitioner to lay these his views before his superior, in order that, if they meet with approval, action may be taken on them.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.

Table shewing number of arrivals of Foreign vessels within limit of Anchorage for the year ending December 31st 1874. Men-of-war, lorchas, and native built craft under foreign flags, not included :—

Flag.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
British ..	37	27	44	59	64	60	65	61	57	67	51	57	649
American	41	35	44	45	46	39	51	49	53	54	53	38	548
German..	3	2	4	3	4	8	4	8	8	7	6	3	60
French ..	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	6	4	5	4	4	40
Danish ..	3	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	4	2	3	16
Russian..	..	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	6
Siamese ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	5
Japanese.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Spanish..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Swedish..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Dutch....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hawaian.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	87	68	96	111	119	113	124	127	125	137	116	107	1330

Note.—Several vessels under the Japanese flag arrived during the year, but came as transports; and the *Behar*, included in Table, is really a Government vessel, though at present worked by a Company, and will take on her return trip, the first of the cotton which is to be paid as part indemnity. The Jurtsu Maru (late Gipsy) is the only *bonâ fide* Japanese merchantman that arrived within same period.

Casualties within limit of anchorage :—

Barque *Lady Louisa* from Cardiff, arrived on 26th September with coals on fire. Ship and cargo but slightly damaged.

November 2nd.—Steamer *Cawdor Castle* came in collision with and sunk brig *St. Francois*. Steamer stove in on one bow, and cargo in fore compartment much damaged. Brig since raised.

November 22nd.—Cargo on board barque *George Washington* found to be on fire. Ship scuttled but since raised. Vessel and cargo much damaged.

December 4th.—A fire broke out on board barque *Conqueror*, laden with tea for New York. Fire soon extinguished. Cargo partially damaged.

December 16th.—Ship *Horatio* totally destroyed by fire. Chief Officer since dead from injuries received at the time.

THE NEW YORK TEA MARKET.

The following extracts from a trade circular compiled by Mr. J. D. McKenzie, Tea Broker, New York, explain some of the causes which conduce to the unsatisfactory condition of the American Tea-market, and which lead to the reception with such disheartening regularity of unfavourable advices by shippers in China :—

New York, 19th November, 1874.

Since my last report, dated 22d October ult., I cannot quote any improvement in the condition of the Tea Market. On the contrary, there is a still further material decline in prices, with a marked unwillingness on the part of our large dealers to purchase in excess of immediate wants, which are very small. Considerable parcels of all kinds have been forced off at auction *without reserve*, just as real estate is sold under foreclosure sales to the highest bidder. The way the business seems to be done now is literally thus: In China and Japan the buyers ask this question, What will you take? *and they give it*; and here the receivers or owners ask the opposite question, What will you give? *and they take it*—in each case without regard to actual value or consumptive demand and supply.

Everybody in the trade asks, Why is the trade so depressed, and why does it not improve? I will answer it as I have done before—*The supply is largely in excess of our wants*, and more close at hand. Besides this, the great bulk of our people are poor in cash. Whatever may be their expectations, they are practising the most rigid economy in all their expenditures; as they cannot earn money they purchase lower grade goods of every kind. In this city it is stated that more than 70,000 persons are out of employment, with winter close at hand. Now in the interior of the country there are no railroads building as before on borrowed capital, and the hundreds of thousands of men at work upon them have been thrown out of employment. Certainly if they don't earn wages how can they have money to buy Tea or other things which they can do without. The first great need with them is *Bread*, and this is cheaper than it has been for years. These are some of the reasons why Tea does not sell at anything like its enormous cost of importation, or at prices equal to those obtained when the people had money to spend, or were out of debt.

Green Teas.—During the month old Green Teas have sold at prices fully 3 to 5 cents per lb. less than last quotations, say 35c. to 38c. per lb. for good to fine Moyune and Teenkai chops costing 36 to 40 taels per picul. New Ping Suey Teas suffer most. It is difficult to give quotations of value. The Auction Room seems to be the only place where they will sell, and then only for what buyers choose to give. A poor imitation of good tea, *as it should, it has come to grief. Market value of Green Teas*, when a purchaser is found, may be fairly stated thus: Ascertain the actual cost per lb., in gold, landed in New York, with all charges, except commission, and then deduct from that cost, say on Ping Suey Teas 27 to 30 per cent., and other kinds 20 to 22 per cent. This is near enough for all practical purposes, especially to those having a direct interest in the article itself.

Clippings.

A well-known Chinese shoplifter went into a shop in the Honan road, on Christmas day, and as on former occasions when he visited the shop, small articles were missed from the counter, one of the shopmen went to a part of the shop where, with his back to the fellow, he could observe his actions in a large mirror. In a very short time he observed him secrete a rug beneath the long garment he was wearing, and then hasten out of the shop. The watcher started in pursuit and soon caught the thief, whom he observed at the same moment to cram something into his mouth and swallow it. He was taken to the Central Police Station, and after the charge was entered, placed as usual in a cell. Soon afterwards, Mr. Inspector Fowler heard an unusual noise in the cell, and on going to ascertain the cause, found the prisoner apparently in the agonies of death. As speedily as possible, Mr. Fowler caused him to be removed to the native hospital in the Shantung road, where an emetic was successfully administered, and it was discovered that the stuff the prosecutor saw him swallow was opium. On Saturday the man was sufficiently recovered to be taken to the Mixed Court, and as he was recognised as a thief who had only recently been liberated from prison in the native city, he was sent there to be again dealt with by the Chehsien.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Ajax*, for London—Capt. Harmon, Mr. A. Warick. For Hongkong—Messrs. F. A. Williams, S. R. Seirberge, H. E. Lodge, and A. Sedeusner. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, for Nagasaki—Mr. J. C. Smith and servant. For Hiogo—Dr. Ermerius. For Yokohama—Mrs. C. J. Hansche, Mrs. Craven, Capt. Satterthwaite, Messrs. J. F. Sutton and S. J. Morris. For San Francisco—Messrs. R. J. Blackburne, C. Robertson and Robt. Henderson. Per P. & O. str. *Golconda*.—For Calcutta—Mr. E. C. Davis. For Bombay—Mr. D. Pestonjee and servant. For Venice—Mr. and Mrs. Latham. For Southamptom—Mr. H. Æ. Sidford. For Hongkong—Mr. A. G. Wood and Mr. S. A. Solomon.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Mrs. E. R. Holmes and child, and 64 Chinese. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Davenport, Messrs. J. S. Van Bruen, Rev. P. B. Tazets, Messinger, R. Newman, M. Von Lessen, H. E. Lodge, M. S. R. Seibert, F. H. Williams, Lieut. Sedeusner; 12 in steerage. Per M. M. str. *Provence*, from Marseilles—Mr. Ermermis. From Hongkong—Messrs. Chabal and Sutton. Per str. *Taku*, from Chefoo—Mr. Cousin, and 12 Chinese. Per str. *Haining*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Latham, and 35 Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—16 Chinese. Per P. & O. str. *Gwalior*.—From Bombay—Mr. Fitzgerald. From Southampton—Mr. H. F. Holt. From Hongkong—Messrs. M. Kalb, F. Bloomfield and 11 Chinese. Per str. *Fusiyama*, from Hankow—Mr. Solomon. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Gearing, Williamson and Assitter.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	2 % prm.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	78½ cash ex div.
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		8
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70 ex div. nomnl.
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 140 ex div.
French Gas Co. ..	50	5 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£' 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 73½
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	50$		$ 550
Yangtaze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c	$ 573 ex div.
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 77
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 188 ex div.
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58 6 p. sh.	530
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c	121 ex div.
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c	129 ex div.
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.$50	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	4 p. c.	89
S'hai Racket Club.	12'		..
Bridge of Boat (Ningpo)	50'		
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c	104
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal

Exchange.	
Bank Sight Rate	73¼

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Season 1874-5.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada..... s.v.	.. 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687.24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran..... ,,	.. 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	.. 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark .. ... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ..... ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses .... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda .. .. ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong..... s.s.	.. 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Carried forward ...			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Glenearn..... s.s.	Dec 31	London	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Total.....			489,935.20	79,168.33	569,103.53

TO UNITED STATES.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mikado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N. Y&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo..... s.v.	.. 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Total.....			10,348.46	91,138.18	101,486.64

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector .. .. ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Total.....			4,146.73	5,265.03	9,411.76

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JANUARY 13TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—The mail steamers *Provence* and *Gwalior*, the latter with dates from London to 27th November, and the P. M. steamer *Golden Age* from Japan, with the American mails of 1st ult.; also, the ship *Golden State* from New York.

TELEGRAMS.—London, 8th January, 1875.—*Cotton Mid Orl.*, 7⅞d.; 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, 9s. 7½d.; the public telegram states the home export of *Plain Cottons* to Shanghai for December to be 28,000,000 yards, but private messages subsequently received give shipments as from 16 *a* 18,000,000 yards.

PIECE GOODS.—The activity prevailing when last mail left has been gradually subsiding throughout the past week, and business has daily fallen off. This may be ascribed in part to speculation having been nearly satisfied, partly to the Chinese New-year holidays, which already appear to be exercising their usual influence on trade, and partly to the continued discouraging nature of the advices from the interior. At HANKOW.—Sales "have been on a very small scale—being confined almost entirely to *Grey Shirtings*, rates showing little or no change." From NEWCHWANG, however, there is rather better news—to 15th ultimo—for some articles, and the late steamers to CHEFOO have been carrying fair supplies of manufactures, their principal cargoes being low classed 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, and fine to finest *Mexican* 7 lbs. *T-Cloths*. At NEWCHWANG, Mexican 7-lbs. *T-Cloths* had been sold at Tls. 1.54 *a* 1.56 per piece. Further there was some enquiry for 64 *a* 66 Reed and finest *White Shirtings*, and favorable expectations regarding *Dutch Drills* were entertained, but the *Heavy Shirtings* hallucination seemed to be dying out, the COREANS affecting indifference to the textile. The letters from JAPAN by the *Golden Age* did not advise anything of interest, beyond a little demand at NAGASAKI and HIOGO for *Figured* and *Plain Lustres*, light weight *Turkey Red Shirtings*, and the ordinary counts of 8¼ lbs. *Grey Shirtings*.

On this market the business of the week was done chiefly on the 6th, 7th and 8th instant—the *Shirtings* then settled being for CHEFOO and the *T-Cloths* mostly on speculation. It comprehended somewhere about 40,000 pieces of 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* at from Tls. 1.60 *a* 1.64 per piece, and 25,000 pieces of 7-lbs. *Mexican T-Cloths* at Tls 1.33 *a* 1.45 per piece, the highest figure being for *Mendel's hand & branch* Cloth.—These aggregates do not by any means comprise the whole week's transactions in these Cloths, but they form the bulk of those reported, and, with two exceptions only, viz.: about 16,000 pieces 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* and 13,500 pieces 7-lbs. *Mexican T-Cloths*, the others are scarcely worth recording.—With 6 and 7-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* but little progress has been made, and prices for the former are lower, those for 7-lbs. remaining as last quoted.—The latter remark is applicable to *heavy Shirtings*, of which sales have been very trifling.—In 6-lbs ordinary and 8-lbs. *T-Cloths*, business has been done at Tls. 1.05 *a* 1.06 and Tls. 1.62½ *a* 1.65 per piece respectively, and 1,000 pieces of *Dewhurst's* M.T. 6-lbs. at Tls. 1.25 per piece have been settled.

White Shirtings.—Demand, which is much quieter than it was, still runs chiefly on 64 *a* 66 Reeds, but latterly finest makes, or 80 *a* 100 Reed, have also been wanted, and a small parcel of fine 60 Reeds has changed hands at Tls. 1.88 per piece. The ruling rates have been Tls. 1.92 *a* 2.12 per piece for 64 *a* 66½ and the dealers have been offering Tls. 2.73 *a* 3.00 for the finest qualities, of which there appear to be few in stock. 72 Reed has been disposed of at Tls. 2.60 per piece.

Drills, Jeans and Sheetings.—No change to note in any of these fabrics. There has been a little business in each of them, but scarcely enough to affect quotations. The dealers are offering rather higher prices for the *American Sheetings* ex *Golden State* just arrived, but their tenders are still far below the ideas of the importer. *English Sheetings* are being enquired after preparatory to the resumption of the *Northern Trade* after Chinese New-year.

Fancy Cottons.—*Turkey Reds.*—A sale of 1,700 pieces favorite 3-lbs. at Tls. 2.10 per piece is reported. Other and minor transactions in the lighter weights and inferior chops have taken place at Tls. 1.70 per piece for 2-lbs. up to Tls. 1.97 per piece for 3-lbs. The latter business is for the JAPAN market, for which also some *Black Velvets* and 26in. *Velveteens* have been bought. Besides these a few *Chintzes* have found purchasers amongst our local merchants, and *Blue Mottles* or *Denims* have been occasionally asked for. The demand for *Brocades* and *Spotted Shirtings* has subsided.

Woollens.—*Long Ells.*—The quotations have not altered since last mail day, sales of H.H. 500 pieces and of C.P.H. 2,000 pieces having been effected at Tls. 7.20 and 7.25 per piece respectively. *Camlets.*—In these scarcely anything has transpired since the Auction held last Thursday, at which prices were raised about 3 mace per piece. There are however 800 pieces advertised for to-morrow's sale, and lower rates are talked of. The scarcity of C.P.H. Scarlet is still felt. *Medium Cloths.*—A trifle more activity is noticeable, but as yet the business is only retail, and the same may be said of *Figured Orleans*, of which a few of good to fine assortment and quality of *Shanghai* or *Tientsin* patterns at Tls. 3.20 *a* 3.45 per piece have been taken by the FOOCHOW and JAPANESE buyers. In *Spanish Stripes* there has not been anything doing.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.1.0	12.9.0	14.2.0	12.8.0	13.0.0	...	...	12.1.0	12.5.0	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.5	7.0.0	6.8.0	7.1.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.6.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.2	0.5.3½	0.5.6	0.5.6	0.6.4	0.5.7	0.5.7	0.6.2	0.5.4	0.7.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 7TH JANUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce...Tls.	13.80	12.55	13.85/13.90	12.85	12.85	...	.....	12.00	12.45	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.70/13.77½	12.40	13.82½/13.85	12.80	12.80	...	.....	.....	12.40	12.30
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.62½	0.56¼	0.57¼	0.58½	.....	0.56	0.56	0.64	0.55¼/0.55½	.....

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M. 200 pcs. av. Tls. 13.38; S.S.G. 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.33 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs. av. Tls. 0.59¼ per yard; H.H. 120 pcs. Scarlet at Tls. 0.62½ *a* 0.62¾ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Indiaman, 2,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.68¾ *a* 1.69 per piece.
7-lbs. ,, ,, 3,000 pcs. (Mildew) at Tls. 1.34 *a* 1.38¼ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₩ pc.	1.3.7 to	1.5.3
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.4.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs..... ,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.7.0
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.3 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed .... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
DRILLS, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.0 ,,	3.4.5
English, ,, ... ,, ...	2.3.2 ,,	2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.5 ,,	2.3.5
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs....	1.8.5 ,,	1.9.5
American ,, ,, ,,	None.	
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.5.0 ,,	3.6.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.5 ,,	1.1.0
7-lbs., do. do. ... ,,	1.1.8 ,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.3 ,,	1.7.0
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0 ,,	2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.2
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.2
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.3.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0

Brocades—White, 40 yds.	,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed	,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.9.0
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds	,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.		2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,,		3.7.0 ,,	4.0.0
T. Reds, 24 yds. 2½ a 3 lbs. 32 in.	,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	₩ yd.	0.1.8 ,,	0.2.0
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.4½ ,,	0.1.5½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.0½
Blue Denims	,,	0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in.	₩ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in.	,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
Camlets, English, S S	,, ,,	13.2.5 ,,	13.7.5
G G	,, ,,	13.5.0 ,,	.....
S S G	,, ,,	13.4.0 ,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.9½ ,,	.....
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.2 ,,	.....
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom.	₩ pc.	7.2.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H	,, ,,	7.2.5 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H	,, ,,	7.0.0 ,,	.....
,, G G	,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	9.5.0 ,,	11.5.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds	,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—The market continues to go against importers, who are pressing sales with very little success. Quotations are quite one mace per picul lower, 3,200 bundles, good quality, having changed hands at Tls. 2.85—less brokerage—while best Dawe's has been offered at auction without obtaining a bid within three mace of the owner's ideas. *Lead.*—Irregularity characterizes the *Lead* market. The trade demand continues insignificant, the dealers contenting themselves with 50 to 100 pigs at a time, and for these they are compelled to pay close up to the rates current about ten days ago, but generally they will not buy in quantity unless at a reduction on the quotations of last week. *Tin* is lower again, with no more symptoms of business than have lately been visible. *Quicksilver.*—Sales of English in small lots by natives—importers from the south—at Tls. 160 are reported. In *Copper* there is no change.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.	
Quicksilver	per Pcl.	160.0.0	a 170.0.0	Cotton—Common New	per Plc.	7.6.0	a 8.2.0
Tin Plates—14 × 10	per Box	6.4.0	a	,, Medium	,,	8.6.0	a 9.2.0
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	,, Best	,,	9.4.0	a 10.0.0
Iron Wire—No. 17 } nominal	per Pcl.	6.5.0	a 6.7.5	Sugar—White.....Swatow, No. 1	Nom. ,,	5.7.0	a 6.4.0
18 } nominal	,,	7.0.0	a	,, 2	,,	5.2.0	a 5.8.0
19/23 } no demand.	,,	7.7.5	a 8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0	a 5.2.0
Straits Tin—Fong Hing	nom. ,,	20.0.0	a	Canton, ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	a 5.4.0
Fok Chok	,, ,,	19.4.0	a	,, 2	,,	4.6.0	a 4.8.0
Common Chops	,, ,,	13.5.0	a	,, 3	,,	4.4.0	a 4.6.0
Steel	per Tub	3.3.0	a 3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	a 4.5.0	Common	,,	2.6.0	a 2.8.0
Japan Copper—Finger none	,,	.....	a	,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Slab, best	,,	18.2.5	a	,, — ,, Common	,,	2.4.0	a 2.6.0
Ore	,,	15.8.0	a 16.2.5	Pepper—Black	,,	10.4.0	a .....
Hoop Iron	,,	3.3.0	a 3.4.0	—White	,,	15.0.0	a 18.0.0
Pig Iron	per Ton	33.0.0	a 34.0.0	Rattans—Common	,,	2.8.0	a 3.6.0
				—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	a 4.0.0
Nailrod Iron—				—Best	,,	4.2.0	a 4.4.0
Dawe's Best Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.5	a 3.1.0	Sapan Wood—3 pieces to the picul	,,	2.8.0	a 3.0.0
Belgian ,,	,,	2.7.0	a 2.8.0	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	a 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ,,	,,	2.9.0	a 3.0.0	Sandalwood—South Sea	,,	3.7.0	a 3.8.0
Bar—Dawes ,,	,,	2.9.0	a 3.1.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0	a 10.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0	a 3.3.0	Malabar	,,	16.5.0	a 18.0.0
				Mangrove Bark	,,	0.7.0	a 1.3.0
Lead—L B Nom.	,,	.....	a	Flint Stones,	,,	0.4.5	a 0.5.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,,	,,	.....	a				

ENGAGEMENTS.—*Progress*, Ger. bq., 233 tons, Monthly Charter, 3 *a* 5 months, — lay days, $975.00 per month; *Kronprindsessen*, Dan. bq., 344 tons, Shanghai to Foochow (with despatch) — lay days, $2,000.00 in full. *Northampton*, Br. sh, 1,161 tons, Shanghai to New York, — lay days, private terms; *Wm. Turner* Br. bq., 431 tons, Foochow to Melbourne, — lay days, private terms; *Vesta*, Am. bq., 300 tons, Nagasaki and back, 15 lay days, $2.50 per ton coal; *Menam*, Brit. bq., 468 tons, Nagasaki and back, 20 lay days, $3.00 per picul.

COTTON.—Common to medium staples remain as last quoted, with a fair business for the South going on. Best quality, however, has advanced 2 mace per picul, caused by more favorable news recently received from Hankow, where it is in small supply and saleable at H. Tls. 10.40 per picul.

EXCHANGE.—Rates are again rather lower, most of the Banks quoting only 5s. 8¾d. A small amount of Credits was settled at 5s. 9⅛d., but the bulk of the business done has been at 5s. 9¼d. and 5s. 9⅜d. for Credits and documents respectively. In Rupees, a few lakhs have been placed at 302 for wire in February. On Hongkong, the rate for Bank paper at the close is 26⅝.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7¼d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 8¾d. a 5s. 8⅞d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9¼d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.31¼	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.31¼	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom.	Rs. 302	₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	Rs. 302	₩ 100 ,,

On Hongkong.—Bank Bills, demand, 26¾ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅜ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—74.10 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.40 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 171 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,595 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 13th January are reported as:—

Stock on 29th December	Malwa,	2,363½	Chests.		Patna,	1,830	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	1,737	,,		,,	...	,,
Total	,,	3,700½	,,	Total	,,	1,830	,,
Deliveries from 29th December	,,	688	,,		,,	329	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,012½	,,		,,	1,501	,,

Bargained Opium.....650 Chests.

Prices since last English mail have ranged as follows:—

		Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New	Tls.	425	420	420
Old	Tls.	...	...	...
Patna—New	Tls.	448	439	439
Old	Tls.	...	...	...

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the Week ending 11th Jan., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 2 @ 7 both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	1874.				1875.	
	Imports.		Re-exports.		Imports.	Re-exports.
	For the week by vessels entered before 31st Dec.	Total for the year.	For the week by vessels cleared before 31st Dec.	Total for the year.	For the week by vessels: Entered since 1st January.	For the week by vessels: Cleared since 1st January and including local deliveries.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	103,047	5,528,524	28,050	5,146,976	100	26,900
T-Cloths .... ,,	26,100	1,703,404	12,543	2,326,620	.....	8,690
White Shirtings.... ,,	6,387	546,240	2,249	586,619	.....	2,160
Drills .... ,,	2,850	529,583	2,295	784,994	.....	1,830
Jeans .... ,,	6,010	276,343	2,790	332,598	.....	1,860
Sheetings.... ,,	.....	27,373	.....	79,616	.....	.....
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	1,597	49,078	249	47,379	.....	100
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	2,697	.....	3,290	.....	.....
,, Dyed.... ,,	.....	290	.....	7,950	.....	.....
Brocades, White .... ,,	997	8,076	.....	5,761	.....	250
,, Dyed .... ,,	3,500	82,091	2,700	76,944	.....	50
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	.....	33,830	80	20,540	.....	.....
Chintzes .... ,,	1,549	168,006	560	210,182	.....	1,020
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	6,287	97,864	1,410	128,247	.....	50
Velvets.... ,,	.....	41,010	1,172	47,267	.....	174
Velveteens .... ,,	.....	8,633	.....	11,868	.....	60
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	3,060	154,086	1,800	243,373	.....	2,000
Muslins ....Pcs.	.....	30,508	.....	38,017	.....	196
Dimities .... ,,	.....	19,427	.....	14,610	.....	.....
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	1,056	41,656	942	60,795	.....	486
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	318	27,301	116	36,132	.....	256
Camlets .... ,,	2,520	77,587	440	83,066	.....	810
Long Ells.... ,,	1,400	72,722	500	91,358	.....	1,280
Lastings .... ,,	840	42,112	180	40,160	.....	160
Crape Lastings .... ,,	600	14,098	30	9,805	.....	60
Lustres, Plain.... ,,	1,000	11,105	.....	25,005	.....	50
,, Figured .... ,,	2,842	155,318	3,072	203,089	.....	850
,, Crape .... ,,	.....	43,398	145	40,162	.....	260
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	3,528	100,251	.....	87,939	.....	37
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	5,922	146,339	623	74,483	.....	1,054

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Horatio, Bangalore, Omba, Sindh, Achilles, Star of the West, Hankow, Menelaus, Ajax, Anadyr, Golconda, Ocean, Glenroy, Provence, Gwalior, Golden State* and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

STOCKS.—The usual tabular statement is discontinued until the promulgation of the RETURNS now in course of collection by the Chamber of Commerce.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The export to date, as compared with that of last season, is :—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,359,685 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	1,582,854 ,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,074,076 ,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	4,406,278 ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	50,429,387 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,152,588 ,,
To America (per Steamer)	9,314,547 ,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	5,791,186 ,,

Black.—The only settlements during the fortnight have been three small parcels of Hohow kind at Tls. 13 *a* Tls. 20, and the stock now left is very trifling.

Settlements..... 533 chests. Stock (against 50 chests last year), 450 chests.

The following prices have been paid :—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	Freight, £3.	Against 1873.
Oopacks, &c.	Tls. 00.00 *a*	=0/00 *a* ...	—0/00 *a* 0/00 per lb.
Oonams and Oonfaas	Tls. 00.00 *a*	=0/00 *a* ...	—0/00 *a* 0/00 ,,
Hohows and Ningchows	Tls. 13.00 *a* 20.00	=/9½ *a* 1/ 1½	—0/10¼ *a* 1/ 1½ ,,

Green.—A moderate business has been done by a few buyers, chiefly for America, and very full prices have been paid for good and fine chops of Moyune and Teenkai. Commoner kinds and Fychows have attracted less attention, and no change is quoted in their value during the fortnight. In Pingsueys there has been more doing, and though these Teas are not in general request, settlements are larger than have been reported for some time. Prices are low compared with those ruling at this time last season, but the quality of the Teas now offering is inferior.

			Against 1873.
Settlements—Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes ...	24,000 ½-chests.	Stock, 70,400 ½-chests.	12,000 ½chests.
,, Pingsueys	4,700 ,,	,, 8,440 ,,	8,366 ,,
,, Shanghai packed	... ,,	,, 4,000 ,,	2,700 ,,
	28,700 ½-chests.	82,840 ½-chests.	23,066 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	Freight, £3	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	Tls. 18 *a* 42	= 1/0½ *a* 2/ 2½	= 25½ *a* 56½ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 23 *a* 30	= 1/3¼ *a* 1/ 7½	= 32 *a* 40¾ ,,
Shanghai packed	....	=	= ..... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
BLACK	64,862,169 lbs.	58,502,484 lbs.	61,970,589 lbs.
GREEN	9,719,806 ,,	8,136,952 ,,	9,467,331 ,,
	74,581,975 lbs.	66,639,436 lbs.	71,437,920 lbs.
Export to United States and Canada—			
BLACK	1,612,500 lbs.	538,424 lbs.	1,166,345 lbs.
GREEN	13,493,233 ,,	17,899,511 ,,	19,776,795 ,,
	15,105,733 lbs.	18,437,935 lbs.	20,943,140 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	74,581,975 lbs.	66,639,436 lbs.	71,437,920 lbs.
,, Foochow to 2nd Jan.	59,805,269 ,,	51,305,520 ,,	50,231,017 ,,
,, Canton to 21st Dec.	17,941,556 ,,	14,618,850 ,,	19,065,874 ,,
	152,328,800 lbs.	132,563,806 lbs.	140,734,811 lbs.

Hankow, 9th January.—There had been neither settlements nor shipments, and figures were as follows :—

Settlements and shipments	518,150 chests.	Against in 1873	546,700 chests.
Stock	500 ,,	,, ,,	700 ,,
Settlements of Ningchows	128,194 ½-chests	,, ,,	97,804 ½-chests.

SILK.—Telegrams from London continue to advise a firm market, withsomewhat improved demand at prices in favor of sellers, and quote Ku-kee's "Kin-jan," 16/6 ; Fair No. 5 Tsatlees, 13/0, and 9/12 Moss Taysaams, 11/0 per lb.

The French mail left on the 8th instant with 810 bales silk on board (265 bales for England, 512 bales for the Continent, and 33 bales for Singapore), which were reported to have been purchased at the following prices :—

				℔ lb..	℔ kilo.
Ku-kee's "Kin-hock"	Tls. 320	per picul.	Ex. 5/9½	15/10	Fcs. 44.25
Blue Eagle	,, 315	,,	,,	15/7	,, 43.60
Bird chop "Kin-ling"	,, 315	,,	,,	17/7	,, 43.60
Yellow Elephant	,, 307½	,,	,,	15/3	,, 42.55
Ting-chang-kee's "Vun-yuen"	,, 290	,,	,,	14/5	,, 40.25
"Chay-shen"	,, 277½	,,	,,	13/10	,, 38.55
Market 4 Tsatlees	,, 330 *a* 350	,,	,,	16/4 *a* 17/4	,, 45.60 *a* 48.35
,, 4½ do.	,, 305 *a* 320	,,	,,	15/2 *a* 15/10	,, 42.25 *a* 44.25
Common	,, 260 *a* 270	,,	,,	12/11 *a* 13/5	,, 36.15 *a* 37.50
Medium Hangchow Tsatlees	,, 250 *a* 260	,,	,,	12/5 *a* 12/11	,, 34.80 *a* 36.15
Kahing Taysaam No. 3 to common	,, 240 *a* 280	,,	,,	12/0 *a* 13/11	,, 33.45 *a* 38.85
Coarse do.	,, 245 *a* 270	,,	,,	12/3 *a* 13/5	,, 34.15 *a* 37.50
Re-reeled Hainings	,, 330 *a* 400	,,	,,	16/4 *a* 19/9	,, 45.65 *a* 55.10

During the past week business has been restricted owing to the firmness shown by holders. There is a good demand for the lower classes of Tsatlees and Taysaams for Europe, but the high prices demanded for the former, and the paucity of stocks of the latter have prevented settlements being made to a large extent, and the transactions reported do not exceed 700 bales, including 200 bales of re-reels settled for the American mail which leaves to-day. Prices said to have been paid show no change on those mentioned above, and as the business transacted is of such a trivial nature, quotations are not altered.

For America, re-reels have been taken at Tls. 320 *a* 420 for Hainings, and Tls. 325 *a* 410 per picul for Tsatlees.—Chop 1 Kahing Taysaams at Tls. 315 and 325 per picul, and No. 3 Tsatlee at Tls. 390 (the latter is reported to have been rejected on inspection.)

The arrivals from the Interior and River Ports for the past fortnight do not exceed 600 bales, and the unsold stock is reduced to about 8,500 bales, a large proportion of which consists of coarse and rejected silk of very undesirable quality.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

January 14, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not given above)—January 7th, Brit. ship *Corona*, from Newcastle, N.S.W. ; 8th, Brit. barque *Velocity*, from London.

Departures.—January 9th, British steamer *Ajax*, for London ; 12th, American barque *Sooloo*, for New York.

The English mail steamer *Golconda* takes about 650 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 8⅞d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅛d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.30 *a* 7.31¼. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 303. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 303. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26⅝ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅛. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 74.00 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 81.00 per 100. Copper cash, 1,560 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report :—

S. S. N. Shares.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 78 *a* 78½ cash, and at Tls. 80 *a* 81½ for 31st March *ex div.*, the market closing firm at the higher rates, with few, if any, shares on offer.

Banks.—No business reported. There are sellers at quotations, but no buyers.

Insurance Shares.—In *Fire Shares*, *Victorias* are quoted $121, *Chinas* $129 (both *ex div.* of $6 to 31st Dec.), and *Hongkongs* $530, with buyers but no local sellers. In *Marine Shares*, *Yangtszes* are wanted at Tls. 572.50 *ex div.*, and *China & Japans* have been placed at Tls. 77, at which they are still obtainable.

Hongkew Wharf Shares.—A few shares have been sold at Tls. 89 cash ; the market closing with sellers at same rate and proportionate rates for time.

Shanghai Gas Shares are wanted at Tls. 140 *ex div.* of Tls. 5 payable on 18th instant..

The weather was very mild in the end of the week, but has again become colder, with a considerable downfall of rain on Tuesday and some snow the following morning. The range of the thermometer has been from freezing point as the minimum to 54 as the maximum.

Hanseatic Fire Insurance Co., Hamburg.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in Shanghai for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire, at current rates, less 20 per cent. discount.

EDUARD SCHELLHASS & Co.,
1233 *Agents.*
n o-a-w 19ja Shanghai, 20th Oct., 1874.

The London Assurance Corporation.

Established A D. 1726.

THE undersigned Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to issue policies covering *Fire and Marine risks* at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
tf 2055 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of London.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates, less 20 per cent discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
31ma 1044 Z Shanghai, 1st April, 1872.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 402. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 21, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Nov. 27	Hankow,	Jan. 17
San Francisco,	Dec. 12	Yokohama,	„ 6
Hongkong,	Jan. 13	Nagasaki,	„ 12
Tientsin,	„ 4	Foochow,	„ 13

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Oct. 22 } Received 30th Nov.
Shanghai, ... „ 16 }

DEATH.

At Shanghai, suddenly, on the 19th inst., Mr. HUGH LANG, Editor and Proprietor of the *Shanghai Evening Courier* and *Shanghai Budget and Weekly News-Letter*; aged 43 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per P. M. str. *Nevada*, for Yokohama—Dr. Derr and Mr. A. Kirby. For San Francisco—Mr. S. Markwald.

ARRIVED.—Per P. M. str. *Nevada*.—From America—Messrs. Cunningham, J. S. C. Colby, Bush, A. Kirby, U.S.N., Yon Lomez, M. Swooney. From Yokohama—Messrs. Greiger, Yates, Lyons, H. Loftus, Woodall, Cadait, and 1 in the steerage. From Hiogo—Miss de Ruyter, Mr. Bandwin, Tuck Ching, 1 European and 7 Chinese in steerage. From Nagasaki—Messrs. H. Gribble, A. Hahn, D. Almera, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair. In steerage—1 European, 9 Chinese. Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang—Messrs. Hull, and Rutter. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Messrs. Gore-Booth, and Nichol; 34 Chinese. Per str. *Sarpedon*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Scott, Blogg, and Nightingale; 22 Chinese. Per str. *Fusing*, from Swatow—10 Chinese. Per str. *Tungting*, from Hankow—Rev. A. Foster. Per str. *Fleurs Castle*, from London—Mrs. Duncan and child, Mrs. Telge, 4 children and nurse, Miss Doig, Miss Auld, and Miss Faulding. Per str. *Shantung*, from Chefoo—Miss E. Moon, Miss L. Moon, and Mr. Denbigh.

LEAVING.—Per M. M. str. *Provence*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Seaman, Messrs. Purdon, E. G. Low and servant, E. D. Sassoon and servant. For Marseilles—Mrs. Bidwell, two children and servants, Messrs. F. B. Forbes, Chas. Woodall, Jules Fabris.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Jan	° ′	°	°	°					
14	30.300	38.0	39.0	32.0	8	c	..	3	North
15	30.200	42.0	44.0	34.0	8	o	4	3	E. N. E.
16	30.002	46.0	44.0	40.0	8	z	20	6	N. N. W.
17	30.150	48.0	45.0	36.0	8	b	..	3	N. E.
18	30.250	43.0	43.0	37.0	8	c	1	4	„
19	30.300	34.5	40.0	30.0	7	o	..	2	N. N. W.
20	30.302	35.0	32.0	30.0	7	s	..	2	N. E.

EXPLANATION.
Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm, Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, JAN. 21, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Silk. When reviewing the course of this Market in 1873, we attempted to give a summary of the various causes which had led to the great decline in the value of Silk during that year, viz., increasing supplies both here and in Europe, deteriorating quality, a natural reaction from the over-speculation of several previous years, and a spirit of economy throughout the World, and most notably in France and America, which greatly restricted the use of this article of luxury. Although the fall in values during that year amounted to no less than Tls. 100 per picul, or from 20 to 30 per cent., a depreciation which, in a trade characterised by such extreme competition as this, entailed enormous losses on all concerned in it, yet, as it has proved, we were not even then at the end of the decline. Before the disastrous Season of 1873-74 closed, prices had dropped another Tls. 60 per picul, or 15 to 20 per cent., and the value of China Silk was on the average less than two-thirds of what it had been only a year and a half before, while common Silk of nearly all classes was worth barely half its previous value.

So great was the disorganization of the trade in Europe, that Silks bought here even at this great decline showed heavy losses on arrival there. On the panic-stricken Markets of last July and August in London, Tsatlee Silk was forced off by Auction at 14s. for Red Peacock, and 10s. *a* 11s. for the lowest grades, which in January 1873 had been worth 21s. 6d. *a* 22s. 6d. This proved, however, to be the turning point of the market, and we have since seen a fair increase in consumption, a recovery of 5 *a* 10 per cent. in values, and a trade which, so far as the present Season has gone, has on the whole yielded a fair commission to Exporters.

It is much to be regretted that there is, as yet, no perceptible improvement in the reeling of our Silk. The Crop of 1874-75, like those of the two preceding Seasons, has been coarsely and irregularly wound and imperfectly cleaned, which is the more unfortunate as the demand of consuming markets has been entirely for fine-sized Silks. Coarseness of size has not been by any means confined to the lower grades, for many of the best known Chops have shown a great deterioration in this respect. Hence best Chop Silks have as a rule given poor results to Exporters, and would now appear to be unduly high in proportion to lower qualities. On 1st January 1873, best Chop No. 3 Tsatlee was worth Tls. 560, and it is now worth Tls. 410; the commonest Tsatlee was then worth Tls. 410, and it is now worth Tls. 260; the fall on each class has been Tls. 150 per picul, but whereas No. 3 then cost 37 per cent. more than common, it now costs 58 per cent. more, a difference in value great beyond all precedent.

One of the most notable features of the year has been a continuance of the great increase in the direct Export to the Continent of Europe; this compares with that to London and America

as follows (an allowance which it is impossible to accurately estimate, but which is supposed not to exceed 2,000 to 3,000 bales per annum must be made for Silk shipped to Marseilles with the option of afterwards being taken on to London if required) :

	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.
London	35,579 bls.	38,259 bls.	33,616 bls.	33,846 bls.
Continent ..	10,317 ,,	12,223 ,,	16,217 ,,	28,054 ,,
America....	2,677 ,,	4,142 ,,	2,714 ,,	4,127 ,,
	48,573 bls.	54,624 bls.	52,547 bls.	66,027 bls.

It is encouraging, however, to note that, although London has thus been to a very great extent deprived of her former large re-export trade to the Continent, yet deliveries from the London warehouses show this year a fair increase, the figures being :

In 1871.....33,710 bales.
,, 1872.....29,389 ,,
,, 1873.....32,831 ,,
,, 1874.....37,118 ,,

which would seem to indicate a substantial increase in the Silk consumption of England.

If London continues to take off 37,000 bales per annum, while the Continent receives direct 28,000 bales, this, with the demand for America and India added, is sufficient to balance our present supply. But before the trade can be considered in a sound state, we require a still further growth of consumption, to reduce the excessive stocks of Raw Silk which are held all over the World, and also to provide for the increasing crops which we may naturally expect will be produced.

In dealing with the crop of North-China, we have a powerful aid in the native consumption, which is unanimously reported to have increased considerably under the stimulus of low prices. It is impossible to obtain definite figures, but it is believed that this season 35,000 to 40,000 bales of the Silk produced in this neighbourhood have been taken for Chinese use, the bulk of these being Taysaam sorts.

Present prices would appear to be sufficiently low to stimulate everywhere the increased use of Silk, and it is not so much any further reduction of cost that is required, but rather time to allow the Silk industries of Europe and America to develope themselves. We have had abundant evidence how quickly any rise in prices gives immediate check to the growth of consumption, and any considerable advance at the present time would perhaps be the greatest calamity that could happen to the trade. French consumers appear to have appreciated the altered position of Silk much more accurately than London merchants. The advices of the former have apparently been generally to buy freely as long as prices were about the basis of Tls. 295 *a* 310 for Red Peacocks and Tls. 355 *a* 370 for No. 1 Gold Lion, and these Silks as a rule must have given a fair return. Fair profits have also been made by Shanghai houses who picked up cheap parcels at quiet moments of the market. But the bulk of the orders sent out from London have been during excited bursts of speculation, when Chinese were able to dictate their own terms, when this market was forced up to Tls. 325 *a* 330 for Red Peacocks, and Tls. 385 *a* 395 for No. 1 Gold Lion, and Silk bought at this range has shown a loss on arrival.

Another remarkable feature of this season is the unprecedentedly large Stock which has been held in Shanghai, and which in August reached no less a figure than 19,000 bales. This is said to have been caused by the fact that Native Banks and Pawnshops in the country had lost so heavily from losses on unreclaimed Silk during the previous two years, that many of them refused any longer to advance on the produce.

The fluctuations in the value of different classes of Silk during 1874 have been approximately :—

	1st Jan. Ex. 5/9	1st June. Ex. 6/1	31st Dec. Ex. 5/9
Chop No. 3 Tsatlee.....	475	400	410
Red Peacock ,, ...	385	300	315
Commonest ,, ...	310	220	260
Fatmow's No. 2 Haining	400	325	335
Market No. 1 Re-r. ,,	450	370	380
No. 2 Kahing	380	290	305
No. 3 Chincum.....	300	230	250
Average Shaouhing.....	275	220	235
,, Laeyang.....	260	205	225

The business done in the several months of the year may be summarised as follows :—

January.—Settlements to date for the season 1873-74 were 47,100 bales, and Stock 6,000 bales. Chop No. 3 Tsatlee was worth Tls. 455 *a* 475, Red Peacocks Tls. 385, and the commonest Tsatlee Tls. 310. The market throughout the month was quiet, with prices tending downwards, closing at a decline of from Tls. 10 on best Silks to Tls. 30 on common sorts. Settlements amounted to only 2,300 bales, and stock at the close was 5,500 bales.

February.—The same quiet tone prevailed, and only 1,900 bales were bought at a further small decline, leaving 4,000 bales in stock. The closing rates were Tls. 440 *a* 460 for Chop No. 3, Tls. 350 *a* 355 for Red Peacocks, and Tls. 280 for common Tsatlee.

March.—In consequence of a slight recovery on the European Markets, a large business was done, and prices advanced Tls. 10 *a* 20, but in the end of the month there was a reaction, and they closed somewhat lower than before. Holders took advantage of this spurt to move off nearly all the remaining good and fair Silks in stock, and only 1,500 bales were left in Shanghai. The last quotation for Red Peacocks of this season was Tls. 345.

In *April*, 2,300 bales of common Silk were settled at continually drooping prices, and early in *May* about 400 more went forward, closing the season with an Export of 57,000 bales. The results of the earlier part of this crop were indicated in our last retrospect, and we need only add that the last 10,000 bales shipped since 1st January, although costing comparatively very low, must have lost on the average about 20 per cent.

June.—The market for new Silk opened very quietly on the basis of Tls. 300 for Red Peacock and Tls. 23 for common Tsatlee, being a fall of Tls. 100 *a* 115 from the opening rates of the previous Season, which in turn were Tls. 60 *a* 80 below those of June 1872. In consequence of continued unfavourable advices from Europe, very little was done for the first three weeks, and prices declined Tls. 5 *a* 15. A large demand then sprang up, and the month closed with a most excited market at a rise of Tls. 30 *a* 40 from the lowest point, Chop No. 3 being worth Tls. 395 *a* 415, Red Peacocks Tls. 325, and common Tsatlee Tls. 255. Settlements were 7,500 bales, and Stock 5,000 bales.

The shipments of this month arrived to very bad markets in Europe, and if sold on arrival must have left considerable losses. The only exceptions were the coarser sorts of Taysaam, which were bought here at low prices, and of which there was a very small stock, both in London and on the Continent.

July.—The excitement in our market very soon subsided, and although a large steady business was done, the course of prices was uniformly downwards, and we closed about opening rates. Arrivals from the country were so enormous as to stagger the confidence which had been felt in the lowness of prices, and although 13,000 bales were settled, stock at the end of the month had increased to 17,500 bales.

In *August*, the disastrous advices received from London, where large unreserved auction sales were being held, greatly restricted buying for that market, and of 9,500 bales settled, the greater part were for the Continent. Prices touched the lowest point we have yet seen, viz. : Tls. 365 *a* 385 for Chop No. 3, Tls. 295 for Red Peacock, and Tls. 225 for common Tsatlee. These Silks, arriving to the active speculative markets of October, paid on the average nearly 10 per cent. Stock showed a slight reduction, and after touching the highest figure of 19,000 bales, remained at the close 15,000 bales, supplies from the country having fallen off in consequence of the lowness of our prices.

September saw an advance of Tls. 20, and on some classes, especially common Tsatlee, as much as Tls. 40 per picul, but this was not maintained, and the market closed quieter at Tls. 390 *a* 400 for No. 3, Tls. 305 for Red Peacocks, and Tls. 245 for common. The business done amounted to 12,000 bales, and stock was 13,000 bales.

Early in *October*, a large speculative movement in London caused an active business, and prices rapidly advanced Tls. 20 *a* 30; and although the demand died away, holders continued firm at Tls. 420 *a* 430 for No. 3, Tls. 335 for Red Peacock, and Tls. 270 for common Tsatlee, being the highest point touched as yet this season. Settlements were 11,000 bales, making up the large

figure of 53,000 bales in five months. Stock remained nearly unchanged.

November.—Buyers refused to go on the high range of prices established, and as holders remained firm, the settlements for the month reached only 1,200 bales, stock being increased to 14,000 bales. Closing quotations were only Tls. 10 below the highest point of October.

December.—During the first half of the month, the same quiet tone prevailed, and prices declined Tls. 5 *a* 10. A better demand has since sprung up, and this fall has been recovered, the market closing steady. This month's business amounting to 4,600 bales, the total to date for the Season is 58,800 bales. Stock has been reduced by about 1,200 bales Taysaam being sent back into the country for Chinese use, as also 300 bales Haining to be re-reeled, and is now about 9,000 bales. Total supplies for the Season are variously estimated at from 70,000 to 72,500 bales, and it will chiefly depend on the course of prices during the remainder of the Season which of these figures is more nearly correct.

Summary of News.

We have had no mail arrival since our last issue.

A homeward mail for America left this morning by P.M.Ss. *Nevada* and *Vancouver*. That for Europe leaves to-morrow by M.M. steamer *Provence*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week :—

The German gunboats have returned from Santander.

President Grant's policy in Louisiana threatens the disruption of the Cabinet.

The report that Germany has recognised Alphonso was premature ; the recognition is deferred until the decree suspending two Protestant journals, and closing a chapel at Cadiz, is rescinded.

A City of Paris loan for 220,000,000 will be issued immediately, in bonds of 500, interest 20 francs each. The issue price is unfixed.

Grant has sent a message to Congress vindicating his intervention in Louisiana, on the ground of the lawlessness prevalent, and asks the instructions of Congress.

Grant has sent a message to Congress, approving the Bill for the redemption of specie payments, and recommending the resumption of the Tea and Coffee duties.

Hongkong, 18th January.

The China loan is a great success : 20,131 Bonds applied for from all quarters, being 6⅔ times the number offered.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank announce that the applications for the £300,000 Chinese loan reached £2,017,100, or more than six times the amount required, and that the applicants will receive bonds *pro rata*. This result would show that the loan is regarded with very great favour, as there was every reason to expect it would be from its conditions ; but at the same time it might be unwise to assume that the money market out here is prepared to devote over two millions sterling to one investment on a few weeks' notice. Telegraphic instructions to send in applications might of course be received by agents here from investors at home, but it is probable that the amount has been swollen by not a few people placing their applications higher than their actual wants, in the hope that the allotments would more closely approximate to the latter.—There is some rumour of another and larger loan being contracted for by the Chinese, through the same agency. We have heard the amount put at ten million taels, but we can only give the rumour at present for what it may be worth.

We hear that a scheme for a Chinese Naval Reserve is being arranged in connection with the China Merchants S. N. Co. It is intended that each of the larger provinces shall furnish two steamers, and the smaller provinces one, to be added to the fleet of that Company and used by it while the country is at peace, but to be at the service of the Imperial Government on the outbreak of war. The scheme has been submitted to the Emperor by his Excellency Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Chihli (the prime mover apparently in all matters of this nature) ; and it is stated that the Emperor has given it his approval. The fleet to be thus furnished will number twenty-eight steamers ; and we are informed on good Chinese authority that a telegram was despatched from Shanghai to England last week, to have one built on behalf of the province of Hupeh, at a cost of Tls. 56,000. This prospective enlargement of the C. M. S. N. Co.'s fleet is a serious menace to foreign steam-shipping interests in China. We give our information with some reserve, as coming from a Chinese source, but we have been assured of, and have no reason to doubt, its truth.

In accordance with instructions received from Hongkong, negotiations have been going on for the charter of the China Merchant Co.'s steamer *Aden*, to proceed to the wreck of the *Japan*, with the view of recovering, if possible, the large amount of treasure on board. The *Aden* will probably leave almost immediately for the scene of the loss, with divers and appliances. We have been informed that the wreck lies in about fourteen fathoms of water.

The steamer *Lee Yuen*, when about 30 miles from Foochow, abreast of Fuhyan, on her passage from this port to Foochow, carried away the lignum vitæ bush in the stern tube. She was beached for one tide under the lee of Matsu Island, for temporary repairs, and then proceeded to Foochow, where she has gone into dock.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Pootung Dock Company, held on Tuesday, a dividend of 5 per cent. was declared, and Messrs. Coryell, Webb, and Dr. Little were appointed directors. Messrs. Farnham & Co.'s offer to renew their lease of the Dock for a further period of five years was accepted.

W. Keswick, Esq., has been appointed Chairman of the Shanghai General Hospital, in place of F. B. Forbes, Esq., who has resigned on his departure for home. Mr. Forbes has devoted a great deal of valuable time to the affairs of the Hospital, having been one of its Board of Trustees for a number of years ; and it gives us pleasure to acknowledge, on behalf of the community, the eminent services he has rendered to this and other public institutions, during his past residence in Shanghai. E. Iveson, Esq., has been appointed Vice-Chairman.

A meeting of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held last night, at the Society's Rooms, the President, F. B. Forbes, Esq., in the chair. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read, confirmed and signed. Messrs. E. J. Caldbeck and H. W. Daniel were elected resident members ; and Mr. Harry Wickings, of Hongkong, a non-resident member.—The President tendered his resignation of that office, consequent upon his approaching departure for America and Europe. He also expressed his appreciation of the honour of being appointed delegate to the parent Society at Home, and hoped during his visit to be able to procure contributions to the library of the Shanghai Branch.—Mr. A. J. Little moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Forbes, to whom the Society owed more than to any man in China, during the six or seven years he had been connected with it, and for the last two of which he had filled the office of President.—The motion was seconded by Mr. Reding, and carried by acclamation.—Mr. Forbes returned thanks in an appropriate speech.—Mr. Wylie rose with a feeling of melancholy to offer a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. H. Lang, whose sudden departure from among them he was sure they would all deeply regret. Mr. Wylie then proceeded to read a lengthy but interesting paper by the Archimandrite Palladius, entitled "Elucidations of Marco Polo's Travels in North-China, &c., drawn from Chinese sources," of which we purpose giving an abstract. The meeting closed with the customary votes of thanks.

We hear that Mr. Russell Sage has been replaced as President of the P. M. S. Co. by Mr. Alexander ; and that Mr. W. H. Fogg, formerly of Shanghai, has become a director of the Company. It is reported that Mr. Fogg takes the managing directorship, which has been held by Mr. Rufus Hatch, but we have been unable as yet to get confirmation of this. The *Great Republic*, with the next mail, left San Francisco on the 2nd inst., and the connecting steamer is due here on 5th February. The next homeward mail from here, following that which closes to-day, will be on the 2nd proximo, to connect at Yokohama with the *China*, leaving Hongkong on the 1st.

It has been rumoured that the Japanese mean to include Shanghai in the ports of call of their principal line of steamers ; and though we cannot say whether it is intended to keep up a regular service, we hear that an occasional steamer may be expected, and that a special agency will probably be established. The new arrangement by which Japan undertakes the distribution of the American mails after their delivery in Yokohama, might give additional weight to the rumour ; but we understand that a contract has been entered into by the Government of that country with the P. M. S. Co., for the conveyance of mails between Yokohama, Hakodadi, Hiogo, Nagasaki and Shanghai. The contract dates from the beginning of the present year.

On Tuesday morning, a robbery was committed under peculiar circumstances at the premises of Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., Nanking Road. Shortly after daybreak, it was discovered that one of the large panes of plate glass had been smashed from the outside with a piece of stone, which must have been thrown with considerable force, and which was afterwards found inside the window. Further examination showed that a large piece of Russian Astracan wool-lining and a valuable sea-otter skin had been stolen. The Police having inspected the hole in the glass, and the position in the window from whence the articles were taken, some thirty or more inches distant, incline to the belief that they could not have been drawn through the fractured pane, or a much larger hole would have been made. It is right to add, however, that suspicion does not attach to anyone on the premises; and at present there is no clue to the thief.

The second A. D. C. performance of the season is to come off on Friday, 29th inst., the pieces being the petite drama by Benjamin Webster, "One Touch of Nature," and the new and classical burlesque of "Thespis," or the Gods grown old.

The Miholoong Ball, an event of some note in our social annals, has been fixed for the 2nd February.

A concert given by Mr. G. B. Fentum at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday night, was attended by an audience numbering nearly 200, including many ladies. The programme was an excellent one, and among the selections were several not usually attempted by amateurs. Taken as a whole, the concert was a decided success, the audience being at times roused to enthusiasm, and *encores* being numerous. Mr. Edmund Wells made a very favourable impression on this the first Shanghai audience to which he has sung, and he will be welcomed on future occasions. A pleasing innovation, very successfully carried out, was the perfuming of the programmes, *à la* Rimmel, by Messrs. Watson & Cleave; it is, we believe, the first time this has been done in Shanghai.

The case of "C. E. Hill *v.* Estate of Yang Taikee," was resumed on Monday at the Mixed Court, before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul-General, and H. E. the Taotai of Shanghai, Dr. Yates being interpreter. Mr. Eames conducted the plaintiff's case; the defendants being represented by Mr. Drummond and Mr. Cowie. The afternoon was occupied in the examination of witnesses on behalf of the plaintiff; and at the close, Mr. Eames, in reply to the Court, said he would refrain from calling any further testimony now, upon the understanding that should the other side attempt anything startling or novel in defence, he should be permitted to call further witnesses, of whom he had several in reserve.—Mr. Drummond said that was a question that could be submitted if occasion arose.—The Court shortly afterwards adjourned.

A decree in the Peking Gazette of 1st January appoints Shên Ping-chêng, the present Taotai of Shanghai, to the vacant post of Judicial Commissioner for the province of Honan. Shên is an able official, and has proved courteous and liberal in his relations with foreigners during his incumbency in Shanghai. He came here from Chinkiang, where he gained considerable credit by his efforts to encourage sericiculture and generally to revive the district after the devastation which had been wrought in it by the Taiping rebels. He is a member of the Hanlin; and must feel rather disappointed that his present promotion, from the governmental into the judicial service, debars him from further advancement in the former direction. We believe it is the case that, owing to some mysterious regulation of Chinese officialdom, such promotion as has now been conferred on Shên, cuts off the possibility of becoming a Governor, Viceroy, or Minister at the Capital.

The place of the departing Taotai, a decree in the Gazette of 4th January informs us, will be filled by Fêng Tsün-kwang, the mandarin who has so long been the native head of the Shanghai Arsenal. Fêng has the reputation of being a clever and energetic officer, and we may assume that his connection with the Arsenal and his intimate dealings with foreigners have imbued him with progressive tendencies. He is credited with being the author, or at any rate the warm advocate, of a scheme to establish a public company for the development of Formosa; and though little has been heard of this project lately, we believe the idea has not been altogether lost sight of. Fêng has a good literary status, having taken the Ku-jen or Master of Arts degree. Instead of proceeding to the capital to have audience, before taking up his appointment, we hear that for the present he will merely visit the Viceroy at Nanking, and consult with him. He leaves by steamer at once and will return without delay, so as to enable the Taotai to set out for his new place of residence, Kai-fung-foo, as soon as possible.

It is with deep regret that we record the sudden and unlooked-for death, on Tuesday, of Mr. Hugh Lang, the Editor and Proprietor of the *Shanghai Evening Courier*. Mr. Lang seemed in his usual health in the morning, when, between eight and nine o'clock, he visited the office to arrange the conduct of his business for the day. Shortly before the latter hour, he returned to his room to dress, and a few minutes later he was found there, lying on the floor, apparently dead. Drs. Johnston and Henderson were sent for, but on their arrival were only able to confirm the melancholy fact; and we understand it is their opinion that rupture of an aneurism of the aorta was the cause of death. Mr. Lang was an old resident, having arrived in Shanghai some thirteen years ago. Up till 1869 he was engaged in commercial pursuits, but in that year he began the connection with the Press which he has ever since very ably and worthily maintained. About four years ago he became sole editor of the *Courier*, and shortly afterwards its proprietor. Mr. Lang wielded a vigorous and graceful pen; his style was scholarly and attractive; and his treatment of public matters was characterised by a force and clearness which, allied to thorough integrity of purpose, exercised a beneficial influence. When writing of a lighter sort was appropriate, his racy humour overflowed; and his graphic notices of local events have frequently given the highest pleasure to a wide circle of readers. On several occasions also he has contributed to the gratification of local audiences as a public speaker; and a lecture which he delivered a few years since, and afterwards published under the title "Shanghai Socially Considered," was so favourably received that we believe the published edition is now almost out of print. Mr. Lang's familiar figure and genial manner will be much missed at local assemblies. In the earlier years of his residence he was prominent as a man tall among his fellows; and if we venture to touch on the physical infirmity which later bowed him down after a severe rheumatic attack, it is only because it placed in stronger contrast his remarkable activity, his indomitable energy, and his unvarying cheerfulness. Aside from his duties as a public journalist, Mr. Lang was always at the command of a large circle of personal friends, whose concern at his untimely death will be shared by those who knew him even less intimately. Much sympathy is felt for those on whom the weight of this sudden bereavement directly falls. The funeral took place at the New Cemetery yesterday and was largely attended.

The *Courrier des Etats-Unis* states that Comte Mejan, formerly Consul-General for France in Shanghai, died at Havana on the 23rd November last.

The Chinese occasionally betray a fiendish ingenuity in their mode of committing capital crimes. A few days ago, one of the native newspapers in Shanghai reported that the body of a woman had been found, crucified on a shutter or doorway, floating in the river outside Woosung. The head of a man was attached to the waist of the woman's body, and both were taken to the district city of Paoshan. The circumstances of this crime have not been discovered, but it is conjectured that the poor crucified wretch had been faithless, and that this revolting revenge had been taken by the injured husband and his friends. Our Peking Gazette translations to-day relate how a wife, tired of a dissipated husband, compassed his death by smothering him in a bag of lime, the father and son of the murdered man assisting her. The punishment, however, is equal to the crime in this case;—more, it is the most frightful inflicted, even in any of the darkest habitations of cruelty, at the present day. Yet the criminal records of the Peking Gazette show that its infliction is a matter of frequent occurrence in this highly civilized empire!

Our Gazette translations also contain various decrees consequent upon the illness of His Majesty the Emperor. In token of rejoicing at his convalescence from the disease by which he has been "happily attacked," his Majesty confers dignities and donations, and exercises his royal clemency, in the most liberal and gracious manner.

Editorial Selections.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

A CURIOUS confirmation of our strictures as to the conduct of the adventurer Dupuis, and the subsequent proceedings of the French in Annam, is afforded from no less an authority than the Peking Gazette of the 21st December. The Chinese Government is not given to acknowledge that it, or any one connected with it, has been guilty of an error; yet in this matter of the expedition up the Hanoi river, although no force can have been used to compel the acknowledgment, the Government frankly confesses that its officers have been wrong, and proceeds to inflict punishment on one of the number. The memorial is curious as throwing light on the relations between China and Annam. The former will not allow the King to make use of his official title in correspondence with it, but haughtily calls the sovereign by his name, Yuan Fuh-she. The latter, although submitting to this slur on his kinghood, takes care that his position as an independent sovereign shall not be trenched upon. He complains that the officer in charge of the frontier, Chen Teh-kwei, had had the temerity to write on his own account to the Government of Annam, demanding the passage of foreign vessels and arms. Chen Teh-kwei pleaded, and his plea has apparently been accepted, he being himself a useful man, that he had not proceeded to these extremities. He had, however, sent an agent, one Liao King-shen, to Hanoi to report on matters there, and this agent, he averred, met with Dupuis, who was accompanied by a discharged Chinese official named Li Yu-hi. These produced a dispatch from the General-in-chief in Yunnan, Ma Ju-lung, stating that the arms were for use in that province. They drew up a despatch, which was conveyed to Chen by Liao, stating the purport of their expedition, and Chen, persuaded by his agent, did actually write on the subject to the Annamese. These not agreeing with Chen's views in the matter, still refused passage, whereupon Dupuis of his own authority transhipped his stores, and forced his way on his own responsibility into Yunnan. That this course of conduct was indefensible, the Government does not for a moment deny. It does not assert any claim to such a suzerainty as should compel the Annamese to pass unquestioned its military stores. On the contrary, while finding that Chen was not really responsible for the eventual conduct of Dupuis, it considers that he has merited some degree of punishment. Liao, the agent, who is probably a man who can be better spared, is made responsible for those acts which apparently he committed simply as the representative of Chen, and is to suffer banishment to the Amoor. We are not going to reason on the justice of the punishment inflicted. So far as that is concerned, it is in this instance a matter between Chen, Liao, and the Chinese Government. The fact of the actors in the affair being considered worthy of punishment by their own Government, is an acknowledgment on the part of China that she does not claim the right, in consequence of her nominal suzerainty, of interfering in the internal arrangements of Annam. The only plea which could be urged by the French, and which we believe was urged, was that the suzerainty of China over Annam extended to the right of interference with the internal arrangements of the kingdom. The letter of the King and the action of the Chinese are both clear evidence that they did not represent the true state of the case. Even were such a plea to be accepted, the subsequent conduct of the French was equally unjustifiable. If the conduct of the Annamese towards Dupuis had been an act of rebellion towards the Emperor, we should probably have heard of the matter through the French Minister at Peking. The very fact of the French Government having subsequently made a treaty with Annam, without submitting it for confirmation at Peking, is sufficient proof that no real importance was attached to the plea of suzerainty. The story of the expedition then, stripped of its embellishments, amounts to this. Dupuis desired to get certain guns into Yunnan to sell to the Chinese officers there. He thought that the Hungkiang, flowing through Annam, offered an easy route. The French Government of the day, pleased with the brilliant idea, offered assistance, and everything was prepared. One of the parties concerned, the Government of Annam, was not even consulted in the matter. It naturally objected to its territory being made use of for the conveyance of military stores to China. This objection was looked upon as a crime by the French, who determined to punish the recalcitrant State. The result is well known. Much as we would wish to see all the corners of the Asiatic continent opened up, this is not the way in which such a matter should be approached. We can imagine that neither French nor Chinese feel quite content with their conduct in the affair, and certainly the sense of wrong must be the pre-eminent feeling amongst the inhabitants of Annam. The *China Mail*, in two elaborate articles, has called in question our statements of fact with regard to the French expedition. If our contemporary had looked with a little care at our previous notice, he would have discovered that our authority was a paper read at the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. That paper was professedly friendly to the French; its author had collected the facts from original sources, and we have every reason to believe is quite as competent to give a true statement as F. Romanet du Caillaud, our contemporary's authority. The opinions expressed in the article were our own.

THE MIXED COURT.

WE have now had pretty good experience of the working, and we may add utter inefficiency, of the tribunal known as the Mixed Court. With every desire to throw over it the cloak of charity, and to keep in the background, so far as was consonant with the ends of justice, its sins of omission, matters are now getting to such a pass that in order to carry on the ordinary municipal government of the Settlements, some change in the present system is urgently required. We last week reported a very extraordinary case of abduction—extraordinary not so much in its actual perpetration, as in the position of those who were concerned, and the measures taken to secure their ends. The story of the abduction was simple enough. A certain individual takes a fancy to a girl at a house of entertainment, and desires to become possessed of her. The girl was one of that unfortunate class who in China are merely so much merchandise in the hands of their relatives, or owners for the time being. The individual could not make his proposals suit with the wishes of the girl's mother, so at his wits' end he applies to a friend. The friend conceives the, to a Chinaman, not unnatural design, of bribing the police, and so accordingly the train is laid. A native detective of the Municipal Police, and an ex-constable, now promoted to be a tipaou, are taken into the plot; the girl is conveyed to the suburbs and there given over to the amorous suitor, who removes her to Soochow. So far the story is peculiarly Chinese; probably no one of those concerned, from the girl's mother to the detectives, had a qualm of conscience as to the impropriety of their conduct in the transaction. If they had been merely ordinary people, the Mixed Court Magistrate would have ordered the suitor to restore the girl, which he would have, or would not have done, in accordance with a mysterious law apparently depending on the influence of the culprit with the myrmidons of the Mandarins. The individuals, however, mainly concerned, were not ordinary people. The suitor was a high military officer, the same we believe who, as we learn from the Peking Gazettes, lately got into disgrace at Peking for harbouring an ex-rebel in his suite, but who, by some mysterious dispensation, seems to be able withal to enjoy himself at Shanghai. The suitor's friend was a sort of relative (foster-brother to a grandson!) of the Taoutai at Ningpo, and in consequence of that mysterious relationship was partaking of the latter's hospitality. Here of course was a plain case of interference with the governing powers of the country. That an officer of the Municipal Council, or any one at all not within the charmed circle of the mandarinate, should presume

to meddle with two such lights as the General and Wu Yang-ting, the foster-brother of a Taoutai's grandson, was a thing not to be thought of. It was no wonder that the whole community of mandarins, tipaous, yamen runners, their guards, and relations up to the third degree, should be scandalized by such a suggestion. Unfortunately, the men sent down to Ningpo to watch Wu, while waiting till by a circuitous route some documents requesting his attendance at Shanghai should be obtained, exceeded the bounds of discretion, and fearing to lose Wu, attempted themselves to "abduct" him. So glorious an opportunity of turning the tables was not to be lost sight of, and the result was the threat of the instant dissolution of Colonel Cooke and all his force, military and civil, at Ningpo. Not that it could be alleged that any one connected with that Force had been in any manner responsible or even cognisant of what was going on, till Colonel Cooke's sentry, seeing the occurrence, insisted that if the man were to be arrested the arrest should be made in a legal way. Wu, however, very kindly "turned up" on the 4th instant at the Mixed Court, and condescended to give evidence. According to his story, his friend desiring to obtain the girl, but refused by her mother, offered through Wu no less a sum than four thousand dollars. Some of this money Wu acknowledged had stuck to him, but in the main he had handed it over to the detectives and the ex-detective, then, and we presume still, a tipaou or native head constable. The girl, however, being well away, her mother it was alleged came to treat with the General, and it was arranged that the latter should give her some $2,800. For some reason not stated, the detective and the tipaou agreed to hand this sum back to Yang, keeping, so said Mr. Wu, $1,200, less his squeeze, for their trouble in the matter. The affair at this period seemed to have become little more than a joke. That the General and Wu, mandarins or mandarins' friends, could do wrong, was of course beyond the power of the magistrate to conceive. He did indeed get Mr. Wu to go down on his knees and make the confession that he, the friend of the General and the foster-brother of a Taoutai's grandson, had actually squeezed some of the money, for doing which he requested the magistrate to fine him and let him go. The following conversation then took place :—

The Mandarin—How much will you pay? Woo—Say $50.

The Mandarin—No ; that is not enough.

Woo said he had only received $50 of Yang's money.

The Mandarin—How much will you give to get rid of this affair? There is no fear of my wanting it for myself—it will all be in the newspapers !

The other defendants now said it was Woo who had got them all into the scrape.

The Mandarin (to them)—Would not $50 be a ridiculously small sum to make him pay?

Qua, the detective, and the *tipaou* both said it would be too small a sum.

The Mandarin suggested $500 as being nearer the mark, but this met with no response.

It further appeared, however, that, several of the detectives belonging to the Force had, when matters were looking a little serious, been bribed to say nothing of what they knew. The fact of the money having thus been distributed, seemed to have much eased the magistrate's mind. Wu was persuaded to pay $100 ; the tipaou, who had received $500, was ordered to return $300, leaving him $200 the richer for his pains ; while the detective, who acknowledged to have received $350, was required to give up $300, leaving him actually fifty dollars, or four months' pay, richer than before ! As for Wu, a European friend, whose name unfortunately we are not told, stumped up on his behalf the hundred dollars ; but the others, well aware of the comforts to which prisoners are liable who have helped such powerful friends as the General and the Taoutai's grandson's foster-brother, preferred going to prison. As Mr. Stripling remarked, the latter would be no punishment. They had helped the order, and so would be allowed everything they wanted, and at the same time put by a couple of years' pay.

It is fortunate that prominence was given to this disgraceful affair. It is perhaps the most characteristic which has occurred recently, but it is by no means exceptional. The corruption which is engendered around Government officers all over China, it is attempted to introduce into the Foreign Settlements. One of the receivers of bribes to hush up matters, was a man who had been appointed to a responsible office about two months ago, and who had a few days afterwards been sentenced to three months' imprisonment, for being concerned in a disturbance connected with illegal exactions in the Settlements. It was found convenient, however, to let him out ; and on being told by the Mandarin that he should repay the bribe which he had taken, he boldly informed the Court he would do no such thing. So all in this affair go scot free. The General enjoys the company of the young lady ; Wu is championed by the Taoutai at Ningpo ; the tipaou and the detectives keep a couple of years' pay each, the getter-up of brawls, at the moment under sentence of imprisonment, "cheeks" the Court, and everyone is made happy, except the interests of justice and the well-being of the Settlements. We have often spoken of the necessity for the establishment of a Municipal magistrate, to take cognisance of all such matters. Even in foreign hands, the diversity of jurisdiction leads to a feebleness of execution by no means conducive to the general order of the Settlements. When, however, justice is reduced to the point it has been in this case, it is high time for those concerned to speak out. We believe the body of Consuls would be much relieved by the establishment of such a Court, so far as their own nationals are concerned. We hope that the Land Regulations Amendment Committee, of whose action we have not lately hea much, will take steps to have some such proposition inserted in their recommendations.

COREA IN 1874.

The King of Corea's three Prime Ministers are called Wonderful or Admirable Counsellor, Left Counsellor, and Right Counsellor. Then come six more, named Hpanso, or Judges, who are at the head of the Ministry composed as in China of War, Justice, &c., &c. Just now, Ni-you-ouen-i is first of the three Prime Ministers, and Kim-hpieng-kou-ki is second, although he is in retirement at present, being in mourning for his father. The third post is occupied by Pak-kiou-sou. The great potentates, however, whose authority is at this time superior to even that of the high ministers, are a relation of the King's wife, Min-seng-hi, and Queen Tcho's nephew, Tcho-seng-hâ, whom we have already mentioned more than once. These two men have arrogated to themselves the government of the capital and provinces, and they alone are masters ; selling as they please public dignities and places, Bachelors' and Doctors' degrees, or distributing them as they deem suitable, generally to the highest bidder. I must now explain something which seems to have thrown the two new masters of the kingdom entirely into the shade. Towards the middle of the year (1874) three successive envoys brought messages to Pien-men, from Peking. We don't know of what nature the two first messages were ; but the third was dated Peking, 2nd day of 6th moon, and was conveyed from Pien-men to the Capital by a courier on horseback, the man holding a flag in one hand, the message in the other (and the bridle I suppose in one or t'other), and screaming all the way "War—war—war !" This was the third message, as I am told :—

"The great European General Irikiao 日理格 is in Tyangkei [Japan] 長奇島 [probably Nagasaki.] Desiring to make war with Corea, he has united his forces to the Japanese Army. Europe finds it difficult to fight Corea alone, and Japan by herself would not attempt it. France, America and Japan (three kingdoms) have therefore united themselves for the purpose.—Prepare, therefore, and see whether you can make sufficient resistance. If not make a treaty of alliance and commerce—and all will be well."

Signed, Chinese Government.

The Royal Council was instantly called together, and the decision arrived at was this: "Let us do our best to prevent them, but if we cannot, then we will make a friendly treaty. That will be well."

It can be imagined that the population was considerably excited when the news was spread abroad ; the appearance of the comet in July, moreover, terrified the people beyond measure. Great preparations for war were made by the Government, and it was resolved to resist the barbarians in their attempt to invade the country, and to die rather than submit to its ruin. They feared the Japanese most, for, said they, "If the Japanese come, they will

spare neither man, woman nor child, and will take the country if they conquer us. Better fight to the death." In order to reassure the troubled minds of the people, the following proclamation was issued everywhere: "Do not you fear. It is true Europeans are powerful, but we must try to resist them, for we have before now got rid of them; then when we have fought them, if we find that we cannot stop them, we will make peace, and that is all it can end in. Let us first number (collect) our soldiers. Don't fear therefore."

The apprehension of the people is fully explained by the fearful recollections left from the Japanese invasion in the 15th century. Coreans are not aware that the Japanese are more civilised now, and that they are not likely to make war according to barbarous principles. As to Europeans, the people, particularly the trading classes, do not object to the opening up of the country. There might be some fighting, but a treaty of peace would be easily negotiated, they believe, if the invader could not be repulsed.

Every man that could hold a gun was enrolled, and the number of defenders was great—soldiers being posted wherever it was thought ships were able to come. At Kang-hoa, there were about 6,000. All the principal parts of the coast were fortified. The forts at Kang-hoa bristled with cannon. Wherever it was thought the enemy might land or pass, wide ditches were made, like tiger snares, the bottom garnished with lances and swords, but so well hidden that it was impossible to tell them. Coreans think these so dangerous that they believe it impossible for any one to live after falling into them. The manufacture of guns, lances, swords, &c., was universal. Night and day there were sentries on the mountains commanding the sea, men known for their clear sight, whose duty it was to signalise the arrival of the enemy. The population breathed only of war—thought and conversation were on war, to the exclusion of every other topic; and trade was at a standstill, wholesale traders, it is said, both in town and country, having stayed at home three days, and not dared to go to market. Cultivation was even impeded, as no one dared go out or travel. At the end of the 8th moon, there being no change, and the war-vessels not having appeared, doubts began to circulate, and soon people did not hesitate to say that the ex-Regent had been spreading the alarm—that he invented the idea of messages from China, his object being to regain his power, or at any rate a place in the Government. Whether the old Regent has lost caste or not, he has retired to some 60 *lis* north of the Capital, in a town named Yang-tjon, where he is busy building a mansion. Anyhow, it is evident the present Government is most determined not to yield to Japan, and that the Regent's fall does not appear to be caused by Japanese threats, for, on the contrary, the Regent would make such his excuse for regaining his lost position. Nevertheless, the country is far from tranquil. There is still an expectation of war-vessels; soldiers are kept on the alert, and encourage one another; but the people begin to murmur at being taxed for an army on a war footing, though no doubt this will be kept up till the river at the Capital be frozen over, and the precautions will be renewed next spring.

In conclusion, let me give you some other kind of news in regard to Corea. In the 7th moon (August 1874) some Russian soldiers arrived one night near the town of Kieung-ouen, situated south of Mikiang in Corean Tou Man-kang, 42.30 latitude and 128 longitude East, at a little distance to the southwest of Shong-tchong, a Chinese city. They forced the gates of the city wall, and took the place. The mandarin in charge of course cleared out at once, and as they had it all their own way, they helped themselves as they desired, taking away with them all the women (at any rate all the young ones,) and such cattle as they fell in with. The Coreans are under the impression that only Russians live on the frontier; and the general belief is that this disgrace has been inflicted by them, which it is almost too dishonorable to believe. It has evidently been done by brigands, who infest the neighbourhood. Their reputation is not a secret, and their great want is women, as was the case with the Romans at the time of the Sabinal abduction. The Kieung-ouen district mandarin, it is said, has been exiled, and his place has been given to Youn-hein-pi, marine prefect of Hoang-hai.

Perhaps it may be useful to refer to the following list of Kings and Queens of Corea, from 1784 till the present time:—

1° 正宗 Tjeng-tjong, 1775-1800.

2° 英宗 Yeung-tjong, 1800-1810.

3° 純宗 Sioun-tjong, 1810-1824, son of the foregoing married to Kim-tai-pi, who died in 1856. During his life he associated to his throne, his son

4° 翌宗 Ik-tjong, 1824-1830, married to Tcho-tai-pi. At the death of Ik-tjong, his father continued to govern from 1830 to 1834.

5° 憲宗 Hen-tjong, son of Ik-tjong and grandson of Sioun-tjong, 1834-1849. He married Hong-tai-pi and died without issue. The throne devolved on his next of kin.

6° 哲宗 Tchieul-tjong, 1849-1864, who married Kim-tai-pi, and died without issue also. Queen Tcho adopts

7° 當宁 the second son, Houng-soung-koun, a distant prince from the Royal family. The new king reigned from 1864 under the title of 當宁 Tang-tjiei.* He married Min-tai-pi in 1866.

Tai-pi means Queen, wife of the King—thus Tcho-tai-pi: Queen Tcho.

PHILO-COREANUS.

Newchwang, 15th Dec., 1874.

* Tang-tjiei: The Corean Kings who have no surnames during life, are called Tang-tjiei, which is tantamount to "Majesty."

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

During the day and night of the 29th ultimo; we had a furious gale from N.N.W.; and at daybreak on the 30th, the thermometer stood at three degrees above zero—the lowest point we have seen it sink to this winter. On the evening of the 29th, I saw a horse being led over the ice on the river; on which also tabogans (hand sleighs) might be seen engaged in transporting produce and passengers to and from the city. At daybreak to-day the thermometer had risen to 13°, with the river ice of the thickness of eight inches.

Amongst the sporting members of the community, fox-hunting is at present the order of the day, meets taking place some two or three times a week, as business and weather will admit. On the 31st ult., the meet took place in a range of wild country, known by the name of the Shan-ling-sze, lying on the east side of the river and beginning at some seven miles distance from the British settlement. A fine well-grown knowing fox was started, who at once went across country in gallant style, and gave the hounds a splendid run of about eight miles ere he took to earth and thus saved his life and brush. It is almost unnecessary for me to say that this is a splendid country for hunting on horseback, as it is open and almost free from obstacles which would prevent horsemen going straight; very different in that respect from the country arround Shanghai, where so many large creeks exist.

Immediately after the clocks struck the last twelfth hour of the year 1874, guns were fired from some of the vessels-of-war in port, to welcome the opening of the new year. The greater part of the first of January, in accordance with time-honored custom, was devoted by the gentlemen of the community to calling upon the ladies. Fortunately the weather was very favorable, being mild and pleasant. The walking about from residence to residence was of itself quite a delight, to say nothing of the pleasure derived from the agreeable occupation of personally calling upon one's friends to wish them a happy new-year.

His Excellency Sun Szeta, the acting Customs Taoutai, called upon the Consuls and the Commissioner of Customs on the 3rd instant, to wish them a happy new-year; and as he is popular with the community, from his tact and courtesy in his intercourse with foreign officials, and from his ability in discharging the duties of his office, his visit was as a matter of course received with cordiality.

As I have already mentioned, his Excellency Le Hung-chang, the Governor-General of this province, left here for Paouting on the 23rd ultimo; and I now learn that, while *en route*, he met Ying Han, the newly appointed Governor-General of Kwangtung and Kwangse, on his way to the metropolis. Ying Han, I suppose, will only stay to have audience, and then proceed to the south, overland. At one time it was thought he would stay in the north till the opening of the river in spring, and proceed from Tientsin to Canton viâ Shanghai, by steamer. He will now it is stated go from Peking overland to Chinkeang, and thence by steamer viâ Shanghai.

It will depend upon whether the Emperor will or will not require the presence of Le Hung-chang at the Imperial tombs in spring, whether the return of the latter to Tientsin after the opening of the port will be early or late.

In the Peking Gazette of the 30th December, there is a short Edict granting the great statesman Wanseang a further extension of three months' leave of absence to re-establish his health. In the Gazette of the 1st January, a decree appoints the Prince of Kung and other Imperial princes to repair on the 4th (to-day) to certain temples, to pray for further falls of snow.

PURITAN.

4th Jan., 1875.

CANTON.

A farewell address, signed by about ninety residents, and a testimonial of plate, have been presented to Archdeacon Gray,

on the occasion of his departure from Canton, after 22 years' residence. "Not only," says the correspondent of the *Daily Press*, "has the Venerable Archdeacon most acceptably discharged the duties pertaining to the incumbency of Christ Church, Canton, but he has also constantly conducted services at Whampoa on Sunday evenings, and during the period of hostilities, between 1856 and 1861, undertook extraordinary services at Hongkong and Canton in connection with the Army and Navy."—A farewell dinner was given on the 11th to the Venerable Archdeacon Gray, M.A., by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Rowe. The guests numbered about fifty, and included a number of ladies, Sir Brooke Robertson, the Rev. John Chalmers, M.A., and other old residents.—The correspondent of the *China Mail* says:—The removal of the remains of the late Viceroy to Peking is the sensation at present. The ceremony is to take place to-day, and great have been the preparations to make the procession as grand as possible. Those who are to take part in the procession have been put through a series of exercises preparatory to the final start. On the 7th inst., the men forming the procession were made to go through their lessons again inside the Viceregal Yamen. Along the route of the procession, it has been found necessary to remove some shops and other obstructions, and these have been carried out with a strong hand, without any regard to Fungshuey or otherwise, and the only consolation the owners of the houses removed have received is an assurance that their tenement will be rebuilt at the expense of the Government. Nothing, whatever, is said of the damage to them accruing from the loss of rents and tenancy in some cases. From this you will see that the irrepressible plea of Fungshuey raised, whenever any innovation is proposed, is simply bosh. I can assure you that Fungshuey only exists in the brains of the officials, who always find it a convenient excuse against the introduction of anything obnoxious to themselves or calculated to interfere with their peculating propensities.—The prevalence of small-pox in Canton is accounted for by the medical faculty (native of course) by the Emperor having it himself. However loathsome foreigners may consider the disease, the Chinese regard it as a matter for congratulation, for they speak of the person affected with it as "Enjoying the felicity of the heavenly flowers 天花之喜." This is the term employed in the Imperial Edict announcing the illness of the Emperor. The small-pox being the "Flowers of Heaven," and the Emperor the Son of Heaven, and all his subjects subservient to him, it is only natural to look upon the extensive affection of his subordinates for the disease as a fitting sequence. The fact of the eruption on the Emperor breaking out on the day of the transit of Venus is looked upon as significant, he being likened to the sun, as the sun was obscured by a dark spot (the contact of Venus) on the day in question.

HONGKONG.

Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox has become editor of the *Daily Press*.—The *China Mail* and *Hongkong Times* have both come to the defence of the *L. & C. Express* in the matter of the recent offensive paragraph it contained on a late member of the Consular Service.—The *Mail* observes that the appointment of Mr. Maclean, as travelling inspector of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, has given undoubted satisfaction to the shareholders, but says it would be idle to assume that a similar feeling is entertained regarding the appointment of one of the late Directors to the temporary post of sub-manager in London. It is thought that, however little the Directors may have deserved distrust (the Bank's misfortunes being due to an unusually depressed state of trade and exceptional ill-fortune), it would have been better to have selected some gentleman not hitherto identified with the management. On the other hand, the *Mail* can see much to make the advice and aid of one who has been a successful business man in Hongkong of value, and it is quite credible that the Directors thought more of that than of the outcry which under the peculiar circumstances of the case might be raised. The Directors have probably made a mistake in selecting one of themselves; but they might have done worse as regards the selection individually.—The *Mail* asks would it not be well if some measures were taken to remove the many wrecks which now encumber the harbour?—We may localise an observation by the same journal made in reference to Life Insurance.—The "Positive," it says, although a newer company, is fast overhauling it (the Royal) in the race, simply because it recognizes the fact that the dangers of residence in Hongkong are not exactly the same as those attending travel in equatorial Africa.—In a charge for selling liquors without a license, which was not proved, a witness named Jenkins was fined $25 for giving false evidence.—A witness on bail in the *Spark* Piracy case has failed to turn up, and there is some probability that the bail of $400, deposited for him by a friend, will be escheated.—The day the *Alaska* (which was very slightly damaged by being lifted high and dry in the typhoon) came out of Aberdeen Dock, a congratulatory dinner was given on board by Captain Edward Van Syce, in the evening, to a few friends. As we stated to be the intention, the *Alaska* was at once announced to leave with the mail of 13th inst., for San Francisco.—As soon as the Dock Company succeed in landing the steamer *Leonor* in a spot where she may be patched up before being docked, and thoroughly repaired, they are going to raise the *Albay*, and put her through the same process.—The *Mail* says:—His Honor Mr. Justice Snowden was engaged for a good part of a day in the investigation of an interpleader suit of *Ho Asam* v. *Leung Shing*. The action arose in connection with the discovery and raising of the launch *Early Bird*. The plaintiff, while raising the barque *Corea*, discovered the launch first, and had the place buoyed. Meantime the defendant entered into a contract with Messrs. Hook & Co., to raise her for $500. The plaintiff put in a claim as original salvor, and Messrs. Hook & Co. paid the amount in dispute into Court. After hearing a deal of evidence, judgment was given in favour of the plaintiff for $250; the remaining sum was awarded to the defendant, the subsequent salvor, who finally raised her.—A despatch from Earl Carnarvon, Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed to the Governor of Hongkong, which has been published, states that his Lordship submitted to Her Majesty the Governor's despatches describing the typhoon of 23rd September, and that in returning them, Her Majesty expressed her sincere regret for the sufferings occasioned by that sad calamity.—An address, numerously and influentially subscribed to, has been presented to Captain Warsaw, expressing entire concurrence with the decision rendered by the Court of Enquiry, so far as it relates to that gentleman, and conveying in the fullest sense appreciation and admiration of his "conduct under circumstances the terrible nature of which it is impossible to imagine could be exceeded." It also extends, and requests Captain Warsaw to convey, this appreciation to his officers and crew, who "almost without exception stood to their posts and did all that brave men could do, until all further effort to save the ship was useless."—Seventeen more bodies have been recovered from the *Leonor*, which went down in the typhoon.—An explanation has been offered regarding the non-appearance of the witness in the *Spark* piracy case, so that his bail will likely be safe.—The Peruvian ship *Emigrante* has been sold for $7150.—Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co. have chartered the German steamer *Cassandra* for their Calcutta line. The Hongkong *Times* notices that among the cargo of the *Yungching*, which arrived on the 10th from Shanghai, were eighty coffins, containing the bodies of Chinese, which have been taken to Canton for burial.

AMOY.

A correspondent of the *China Mail* remarks on tigers, regarding which our correspondents nearer Shanghai have been exercised: "No news of our tigers lately, though parties are often going away, with poor bleating goats as bait, to keep watch at night, and get wet and cold and generally miserable. Shooting, too, this year does not appear to be very good: I mean for the smaller game. The largest bags are those that come from Shanghai by direct steamer. Wild fowl are very wild and pheasants are scarce." The tigers must surely have deserted Amoy for more northern hunting grounds, following up the game.—The same writer, in noticing the forthcoming Amoy races, which take place towards the end of February, says: "There are not many racing ponies here now, and I strongly suspect that if Foochow does not enter, the races will dwindle into a few friendly matches."

HIOGO.

The *News* reports that the *Berlin*, an iron steamer which for some years past has been running under native management between Osaka, Hiogo, and ports in the Inland Sea, was destroyed by fire on the 24th ultimo. The crew and passengers are reported to have been saved, and the cargo lost. The accident is supposed to have been occasioned through the catching fire of a paper lantern.—The betto whose apprehension on a charge of murder, committed four years ago, has been previously noticed, has been released, his arrest appearing to have been a mistake.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* describes a serious fire which broke out on the night of Thursday, the 31st ult., on the premises of Messrs. Schwartz & Co., and which was not extinguished until several houses and their contents were destroyed.—The *Advertiser*, in a brief article on the steps taken by the local authorities to stay the spread of small-pox, says these have been prompt, vigorous and very successful. There has been a house-to-house visitation throughout the native town which has brought all actual cases to light, and it may be remarked that the number of people attacked is very small, only one fresh case per day on an average having been reported during the past week.—The Japanese Authorities have notified the Foreign Ministers that there will be another Exhibition at Kioto, commencing on the 1st of March and continuing for one hundred days. Foreigners are invited to visit it, and also to contribute articles for exhibition.—Some of the Japanese native newspapers are protesting against the abandonment of Saghalien to Russia.—The *Daily Bulletin* has ceased to exist, in consequence of the continued illness of Mr. Franklin. That gentleman announces, however, that all subscriptions and other money paid in advance will be returned.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Dec. 19th.—(1 and 2) Decrees appointing the newly-made Grand Secretary Pao-yün to the post of Controller-in-chief of the Board of Civil Office; Kwang-show 廣壽 to succeed him as Manchu President of the Board of War, and Kw'ei-ling 魁齡 to succeed the latter as President of the Court of Censorate.

(3) The Governor of Nganhwei reports a peculiarly horrifying case of murder. The parties concerned belong to the district of Wu-hu, where they earned their livelihood in a small way, owning besides a trifling area of land. The family consisted of the following persons, viz., Wu Ts'ai, a worthless, dissipated fellow; his father, Wu T'ing-fu; his wife, Wu P'an-she; and their son, Wu Kwang-yung. Frequent quarrels took place on the subject of money between Wu Ts'ai and his father and wife, one of which having occurred on the afternoon of the 11th September last, when he endeavoured to get his wife's consent to the sale of a piece of ground. She refused, and he subsequently beat her until she gave him 100 *cash*, the woman, in her anger, exclaiming to her father-in-law and her son, after the husband had gone out, that they would all be ruined unless they put this ruffian out of the way. Wu T'ing-fu, himself reduced to despair, agreed that he should be put to death, and the woman then prepared a bag with some lime in it, heedless of the remonstrances of her son. When Wu Ts'ai returned home at night in a state of intoxication, he began again to abuse his wife, and she thereupon summoned her father-in-law and her son, who assisted in tying the victim's arms and legs. The bag of lime was then slipped over his head to smother him, and while the son held his legs down, his father sat upon his head until all struggles were over and life was extinct. On the following day, Wu Ting-fu alleged to a neighbour that the deceased had died during the night in a fit of intoxication, and induced him to assist in carrying out and interring the corpse. Information having reached the Magistrate, however, an inquest was held and the parties were made prisoners. On confession having been elicited, the mother and son have been adjudged as both subject to the most awful penalty of the law, and they have been publicly sliced to death accordingly, with the usual formalities. The father of the murdered man is liable according to statute to the penalty of 100 blows for his share in the crime, but being beyond the age of 70, he is entitled to commute this by a pecuniary mulct.

(4) The military authorities of the Amoor region report that a *gioro* (member of the Imperial lineage) named Che-ch'êng, alias Che-kwang, originally borne on the rolls of the blue banner at Peking, but without specific employ, who was transported into penal servitude at the Amoor in 1862, after being implicated in eight different cases of theft and burglary, has now made his escape from custody. Since his transportation, he has already committed the same offence on five occasions; and having been imprisoned lately on a charge of concerted robbery, he managed to break out of jail on the 24th September and get away. Reports have been sent concerning him to the Imperial Clan Court and the Board of Punishments.

Dec. 20th.—(1) A Decree ordaining that, by special grace, the Associate of the Court of Physicians, Li Teh-li, be awarded promotion to an appointment in the 3rd or 4th grade among the Government departments of the capital, and that a second professor of the art of medicine, named Chwang Show-ho, be similarly advanced to a grade one degree lower than the above. (N.B.—The two individuals above named are the physicians who have attended His Majesty during his attack of small-pox.)

(2) The joint-Governor of Fêng-t'ien (Manchuria) memorializes reporting the appointment of an official to take charge of the post of Taotai at Newchwang, in consequence of the death of the late incumbent of the office, on the 21st October. The importance of the post is dwelt upon, from its connection with foreign affairs and trade, as also the command of the foreign drilled force which pertains to it.

The remainder of the *Gazette* is occupied with memorials from Nganhwei, on the Governor handing over the seals of office to his successor.

Dec. 21st.—The Governor of Kwang-si, in a voluminous memorial, reports the result of a judicial enquiry into the conduct of a brigadier-general named Chên Teh-Kwei, on sundry charges of wrong-doing in connection with affairs on the Tonquin border. Some time ago a communication was received by the Governor from the King of Anam, Yüan Fuh-she 院福時 by name, (his title of Sze Têh, or Tuduc, not being admitted into Chinese correspondence), complaining that the officer in question had written directly to Anamese officials, calling upon them to grant free transit to certain foreign vessels conveying cargoes of arms; and further that he had sent a force to extort compensation, on account of a collision which had taken place between some messengers of his and the "barbarian" inhabitants of the Kin-ying district, whom he had therefore chosen to consider as robbers who had pillaged a treasure convoy. In June, 1873, the Governor received a rescript ordering Chên Téh-Kwei to be stripped of his rank and brought to trial, and this command has now been fulfilled. It appears that, having been stationed on the border of Tonquin in 1872 to guard the frontier against the barbarian rebels, Chên Téh-Kwei, who has fought his way up to his late position from the ranks of the Kwangtung irregulars, sent an agent to Ho-nui 內河 (Hanoi) in Tonquin to report on affairs at that place. On arrival there, the emissary, Liao King-shên by name, met an acquaintance, a cashiered official from Hupeh, named Li Yü-hi, who was employed as assistant to the French Consul T'u P'u-i 涂普義 (Dupuis), who was engaged in transporting a consignment of arms and ammunition on behalf of the General-in-chief of Yünnan, Ma Ju-lung. Li informed the emissary that the barbarian officials of Anam had stopped the vessels, in the absence of any communication from the authorites of Yünnan, and he exhibited to Liao the official instructions given to himself by the General-in-chief of that province. He further drew up in concert with Dupuis a despatch, which he sent by Liao to Ch'ên Têh-kwei, requesting him to call on the Anamese officials to allow them to proceed on their journey. On finding that the military stores in question were actually destined for use by the Yünnan authorities, Ch'ên Têh-kwei wrote as requested to the Anamese; but they, on finding out some discrepancies of quotation in the despatch, still refused a passage to the steamers. Dupuis upon this transhipped his cargoes, and found his own way of getting on into Yünnan. The remaining charges have been similarly investigated, with the result of clearing Ch'ên Têh-kwei of the liability to punishment beyond the temporary deprivation of rank, which it is proposed that he be allowed a further chance of redeeming; but Liao King-shên, who exceeded his functions by meddling in affairs that did not concern him, is adjudged guilty of a grave offence, and it is requested that he be deprived of his rank as a district magistrate and banished under the most severe conditions to the Amoor, there to be consigned to penal servitude. The memorial is referred by rescript for the consideration of the Board of Punishments.

Dec. 22nd.—(1)—Commands have been issued through the chamber of address, to the effect that all the princes, ministers, and officials going on duty within the Palace shall, up to the 18th of March next, appear in full embroidered uniforms. The government departments will continue to send in their documents as usual.

(2)—A Decree. The rank to be taken by Pao-yün, as Grand Secretary, is next below Tso Tsung-t'ang.

(3)—Yih-tsung (the Prince of Tun, commonly called the fifth Prince, eldest of the Emperor's four surviving uncles,) and his colleagues, memorialize as follows, laying before his Majesty their report in obedience to commands received. On the 11th Dec. the Prince of Kung and his colleagues of the Grand Council memorialized in the following terms: "Whereas your Majesty has happily met with an attack of small-pox 現遇天花之喜, the Sacred Person should enjoy rest and restorative care, and it would seem fitting that the sacrificial ceremonies to be performed at the Temple of Heaven and the Imperial Temples, as well as all presentations of officials on the part of the various departments of government, beside all matters of business in general, should be arranged in obedience to the exigencies of the case. We beg, therefore, that the Prince of Tun, the Prince of Fu (youngest of the four imperial uncles), and the Ministers of the Presence, may take action with ourselves in drawing up suitable rules and in laying them before your Majesty as the system to be pursued." To this the rescript was returned: "Be it as is proposed." This having been reverently received, your servants have jointly taken counsel, and they now submit a copy of the rules they have drawn up, for the imperial sanction.—Rescript: Be it as is proposed.

Upon the above follow the proposed rules with reference to the delegation of his Majesty's ceremonial functions during the hundred days of seclusion, ending March 18th, 1875.

(4)—The Governor of Chehkiang memorializes reporting the completion of the works undertaken for the restoration of the Temple of the God of the Sea at Hai-ning Chow, the building heretofore existing on the spot having been almost totally destroyed during the Rebellion. Only a portion of the several buildings which formerly constituted the temple have been restored, at a total cost of Taels 36,000, to which an additional sum of Tls. 9,000 has to be added for internal fittings and decoration. This amount is provided from the fund allotted to embankment expenditure. The divine assistance rendered by the God of the Sea since this temple for his worship was first built, by Imperial command, in A.D. 1729, has been most conspicuous. It is requested that a memorial board be conferred by his Majesty upon the building.

Dec 23rd.—(1)—The Governor of Chehkiang reports the conclusion of a trial for the murder of two men, father and son, named Chao Kwoh-kün and Chao Ping-lieh. The elder Chao, who was manager of a commune temple in the Si-ngan district, having interfered on one occasion, in July, 1872, to prevent some disorderly fellows named Lü from gambling with bamboo slips belonging to the temple, a fight ensued in consequence, and on Chao lodging a complaint against them at the district magistracy, one of their number, Lü Wu-urh, was apprehended and flogged. In revenge for this he determined to take Chao's life, and a couple of months later, having previously obtained the promise of assistance from four others of the same

surname, he looked out for an opportunity of carrying his purpose into effect. Having watched Chao Kwo-kün leaving the village one day, and surmising that he would return by the same road, he called together his accomplices, and arming himself with a bill book while another carried a chopper, he lay in wait for his victim. When Chao Kwoh-kün made his appearance, he was set upon and hacked to death, wounds being dealt all over the body. Shortly afterwards, the son of the murdered man, finding his father had not returned, went out to look for him, whereupon the assassins resolved upon murdering him also, to prevent his denouncing them. The young man was consequently set upon and cut to pieces as his father had been. A villager happened to approach the scene of the crime, and saw what had been done, but he was intimidated into holding his tongue, and the murderers got away. The eye-witness informed the relatives, however, of what he had seen, and pursuit having been instituted, the two principal criminals have been apprehended, and are sentenced to death in due form of law.

(2)—The Governor of Chehkiang memorializes presenting on behalf of the gentry and people of the province an application for permission to erect a memorial temple in honour of the former Governor of Chehkiang (afterwards a Grand Secretary), Yüan Yüan, 阮元 (who died in 1850). This high official is revered in the province not only for the literary attainments for which he is celebrated, but also for his skill in repressing disorder and in putting down piracy on the coast. He likewise conferred great boons upon the people by his amelioration of the water system and his arrangements for the relief of distress. In 1852, an application to admit his name upon the list for sacrificial honours received Imperial sanction, and the gentry of the province now wish to take the further step of erecting a temple dedicated to his memory.

Dec. 24th.—(1)—A Decree. We have received the benign mandate of their Majesties the Empresses-Dowager as follows:—

Whereas on his Majesty being this month happily attacked by smallpox, safety from harm has been vouchsafed through the silent protection of the Azure Vault above, profound indeed is the gratitude with which we are inspired. Remembering how paramount a consideration it should be with a humane and virtuous government to bestow a reverent regard upon those who lie in bondage, it is fitting to dispense a special act of grace, bestowing a measure of compassionate relief. For all prisoners whose trials have already been concluded by the Board of Punishments or any of the provincial Courts, with the exception of those guilty of crimes of serious magnitude and such as are not embraced within the action of a general pardon in ordinary, let the Grand Council join with the Board of Punishments in considering the circumstances of each case, and submit propositions for Imperial sanction as regards a reduction in the degree of penalty to be inflicted. In the case of criminals whose sentences are lower in degree than those of transportation, banishment (with or without penal servitude), and blows, let them at the same time have decisions recorded on a reduced scale of penalty. Thus, refreshed with the dews of widely-spreading bounty, may men be led to seek for the path of self-amendment; and thus be Our earnest intent made known, in the love We feel for the myriads of the people, to bestow a leniency beyond the limits of the law.

(2) A Decree. Whereas, on Our being this month happily attacked by small-pox, their Majesties the Empress (dowager) Ts'ze Ngan Twan Yü K'ang K'ing, and the Empress (mother) Ts'ze Hi Twan Yeo K'ang I, have tended Our person with a care which knew no bounds, and as moreover, in their loving affection, their Majesties have also deigned to give ear to Our request that the memorials handed in from all the Government departments be submitted for their perusal and decision, Our heart has been filled with the most profound gratitude and satisfaction. It is fitting that an addition be made to the titles of respect appertaining to their Majesties, as a return, however small, for their abounding love.—Let the proper department take, with all reverence, the steps which are needful for the accomplishment of the ceremonial.

(3) We have received the benign mandate of their Majesties the Empresses as follows: Let the imperial concubine of the second class, Hwei Fei 慧妃 be invested with the rank of the first class, as Hwang Kwei Fei 皇貴妃; the imperial concubine of the third class, Yü P'in 瑜嬪, be invested with the title of the second class, as Yü Fei; the imperial concubine of the third class Sün P'in 珣嬪, be similarly promoted to the second class; and the lady-of-honour 貴人 Si-lin Gioro 西林覺羅氏 be invested with the title of Tsin P'in 瑨嬪, as a concubine of the third class. (Note. The foregoing constitute one-half of the number of concubines, in addition to the Empress, who are said at present to complete the imperial seraglio, viz., two *fei*, two *p'in*, and four *kwei-jên*).

(4) A Decree bestowing honours and rewards on all the Princes and high functionaries of the court and capital, in token of rejoicing for his Majesty's convalescence. The Princes of Tun and Ch'un have their State salaries as Princes of the blood-imperial doubled; and as this has already heretofore been done on behalf of the Prince of Kung, the salary of his Highness is now to be trebled. The Prince of Fu is granted the salary of an imperial Prince, and similar allowances in different degrees are conferred upon the Mongolian princes of the Court, and upon the sons of the three imperial uncles and others. The Grand Secretaries Wên-siang and Pao-yûn, and their colleagues in the Grand Council, Shên Kwei-fên and Li Hung-ts'ao, are granted the distinction of the two-eyed peacock-feather, which is also extended to a number of the other high officials of the Boards, etc. Two reserve degrees of rank are conferred upon all nobles and officials throughout the Empire; and a donation of half a month's pay is bestowed upon the entire Manchu and Chinese garrison of Peking.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 11th January, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. John G. Purdon (chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, W. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

Dues on Merchandize for the month of November, 1874, amounted to Tls.	6,639.77
For the same month in 1873	7,484.13
Showing a *decrease* of ..... Tls.	844.36

Applications for appointment vacant in consequence of Mr. J. M. Fabris leaving on 31st January, were referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Shanghai Volunteer Corps—Drill Instructor.—It was decided to write to the Commanding officer of H.M's Forces in Hongkong, for a well-qualified steady sergeant, with a knowledge of the Henri-Martini drill. Providing the Volunteers took advantage of the opportunity afforded by having such a man, to perfect themselves in their drill, the Drill Instructor would be retained as long as he could be spared by H. B. M's. Government.

Staff.—Periodical leave to Officers.—The Council passed a resolution that officers on the permanent Staff be allowed after each term of five years' service in Shanghai, leave of absence for a period of nine months, on half-pay during such time, allowances being discontinued

It being understood that no two Heads of Departments should be away together, and no inconvenience to the public service be involved in such leave.

Mr. E. H. Oliver.—Draft agreement on term proposed by the Public Works' Committee, with Mr. Oliver, Municipal Engineer, for a further period of three years from expiry of present engagement, was approved.

Shanghai Fire Department.—The Election of the following officers of the Shanghai Fire Department for the year 1875, was approved and confirmed:—

Chief Engineer	R. Mackenzie
1st District Engineer	C. J. Ashley
2nd do. do.....	B. A. Clarke
3rd. ,, ,, ...	A. Charrier

THE CHINESE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION AND READING-ROOM.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee for the Chinese Polytechnic Institution and Reading Room, held at Mr. Medhurst's office, on Friday, the 8th January, 1875.

Present.—Messrs. Fryer, Hsu Chung Hu, Wang Yung Ho, A. Wylie, Tong King Sing, and W. H. Medhurst.

Letter read from Mr. Forbes, offering his resignation, on the ground of his approaching departure from China.

Mr. Medhurst presented financial statement of the resources of the Institution. The Bank book shewed a balance to credit of Tls. 4,154.83 on the 31st December last. Since then a contribution had been received from Messrs. Boyd & Co. of Taels 333.33; Mr. Tong King Sing had received contributions amounting to $600, $150 of which were annual subscriptions; Mr. Hsu Shou had received another Taels 400, and Mr. Medhurst had cash to the amount of about $30—so that they might count upon an aggregate of considerably over Tls. 5,000 to the credit of the Institution.

It being indispensable to nominate some member of the Committee to represent the institution with the Bank, Mr. Medhurst was requested to act as Treasurer.

On the motion of Mr. Medhurst, Mr. Fryer was requested to act as Secretary.

On the motion of Mr. Medhurst, Mr. T. W. Kingsmill was invited to join the Committee as member. And on the motion of Mr. Fryer, Mr. Hsü Chung Hu was likewise placed upon the Committee.

Mr. Fryer stated what progress he had made in negotiating for a suitable piece of land. He was requested to continue his efforts, and Mr. Tong King-sing was asked to assist him in reference to a particular plot which the Committee thought would suit them. The price to be paid for land was for the present limited to Tls. 2,500.

Mr. Hsü urged the necessity of accelerating proceedings as far as possible in the purchase of land and construction of a house, as he thought that H.E. Li Hung-chang was prepared to extend his support the moment that he found practical progress made.

Mr. Fryer explained that, judging from what Mr. Hsü had told him, it would appear that H.E. Li Hung Chang's hopes ran principally in the direction of establishing and maintaining a School of Science and Art; and it was agreed that this object could be met in the

plan of the Institution as at present projected—if only more funds could be secured.

Mr. Fryer gave most encouraging accounts of the interest taken in the Institution at Home, as reported by his correspondents; and his only fear was that there would be difficulty in finding enough room for all the specimens of machinery, apparatus, &c., which might be expected to arrive. A letter of thanks to Messrs. Boyd & Co., for their munificent donation and courteous offer of assistance, was read by Mr. Medhurst, and approved.

Mr. Fryer was requested to address the Managing Directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Navigation Company, a warm letter of acknowledgment for their courteous consent to carry packages, free of freight, addressed to the Institution.

A question was raised as to whether it would not be possible to commence operations in a hired building, as agreed to at a former meeting, but in view of the fact that several lots were under consideration, and that a building suitable for all preliminary purposes could be erected in three months, it was resolved to purchase land and to build with all reasonable despatch.

Mr. Fryer submitted the Prospectus of the object and plan of the Institution, which he had been requested to draw out for publication in China and at Home; and having been read and slightly amended, it was approved as hereinafter annexed.

A letter was submitted from J. D. Bishop, Esq., offering for exhibition in the Institution a valuable collection of apparatus used in Electrical Science; and Mr. Fryer was requested to acknowledge the loan in fitting terms, and to state the conditions on which it would be accepted.

W. H. MEDHURST.

PROSPECTUS FOR THE CHINESE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION AND READING-ROOM.

1. *Object*:—The object of this Institution is to bring the Sciences, Arts, and Manufactures of Western Nations in the most practicable manner possible before the notice of the Chinese.

The means proposed are:—

1st.—An Exhibition of machinery, apparatus, manufactured goods, etc.

2nd.—Lectures and Classes for Scientific Instruction.

3rd.—A Chinese Library and Reading Room.

It is hoped that after this Institution has been a few years in operation, it will lead to the establishment of branch Institutions by the natives themselves, in different parts of the Empire.

2.—*Management*:—The affairs of the Institution, as far as Shanghai is concerned, are to be managed by a Committee of Eight members—four being Europeans and four Chinese. A Committee is also to be formed in London, to co-operate with that in Shanghai, and manage all that is required to be done for the Institution in England and Western countries generally. Each Committee is to elect its own Secretary and Treasurer. A half-yearly report is to be drawn up in English and Chinese for general distribution, shewing the state of the funds, the names of subscribers, new articles received, and the progress made in the different branches of the Institution generally.

3.—*Funds*:—It is hoped that the Institution will eventually become to a great extent self-supporting. But as at the outset a considerable sum is required for the purchase of land, for erecting a suitable building, for the purchase of books, apparatus, and furniture, and for current expenses, Foreign subscription lists are to be issued by the Committee in Shanghai, and by that in London, while a Chinese list is to be circulated among the native officials and gentry in all parts of China. A suitable house is to be hired for the use of the Institution until a permanent building has been erected. The Institution will be free to all respectable Chinese for at least a full year after it has been formally opened.

4.—*Exhibition*:—The Exhibition is to consist of models or specimens of machinery, apparatus, tools, and manufactured articles of all kinds—in fact, of anything calculated to promote the introduction and general use of Western manufactures in China. Such articles may either be presented or lent to the Institution. If lent, the expenses of freight and delivery must be borne by the exhibitor, who will not be allowed to remove anything till it shall have been exhibited for one full year. If presented, all expenses are to be borne by the Institution, after the articles have been placed in the hands of its agents in London. For the present, and until suitable premises are ready, of which due notice will be given, by advertisement or otherwise, no articles of great bulk or weight are to be received. The Committees will allow a reasonable amount of space to each exhibitor gratuitously, as far as the size of the building permits; but they reserve the right to refuse space to anything they may consider unsuitable, and also, after the Institution has been opened at least a full year, to establish a fixed charge for articles lent on exhibition, should a deficiency of funds render such a step necessary.

It is also proposed to devote a portion of the building to the reception of any articles of Chinese manufacture that may be considered of sufficient interest for exhibition. While promising to use every precaution for the safe keeping of all objects entrusted to their care, neither Committee holds itself responsible for any loss, accident, or injury that may occur. The name and address of the exhibitor, together with the price, and any explanatory details that may be sent, are to be translated into Chinese and affixed to each article. A descriptive catalogue is to be prepared in Chinese and circulated as widely as possible. The blocks for engravings of articles exhibited, may be forwarded for gratuitous insertion in the catalogue. Advertisements will be inserted at reasonable rates.

It is hoped that Foreign Mercantile Firms in Shanghai and other parts of China, will see that it will be greatly to their advantage not only to countenance this Exhibition themselves, but also to prevail on the Firms they are connected with at Home, to render as much assistance as possible. Detailed Regulations for this Exhibition are to be drawn up and published at an early date.

5.—*Lecture Room and Classes*:—The Lecture-room is to be provided with a collection of philosophical apparatus. It is hoped that manufacturers may be induced to send presents of such apparatus. The Committees are to complete the collection if necessary from the funds of the Institution. Free Lectures are to be delivered in Chinese on scientific subjects, as occasion offers; and the apparatus is to be of a kind suitable for lecturing purposes. Classes are to be formed for teaching such scientific subjects as a sufficient number of respectable natives may desire to study. The Committees will receive applications for admission into the classes, and will select such candidates as may appear to them to be the most eligible. No fees will be charged; and the Chinese and Foreign gentlemen who conduct these classes, will give their services gratuitously. The Rules for Lectures and Classes are to be determined at a future date.

6.—*Library and Reading Rooms*:—The Reading Room is to be furnished with all the Chinese newspapers and periodicals that can be procured, and the Library with all the translations into Chinese of European scientific and other useful works that are obtainable, as well as all native works of general interest. Rules for the Library and Reading Rooms are to be drawn up by the Committee at a future date.

Amusements.

FOOCHOW RACE MEETING.

Stewards—A. W. Walkinshaw, Esq.; E. Sheppard, Esq.; H. Hickling, Esq.; S. W. Pomeroy, Esq.; F. Temple, Esq.; C. G. Tatham, Esq.; J. G. Hart, Esq.; Judge—F. Temple, Esq. Clerk of the Course—J. A. H. Drought, Esq. Starter—S. W. Pomeroy, Esq.

The Foochow Autumn Race Meeting took place on the 7th and 8th inst., and was, says the *Foochow Herald*, one of the most successful gatherings of the kind that ever took place in Foochow. On both days the weather was bright and genial; the Course was in splendid order; an unusual number of ponies were entered for the different events, and there were large fields. On the first day the usual party of Mandarins—including the Fantai and Taotai—were present. The latter brought with him some rolls of silk, one of which he presented to each successful jockey. Sporting men in Shanghai, equally with those at Foochow, will regret to hear that the veteran pony Grasshopper, after running a game race for the Welter Stakes, and coming in a winner, dropped down dead a little beyond the post.

The following are the events and winners:

FIRST DAY.

1.—NANTAI PLATE.—$100—For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Half-mile. Twelve entries; eight ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Benachie* 1
,, Skelton's *Caractacus* 2
,, Sheppard's *Prince Charles* 3

Caractacus led the greater part of the way, but towards the close was collared by *Benachie*, who won easily. Time, 62 4/5s.

2.—MAIDEN STAKES.—Of $10 each and $100 added. For all China Ponies, *bonâ fide* Griffins at the date of entry. Weights as per scale. ¾ mile. Six entries; three ran.

Mr. Frederick's *Pioneer*.....1
,, Pomeroy's *Mumbo Jumbo* 2
,, Skelton's *Royal Tiger* 3

Pioneer led throughout, and won easily. Time, 1m. 43s.

3.—"FEI MA" CUP.—Presented. Value $300. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. 2 miles. Eight entries; six ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Caprice* 1
,, Skelton's *Tallapoosa* 2
,, I'Anson's *Rouble* 3

This was a splendid race. *Rouble* and *Tallapoosa*—the two favourites—led three times round, and appeared to be winning easily, when *Caprice*—ridden in fine form—came up and secured the race, by about half a length. Time, 4m. 40 2/5s.

4.—HACK STAKES.—A Sweepstake of $10 each. For all China Ponies not otherwise entered at this Meeting, except for the WELTER, CONSOLATION, and STEEPLE-CHASES. Weights 12st. Half-mile. Seven entries; four ran.

Mr. Hickling's *Blackmail* 1
,, Annandale's *Kickshaw* 2

Meprisè led throughout, and won as he liked, but on weighing out, his rider was found to be 4lbs. short, and was consequently disqualified. *Saunterer*—who was second—was disallowed first place, owing to his neglecting to weigh out in the paddock.

5.—CRITERION STAKES.—Of $25 each. For all China Ponies. Nominations to close one month before the races, half forfeit. Weights as per scale. 1¼ mile. Nine entries; five ran

Mr. Willwynn's *Benachie* 1
,, Skelton's *Tallapoosa*.....2
,, Sheppard's *Prince Charlie*.....3

This was a very close race between *Benachie* and *Tallapoosa*, the former winning by about half a length. *Prince Charlie* a bad third. Time, 2m. 48 2/5s.

6—SUBSCRIPTION CHALLENGE CUP.—Value $. For all China Ponies *bonâ fide* Griffins at the date of entry, to be won 2 years in succession, at the Autumn Meeting, by a pony or ponies the property of the same owner or owners, the pony to be allowed to run 2 years in succession. Half entrance Fees to go to the winner, and half to an accumulating Fund for the ultimate winner. Nominations to close one month before the races. Entrance $15—$5 forfeit. Weights as per scale. 1 mile. Three entries; two ran.

Mr. Frederick's *Pioneer* 1
,, Armstrong's *Vanity* 2

Won easily by *Pioneer*, who led throughout. Time, 2m. 22s.

7.—Chaa Sze Cup.—Value $150. Presented. A Steeplechase for all China Ponies, three times round, over a Course selected by the Stewards. Catch weights over 10st. 7lbs. Ten entries; six ran.

Mr. Hickling's *Bintang*.....1
,, Skelton's *Royal Tiger* 2

Bintang and *Royal Tiger* had the race to themselves from the second round.

Second Day.

1.—Leger Cup.—Presented. Value $100. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winner of Nantai Plate 10lbs. extra. Once round and a distance. Fifteen entries; five ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Caprice* 1
,, I'Anson's *Rouble*.....2
,, Skelton's *Caractacus* 3

A good race; won by about ¾ length. Time, 1m. 27½s.

2.—Hongkong Cup.—Value $—. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winner of Fei Ma Cup 7lbs. extra. 1½ miles. Twelve entries; four ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Benachie*.....1
,, Joey Bagstock's *Bar Sells*.....2
,, Hickling's *Grasshopper* 3

The race lay between *Benachie* and *Bar Sells* all through, and the former won by half a length. Time, 3m. 31s.

3.—Souvenir Cup.—Value $100. Presented. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Griffins at date of entry and not winners previous to this race allowed 7lbs. 1 mile. Nineteen entries; four ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Caprice* 1
,, Skelton's *Tallapoosa* 2
,, Sheppard's *Sir Galahad* 3

Time, 2m. 15s.

4.—Welter Stakes.—Of $10 each with $50 added. For all China Ponies that have run at this Meeting. Winners excluded. Weights 12st. 7lbs. Half-mile. Ten entries; four ran.

Mr. Hickling's *Grasshopper* 1
,, James' *Sentry Go!* 2
,, Clearall's *Leechcraft* 3

This was *Grasshopper's* last race—after running gamely, and coming out victorious, he dropped down dead—a few yards from the post. Time, 63 4/5s.

5.—Compradores' Cup. — Presented. Value $245. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winner of the Fei Ma Cup, or Hongkong Cup, 7lbs. extra, if of both 12lbs. 1¾ miles. Ten entries; three ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Benachie*.....1
,, I'Anson's *Rouble* 2
,, Skelton's *Tallapoosa* 3

Time, 4m. 5.

6.—Consolation Stakes.—Of $5 each with $30 added. For all beaten Ponies that have run at this Meeting. Weights as per scale. 1 mile. Six ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Meprisé* 1
,, Joey Bagstock's *Bar Sells*.....2
,, Caldecott's *Little Squerries* 3

Time, 2m. 17s.

7.—Champion Stakes.—Compulsory on all winners at this Meeting to enter, (except winner of Hack Stakes.) Weights as per scale. Entrance $10 for first, and $5 for each subsequent race won. 1¼ miles. Two ran.

Mr. Willwynn's *Benachie*.....1
,, Skelton's *Tallapoosa* 2

Benachie in a walk. Time, 2m. 56s.

8.—Visitors Cup.—Value $—. Twice round and a distance, over a course to be selected by the Stewards. Catch weights over 11st. Winner of Chaa-sze Cup 7lbs. extra. Eleven entries; three ran.

Mr. Snaffle's *Shadow* 1
,, Sheppard's *Sir Galahad* 2
,, Hickling's *Bintang*.....3

Sir Galahad's rider made a mistake about the distance—taking it to be three times round.

Third Day.

"Caprice" Cup.—Value $100. 1½ mile. 1.—*Bar Sells.* 2.—*Tallaposa.* Time, 3m. 28½s.

Match between *Rouble* and *Caprice.* 2 miles. Won by *Caprice.* Time, 4m. 39s.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, January 15th.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge.*

Reg. *v.* Saliman Morbrook.

Wounding with a Knife.

The prisoner was indicted, on three counts,—1st, for wounding with a knife, on the 23rd November, 1874, causing grievous bodily harm; 2nd, for an assault, causing actual bodily harm; and 3rd, for a common assault.

The prosecutor was a Chinaman, named Hsü Zin-sheng; the prisoner was an Arab, or native of Muscat, who had formerly served on board the P. & O. steamer *Delhi.*

Mr. H. Brougham Miller appeared for the defence.

The following answered to their names as jurymen, and went into the box, but were not sworn, the prisoner not being formally arraigned, for reasons which appear below:—Messrs. Rowley Miller, H. R. Hearn, R. Johnstone, T. G. Williamson, and F. T. Williams.

The Judge asked if there was an interpreter present?

Yang Heding, the Consular interpreter, was in Court, to interpret for the prosecution; but there was no one present who could interpret Hindostanee or Arabic.

Acting-Superintendent Stripling said he had despatched a messenger for one, who would probably be in Court presently.

The Judge, after an expression of regret that the Jury should be delayed, tested the prisoner's knowledge of English, by reading the indictment over to him, and asking him if he was guilty of the offence imputed to him.

The prisoner uttered some almost inarticulate sounds, but did not seem to understand what had been said to him.

The Judge—The Court cannot proceed without an interpreter. These men (alluding to the prisoner) serve in our ships a number of years, but they never understand English when it suits their convenience not to do so.

The Court sat for some time in solemn silence, during which the jurors in waiting quietly departed, leaving their five less fortunate brethren sitting in the box, one of whom, with much resignation, requested that a message might be sent to his mafoo to take his trap home.

Another interval of silent waiting followed, during which three grave-looking, but dirty Chinese entered by the public door, followed in haste by a police-sergeant. This official whispered something to

Mr. Stripling, who afterwards informed the Court that the sergeant had been unable to find an interpreter.

The Judge—Then I cannot detain the Jury any longer. The prisoner must be remitted to prison. (To the Jury)—Gentlemen, you are dismissed.

Mr. Brougham Miller—Would the Court, before the Jury are dismissed, consider the question whether the prisoner is a British subject or not?

The Judge—Have you been able to communicate with him? No one else has.

Mr. Miller—No, I have not.

The Judge—Then for his own sake the prisoner had better go back to gaol. If that question is raised, and the prisoner prove not to be a British subject, nor the subject of any Treaty Power, he will have to be handed over to the Chinese authorities. It will be better in the interests of the prisoner not to raise the question.

Mr. Miller asked if the adjournment was *sine die?* If so, it would be rather hard upon the prisoner, who had already been in gaol for some time.

The Judge said the adjournment was not occasioned by the absence of witnesses, for they were all present; but because there was no interpreter, and the trial could not proceed without one. His Lordship added that if, ultimately, the prisoner be found guilty, he would of course take his previous imprisonment into account.

Mr. Miller—Yes, my Lord, we none of us suppose you will do your worst. But suppose he is found not guilty?

The Judge intimated that he had mentioned the best course under such unlooked-for circumstances.

It was stated that the prisoner had been detained in gaol because the prosecutor was unable to leave the hospital.

Mr. Miller said the wound appeared not to have been a very serious one.

The Judge, referring to the surgical testimony taken at the committal, read to the effect that if the wound had been very little deeper it would have been very dangerous.

The Court shortly afterwards rose, and the accused was taken back to prison.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 16th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

Wha Ching *v.* J. S. Morphew.

Claim $20, for goods sold and delivered. Defendant admitted his liability to the extent of $14.25, and said that plaintiff, who was a boot and shoe maker, had been in the habit of supplying him with boots and shoes for the last twelve months. He had recommended him to other customers, and very lately had discovered that shoes which plaintiff charged him $4 per pair, he had only charged his friends $3.00 per pair, therefore he (defendant) had cut $6 for six pairs of shoes supplied during the year.

Plaintiff said that he had charged $3 per pair for shoes for cash only.

Defendant said that when he made the deduction in the bill, the plaintiff agreed to take the amount due, less the $6.00

Plaintiff said that he made the agreement to accept the amount less the deduction providing he was paid the 1st day of December, but as he had not been paid, he now claimed the full amount.

His Worship said that if defendant only paid once a year he thought that plaintiff was justified in making a higher charge than he would on a cash transaction. But apart from that, the plaintiff must have judgment on the simple ground that he had agreed to supply goods at a certain price, and that having supplied them, he was entitled to be paid the contract price, whether it was higher or lower than the price for which he supplied other customers with the same goods. Judgment with costs for the plaintiff.

Wa-shing *v.* F. W. Templemore.

Claim $5, for work and labour done.

Defendant not appearing, and plaintiff having proved his claim, judgment was given by default.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, January 14th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

Edward Jones, a seaman of the British str. *Glenroy,* was charged by Capt. Hogg with being absent without leave, and with refusing duty.

Defendant admitted the charge, but said that he was willing to return to his duty if the captain would let him have his clothes.

Capt. Hogg explained that he feared that defendant would run away, and as a matter of precaution, he had taken the bulk of his clothes aft: he allowed him to have whatever he needed out of them.

His Worship ordered defendant to return to his duty; to forfeit two days' pay, and pay the costs of the summons.

Monday, Jany. 18th.

R. *v.* John Battiste.

Defendant, a coloured seaman, residing at the Sailors' Home, was charged by Mr. Bowen, Superintendent, with the theft of a pair of blankets, the property of the Home.

Mr. Stripling said that the blankets were usually served out at 7.30 p.m., and last night, shortly after 8 p.m., defendant was seen by two of the inmates of the Home going out of the gate with the blankets under his arm. The blankets had not been found.

Defendant admitted that he took the blankets, but he was drunk, and did not know anything about it at the time.

Mr. Stripling said that defendant had just served three months with hard labour for refusing duty on board the *Lucerne*.

His Worship sentenced defendant to two months' hard labour, and to be deported.

Jan. 19th.

R. *v.* EDWARD JONES.

Desertion.

EDWARD JONES, A. B. of the steamer *Glenroy*, was charged with desertion. In answer to His Worship, defendant said he left the ship because he was badly treated by the mate, and had all the dirty work on board put upon him; altogether he was leading a far different life to what he had expected, more especially, as he had letters of introduction from influential people connected with the firm. He left the ship on Saturday evening, taking only a part of his clothes. The ship sailed on the following morning. He expected to get some employment as a clerk on shore.

His WORSHIP—How can you expect to get a situation after having been before me now twice, this time for an offence that I must punish by sending you to prison? Notwithstanding the warning I gave you on the last occasion, you deliberately break the law. If the mate had ill-used you, you should have complained at once to the captain.

Defendant.—I asked him for my discharge, but he refused to give it me.

His Worship.—Then you had no right to break your agreement by leaving the ship, thereby putting the captain to great annoyance and trouble. I shall send you to prison with hard labor for one month; if your ship returns to this port within that time, you will be sent on board. You had much better have stayed on board your ship.

Defendant.—I think so too, now, Sir.

U. S. CONSULATE.

Shanghai, Jan. 18th.

Before O. B. BRADFORD, Esq.

Drunkenness and Assault.

BERNARD QUINN, a seaman of the U. S. S. *Kearsage*, was charged with being drunk and assaulting a jinrikshaw man, and also resisting a native constable who endeavoured to arrest him.

It appeared that the defendant came from the French Concession, and on being asked for his fare at the foot of Garden bridge, he violently assaulted the jinrikshaw man, striking him in the face with his fist. A native constable came to the rescue of the jinrikshaw man, when defendant turned upon him, rolled him in the mud, and pulled a handful of hair out of his head.

MR. BRADFORD ordered defendant to be kept in confinement for one week on bread and water, and to pay 20 cents to the jinrikshaw man. The defendant was informed that his sentence was made so light, on account of its being expected that his ship would leave before the end of the week.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 12th.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., U. S. *Consul-General*, H. E. the TAOTAI of Shanghai; and Dr. YATES, acting as Interpreter.

C. E. HILL *v.* ESTATE OF YANG TAIKEE.

The hearing of the above case was resumed by adjournment from the previous Saturday. The Court at once proceeded to hear further evidence, and the first witness called was

C. J. ASHLEY, who deposed—I am an American citizen. I was at one time employed with the Soonkong, or Ward's Force, in suppressing the Taeking rebellion. I mean the "Ever-Victorious Army." I joined it in the early part of 1861, and remained in it until 1863. My position was Quartermaster-General and Paymaster. There was no difference in the officers of the Force until after Ward's death in 1863. There was no change whatever in the Chinese management of the Force while I was with it. My chief dealings for funds, &c., were with Taikee. I had no dealings with any other Chinese officials. I received the funds for payment of the foreign officers, steamboats, and the troops generally, from Taikee. I remember the steamer *Keor-jeor* being employed with that Force. In the early part of summer, I think in May, I was ordered by General Ward to take an engineer, and make a trial trip with her. I did so, and reported favourably to the General. There were some little alterations made in her, and she was turned over to the Force. She was used while I was with the Force—until I went to Hongkong, in September, 1862, in connection with the Force. After that I saw her no more, but heard by common report that she was still used. My offices, &c., were then turned over to Benson. I went to Hongkong for arms and ammunition for the Soonkong Force. I furnished coals and stores afterwards for the steamer. She had no name that I knew of at that time. The engineer I took was the second engineer of the *Zingari*. I do not remember his name; he was drowned during the trial trip. He was a British subject, and his name will be found probably at the British Consulate. All I know of Woo Taotai's connection with the Force was that I was at times employed by Ward to go to him with despatches. I never saw the charter-party. The steamer was used as a despatch-boat, but she had a gun put on her, to fight when up the creeks. There were several other steamboats here, but they were larger, and employed in the silk trade. Fletcher and Co. had two or three. I cannot say positively that they were here at the time the *Keor-jeor* was chartered. They were here after the rebellion. The *Keor-jeor's* charges for running were more economical than any other boat. She was very small. I only know by hearsay about her capture. It was common report that she was captured up the river.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—I had my chief dealings with Taikee, and with no one else. I never saw Taikee sign any papers himself, but I saw his compradore, Li, do so for him. He is in Court. (Witness identified him.) He was the man who invariably handed to me all cheques for payment of steamers, &c. I simply went there with my bills for expenses, and Li read them over and paid me. Taikee was at times there, and at other times he used to take them to Taikee's private room, and then bring me the money. I have often seen native chops on Taikee's writing table. I cannot read or write Chinese. I never saw Woo Taotai sign or seal any documents in connection with the Force. I always saw to the correctness of all payments in connection with the Force. It was my duty to do so. I think there were eleven steamers in connection with the Force. They were the *Confucius*, *Pluto*, *Zingari*, *Williamette*, *Hyson*, *Bopeep*, *Cricket*, *Keor-jeor*, *Rose*,—I can hardly remember, it is so long ago. I think there were eleven, but do not remember the other two. The *Confucius* and *Pluto* were guild boats—I believe the Shantung guild. I do not know how the other boats were engaged. It was commonly understood that the *Rose* was Taikee's own property. The *Zingari* was a Chinese owned steamer. The *Hyson* was purchased from Russell & Co. by General Ward. The *Martin White*, a tow boat, was also used in the Force. She was half owned by Ward and half by Taikee. I know about the *Keor-jeor* simply because Ward ordered me to take her on the trial trip. It was reported that she belonged to Mr. Hill. I had no authority from Mr. Hill to receive the vessel. We took her from Hunt and Company's wharf. Mr. Hill was a partner there at that time. She was taken from their machine shop. As Paymaster of the force, I paid the expenses of those steamers. The money for the boats at Soonkong was paid by the Paymaster there. I sent the money to him. The boats at Shanghai were paid by me. I only paid the portage bills. I do not know who paid the hire of the steamers. The steamers that were chartered I know Taikee paid, because I chartered them for him myself. I did not charter all the steamers. There were some chartered by other people. I chartered four before I went to Hongkong.

The TAOTAI asked if the witness could remember the four he chartered?

Witness—The *Nanzing*, *Lotus*, *Shum-li*, and *Annette*. The charters were drawn up for me in Trautmann's office. I took them to Taikee, and he approved them.

Cross-examination resumed—Taikee did not sign them. I think the only sealing was the chop that Li used to put on them. I did not see him attach any seal to them; but I think that was the way it was done. I seldom saw the Tautai when I went to his Yamên, but sometimes I received a despatch back in answer to the one I took. I never got any orders from the Taotai. I believe all the orders for the Force came from General Ward. I do not believe he received any orders form Woo or anyone else. I do not know whether Taikee gave orders to General Ward what was to be done. I never heard any dispute as to the hire of the steamer *Keor-jeor*. There was no dispute while I was in the Force; and the first I heard of one was after the first arbitration in 1863 for settling the claims of the Soonkong Force. I do not know who were the first arbitrators. I never was present at any of the meetings. I know nothing of the second arbitration. I know there was a first and second arbitration, nothing more. I had a claim, which was against the Soonkong Force. It went in with the first arbitration. It is not settled yet. I heard of no disputes in connection with the steamers. So far as I know, there has been no trouble with any of the other boats. The money for the *Hyson* came from Taikee's hong. That was the only vessel I saw cash paid for. The *Keor-jeor* was only used for the Soonkong Force, while I was in it, as a gunboat and despatch-boat. She was not used privately by Taikee that I know of. I did not see the *Keor-jeor* at Shanghai, after she was blown up. I believe she was blown up and sunk during an engagement between the Imperialists and rebels, in the summer of 1864, but I am not sure as to the date. She was then in the hands of the rebels. I never heard any reason given why the payment on account of the *Keor-jeor* was disputed, nor that Mr. Hill ever attempted to seize the steamer. I do not know that Taikee was the agent for the suppression of the rebellion. We looked upon him as one of the head men, and went to him for money. I supposed that Woo was of higher rank than Taikee; I did not know that Taikee was an official. I knew nothing as to his official capacity whatever. I simply went to him for money and stores.

Captain JOSEPH ROUSE, deposed—I was employed on the *Confucius*, and was engaged with the Soonkong Force from early spring 1863 to 1864. I remember the *Keor-jeor* being employed for the Force. It was said by general report that she belonged to Mr. Hill. I think she ceased to belong to the Force through being captured by the rebels in 1863. I think we were sent to try to recapture her. I did not see her recaptured. I was told she was taken by the United States Marshal. I know nothing about the chartering of the *Keor-jeor*.

The TAOTAI asked if the witness knew where she was captured?

Witness replied—At the East or water gate of Soonkong.

The TAOTAI—And that you know by others telling you?

Witness—Yes.

Examination resumed—From the capacity and work required of the *Keor-jeor*, I think she was a very economical boat.

The TAOTAI asked who was captain of the *Keor-jeor* when she was captured?

Witness—She was then in the hands of Dr. Macartney She had had two or three captains at different times.

The TAOTAI—Was Macartney captured in her?

Witness—No; I believe he was up in the city at the time.

Cross-examined by Mr. COWIE—I was master of the *Confucius*. She was employed to protect the junks in the silk trade along the coast. She belonged to a guild—a Chinese Chamber of Commerce. When we were employed with the Soonkong Force there was always a Mandarin on board from whom we received our orders, and I always knew when we were employed for the force, because we received orders and coals &c., through the Mandarin. I never knew Taikee in connection with the Force. I knew the *Keor-jeor* was at that time employed as a despatch-boat, running to Soonkong. I do not know of her being employed except in connection with the Government Forces. I never knew anything of this claim until within the last four months. I received my wages from the Mandarin on board. The money came, I believe, from the Shanghai junk guild. I do not think it came from Tai-kee. I was formerly, 1863, in the Harbour-master's office, but left voluntarily.

Re-examined by Mr. EAMES.—Our ship, the *Confucius*, was sometimes sent up to Tientsin;

but I never knew the *Keorjeor* employed with any other than the Soonkong Force. I think I can swear to that as a fact.

Colonel Edward Forester deposed—I am an American citizen, and was engaged in Ward's Force from early 1861 to early in 1863. I was second in command, next to General Ward. I always had general control when Ward was absent. He was seldom in Soonkong, which was my head-quarters. The Force originated with Taikee, as the moneyed man, and Ward did the work. I looked to Taikee for my authority. He was known as the originator, the getter-up of the Force, and we looked to no one but him. Eventually Woo had something to do with it. The first time he appeared upon the scene was when Burgevine and Taikee had trouble. I never knew Woo in connection with the Force before that time. It was in February, 1863. Taikee had nothing to do with the immediate command in the field, but he used to give directions where we should go. I am speaking of this Province, and only before the time of the dispute with Burgevine. After this time, things changed, and Li Futai took command of the entire Force. Before this, the Chinese officials, by my request, interfered with the Force, but not without my request. I remember the *Keorjeor*. Mr. Hill asked me to use my influence with Taikee and Ward to get her chartered. She was not then completed, but was in the water. That was about April 1862. General Ward thought she would be a first-rate boat for the service, and went with me to Taikee, and she was chartered. I never knew whether there was a written charter or not. She was employed, and remained in the service until March, 1863, but I cannot say how long after. She was not to my knowledge in any other service than with the Soonkong Force. She was under the control of Taikee, General Ward, and myself. There were two or three reasons why she should be employed. At that time we were entirely cut off by the rebels from Soonkong by land. The other boats were side-wheel boats and expensive, and I recommended the *Keorjeor* because she was low and narrow and we could get her at any time under the bridges and into the city of Soonkong, where no other boats could go. Her consumption of coal was I do not think so much as the least steamer we had before. I know nothing of her loss. I can be positive that the amount of her charter was to be Tls. 3,000, or $3,000, per month. The term taels was more frequently used in those days, and that gives me the impression that it was taels. I saw the *Keorjeor* the last time between the 6th and 10th of March, 1863, when I left for home.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond—I know nothing of the chartering of the other steamers, except by reputation. I heard General Ward speak of their expenses, but I know nothing about them. I never saw the charter parties of any of the other steamers. I do not know if there was one for the *Keorjeor*. I have every reason to believe there was. Ward had nothing more to do with the Chinese Government than I had. It was Taikee,—not Taikee and Ward. I do not know who employed Taikee except the Government. I think he got something for every place recaptured from the rebels. When the original owners went back upon their land, they paid 33⅓ per cent, which Taikee received, and out of it paid the Force. I have every reason to believe it to be so, as it was so translated to me by Taikee, some Mandarins, and smaller officers. I cannot say who employed Taikee. Li Hung-chang was Futai at the time, and Woo was Tautai. I cannot say if Taikee got his authority from the Provincial Government or from Peking. I knew afterwards that Li Hung Chang was the man, but whether he acted by authority from Peking I do not know. Taikee told me he had the authority of the Government to raise the Force. The Soonkong Foo, a very high officer, never took any interest in the Force, and we never had a bag of rice from him. After the dispute with Burgevine, Li Futai came forward and took the command of the entire Force. After this time I had communication with Li Futai and Woo Taotai. They offered me the entire command of the Force, after Burgevine's dismissal. There was mutiny under Holland's command, and Li Futai offered me $1000 to go and quell it. I went, and the mutiny was quelled. When I last saw the *Keorjeor*, she was under Holland's command, that is, in connection with what was still known as Ward's Force. I never heard that Hill tried to seize the steamer, and know nothing more of her, as I went home in 1863.

Re-examined by Mr. Eames—The mutiny at Soonkong arose in consequence of Li Adong being put in command with Holland.

Mr. Eames here submitted several affidavits of other witnesses, who were absent.

Mr. Cowie said he had only received press copies, which were very indistinct. He thought clean copies should have been supplied.

Mr. Drummond objected to the admission of those documents in such a case as this; and thought it was only proper that all the witnesses should be heard in Court.

The Taotai, on the request being interpreted to him, declined to receive any documentary evidence. The witnesses must be present in Court.

There being no other witnesses present to-day,

The Consul-General, at the request of Mr. Cowie, made the following statement:—When General Ward died, Burgevine succeeded to the command, at the recommendation of Admiral Hope. He was not at all successful in making things go smoothly at Soonkong. At the latter part of 1862 or beginning of 1863, I heard that Taikee had refused to give any more money. I heard also that Burgevine came to Taikee's house, and that there was an altercation. Burgevine then returned to Soonkong, and received orders to turn over the command to some one else. He refused to do so, and said he should hold the steamers there at the time. Among them was the *Confucius*. I advised him to reconsider his decision, and he appeared soon afterwards at Shanghai, on board the *Confucius*. He represented to me that there were large amounts due on account of the Forces. Woo then asked that I would remove Burgevine from the steamer, and return her to the guild. I asked Woo what agreement could be made to pay the claims, and it was arranged that a commission should be appointed, to which they should be referred, he to appoint one commissioner and I the other. When that paper was drawn up and signed, I requested Burgevine to leave the steamer. The Taotai named on his own part, Mr. Jenkins, and I named Mr. Rodgers, managing partner of Wetmore, Cryder & Co. An advertisement was inserted in the papers asking all parties to send in their claims to the commission. After about two months, the commission reported to me. I reported to the Taotai the result, and asked him to make payment of the sums awarded. The Taotai said that many of the claims were not good ones, that he would pay some of them, but declined to pay in full. He entered into details, and I found that some of his objections were well founded. I found that the cause lay not with the commissioners, but in consequence of a failure on the part of the Taotai and Taikee to enter full statements. I then thought it right to enter into an examination of these claims myself. This examination occupied several months. We arrived at a result, which shewed that some of the claims which the Taotai had objected to were good, and he then agreed to admit them. I asked him to pay the sums he admitted, but he still refused, because Benson, who acted as Paymaster under Burgevine, had not sent in full statements. I then proposed that a second arbitration should be called, to examine the claims more fully and his charges against Benson. He agreed to this, and documents were fully drawn up in Chinese and English. The second Arbitrators were Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury. I had myself rejected some of the claims which appeared bad. None of the claimants appeared before the Arbitrators. Most of them were my own countrymen, and they appeared content to leave their matters to me. The Arbitrators brought in their decision in February, 1864, but whether this claim of Mr. Hill's was urged before Messrs. Hanbury and Cunningham, I do not remember. I remember that Mr. Hill had made some sort of sale of this steamer to Taikee, and that he was dealing with Taikee himself; and I remember very distinctly thinking that if any of these claimants can manage their own business, so much the better. My impression therefore is that Mr. Hill's claim was not submitted, but that those of some foreign officers on board the *Keor-jeor* were. The Arbitrators admitted very many claims which the Taotai had rejected. They decided that Benson had done nothing wrong. I called upon the Taotai to make payment upon the award. In response he sent me a cheque to cover the claims he had never disputed. The others, which he had disputed, but which were admitted by the Arbitrators, he refused to pay. The sums entrusted to my hands were duly distributed; the others remain unpaid to this day.

Mr. Drummond asked that copies of the two awards of Arbitrators might be produced, as he thought it could be shown that Mr. Hill's claim was preferred before Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury.

The Consul-General was understood to say there could be no objection to the production of those documents,

Mr. Eames again asked that the several affidavits he had before alluded to might be put in as evidence.

The Taotai, on this being interpreted to him, refused to permit the adoption of the suggestion, saying that much had been said by the witnesses who had already been examined, and he would not accept the statements of other persons who were not in Court.

Mr. Eames, in reply to a question, said there were several other witnesses to be examined, and he might include among them Dr. Yates, who probably would not refuse to make a statement.

Dr. Yates said he would not object to state matters, so far as he knew them.

The Consul-General remarked on the inadvisability of either Dr. Yates or himself, looking to the position they held in the Court, being called upon to make any statement at all. He (the Consul-General) had been alluded to in such a way, however, in regard to the transactions connected with the arbitrations, that he had considered it better to make the statement he had made, when asked to do so.

Some further conversation ensued as to the production of documents and witnesses, and the case was again adjourned.

Foo, one of the late Taikee's representatives, and said to be a defendant in the case, made personal application for a prolonged adjournment, on the ground that his mother, aged 73, had just died at Ningpo, and he must pay honour to her memory.

A consultation ensued upon this request, and ultimately.

The Taotai declined to allow a further adjournment, and Foo consented to remain in Shanghai.

The Court then rose.

18th Jan.

The hearing was resumed to-day. Mr. I. B. Eames appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Drummond and Mr. Cowie for the defendants.

The several papers asked for by Mr. Drummond, at the former hearing, on behalf of the defendants, were produced.

William E. Sherman was first called, and deposed—I am an engineer and machinist, and am an American citizen. I arrived in Shanghai about the middle of April, 1863. I got employment the day afterwards, at Thomas Hunt & Co.'s machine shop. I remained there until sometime in September or October following. I was engaged in setting up sundry small steamers. One was a steamboat for Fletcher & Co., the *Yuen-fah*. I think the *Haining* had been finished shortly before that. Two other small steamers were set-up in the same yard at a later date. I remember the *Keorjeor*, and saw her soon after I arrived here. There were no others of the same class then running here. I went up to Tunka-doo with Captain Jones to arrest her. I think that was about June, 1863. I had no communication with Mr. Hill about it. I only heard from Captain Jones that there was some trouble about money matters, between Mr. Hill and the Chinese. He asked me to go and get the steamer, and bring her down before Hunt & Co.'s—what is now the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. We did so, but I think she went away again sometime next day. I do not remember that Captain Jones told me under whose instructions he acted. I inferred that he received instructions from Mr. Hill. The other small steamers were about the same size as the *Keorjeor*—a little larger, with a greater draught of water. I do not think those other steamers could have gone up to Soonkong.

By the Tautai—I was on board the *Keorjeor* at the time I speak of.

The witness was not cross-examined.

Mr. EDWARD CUNNINGHAM deposed—I remember having been one of the arbitrators on this matter of the claim of Mr. Hill. I should state that after ten years' interval since the arbitration my memory was indistinct, until I had refreshed it by reference to documents in the possession of the U. S. Consulate-General. The claim was presented to us, and it was disallowed because there was no evidence of a properly executed charter-party to the Chinese Government. No charter-party was produced. If a charter-party executed by Taikee had been produced, I do not think it would have been sufficient for us to have allowed the claim upon, against the Government. I should add that Taikee acted sometimes for the Chinese Government. Mr. Hill did not appear before us. We did not notify him to appear. I sold the *Hyson* to the Chinese Government. I should say she was larger than the *Keorjeor* and more than twice as valuable. We sold her for Tls. 30,000. That was in 1862. The *Hyson* could have gone up to the water gate of Soonkong, but not through it.

CHEN said there was a very small steamer also called the *Hyson*, bought for Tls. 1500.

Witness resumed—The *Hyson* was a side-wheel steamer. I remember the *Keorjeor*. Steamers of this description were very valuable at that time, and very large prices could be got for them. I should say that Tls. 3,000 per month was not exorbitant for such a steamer at that time.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—I acted as arbitrator on behalf of American citizens, through Mr. Seward. Mr. Hanbury acted for Woo Taotai, on behalf of the Chinese Government. As usual in arbitrations we acted jointly and equally for both sides. There was no difference between us. The claims were placed before us by Mr. Seward. No claims were put before us by anyone else or through any other channel. The evidence placed before us was chiefly documentary,—evidence taken before the other arbitrators. That is as near as I recollect. The claims were solely between foreigners and the Chinese Government. No claims were made against any Chinese official personally. They were against Woo Tautai, as representing the Chinese Government,—at least I presume so.

The CONSUL-GENERAL recalled to the witness's recollection a claim in connection with General Ward's private estate, which was personal to Woo Taotai, and which was included in those submitted to the arbitrators and upon which the arbitrators made a separate award.

Witness resumed—I had forgotten that matter, until Mr. Seward reminded me. I think we called for further evidence both for and against the claims, before making our award. We endeavoured to satisfy ourselves in every possible way that a claim was improper, before disallowing it. A copy of the first award was placed before us, together with the other papers. We noticed that the claim of Tls. 12,000 was awarded by the former arbitrators. I do not think there was any reference in that award to the charter-party, or to evidence supporting it. We went entirely upon the documents, and paid very little attention to the first arbitration. We did not think it was carefully done. We had a strong impression it was not satisfactory, and thought it easier to go through it again. I do not recollect asking for a charter-party. Whenever we were in doubt about a claim, we asked for other documents. I have no doubt we did ask for special information as to this claim, it being a very large one, and having been allowed once. I remember nothing about documents having been lost in connection with this claim. I do not recollect whether we considered it a claim upon the private estates of Woo Taotai or Taikee. I presume so. We thought those claims we allowed were supported by sufficient documentary evidence. They were all claims in connection with the suppression of the rebellion; and all such claims were regarded solely as properly to be made against the Chinese Government. I supposed the claims in general had no reference to private individuals, with the exception of the one against Gen. Ward's estate. If we had had a charter-party presented with the seal of Woo Taotai affixed, I think we should have considered that sufficient to have bound the Government. Taikee was undoubtedly acting as a sort of broker on behalf of the Chinese Government, but he had no official position that we knew of.

Re-examined by Mr. EAMES—We made no special enquiry as to this claim of Mr. Hill himself.

The TAOTAI asked if the witness remembered to have cast out several other claims, one of Tls. 895.78 for Hunt & Co?

Witness said he could not remember without referring to the award, and the document was handed to him. He then answered in the affirmative; and in reply to other questions from the Taotai, mentioned other and smaller accounts which had been rejected. Mr. Hill's claim of Tls. 12,000 was thrown out, as against Woo Taotai for the Chinese Government.

J. I. MILLER deposed—I am a British subject, and was in Shanghai in 1862 and 1863. I was in the house of Jarvie Thorburn & Co.; I was in the silk-room. There was considerable difficulty in those days in getting silk down from the country. I cannot say at this period of time that I remember the names of steamers so employed. A small steamer that could have gone though the water-gate of Soonkong would have been very useful. The usual price for conveying silk down was then Tls. 10 a bale, either by steamer or foreign house-boat. I do not think Tls. 3,000 per month was an exorbitant price to charter a steamer for at that period. She might have earned four or five times as much by chartering her to Chinamen.

A. C. WESTALL, a British subject, was the next witness, and gave exactly corroborative evidence.

PETER JACOB ROHDE, a German subject, deposed—I was in the Soonkong Force, the "Ever-Victorious Army." I joined it in March, 1862, and remained till it was dissolved in May, 1864. I held the rank of colonel. I remember the *Keorjeor*. She was in the service of the Force from May or June, 1862, till she was taken the next year by Burgevine. She was a screw-boat, about 70 feet long, and drew from 2½ to 3 feet of water. She was the only boat we had that could go up to Soonkong. A steamer at that time with a gun, as the *Keorjeor* had, had a considerable effect upon the rebels. There was no free communication by land between Shanghai and Soonkong. She was an economical boat, consuming about a ton of coal in 24 hours. The other steamers were much more expensive. I had no knowledge of or communication with Taikee.

By Mr. COWIE—I know nothing about the chartering of the *Keorjeor*.

GUSTAV T. BAFFY deposed—I am a Prussian. I was in the Soonkong Force late in December, 1862, and remained till it was disvolved in 1864. I was a Captain in the first regiment. The *Keorjeor* was employed to run dispatches between Shanghai and Soonkong. She was taken by the rebels in 1863. She is now running for the Chinese between Nankin and Nganking, on the Yangtsze river, and to Soochow. I was told that by a Chinese, and do not know it of my own knowledge.

The TAOTAI asked if the witness could give the name of the Chinaman who told him?

Witness said he could not, but would enquire.

The TAOTAI asked if the Chinaman lived in Shanghai?

Witness said no, he was engaged on board one of the Yangtsze river steamers.

The TAOTAI asked what business witness pursued now?

Witness said he was steward of the German Club Concordia.

The TAOTAI asked if the Chinaman alluded to was engaged on board one of Russell's steamers?

Witness replied in the affirmative, but did not know which one.

The TAOTAI asked, when the Chinaman was found, that he might be sent to the U. S. Consulate-General.

JONAS HOWGATE, a British subject, deposed—In the latter end of 1862, I was engaged in the Shanghai Arsenal of that time, teaching the Chinese to make shot and shell. It was afterwards removed to Soonkong, and I was there in the same capacity, remaining in it for two years. The *Keorjeor* came up to Soonkong, and to the best of my recollection Dr. Macartney and Dr. Jamieson were on board. Some men boarded her and took her away. Dr. Macartney and Dr. Jamieson came into the city about four o'clock, and said the steamer had been taken from under their feet. When Soochow was given up to Li Hung Chang, the Arsenal was removed to Soochow, and I saw the *Keorjeor* there. It was close to Li's Yamên. Her bows had been blown out, and she was brought there by the Mandarin who raised her. A man named Reed, living in Shanghai, was to receive $500 for repairing her. He built a coffer-dam around her, and so got her in position to be repaired.

The TAOTAI asked if Reed was here now?

Witness replied that he did not know. All he knew was that the boat was raised, that houses were built upon her, and that she had steam up. The man who offered the $500 was a Chinese Mandarin, who had a small Arsenal next to the other, and made mortars, &c. He was a Government official.

Examination resumed—The *Keorjeor* was used by the Chinese authorities in connection with the Soonkong Force. She was peculiarly adapted for going up small creeks in shallow water.

By Mr. COWIE—I am of opinion that when I was going to Hankow in the *Shanghai*, I saw a steamer very like the *Keorjeor*. I cannot swear that, but I could soon prove it by the plates that were put in her at Soochow. I cannot say anything as to the chartering of the steamer.

ALFRED SILVERTHORNE deposed—I am a British subject, and was connected with Ward's Force from May, 1862, till the latter end of 1873. I was Major in command of the 3rd Regiment. The *Keorjeor* was in use when I joined the Force. She was handy for going up the Soonkong Creek. We had no other steamer that could do it. I remember nothing more about the *Keorjeor*.

The CONSUL-GENERAL asked if that closed the plaintiff's case?

Mr. EAMES said he was now in the hands of the Court to a certain extent, and must ask for a little latitude in the case. He proposed to take the evidence of the next witness, which would be very brief, and so close his case so far. If the counsel for the other side, however, should set up some startling or novel defence, which he thought was very likely from what had been already said, he should ask for permission to put in more evidence.

Mr. DRUMMOND said permission to do so could be asked when occasion arose.

The witness alluded to was then called.

J. F. MACLAUGHLIN deposed—I am an American citizen, and was engineer of the steamer *Confucius* during the rebellion, when Burgevine was in command. I remember the *Keorjeor* as engaged with that Force. I do not remember when she ceased to be so employed. I do not think there was then any other boat that could go up the Soonkong creek. I was sent up to try to recapture her, after the rebels had taken her.

By the TAOTAI—Captain Rouse was then in command of the *Confucius*, and of course he gave me the order to go.

Examination resumed—I believe the *Keorjeor* was a very economical boat.

Mr. EAMES said that was his case, with the reservation he had previously mentioned.

Mr. DRUMMOND applied for an adjournment for some days, as there were papers to look through.

The TAOTAI asked how many witnesses there were on the defendant's side?

Mr. DRUMMOND said there were about six, including both Chinese and foreign testimony.

The Court granted the application, and immediately afterwards rose.

Miscellaneous.

INDIAN NOTES.

We cull from the Indian papers received by the *Sarpedon* (in advance of the mail), a number of items which will probably interest our readers.

Regarding the progress of Tea cultivation, the following information is given:—

The cultivation of tea continues to prosper in the Chittagong district, the outturn last year being very favourable. The outturn of tea in the Darjiling District has risen from 21,000 maunds in 1870 to 45,000 maunds this season. Indian tea to the extent of 29,4101lbs. was exported to Australia in October last; and the total exports in November were

2,040,771lbs. Since the beginning of the year they have amounted to 16,556,842lbs.

The *Englishman* has the following with reference to the Burmo-Chinese Expedition :—

The Burmo-Chinese Expedition, which is now on its way to Yunan, will probably be absent from six to eight months. It is commanded by Colonel Horace Brown, one of the most distinguished officers of the Burmah Commission. The party is accredited to the Viceroy of Yunan by passports from Peking, and is accompanied by two attachés from the British Embassy there. Mr. Ney Elias, who received a gold medal from the Royal Geographical Society for boldly penetrating alone and unarmed into Mongolia, is a member of the Expedition, and Dr. John Anderson goes as Scientific Officer with a small staff of Eurasian and native collectors. Dr. Anderson is already well known as a traveller, having accompanied the former Expedition to Bhamo and Yunan, and written a valuable work describing the country through which he passed. The expedition starts from Bahmo, and proceeds along the route followed by the Expedition of 1867-68 to Teng-ye-Chew (Momien), whence it is intended to go to Yunan City and to Talifu. From there the Expedition is to proceed to the river Yang-tsze-Kiang, by sailing down which Shanghai may be reached. The members of the Expedition, should they attain their object, will be the first Europeans who have ever crossed China from the West. Two Arab horses, with a handsome saddle and trappings, have been sent with the Expedition as presents for one of the native chiefs.

The following is a useful effort to remedy very prevalent misapprehensions as to the populations respectively of India and China. :—

The authorities of the India Office have ascertained, from a careful examination of the whole of the results of the late Indian Census, that the population of India is not less than 283,000,000. But they are of opinion that if it were possible to obtain a perfectly accurate census of the inhabitants of the whole of the Protected States, of the hill and forest tribes, and of the tribes of the eastern frontier and the Sub-Himalayas, the total population of our Indian Empire would actually amount to not less than 300,000,000. It will be remembered that, a few years ago, the "one hundred and eighty millions of our Indian subjects" used to be spoken of, and latterly this has given place to the more liberal estimate of "two hundred millions". And now, it appears that we must talk of two hundred and eighty millions at least, when we speak of the population af India, if we wish to be even approximately accurate. But this is not all. A few years ago it used to be stated that the population of China amounted to 500,000,000. At the present time it is generally reckoned at 400,000,000. But there has been no census of China, as there has been of the greater part of India. Indeed there are many reasons for the growing opinions of some that, after all, the population of China may be found not to amount to more than 300,000,000.

Medical men in China, who have tried in vain to find a cure for leprosy, will be interested in knowing that "Dr. Dougall has cured 16 out of 37 lepers at Port Blair with gurgan oil." A Native Assistant Surgeon has also discoverd that liquor lyttœ gives instantaneous relief in cases of scorpion bites.

There has been some talk of the possibility of starting a cotton-spinning factory in Shanghai, and we have even heard that a gentleman who was engaged in erecting mills at Calcutta has paid these Settlements a visit with the view of introducing that industry. The speculation seems to be taking in India, for we notice that "another spinning mill, called the Dunbar Cotton Mills Company, Limited, with a capital of Rs. 1,000,000, is to be started near Calcutta."

From a memorial in the *Peking Gazette*, it would appear that the King of Burmah, after an interruption of two centuries, has again expressed his readiness to acknowledge China's supremacy in the south-west, by sending tribute to Peking. In view of this circumstance, it is curious to notice that he is also said to have sent two officers to Russia to ask for Russian officers to drill his troops. And another paragraph states that two tame white elephants—a very pretty pair—have been sent down to Rangoon by the King of Burmah, to be forwarded by steamer to Europe as a present to the King of Italy. His Majesty, says the writer, seems to be wooing by turns all the sovereigns of Europe.

India is likely to be honoured with a visit from His Majesty the King of Portugal, who wishes to see Portuguese India and Macao. At the same time a tour is contemplated through the important parts of British India. During His Majesty's absence, the Regency of the Kingdom will, it is expected, devolve on his August Consort. The Duc de Saldanha, among others, is spoken of as likely to form one of His Majesty's Staff, and it is just possible that the Honorable Sir Charles A. Murray, the British Ambassador at the Court of Portugal, may, with the consent of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, also accompany His Majesty.

We already know by telegraph the result of the investigation into the identity of the alleged Nana Sahib, and though the papers do not yet give that result, they seem without exception to have anticipated the discharge of the prisoner.—A correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* at Alláhábád gives a new version of the capture of the supposed Náná. He says :—

"When the Maharaja Scindia first intimated to Colonel Osborne, the Political Agent, that he was in possession of the Nana's person, before delivering him up, the former attempted to make some stipulation about guaranteeing the prisoner his life. Hot words passed between the Agent and Scindia. The former peremptorily demanded an absolutely unconditional surrender. The upshot was that Colonel Osborne threatened Scindia that, if his prisoner was not delivered up within three hours, he would order out the British troops, and march them on his (Scindia's) luskur. The Agent then left the palace, and drove to the Residency. After a couple of hours Scindia sent a message to the Colonel, saying he was ready to surrender his prisoner, and made over he was accordingly—not the Nana himself, it is said, but some one who had, in the meanwhile, been substituted for him. It is the prevailing opinion amongst well-informed circles here, that Scindia was, or is, in possession of the real man, and that he has flouted our Government with a lay figure—though a live one withal."

Clippings.

A communication has been forwarded to us which may prove interesting to our nautical friends. Last Friday night, the 8th inst., was clear but dark, and the Amherst Rock was distinctly seen from the deck of a pilot boat at a distance of 9½ miles, Shaweishan light being also visible at 24½ miles. The bearing of the North Saddle was S.E. by E. ¼ E., and the Amherst Rocks N.N.E. ¼ E. Again, with Gutzlaff bearing south, and the Lightship N.W. by W., the North Saddle Light was plainly in sight though at a distance of 29½ miles. The night in question was one of so dark and yet clear a description as is seldom experienced in these latitudes.

There is something almost touching in an announcement like that recording the last victory of the well known racing pony *Grasshopper*, which dropped dead after passing the post as winner of the Welter Stakes, at the Foochow Meeting, the other day. *Grasshopper* began his career on the turf at the Shanghai Spring Meeting of 1873, when he ran second for the Griffins Plate and the Brokers' Cup, and on the third day of the Meeting won no less than three races, including the "Champions." He was sent South soon afterwards, and ran with some success at Hongkong, as well as at a former Meeting in Foochow.

The following Masonic appointments have recently been made. At the meeting of the Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 501) on 28th Dec.—H. D. Camajee, W.M.; G. C. Stent, P.M.; J. Brown, S.W.; R. Pestonjee, treasurer; U. Harris, secretary; J. Passmore, S.D.; C. Minck, J.D.; T. Ford, I.G.; T. Hore, tyler. At the meeting of the Tuscan Lodge (No. 1024) on 4th inst.:—J. J. Miller, W.M.; T. W. Eckfeldt, P.M.; L. Moore, S.W.; J. F. Goodfellow, J.W.; H. J. C. Barlow, treasurer; J. C. Hughes, secretary; B. Palamountain, S.D.; W. Hopkins, J.D.; T. Hore, tyler. The officers of the Northern Lodge of China for 1875 are:—E. Tobin, W.M.; W. A. Turnbull, P.M.; H. Watson, S.W.; R. Fergusson, J.W.; M. Hawtrey, treasurer; C. V. Housman, secretary; H. S. B. Usill, S.D.; A. Bean, J.W.; W. Brand, I.G.; T. Hore, tyler.

Under the head of Missionary Wall Papers for China, a contemporary says :—Some curious specimens of the new system of photo-lithography as applied to Chinese have recently been brought to our notice. They consist of a series of "Wall Papers," intended for gratuitous circulation in China, each of which contains in the centre a large engraving of a Bible subject, taken from the *British Workman*, and on either side a description in Chinese, rendered in the words of the Bible. These Chinese characters were penned by a Chinese scholar, and by means of photography were transferred by Messrs. Partridge and Co. to stone. They have, therefore, all the appearance of written characters—a circumstance which will, we doubt not, attract the attention of the Chinese, who have the taste to prefer the rounded and easy strokes made by a native brush to the hard and angular lines stamped by the metal type usually employed by foreigners in printing Chinese.—*Athenæum.*

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	2 % prm.
Steamer Cos.			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	3 p. c.	Tls. 79½ cash, 82 March
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		8
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70 ex div. nomnl.
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	80 ex div.
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	5 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd).	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 73½
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 360 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	$ 573 ex div.
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 79 March
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 188 ex div.
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.60 p. sh.	530
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	121 ex div.
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	129 ex div.
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	4 p. c.	90 June
S'hai Racket Club.	120		..
Bridge of Boats (Ningpo)	500		..
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c	104
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate			73½

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

SEASON 1874-5.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687.24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	... 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ... .. ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3.22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda ..... ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319.98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
		Carried forward ...	488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
		Brought forward	488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Glenearn ..... s.s.	Dec 31	London	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet ..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
		Total.....	489,935.20	79,168.33	569,103.53

TO UNITED STATES.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mikado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N. Y&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo ..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
		Total.....	10,348.46	94,832.79	105,181.25

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam ..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore ..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
		Total.....	4,146.73	5,265.03	9,411.76

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JANUARY 20TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—*Fleurs Castle* from London, and *Sarpedon* from Liverpool.

Telegram—London, 16th January.—*Cotton Mid. Orleans*, 7⅞d. strong; 8¼-lbs. *Eagle Grey Shirtings*, 9s. 9d.; *Iron*, £10; *Lead*, W.B., £24 15s.; *Disconnt.* 4 per cent.

Piece Goods.—The business in Piece Goods since 13th instant has possessed but little to commend it to the favorable attention of importers. A few heavy operations in 7 and 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* have taken place, but the rates paid, viz., Tls. 1.35 *a* 1.36 per piece for common qualities of the former, and Tls. 1.62 *a* 1.64 for fair ordinary, and Tls. 1.78 *a* 1.80 per piece for Collie's *Eagle* 8¼-lbs., show some decline on former currencies, justifiable perhaps in the face of the heavy December export from home (which has been confirmed as 28,000,000 Yards of Plain Cottons to Shanghai) and the fact, that for years past prices have been higher before than after China New Year; although—and with reference more particularly to the latter ground—one might have fancied that there was not room for much decline on late quotations. A portion of the Settlements are destined for Japan, and some will be distributed locally, but the bulk of them are on speculation, and will probably remain in godown until the Northern season opens. 6-lbs.—Small sales of this weight at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.32 per piece continue, but in heavy makes scarcely anything has transpired.—Sales, about 75,000 pieces 8¼-lbs; 7-lbs. 23,000 *a* 25,000 pieces, 10-lbs. 500 pieces, and 6-lbs. 17,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—Excepting an enquiry and a few small transactions in fine cloths, at from Tls. 2.60 *a* 3.00. There is little or no movement to record in hard cargo 64 Reeds, but floating supplies have been placed to some extent at former rates, viz., Tls. 2.05 for good chop, and Tls. 2.20 for Dewhursts' best.

T-Cloths.—The lower counts of 6 *a* 7-lbs. have been wanted, but stocks of both are light, and sales consequently limited. The ruling rates have been Tls. 1.06 *a* 1.10, and Tls. 1.18 *a* 1.19 per piece, respectively. The tone of the market for the inferior *Mexican* descriptions is not so strong as it was, and importers could not now sell at the quotations of a fortnight ago, but good medium qualities have been disposed of to the extent of about 16,000 pieces at Tls. 1.38 *a* 1.42 per piece. Special chops of 8-lbs. find their customary retail market, but otherwise there has been little done in that weight.

Drills.—On or about Saturday last, an enquiry for *Dragon* chop 15-lbs,—common quality—price under Tls. 2.35 per piece, came from Yokohama, but thus far buyers have succeeded in satisfying it in part only. There is not the cargo here, and holders do not care to accept current offers. This turned the demand on to other chops, but the success has not yet been divulged. Good *Dutch Drills* have also been asked for, but buyers expect to get them at about Tls. 2.25 *a* 2.27 per piece, at which there is no sellers. *American Drills* ex *Golden State*, are held for Tls. 3.35 *a* 3.50 per piece, which will probably be the opening prices this season.

Jeans.—Rather heavy sales of *English* cloth were effected whilst last mail was under despatch. Since then the business comprises only 5,000 pieces at Tls. 1.85 *a* 1.88 per piece, and the market closes quietly. Tls. 2.75 has been offered for *American Jeans*—Beaver—ex *Golden State*.

Sheetings.—For the *American* cloth in stock buyers are gradually raising their offers, but they have to go higher yet before they can get supplied. Tls. 3.75 per piece is the figure last tendered. Of the *English* fabric no sales have been disclosed.

Fancy Cottons.—A few *Turkey Red Shirtings*, *Velvets*, and *Printed Twills* have changed hands, but otherwise there is little to report. The sales comprise: *Turkey Reds* 700 pieces finest at Tls. 2.70, and 800 pieces fair 2½-lbs. at Tls. 1.80 per piece. 500 pieces *Velvets* at Tls. 0.16 *a* 0.19 per yard, and 280 pieces *Printed Twills* at Tls. 2.00 per piece.

Woollens.—The scarlet *Long Ells* C.P.H. sold ten days ago at Tls. 7.25 are not yet worked off, and so the dealers have done nothing further in the article during the past week. The last Hongkong advices report lower rates there. *Camlets.*—On this market there has not been much done in *English* Camlets—beyond the sales by auction on 14th instant—but 400 *a* 500 pieces of best *Dutch* have been taken at Tls. 18½ *a* 19 per piece.—In Hongkong, C.P.H. assorted have been sold at prices comparing very favorably with those current here. *Medium Cloth.*—A small business continues to be done, but the enquiry is neither lively nor strong. *Spanish Stripes.*—A quiet market, and unchanged rates, but weak. *Lustres* and *Lastings.*—Nothing to report. At auction yesterday some very badly damaged *Figured Orleans* sold well.

Overland letters from Tientsin to 4th instant have been received, but commercially they do not contain anything of interest, and from Hankow the only business reported are a few pieces of heavy *Grey Shirtings*, and 64 Reed *White Shirtings*, Dewhurst's *Taiping Eagles*, at Tls. 2.60 and Tls. 2.20 per piece, delivery after China New Year, 6th proximo.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.2.0	12.9.0	14.2.5	12.9.0	13.0.0	...	...	12.1.0	12.6.0	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.5	7.0.0	6.8.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.5.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.2	0.5.3½	0.5.6½	0.5.6	0.6.4	0.5.6	0.5.6	0.6.1	0.5.4	0.7.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 14TH JANUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
S.S.G. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.47½/13.72½	12.35/12.40	13.77½/13.82½	12.75/12.80	12.80/12.92½	...	14.10/14.12½	11.85	12.47½	12.06/12.10
H.H. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.55/13.65	12.20	13.55	.....	12.95	...	.....	.....	12.40	.....
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.61¾/0.62	0.56½	0.57½/0.57¾	0.57½/0.58	.....	0.57	0.55	0.63½/0.63¾	0.55¼	.....

Sales.—*Camlets*, S.S.G. 600 pcs., av. Tls. 13.28; H.H. 200 pcs. av. Tls. 13.30 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs. av. Tls. 0.59 per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.60¾ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...℔ pc.	1.3.5 to	1.5.0
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.1.5 ,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.5
G. E. White Shirtings—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...℔ pc.	1.6.3 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed .... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Drills, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, ... ,, ...	2.3.2 ,,	2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.5 ,,	2.3.5
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb...	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.5 ,,	1.9.5
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
Sheetings—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	3.0.0
T-Cloths—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.5 ,,	1.1.0
7-lbs., do. do. ... ,,	1.1.8 ,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.3 ,,	1.7.0
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0 ,,	2.1.5
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in. ℔ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.2
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.2
Spotted Shirtings, White ℔ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0
Brocades—White, 40 yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.9.0
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.0.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in... ℔ yd.	0.1.7 ,,	0.2.0
Velveteens—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,,	0.1.5
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.0½
Blue Denims ..... ,,	0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in.... ℔ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
Camlets, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0 ,,	13.7.5
G G ,, ,,	13.4.0 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.3.0 ,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths ℔ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.9 ,,	... ..
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.2 ,,	.....
Long Ells—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ℔ pc.	7.2.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.2.5 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.0 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds ..... ,,	9.5.0 ,,	11.5.0
Crape La[illegible]s, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
Crape Lu[illegible] ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron.*—Sales consist of 9,000 bundles "M.M." quality at Tls. 2.80 per picul and 2,000 bundles "Dawes best" at Tls. 3.10 per picul less 1 per cent brokerage—delivery after China New Year. The latter sale is at an exceptionally good rate, on account of the assortment of sizes being very suitable. *Lead.*—Buyers have not yet ventured out of the old groove. They still buy only to supply pressing wants. Yet the market is firm upon them, and they have to pay for L.B. Tls. 6.15 *a* 6.20 per picul nett for what they require. Higher rates in Hongkong have strengthened holders here. *Copper.*—Very little going on, but a small sale of *Sheet Copper,*— old Japan,—at Tls. 19.60 per picul, shews an improvement on former prices for this description. *Tin.*—A slight reaction has set in and present quotations show an advance of 1 *a* 2 mace per picul. The business done is small, but holders seem very firm and look for better things after China New-year.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.	
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	160.0.0	*a* 170.0.0	COTTON—Common New	per Pic.	7.6.0	*a* 8.2.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.4.0	*a*	,, Medium	,,	8.6.0	*a* 9.2.0
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	,, Best	,,	9.4.0	*a* 10.0.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	per Pcl.	6.5.0	*a* 6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1	Nom. ,,	5.7.0	*a* 6.4.0
18 ... nominal no demand.	,,	7.0.0	*a*	,, 2	,,	5.2.0	*a* 5.8.0
19/23	,,	7.7.5	*a* 8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0	*a* 5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom....	,,	20.2.0	*a*	Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	*a* 5.4.0
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	19.5.0	*a*	,, 2	,,	4.6.0	*a* 4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.5.0	*a*	,, 3	,,	4.4.0	*a* 4.6.0
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0	*a* 3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	*a* 3.2.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	*a* 4.5.0	Common ...	,,	2.6.0	*a* 2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	.....	*a*	,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0	*a* 3.2.0
Slab, best	,,	18.2.5	*a*	,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	*a* 2.6.0
Ore	,,	15.8.0	*a* 16.2.5	PEPPER—Black	,,	9.7.0	*a* .....
HOOP IRON	,,	3.3.0	*a* 3.4.0	—White	,,	15.0.0	*a* 18.0.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0	*a* 31.0.0	RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0	*a* 3.6.0
				—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	*a* 4.0.0
NAILROD IRON—				—Best	,,	4.2.0	*a* 4.4.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.5	*a* 3.1.0	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0	*a* 3.0.0
Belgian ..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.0	*a* 2.7.0	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	*a* 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.5	*a* 2.9.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.7.0	*a* 3.8.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.9.0	*a* 3.1.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0	*a* 10.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0	*a* 3.3.0	Malabar	,,	16.5.0	*a* 18.0.0
				MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0	*a* 1.3.0
LEAD—L B	,,	6.1.5	*a* 6.2.0	FLINT STONES,	,,	0.4.5	*a* 0.5.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... ..	*a*				

COTTON—We have no change to mention to-day. Purchases of best staple have been made for the Upper Yangtsze districts, and the hongs have supplied the demand willingly at last quotations.—Business for the Southern ports also continue on former terms, and small parcels have been pressed for the English or Continental markets.

EXCHANGE.—There is no alteration to report in Sterling quotations. Banks still quote 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 8⅞d. for drawing, and all are buyers of Private Paper at 5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9⅜d. for Credits and documents, respectively. On India, the rate closes at 302 *a* 302½ post. On Hongkong, the demand for Bank paper is limited; the rate may be quoted 26⅝. Francs have been placed to a small extent at 7.31¼.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7¼d.	₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 8⅞d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅛d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.31¼	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.31¼	,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...	Rs. 302	₱ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...	Rs. 302	₱ 100 ,,

ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 26⅝ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27 per cent. disc.
INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—74.15 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.20 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,595 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Business in Green Teas continues with little or no change in values. As fine chops are scarce, more attention has latterly been paid to the common grades of Moyune and Fychow.

Settlements for the week—

Fychow, Moyune, &c.	12,656	½-chests,	at Tls.	20 *a* 40.	Stock—6,600	½-chests.
Pingsuey	527	,,	,,	27 *a* —.	7,900	,,
Shanghai-packed	—	,,	,,	— *a* —.	40,000	,,
Total.....	13,183	,,			Total... 77,800	,,

Export to Great Britain to date (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—

	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black	64,862,169	lbs. against	58,578,829 lbs.
Green	9,719,806	,, ,,	8,482,031 ,,
Total	74,581,975	,, ,,	67,060,860 ,,
To America and Canada—			
Black	1,612,500	lbs. against	757,536 lbs.
Green	13,986,200	,, ,,	19,033,929 ,,
	15,598,700	,, ,,	19,791,465

SILK.—Home *public* telegrams continue to report a firm market in London with limited business. The P. & O. str. *Golconda* with the mail of 14th January, had 632 bales silk on board, (375 bales for England, 202 for the Continent, and 55 bales for India and the Coast), the Pacific mail of the 13th inst. took 177 bales to America, and the P. M. S. steamer leaving this morning has about 310 bales engaged for New York. During the past week a large business has been transacted, and settlements are estimated at 1,600 bales, increasing total from 1st June, 1874, to date, to 61,800 bales. Amongst the most notable purchases reported are :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Cock and Worm Chop, Nos. 3, 3½ & 4 Tsatlees	395, 370 & 340	19/6, 18/4, 16/10	Tls. 54.45, 51.10, 47.00
Yah Kee do. do.	395, 370 & 340	19/6, 18/4, 16/10	Tls. 54.45, 51.10, 47.00
Grasshopper or Red Elephant	350	17/4	Tls. 48.35
Ku Kee's "Kin Jan"	347½	17/2	Tls. 48.00
Black Lion, Nos. 3 & 3½	345 & 325	17/1 & 16/1	Tls. 47.70 & 44.95
Blue Elephant	330	16/4	Tls. 45.65
Red Peacock	315 & 317½	15/7 & 15/9	Tls. 43.60 *a* 45.10
Yellow Elephant and Green do.	305 & 280	15/2 & 13/11	Tls. 42.25 & 38.90
"Tung Sen's" "Lan Ling" / "Ting Chan Kee's" "Vun Yuen"	292½	14/6	Tls. 41.20
Common Tsatlee	275 & 285	13/8 *a* 14/2	Tls. 38.20 *a* 39.55
"Tae-ho's" "Pang-ling" Kahing Taysaam	315	15/7	Tls. 43.60
"Ching-yuen-sing's Gna-ling" do. do.	310	15/4	Tls. 43.00
Market No. 3 Kahing Taysaans	270 *a* 280	13/5 *a* 13/11	Tls. 37.50 *a* 38.90

About one-third of the settlements are said to be shipped joint account with Chinese. The arrivals continue very small, and the unsold stock is reduced to barely 7,000 bales. A good demand has existed for re-reels for the American market, and about 400 bales have been purchased at ₮335 *a* 440 for Hainings, and ₮340 *a* 410 per picul for Tsatlees.

sent, and the Governor-General therefore asks that a proper form be supplied from Peking, to replace that which was lost among the official archives destroyed during the rebellion.

Dec. 25th—(1)—A decree in reply to a memorial from the Censors superintending the north division of Peking, denouncing the conduct of a member of the Imperial lineage, the *tsung-shih* Siang-nêng, *alias* Siang-ling. Having been found to be dwelling at an opium-shop, he was called to account by the Censor Liu Kwoh-kwang, at whom he roared back in an unseemly manner, and on enquiry it was found not only that he was keeper of the shop, but that he was in league with a pretended *tsung-shih* and a number of other bad characters, who made his house a rendezvous and a receptacle for stolen property. The accused person is handed over to the Imperial clan Court and the Board of Punishments, to be stringently dealt with. In reply to a further representation by the same Censor, to the effect that members of the Imperial lineage who take up their residence in the outer city are constantly resorted to by bad characters for protection against official pursuit, it is ordered that all *tsung-shih* are for the future to confine themselves, as the regulations provide, to residence within the Tartar city alone.

(2 and 3.)—Decrees setting forth mandates from the Empresses Dowager, the first conferring one degree of advancement in rank respectively on five of the surviving concubines of the Emperor Tao Kwang (who died in 1850), and the second similarly on seven of the concubines of the Emperor Hien Fêng (died 1861).

(4)—A Decree in reply to the report handed in by the Board of Punishments on the conduct of General Ma Ju-lung in connection with the rebel outlaw Chang Chau-show, who came to Peking in his train. (See *Gazette* of Dec. 6th). Ma Ju-lung's offence, in having failed to detect this, admits of no excuse, and it is ordered that, as the Board proposes, he be stripped of his official rank, but left as incumbent of his post (as General-in-chief of Hunan).

Dec. 26th.—The Court Circular records [illegible] of thanks by Ma Ju-lung on being deprived of his rank and left in office. (See *Gazette* of Dec. 25th).

Dec. 27th.—This day's *Gazette* contains nothing beyond administrative details.

Dec. 28th—(1) The Governor-General of Sze-ch'wan renews his application for leave to retire from the service on the score of ill health. He has already received by Imperial grace a congé of two months, but his maladies, which date from the period of his tenure of office as Taotai in Northern Kiangse, 15 years ago, continue to weigh him down, and he feels incapable of sustaining the burden of his important office longer. He begs that he may be allowed to retire to his native home, and assures his Majesty that so soon as amendment declares itself in his condition he will ask again to be employed.—Rescript. Let Wu T'ang have a congé of two months.

(2)—The Governor-General of Sze-ch'wan further memorializes reporting the devotion of two wives to the memory of their deceased husbands. In the first case, a daughter of an official was married in 1864 to a licentiate from Yunnan, who came to Szech'wan for a wife in consequence of the troubled state of his own province. Two years afterwards he returned to Yunnan, to compete at the examinations, and it was not until June last that he came back to fetch his wife home. Having been unhappily attacked with cholera, he succumbed to the disease. In her grief for this loss, his wife took no sustenance of any kind after his death, but she kept silence respecting her intentions in order to spare the feelings of her parents. When the funeral ceremonies were completed, she swallowed gold-leaf, and then, kneeling down to beseech her parents not to grieve overmuch, and saying that her husband's concubine in Yunnan was with child, and that it was her hope that she might bring forth a son to continue the ancestral sacrifices on her husband's behalf, she passed away, seated decorously beside her husband's coffin. In the second case, a bereaved widow is reported as having led a life of chaste devotion to her husband's memory for 26 years after his death. A mark of Imperial approbation is solicited on behalf of both these virtuous ladies.

(3)—The same high official reports that the timber for masts cut in the wild forests of the western frontier of Sze-ch'wan, to serve as lantern-poles for the Temple of Heaven at Peking, was to a large extent injured or destroyed whilst being floated down through a mountain stream, the district Magistrate in charge being at the same time drowned (as already reported; see *Gazette* of Oct. 9th.) On a survey being held by the district Magistrate of Wu-Shan, it is found that only eleven spars of six *chang* in length remain available for use. Thirteen pieces of timber forming part of the convoy, were dashed to pieces among the rapids. Officials have now been sent into the country of the barbarian tribes to provide a fresh supply, but as they have been obliged to go further than before in search of trees of fitting magnitude, the forest now selected being at a distance of more than 100 *li* from any river, with steep and rugged precipices intervening, over which roads must be made to drag the timber along, no time can be named for the probable completion of the work.

Dec. 29th.—(1).—A decree cashiering an official holding an appointment in the Board of Punishments at Moukden, for the offence, as reported by his chief, the vice-President Ming-ngan, of making a special application to him, at his private residence, for actual employment.

(2).—The Brigadier-general of the Taining division memorializes reporting his proceedings in connection with the care of the Western Imperial Mausolea. It was provided in 1852 that a sum not exceeding Tls. 300 should be expended annually in keeping the small river or canal which runs through the approaches to the tombs in repair and free from weeds. The total length at present requiring attention is 22,867 *ch'ih*. The same official, feeling it incumbent upon him to offer a loyal contribution from his own resources, proposes to provide 3,540 young cedars, which are required for replanting some of the Imperial grave-mounds. He has likewise supervised the usual autumn clearing of the boundary road 火道 encircling the mausolea.

Dec. 30th.—(1).—A Decree. Wên-siang memorializes again beseeching leave to resign his office on the ground of protracted ill health. Let him be granted a further congé of three months without resigning his office.

(2)—The acting Governor-General of Yünnan applies for the issue of a new Imperial mandate constituting the death warrant, with the usual official archives and books of reference, for the Brigadier-General commanding at T'êng-yüeh (Momein) on the south-west frontier of the province, to replace those destroyed on the capture of the city by the Mahommedan rebels.

Dec. 31st.—(1)—The Governor of Honan reports the rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking. A man named Han Wên-têh having been fatally stabbed in 1869 by a fellow-villager named Sung Kwook-kin, and the murderer having taken to flight, the victim's brother, Han Wên-ping, brought a groundless charge of complicity in the murder against certain of his fellow villagers, who were tried and discharged as innocent. He subsequently complained at Peking against these men and the police of the magistracy, whom he represented as having connived at the escape of the murderer. These charges have been reinvestigated, and found to be devoid of foundation; but as the appellant was actuated by grief for the loss of his brother in taking the steps in question, he is exempted from punishment.

(2)—The same Governor reports that a district Magistrate who was stripped of his official button in 1870 for a deficit of Tls. 6,000 and odd in the revenue, for which he was accountable, has now made good the amount; and he begs that the button may be restored in consequence.—Rescript: Let the request be granted.

Public Meetings.

THE RACKET CLUB.

The half-yearly meeting of members was held at the Racket Club on the 26th instant. Present:—Messrs. W. A Turnbull (in the chair), Cooper, Cumine, Dalgliesh, Goodfellow, Gundry, Jaffray, Jones, Hamilton, Lang, Miller, McAllister, Scott, Stephenson, and Wheelock.

The notice convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman said the Report and Accounts had been some time in the hands of members, and might probably be taken as read. An error in printing the accounts, which placed the stock at Tls. 361 instead of Tls. 391, had been brought to their notice by the Honorary Secretary. He did not know that the Report called for any special comment at his hands, but he would be glad to answer any question.

Mr. Wheelock proposed, and Mr. Cumine seconded—

That the Report and Accounts as laid on the table be passed.—Carried.

The Chairman said the next business was to consider whether they should floor the East Court also with Portland Cement. Subsequent to the late meeting, the floor in the West Court having risen in some places, caused so much uncertainty regarding it, that the Committee thought it would be foolish to go on blindly until they found through what fault the deterioration had occurred. The bad portion had been since relaid, and the floor was now level and good. The weather having been wet at the time, the Committee had sold the remainder of the cement to avoid risk of its spoiling; but it could be easily replaced by a new order, and it was for the members to instruct the new Committee to complete the other Court if they thought proper.

In answer to a question, the Chairman added that he considered the floor slippery; others did not. The light was excellent, but the existence had been ascertained of some better colouring matter which could be obtained at a small cost.

Mr. Wheelock proposed, and Mr. McAllister seconded—

That the laying of the floor of the East Court be proceeded with, and that Mr. Kidner be asked to import coloured cement, and make a contract with Weikin as before.—Carried.

The Chairman next asked the opinion of the meeting about getting lightning conductors. The building had fortunately escaped for eight years, but in the event of its being struck, it would probably suffer severely, and they would be put to large expense. They seemed to be running an unnecessary risk, and if an accident did happen, they might have difficulty in getting funds to pay the cost of repairs.

Mr. Cumine remarked that they had a Reserve Fund in the Bank. But—

The Chairman said that would all be wanted in a year or two, for a new roof.

Mr. Jones proposed, and Mr. Dalgliesh seconded—

That the Committee be authorized to arrange to have lightning conductors placed

over the building, as soon as convenient.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN next called attention to the balance sheet, which showed that the Club property was at present represented by 70 shares. Following their instructions, the Committee had during the year bought up ten shares. The question was whether the members wished the capital further reduced, or whether they thought the number of shares was now not too many.

Mr. GUNDRY congratulated the Committee on the good management which had enabled them to buy so many shares during the half-year, but thought that a limit had now been reached, beyond which further reduction would be unwise. The Club property was valuable—certainly worth much more than the Tls. 8,400 at which it stood in their books, and they should not reduce it to a point at which it would become worth the while of a few men to buy up the shares as a speculation. It was already possible that the whole of the shares should be collected in the hands of ten men; the existing rule limiting the number of shares to be held by any one member, to 7. It might be unlikely this would ever happen, but he thought it would at least be unwise to reduce the number further, and would propose—

That the Committee be instructed to cease purchasing shares on account of the Club.

He also gave notice that he would, at the next meeting, propose an alteration in the rules, reducing the number of shares to be held by any one member to 5. They had instances in Shanghai of how easily shares might be collected into a few hands, and it would be wise to take precaution against their own property becoming similarly hampered.

Mr. DALGLIESH seconded the proposal, which was carried unanimously.

The question of enlarging the stone facing on the front wall was then brought up by Mr. WHEELOCK. There is at present a diamond of Nagasaki granite surrounded by bricks. The granite answered well, and several members expressed an opinion in favour of extending it. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. WHEELOCK, and seconded by Mr. GUNDRY, was carried:

That the incoming Committee be requested to extend the granite facing on the front wall, if in their opinion the cost will be within the means of the Court.

A ballot was then taken for a new Committee, and resulted in the election of Messrs. Cooper, Cumine, Gundry, Jones, Hamilton, McAllister, Scott, Phipps, and Wheelock. Messrs. McAllister and Scott, however, declining to serve, Messrs. Findlay and D. Brand, who had the next highest number of votes, were declared elected.

Several other matters were discussed, and the meeting eventually broke up with a warm vote of thanks to the retiring Committee, and especially to Messrs Cooper (Hon. Sec.) and Scott (Hon. Treas.), for their services.

NORTH-CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the above Society, on Wednesday night, Mr. Wylie read an interesting and valuable paper, written by the Archimandrite Palladius, entitled, "Elucidations of Marco Polo's Travels in North China, drawn from Chinese sources." The deep research evidenced in the compilation, coupled with the author's personal acquaintance with the regions traversed centuries ago by "Mark Million"—a *soubriquet* given to Marco Polo by his countrymen on account of his frequent use of the latter word when describing the riches and wonders of the countries he had seen—give the paper a unique value both historical and geographical.

The chair was taken by Mr. F. B. FORBES, President of the Branch, who in commencing the proceedings, begged to tender his resignation of that office, as he was shortly leaving Shanghai to visit America and Europe. He need not assure the members how highly he appreciated the honour of having been appointed delegate of the Branch to the Parent Society in England, and would use the influence such a position gave him in every possible way to promote its usefulness. He would perhaps be able to obtain some contributions to the Library and in other ways advance the interests of the Society, during his stay on the two continents.

Mr. A. J. LITTLE said he was sure the announcement they had just heard made by the President, would be received with regret. The Society owed more of its prosperity and success to him, than to any other man in China. He had been on the Council during the last six or seven years, and for the latter two years, he had very worthily filled the office of President. Among other matters successfully brought to a good issue by his efforts, might be mentioned his intercession with the Government with reference to the ground on which the present building stood. The Society had had other places in Canton and Nanking Roads, but until they were located in that building they never felt they had a home. They had also to think Mr. Forbes for the nucleus of the Museum, which he (Mr. Little) was glad to see making what must be considered satisfactory progress, and which would, he had no doubt, ultimately become of much usefulness, and conduce to the welfare of the Settlement by assisting the spread of knowledge and enlightenment in a very interesting branch of study. He thought that when they found a gentleman who, like Mr. Forbes, though occupied in business matters during the day, was willing to work for the good of the community in such ways as those, they ought to acknowledge the excellent services so rendered. In conclusion, Mr. Little referred again to the Asiatic Society, characterising the North-China Branch as a nucleus around which gentlemen in Shanghai, fond of scientific pursuits, could gather for the interchange of thought and opinion. In the name of the members of that Branch, he begged to thank Mr. Forbes very much for what he had done for them, and to assure him that they all wished him a prosperous voyage, and would be glad to welcome him here again.

Mr. REDING had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, which was passed by acclamation..

Mr. FORBES, in reply, said he was deeply grateful for the complimentary remarks which had fallen from Mr. Little, and for the way in which they had been received by the meeting. It had been a pleasure to him to aid in the erection of the Society's building, and in the creation of a public Library and Museum. It was pleasant to observe a growing interest in these institutions; and if, as he hoped and believed, the community continued to give them a kindly support, he and those with whom he had the good fortune to work, would be more than repaid.

Mr. WYLIE said he rose with a feeling of melancholy to offer a tribute of respect to the memory of one who had just departed from among them. In the late Mr. Lang, they had one who was not only welcome at every meeting he attended, but who had the happy faculty of imparting to every meeting that kindly cordiality which he himself possessed, and for which indeed he was remarkable. They would all regret that they would see him no more among them.—Mr. Wylie suggested that a large outline map of Asia, to hang upon the wall at the rear of the platform, would be very serviceable in assisting hearers to follow the reading of geographical papers with g reater pleasure. At present they heard a number of names read, with nothing to guide them as to the localities of the places. He therefore thought a large outline map would prove very serviceable. He then proceeded to read the paper above-mentioned.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, January, 22nd.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge.*

Motion to Review the Taxation of Costs in re the Collision between the Brig "St. Francois" and the steamer "Cawdor Castle."

Mr. ROBINSON, in moving, said this was an application to the Judge to review the taxation of the costs in the above action, and it was based upon two points. The first was, whether the plaintiff was entitled to the costs of a material witness, even though it should prove that his evidence was needless; the second point was, what is meant by costs of reference? Those were the two points on which he was going to ask the opinion of the Court. No issue was joined at the time the witness was examined, though they knew perfectly well what the issue was going to be. The plaintiffs maintained, and the defendants denied, that the vessel should be treated as a total loss. If he failed in his first contention that she was a total loss because she was sunk, he was bound to be provided with evidence in support of his second contention, and the witness in question was a most material one on the point that she was at any rate so damaged as to amount to a total loss, officially appointed by the French Consul. It was felt sure that considerable weight would be attached to his evidence on the point as to whether the vessel was so damaged as to be a total loss. The Registrar and Merchants decided that as she was sunk, she was entitled to be treated as a total loss, and it was not necessary to examine the witness on the second point in the case. But he (Mr. Robinson) would have been guilty of great negligence if he had not been prepared with that evidence, supposing the Registrar and Merchants had come to a different view. Therefore, it was upon that possibility that he was entitled to have the witness's evidence, and he was very much surprised at its being disputed as being evidence not taken. Independent of any merits whatever, it was a question of principle in the Courts that the plaintiff was bound to be provided with any evidence that might be required, and if he succeeded that he was entitled to the expenses of providing such evidence. On this point, Mr. Robinson referred the Court to Chitty's Archbold, on page 512, under the head of costs, which he read.

His LORDSHIP said that referred simply to the expenses of witnesses—what was paid to witnesses at so much per day.

Mr. ROBINSON felt bound to differ from that view. In his opinion it also included the cost of the preparation of a witness's evidence. Counsel must be instructed in his brief as to evidence that might be called. There was a case in Admiralty bearing upon the argument—the case of the *Biddick*, (38, *Law Journal*; Admiralty; page 24.) It was a case of damage, and the material question was whether the vessel injured had patent furling appliances to her topsails. That was the question for the Board to decide. The defendants were prepared with two witnesses to prove that fact, but the fact was clearly admitted in the course of the evidence for the other side and consequently the two witnesses were not examined, and the Registrar disallowed their costs. But the Judge before whom the appeal was heard, said their evidence was material to the case, and that it was the defendant's duty to be provided with it, and that the Registrar should first consider whether a witness was necessary before disallowing his costs. In the case quoted it was considered necessary, and the Judge therefore referred it back to the Registrar to allow reasonable costs. He (Mr. Robinson) proceeded to say that in the *St. Francois* case he had provided a material witness, that he was bound to provide such evidence as he could give, and therefore he was entitled to reasonable costs on this account.

His LORDSHIP said he could not see how the question of total loss could arise as it was put, on the second issue.

Statement of Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods from 1st to 18th Jan., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 4 @ 13 both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Local.	Total.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	5,699	2,750	10,400	22,900	7,000	...	...	...	...	...	12,049	...	11,350	72,148
T-Cloths..... ,,	4,479	920	7,590	5,910	1,250	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	7,130	27,779
White Shirtings ..... ,,	850	200	600	3,250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,450	6,350
Drills ..... ,,	150	330	45	1,785	...	...	...	...	...	..	420	...	1,215	3,945
Jeans ..... ,,	810	...	30	2,000	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	3,410
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	50	200
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149	...	...	149
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	100	...	300	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	100	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	300
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	150	50	270	320	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,070	1,860
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	...	69	...	350	592	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	1,161
Velvets ..... ,,	...	90	102	294	...	...	...	...	...	90	450	...	228	1,254
Velveteens..... ,,	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	120
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	600	650	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,800	4,250
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	196	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	196
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	50
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	24	138	54	348	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	462	1,026
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	6	66	52	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	306	552
Camlets ..... ,,	20	170	320	1,050	...	...	...	...	280	60	...	...	180	2,080
Long Ells ..... ,,	20	420	340	1,700	60	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	180	2,780
Lastings..... ,,	20	20	100	200	30	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	40	430
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	120
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	50	550
,, Figured ..... ,,	360	170	60	540	170	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	1,040	2,440
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	60	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	214	244	...	206	...	...	...	...	...	252	210	546	...	2,512
Pig Lead ..... ,,	210	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	247

Imports for 1875—None declared.

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Horatio, Bangalore, Omba, Star of the West, Hankow, Menelaus, Ajax, Anadyr, Golconda, Ocean, Glenroy, Provence, Gwalior, Golden State, Velocity, Fleurs Castle, Sarpedon,* and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

JANUARY 21, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—(Not given above)—January 15th, Danish barque *Korsör*, and 16th, British barque *Star of Jamaica*, from Freemantle; 18th, German brig *Peri*, from Newcastle, N.S.W.

DEPARTURES.—None.

The French mail steamer *Provence* takes about 1,200 bales of SILK and about 300 tons TEA.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 8¾d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¼d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅛d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 302½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 302½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26⅝ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅛. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.30. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 74.20 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 81.10 per 100. Copper cash, 1,540 per tael.

SHARES.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares continue 2 per cent. prem., nominal, with neither buyers nor sellers for cash; but buyers offer 2 *a* 3 per cent. for March.

S. S. N. Co.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 79 *a* 80 cash, and the market closes with sellers at Tls. 79½.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Hongkongs are in demand at quotations. *Victorias* and *Chinas* firm, with no sellers at quotations.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Sales of *China and Japans* at Tls. 77 *a* 77½ cash, and at Tls. 79 for March. Buyers now offer Tls. 78 cash. *Yangtszes* are in demand at Tls. 575, and *Chinese* at $188 per share.

Hongkew Wharves.—Sales at Tls. 85 cash; and Tls. 90 for June, with sellers for March and April at proportionate rates.

Chinese Imperial Loan.—Business is reported at £98 and ex 5/7, at which rate there are buyers.

The weather has been very cold, the thermometer ranging from 30 min. to a little over 40 max. during the week. There was a good deal of rain in the end of last week.

London and Provincial Marine Insurance Company.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in Shanghai for the above Company, are prepared to grant Marine Risks at current rates.

(s.a.) AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.
tf 2058 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

SWISS LLOYDS.

RISKS secured by a collective Capital of Fcs. 18,000,000. Claims settled according to London Lloyds' Rules.

VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.,
Agents.
2oc-75 1329 Shanghai, 29th Oct., 1874.

INSURANCE.

THE undersigned, as Agents for the UNION MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, are prepared to accept Risks by appro[illegible]teamers at Current Rates.

[illegible]W, BROTHERS & Co.,
Z *Agents.*
31ma-75 1197 Shanghai, 15th Mar., 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 403. SHANGHAI, JANUARY 28, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Dec. 11	Hankow,	Jan. 23
San Francisco,	,, 12	Yokohama,	,, 6
Hongkong,	Jan. 20	Nagasaki,	,, 21
Tientsin,	,, 11	Foochow,	,, 13

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
Hongkong, ... Oct. 22 } Received 30th Nov.
Shanghai, ... ,, 16 }

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 21st instant, the wife of THOS. R. WHEELOCK, of a daughter.

On the 24th instant, the wife of EDMUND W. WELLS of a daughter.

On the 3rd Dec., at St. George's Mount, New Brighton, the wife of JOHN A. HANDY, late of Hankow, of a son.

On the 3rd Dec., at Surbiton, the wife of D. R. CRAWFORD, of Hongkong, of a son.

On the 27th Nov., at Briggins Park, Herts, the wife of ALBERT DEACON, of a son.

On the 15th Nov., at 12, Holland-street, Clapham-road, S.W., the wife of F. A. SHEPPARD, C.E., of Shanghai, late of Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, and Singapore, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 26th Nov., at St. George's, Bickley, by the Rev. E. H. Plumptre, M.A., vicar, and prebendary of St. Paul's, STEPHEN WOOTTON BUSHELL, B. Sc., M.D., Lond., Physician to H.B.M. Legation, Peking, to FLORENCE JANE, eldest daughter of Robert Mathews, Bickley, Kent.

At Hamburg, on the 26th November, 1874, by Pastor [illegible], H. I. M. Customs service, to Miss EMMA CAROLINE HENRIETTE LADAGE, of Hamburg.

On the 1st September 1874, in Philadelphia, by the Rev. Robert Gamble, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Fisher and the Rev. Mr. Dubbs, WILLIAM GAMBLE, Esq., to PHINIE MILLER, daughter of the late Rev. Samuel Miller.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.—Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, from Japan Ports—Mrs. King, Lieut.-Col. W. Brown, Messrs. N. Shaw, Alexander and J. R. Evans. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Coryell and Fisher; 65 Chinese. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—1 European and 19 Chinese. Per str. *Yungching*, from Hongkong—1 Indian gentleman and servant, 120 Chinese. Per M. M. str. *Tigre*, from Marseilles—Mr. Murray, Mrs. Simpson and nephew, Messrs. Menier, Billiot, Mandart, and 1 Chinese. From Hongkong—Messrs. [illegible] and Lady Silver, Dr. P. C. S. etc. *Hydaspes*, from Southampton—Messrs. E. G. Rose, and A. Dallas. From Brindisi—Mr. R. S. Gundry. From Hongkong—Messrs. W. S. Young, R. G. Hubbe, A. Peacock; 40 Chinese. Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Mrs. Johnston and Mr. Sharp. Per str. *Haining*, from Chefoo—Mrs. Clarke, Mr. C. Bauermeister; 3 Chinese. Per str. *Europe*, from Swatow—Mr. Dryer; 37 Chinese.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. str. *Gwalior*, for Hongkong—Mr. C. Chakeebhoy and servant, Miss Fay. For Southampton—Mrs. Hart, Messrs. C. Dibben and H. Marsh. For Brindisi—Lieut.-Col. W. Brown.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Jan	° ′	°	°	°					
21	30.304	32.5	32.0	26.0	7	b	..	6	N. N. W.
22	30.300	32.0	33.0	25.0	7	b	..	4	N. W.
23	30.200	34.0	39.0	30.0	8	c	..	1	N. N. E.
24	30 250	35.0	41.0	27.0	8	f	..	0	Z
25	30.250	38.0	39.0	31.5	8	o	..	4	N. N. W.
26	30 302	35.0	42.0	28.0	8	f	..	0	Z
27	30.300	37.0	43.0	29.0	7	f	..	0	,,

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm, Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

Advertisement.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. JAMES MACKENZIE, of 4, Great St. Helens, London, in the firm of MACKENZIE & Co., Shanghai, ceased on the 30th June, 1873.

18te 50 Shanghai, 27th January, 1875.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, JAN. 28, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Tea. In reviewing the course of the *Black* Tea market during the past year, it cannot be said to offer much subject for congratulation. A season in which the London market, from its exceptionally favorable statistical position, offered a more than usually promising prospect, has been ruthlessly and recklessly sacrificed by the unreasoning impatience of shippers, and their obstinate adherence to the time-honored, but worn-out, tradition, that an interest in first shipments, on any terms, is sure to be profitable. This again caused such undue competition for first arrivals from the country, before any accumulation of stock was permitted, that at the very commencement a range of prices was established unwarranted by the experience of former years, and which, though saved from resulting disastrously by that same exceptional position of the article, had its effect in causing a high standard of price during the whole season. It is true, it might be argued, that this favourable position did justify a bolder action than usual; but as it cannot be known at the opening of the market how much tea is coming forward, and as the reduction in stock it had taken years to arrive at, might be neutralized in a few months by increased production, and consequent heavy shipments, this argument falls to the ground.

It was calculated that when the first of the new teas arrived home the stock of Congou in London would be smaller than had been known for many years; and this expectation was confirmed when the Board of Trade returns to the end of June were published. It was then found that the stocks of Congou in bonded warehouses were:—

			lbs.		
	On June 30,	1874	33,000,000	or	3½ mths. consptn.
Against	,,	1873	41,000,000	,,	4½ ,,
	,,	1872	49,000,000	,,	5 ,,
	,,	1871	50,500,000	,,	5 ,,
	,,	1870	58,000,000	,,	6½ ,,
	,,	1869	49,000,000	,,	5½ ,,
	,,	1868	45,000,000	,,	5½ ,,
	,,	1867	63,000,000	,,	7½ ,,
	,,	1866	70,000,000	,,	10 ,,
	,,	1865	68,000,000	,,	9½ ,,

The first arrivals at Hankow took place on the 23rd May, when 16 chops were shown, and on the same day three parcels, Cheong Sow Kye teas, were purchased at Tls. 37 *a* 37.50, or about 4 Taels over the opening rates of the previous season. The standard of price having been thus established, settlements were continued on the same basis during the next fortnight, by which time nearly the whole of the first crop, amounting to one-third of the whole season's export of Black from Northern Ports, had been settled. Teas from inferior districts realized proportionately high prices. The following table will shew the comparative prices of the two seasons for the first 22,000,000 lbs.

	1874.	1873.
Costing 2/6 *a* 3/6.	2,300,000 lbs.	1,500,000 lbs.
2/0 *a* 2/6.	7,600,000 ,,	5,600,000 ,,
1/1 *a* 1/6.	500,000 ,,	1,300,000 ,,
	22,000,000 lbs.	22,000,000 lbs.

The quality of the crop, with the exception of the Ningchows, was hardly up to the average, but the teas from this district were probably the best that have ever come forward, their quality almost justifying the excessive rates that were paid for them. Most of these kinds were taken for the Russian market.

The first vessel to leave was the *Agamemnon*, on the 26th May, but she was unfortunately delayed through grounding in the river, and left eventually on the 28th: followed by the *Glenartney* on the 29th, and the *Glenfalloch* and *Hongkong* on the 31st May. The rates of freight, and the rate of exchange, ruling up to the time of the departure of the last steamer were as follows:—

1874. Freight by steamer £5.10. Exchange 6/3 *a* 6/3¾
1873. ,, ,, 5. ,, 6/3 *a* 6/4
1872. ,, ,, 5. ,, 6/4 *a* 6/7

The sailing-vessels *Ada* and *Cutty Sark* loaded at £4. 12s. 6d. *a* £5. 0s. 0d. per 50 feet.

The *Glenartney's* was the first cargo of new tea put on the London market, where with so bare a stock it could not meet with other than a ready demand; and, had it not been that prospective profits had been discounted in China, and already gone into native hands, must have given a most satisfactory out-turn. As it was, cost on this side had been so high, that willing as dealers were to pay full prices, they were not prepared for the excessive rates necessarily demanded to cover China cost; and consequently contented themselves with buying for their immediate requirements. It was a fact pregnant with significance that, while they refrained from making offers high enough to cover prime cost of really good teas, they took freely almost anything that was offered for price with very little regard to quality. The loss of the *Gordon Castle*, however, helped the position of the high cost teas, and they were gradually quitted at prices for which the most that can be said was, that they did not lose much. Common grades by the first two ships, and occasional parcels of well bought fine teas, paid fair profits.

By the first week in June, the great scramble in Hankow was over, and on the 9th, the Shanghai market was opened. Prices were about on a par with Hankow rates, with the exception of a few remaining parcels of fine teas, which were bought shewing a loss on Hankow offers. During the whole of the latter part of June, however, supplies were scanty, and business consequently restricted, for second crop teas had not yet had time to arrive, while the first crop was already exhausted, and never before has the interval between the first and second crops been so distinctly marked. The latter began to come forward about the first week in July, and found buyers up to 27 Taels for Oopacks, and 33 [illegible] the quantity of these teas was by no means good, but arrivals were so scanty, partly owing to the large quantity settled in Hankow, that teamen were easily enabled to maintain rates, which averaged fully 2 Tales above those of the previous season, were equal to the prices of 1872, which resulted so unfortunately, and were Tls. 5 *a* 6 higher than those ruling in 1870 and 1871. During the early part of August there were much freer supplies, but daily settlements were so large that stock never reached over 35,000 chests, against a maximum of 42,000 chests in 1873, 56,000 in 1872, 66,000 in 1871, and 100,000 in 1870. Third crop teas began arriving about this time, and were eagerly taken at full prices. As each batch of musters was put on the market, a steady and continuous falling away in quality was apparent; and by the end of September it was evident the season was drawing to a close. From this date till the middle of November, when the last muster was shewn, arrivals were small, and the season finished at the earliest date on record. The total export of Congou from Northern ports aggregated 77,200,000lbs., which was divided as follows:—

To	1874-75 lbs.	1873-74 lbs.	1872-73 lbs.	1871-72 lbs.
Great Britain	68,000,000	63,500,000	65,000,000	70,500,000
America	1,600,000	800,000	1,300,000	2,000,000
Australia	....	....	....	600,000
Continent	4,000,000	4,700,000	4,100,000	1,900,000
Siberia via Tientsin	3,600,000	6,800,000	5,000,000	2,200,000
	77,200,000	75,800,000	75,400,000	77,200,000

During the year there had again been a considerable amount lost at sea, which reduced the actual quantity of black leaf Congou available for consumption.

		Were lost with
In 1874-75.	The *Canton* and *Gordon Castle* ..	2,518,130 lbs.
1873-74.	,, *Drummond Castle & Singapore*	4,550,621 ,,
1872-73.	,, *Parnassus, Lahloo,* and *Lalla Rookh*.....	3,875,389 ,,

The greater portion of the above export has already arrived in England, and although no serious losses have been made, the result to shippers has been very bare. The most satisfactory out-turn was on common teas early in the season, a few "on fine" Ningchows, which were bought shortly after the opening of the Shanghai market, and the earlier shipments of medium second crop teas. While the worst results have been on inferior second and third crop teas, especially clean common Oonam kinds, which, falsely called Oonfaas, were bought at Tls. 19 *a* 22, and in many instances could only be quitted at a loss of 1d. to 2d. per lb.

The proportion of tea shipped by steamer and sailing vessels, has been more in favor of the latter this year than last. Many shippers anticipated that by the time of the arrival of the sailing vessels the market would have recovered from the weight of shipments, crowded forward by steamer, and that their teas, being of earlier growth and consequently better quality than those arriving at the same moment by steamer [illegible] have the preference, and realize full rates. This anticipation has, with a few exceptions, proved fallacious. The great bulk of the business at home, seems to be done in the first few months after the arrival of the new tea. After that, with the exception of an occasional spasmodic period of speculation, dullness prevails. Stocks decrease month by month, without assisting matters. Prices drag and droop, and there are no signs of life in the market, till the next arrival of new teas set things going again. There can be little doubt, also, but that teas shipped by steamer arrive in better condition, and fresher, than those by sailing vessel. The proportion of tea (Black and Green) shipped by steamer and sailing vessel from Shanghai and Yangtze ports to the United Kingdom is as follows

	Steamer.	Sailing Vessel.	Total.
In 1874-1875	53,500,000	24,500,000	78,000,000
,, 1873-1874	57,500,000	14,500,000	72,000,000
,, 1872-1873	45,500,000	30,500,000	76,000,000

During the past year Foochow teas have been recovering the position they had so long lost. After the bad crops of 1868, 1869 and 1870, red leaf Teas fell into disfavor with the home trade, and the prejudice against them was so great that, till within the last two years, black leaf teas were taken in preference to red leafs, even when the latter were palpably superior to the former. During the last two years, however, this prejudice seems dying away. This has had an effect decidedly adverse to Northern Teas, which is increased by the excessive export from Foochow.

A new element of loss to shippers, has been becoming prominent during the past season, and this is the risk they incur by the scandalous way in which their property is treated by nearly every line of steamers from Shanghai, with the exception of those belonging to Holt's and the Mail Companies. It has been found lately that many outside steamers deliver a portion of their tea so burnt and dried up through being stowed near the boilers, that heavy claims are put in by the retail buyers of the tea for difference in sample. There is no hope of obtaining restitution from the ship, as no proof

can be maintained. An instance was advised a few mails ago, in which an invoice was sold and gave £150 profit, but on inspection a great many of the chests were so dried up that instead of a profit the loss is nearly £200. In another line the owners have the vessel put into dock and work overside, so that it is generally two or three weeks before the lower tiers of teas come to light; and even samples can only be obtained with difficulty, application to the owners themselves being met with the utmost discourtesy and contempt. Another item is the careless way in which Singapore cargo is taken in without any pains to separate it properly from the tea. Captains of steamers leaving China, and calling at Hongkong and Singapore and other ports for freight to fill up, place essential oils, pepper, &c., &c., and such like deleterious matters, on the top of the tea; and whole cargoes are not unfrequently deteriorated 1d. *a* 2d. per lb., through this cause. It is so difficult to enforce any claim on this account, that instances frequently are allowed to pass without notice. But the remedy lies on this side; and that the evil is allowed to continue without protest, is characteristic of the way in which business is usually conducted in China.

Summary of News.

The London mail of 4th Dec., by the M. M. str. *Tigre*, was delivered on Sunday, 24th inst.; and that of 11th Dec., by the P. & O. str. *Hydaspes*, on the following day.

A homeward mail leaves to-morrow, by P. & O. str. *Gwalior*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week.

The *Times* announces that Persia having granted a Railway concession to Russia through General Faekenhagen, notwithstanding Reuter's existing concession, Reuter has lodged a protest at Teheran.

Lord Derby has instructed the Minister at Teheran to support the protest officially and formally.

The Reichstag have voted for obligatory civil marriage.

Alphonso assumes the command of the army of the North, and declared in council his desires to maintain Religious liberty.

Spain is sending three war vessels to the North to obtain satisfaction for the Germans.

Germany accepts the promises of reparation by Spain.

Mr. Tapp has been gazetted as the Registrar of Shipping.

The most startling news of the week is the announcement of the death of his Imperial Majesty Tung Che, which occurred at Peking on the evening of the 12th instant. His Majesty was attacked by small-pox on the 9th ultimo, and after being reported convalescent, had a relapse on the 5th instant, from which he never rallied. His successor had not been nominated at the time the mail left Peking. The event is more fully recorded and commented on in our other pages. On receipt of the news, the flags in the Settlement and harbour were put at half-mast, in token of respect, although we understand that, having no official intimation of the death, the Chinese officials do not yet exhibit in their yamens the usual signs of mourning. The death of an Emperor can only be communicated, it would appear, by an Imperial proclamation issued in the name of his successor—the Chinese in this, as in most other matters, reversing the etiquette of Western States. The nation is not supposed to be without its Emperor for a day; and first therefore comes the "*Vive le roi!*" to be followed by "*Le roi est mort!*" The embarrassing situation in which the somewhat sudden demise of his late Majesty has placed the heads of the Government, accounts for a little delay in the appearance of such a proclamation; and meanwhile the only public intimation to the provinces of he loss which the Empire has sustained is the placing in mourning of the official seals, in the manner we mentioned yesterday. A change of colour from the [illegible] black to the mourning blue was adopted in printing the edition of the *Shunpao* containing the announcement of the Emperor's death, and this simple fact appeared to be accepted by Chinese as convincing proof of the truth of the intimation, which many among them had previously doubted. The Chinese are not credited with taking much interest in newspapers, but they are beginning to appreciate a popular Press, and the *Shunpao's* enterprise was rewarded by an extra sale during the day, in Shanghai alone, of over four thousand copies.

Mr. Margary's many friends, and the public generally, will be gratified to hear that Mr. Consul Medhurst has received a telegram from Rangoon, announcing that Mr. Margary had successfully accomplished his journey overland through China to Bhamo, on the 17th instant, and that the British Mission from India left that place on the 23rd following. It is to be presumed, therefore, that he has been fortunate enough to meet the mission, and that it is now *en route* downward to Hankow.

Owing to the discovery of some defect in her crank shaft, the departure of the O. S. N. Co.'s str. *Sarpedon* was postponed a few days. The shaft is being replaced by a spare one on board, and the steamer will leave on Saturday.

The French brig *St. Francois*, which was some time ago much injured by collision with the s.s. *Cawdor Castle*, has been sold at auction to Mr. Nils Moller for Tls. 4,550.

The sailings of the P. M. S. steamers have been rearranged. Instead of leaving on certain days of the week, they will in future start at fixed dates, viz., the 1st and 15th of every month. The *Oregonian* left for Hongkong on Sunday afternoon, whence she will take a mail on 3rd proximo, to connect with the *Vasco de Gama* at Yokohama. The present movement, we have been given to understand, is made with the view of having some extra freight accommodation at disposal, for tea-shippers who may wish to anticipate the re-imposition of the tea duty in the United States, which will probably commence about 1st March.

On Thursday, H.M.'s gunvessel *Curlew* was fouled by a large junk, which did considerable damage to the bowsprit and its rigging, &c. The case was referred next day to the British Consul on the question of amount to be paid for repairs, but was, later in the day, we understand, amicably settled between the parties interested.

Reuter tells us that Mr. W. H. Tapp, lately in charge of the Shipping Office of H.B.M. Consulate, has been gazetted Registrar under the new Order in Council which makes Shanghai a port of registry for British vessels. As most of our readers are aware, Mr. Tapp went home to render that assistance in connection with the framing of the Order which his knowledge of shipping and local conditions peculiarly qualified him to do; and although his preferment to the newly-created post of Registrar was a foregone conclusion, his friends here will be glad to know that the appointment is officially notified.

A meeting of shareholders in the Racket Club was held on Tuesday. The accounts, showing a profit of Tls. 332.99 on the half year's working, were passed. It was decided to lay the East Court also with Portland cement; and the incoming Committee were recommended to extend the facing of Nagasaki stone on the front wall, and to erect lightning conductors. It was resolved to discontinue the purchase of shares on account of the Club, the capital having been sufficiently reduced. The following gentlemen were elected a Committee for the ensuing year—Messrs. Cooper, Cumine, Findlay, Gundry, Hamilton, Jones, Phipps, Wheelock, and D. Brand.

The report for the past year has been issued by Messrs. Nachtrieb, Leroy & Co., Agents for the French Gas Company. Although there has not been any great increase in consumption, that which has actually occurred, taken in connection with a fall in the price of coal, enables the Agents to present a very satisfactory report. The net profits are Tls. 8,642.33, of which it is proposed to add half to reserve, raising that fund to Tls. 6,967.14; Tls. 4,180 is absorbed by two dividends, making 11 per cent. for the year, and Tls. 141.17 is carried to new account.

A clever forgery was successfully imposed upon a Chinese clerk at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on Thursday. A respectable looking Chinaman presented what purported to be an order for the payment of Tls. 1,000. This document bears the chop of one of the most influential firms on the Bund, and was made payable to a well-known wholesale teaman, whose chop was also stamped upon it. The man who presented it, said he had been sent by this gentleman to collect the money, and it was paid over to him without hesitation, in ten Tls. 100 notes. Subsequent inspection and enquiry proved the order to be fictitious, and that a double forgery had thus been perpetrated. A somewhat singular feature of the fraud is that the forger is quite unknown, even by appearance; but the fact that the notes paid are all for large amounts, it is thought likely will lead to his detection. Information having been given at the Central Police Station, Mr. Inspector Fowler immediately took the

necessary steps. Of course the Bank will not suffer, and it is understood that the clerk is also secured against loss; but the ease with which the fraud was committed should lead to the adoption of means to test bank orders presented by Chinamen before payment is made.

We give to-day the Chief Judge's decision in the motion for a review of certain items in the taxation of costs, by the Registrar, in the *St. Francois* and *Cawdor Castle* case, which was argued on Friday. His Lordship, on grounds stated, supports Mr. Robinson on the first point raised by the motion, whether the plaintiff was entitled to the costs of a material witness, M. Chagneau, even though it proved that his evidence was needless. On the other items, his Lordship concurs with the Registrar. The costs of the motion are divided.

The case of "C. E. Hill *v.* Estate of [illegible] Court on Saturday afternoon, before George F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul-General, and H. E. the Taotai of Shanghai, Dr. Yates being interpreter. Mr. I. B Eames appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Drummond and Mr. Cowie for the defendants. The afternoon was occupied in hearing the case for the defendants, in support of which Mr. Drummond submitted a number of letters, bills, &c., which had passed between the persons concerned more than twelve years ago, and having reference to various matters connected with the "Ever-Victorious Army," in which the plaintiff was interested in connection with Woo Taotai and Yang Taikee. Dr. Jamieson was examined on behalf of the defendants, and deposed as to the capture of the *Keor-jeor* at Soonkong by Burgevine and Jones, but his evidence on other points, he said, was based only upon hearsay. Two Chinamen were also presented as witnesses. They had been in Yang Taikee's service a number of years before his death, and said they were intimately acquainted with his ordinary business matters, and also with his connection with Woo Taotai in supplying and paying the "Ever-Victorious Army." Both denied that they had ever seen a charter-party for the *Keor-jeor*, or that they knew the plaintiff in any way, either now or at the time of the rebellion. There were no other witnesses called on behalf of the defendants; and, at the close of their cross-examination, it was arranged that the arguments of counsel on each side should be submitted in writing to the Consul-General and the Taotai, copies being supplied both in Chinese and English.

There was a capital muster of the S. V. C., for battalion drill, on Tuesday afternoon, in the Consular Compound, about 120 rank and file, including the band, answering to their names at the time appointed. The attendance of the band, under the leadership of M. Remusat, was another excellent feature, and added life and spirit to what would otherwise have been in some respects a tame affair. The number of spectators was large, including many ladies; and their gratification was enhanced by the bright weather and the capital music they listened to. A good word is also due as to the manner in which the drill was performed, the various evolutions being executed with a precision that drew forth an expression of satisfaction from Major Hart and the officers generally.

There was a large field out for Saturday's Paper Hunt, and the ponies seemed in splendid fettle after their fortnight's immunity from the severer trials of cross-country riding. The meet was close by Mr. Major's bungalow, where a biggish jump over a good sized creek had to be negotiated as a sort of preliminary exam. Most of the mounts got well away, though not in the spick and span style in which they appeared as they essayed the jump, but nearly a dozen failed to cross it at all, and had to join the hunt by a circuitous route, disqualified by the omission, or abandon their afternoon's sport. The weather was lovely; the ground was well selected and in good condition, though [illegible] influence of the sun on its frost-nipped surface; and spectators at Sicaway had not long to wait after the arrival of the foxes, before the hunt appeared. Mr. Walker rode in first, but is disqualified by previous successes this season; and not a dozen yards behind came four or five others, among whom the winners were Mr. R. Johnston, light weight, and Mr. E. J. Caldbeck, heavy weight. It was remarked that at no previous hunt did the field generally come in more nearly together.

At the annual meeting of members and associates of the Shanghai Temperance Society held on Saturday. Mr. Blethen was unanimously re-elected President; the Rev. J. Thomas, Vice-President; Mr. J. L. Mateer, Honorary Secretary; Mr. T. Scott, Treasurer; and Mr. L. Hassall, Librarian. The following is the new Committee—the Rev. C. Butcher, Rev. W. Muirhead, Rev. G. B. D. Miller, and Messrs. W. R. Kahler and J. Morgan.

The fourth of the series of lectures given under the auspices of the Shanghai Temperance Society, was delivered on Monday in the banquet room of the Masonic Hall, to an audience of about a hundred, including a fair proportion of ladies, by E. C. Taintor, Esq., on "The Iliad, and the recent discoveries at Troy." Commencing with an admirably condensed narrative of the mythical, or rather heroic, period of the history of Troy, and the events which followed the elopement of Helen, as described by Homer in his great epic, the lecturer, by the aid of carefully drawn diagrams, proceeded to illustrate the geographical position, long, and as the recent discoveries have proved, truthfully, believed to have been the site of the ancient city, showing beyond all possible doubt that the Homeric Troy really existed and that those events were actual historical facts. The discoveries principally described in the lecture were those made by Dr. Schliemann, whose excavations at the supposed site have led to the most unexpected and astounding results. Passing through several strata, the accumulations of succeeding centuries, each of which showed the remains of people of a less degree of civilization. Dr. Schliemann came, at a depth of over thirty feet, upon relics in gold, silver, and bronze, in the shape of arms, vases, cups, coins, female ornaments, and shields, of exquisite workmanship, all of which had evidently been subjected to the action of fire, and the forms of some of which tallied exactly with those mentioned in "The Iliad," and which must have thus lain buried for over 3,000 years. It is needless to add that a subject of this kind, treated in a popular manner, was listened to with the closest attention, and that a vote of thanks to Mr. Taintor, moved by the Rev. G. B. D. Miller, and seconded by Dr. Jamieson, was carried by acclamation.

A very large Chinese funeral procession passed through the Settlement on Sunday afternoon, on the way to deposit, in a boat at the Hankow road jetty, the remains of the gentleman whose demise was the occasion of the display, for transmission to his native [illegible] Kweichow. The deceased was a silk merchant, named Ya-kee, head of a hong in the Tientsin road, and one of his sons was formerly a compradore at Ewo, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s. Ya-kee died about two months ago, at the age of sixty-eight years, rich and respected. In accordance with a practice not uncommon among the wealthier merchants, he had acquired civilian and honorary rank as a red-button mandarin; and a large number of his official brethren were presented or represented in the *cortège*. The procession was decidedly imposing, and did space permit, we should endeavour to give our readers some description of it, although it is scarcely a novel subject now to residents out here. An enquiry as to the probable outlay entailed by it, elicited the reply from an intelligent bystander, that it could not be less than Tls. 2,000.

The Governor-General at Nanking, Li Tsung-hi, has obtained leave to retire on account of failing health, and the Governor of Kiangsi, Liu Kwen-yi, has been appointed to act temporarily in his place. In noticing the promotion of the Taotai of Shanghai to be Judicial Commissioner of Honan, we were led to state that the change was not a satisfactory one to his Excellency, because it precluded advancement as a territorial governor. We are assured, however, on good authority, that though the new appointment is of a less lucrative nature, no distinction exists between governmental and judicial posts, but that the change is rather in the ordinary line of promotion, when the official promoted is not fortunate enough to drop into a fat Salt Commissionership instead. One local precedent within recollection is that of Ting Taotai, who became a Judicial Commissioner and subsequently a Futai.

We hear that there was a heavy fall of snow in the Ningpo neighborhood on Friday night, and that the surrounding hills were covered, presenting a striking and unusual landscape. They probably intercepted the snow clouds which dropped a few flakes in Shanghai the other day, as these passed southward before the wind.

Coast, Hongkong and Japan news will be found under the heading "Outports."

Editorial Selections.

CHINA'S POLICY IN THE STEAMER TRADE.

THE first step is proverbially the most difficult; and the Chinese having found that they can go into the market and borrow, seem now to think that the way out of all their financial trouble is made easy. It is but the old story of the spendthrift, who fancies that in the purse of the miser he has found a mine of wealth, and caught by the facility with which the purse-strings were opened to his first application, digs deeper and deeper, till the mine is exhausted, and he finds the day of retribution on him. Already we hear rumours that the Chinese, pleased at the favorable acceptance of their first small venture in the borrowing line, are about, should the public like the security, to go in for a second instalment. Now it may be good policy for governments, as for individuals, to go borrowing occasionally. When money is required for really reproductive purposes, it may be the wisest and most politic thing to do. When we see a man, however, in the enjoyment of a fair income, in debt all round, and continually producing the hat to his friends for contributions, we naturally become alarmed. If we are his friends, we advise him to retrench while there is time; if he is a person for whom we entertain no particular regard, we drop him, to favour more profitable acquaintance. Now this is the condition in which we find China. The empire is in a state of peace—no foes are pressing on it from without, no insurrection worthy of the name threatens from within. The Government seems as content as the people; it has no ambition to increase the prosperity of the country at home by public works, or to raise its reputation abroad by placing its fleets and armies on a footing with European nations. A dreamy state of existence, or rather half non-existence, is its idea of perfection, yet withal it is unable to make both ends meet. If it have an ambition, it seems to be something like that of the oyster, to get rid of the foreign body which has found its way within its shell. It has not the weapons to expel it by force, so it tries to utilise what means it has. The oyster lays down a soft coating of nacre, bye and bye to become a pearl; and the Chinese Government, thinking to get rid of foreigners, buys itself a fleet of pseudo-merchant steamers, which, continually growing, will to all appearance finally expel the foreign body. While China is endeavouring to ease the pressing liabilities of her most wasteful of governments, it is interesting to observe the game which she thinks she is successfully playing. Could she but get the foreigners who have been making the country prosperous out of the way, she foolishly imagines that she herself will seize all the profits of trade. To gain this end she establishes a company which she calls with strange inappropriateness the China "Merchants'" Steam Navigation Co.—"Mandarins'" would be nearer the mark. She has one great financial abuse, which the pressure of circumstances, for a time to her own great profit and to the comfort of the provinces, nearly put an end to. We allude to the rice tribute, which for some years was converted into a money tribute, from the provinces. Nothing is dearer to mandarins, nor more wasteful to the empire at large, than this same grain tribute. Its collection, carriage, and distribution, all furnish squeezes to the lucky officers employed. It is under the special patronage of the Tienhow herself, as all abuses in China are sure to meet with a celestial protector. Now, as we said, circumstances for a time occurred to interfere with the grain tribute. The rebellion had rendered the carriage by the old route impracticable, and a money contribution was levied instead. We heard no complaint from Peking that the troops were starving for want of the grain, and none from the provinces that the commutation was oppressive. But if the grain tribute were abolished, what would be the result? In the first place, the money would be remitted at a small expense in sycee or bills—the latter, in the present state of trade, by far the most economical; but this would interfere with the perquisites of the numerous officials who fatten on the existing abuses. In the second place, supposing the money went north, what would it be used for? Marry, to buy rice. And how would this rice get to Tientsin? Marry, in foreign ships. Patriotism and self-interest would unite, therefore—so reasoned the mandarins—in keeping up the rice tribute and in conveying it in their own ships. Now it scarcely needed the last report of the C.M.S.N. Co., to show at what an extravagant rate the rice was being carried, in order to prevent its conveyance in foreign vessels. Nor is it only between the southern ports and Tientsin that the same wasteful extravagance is practised. The river Yangtsze is at the present moment the scene of a reckless competition, not carried on in the interests of trade, but at the expense of the finances of the empire, in order that a Chinese instead of a foreign flag may fly over the cargoes being conveyed between this and Hankow. Now were this done in the interests of Chinese traders, or were *bonâ fide* Chinese merchants to establish steamship companies, we could see a mark of progress in all this, however for the moment suicidal. But such is not the case. The monopoly is as hurtful to Chinese trade as it is to foreign shipping interests; and for all this the empire is taxed, and when it can yield no further, the foreigner is again applied to, to help himself out of the way. Now we will suggest a remedy whereby China shall not need to go to foreigners when she wants money. Do away with the grain tribute, pay off all the officials who have been fattening on its corruption, and dissolve the so-called China Merchants' Company. Instead, encourage by equable legislation the acquirement and use by native merchants of steamers of their own, genuinely worked for profit. Do away with the absurd squeezes which forbid trade; let no distinction be raised between natives and foreigners; let what is conceded to one because the Government could not help it, be granted to the other because it is just. Do this, and foreign banks and foreign capitalists need not be applied to, to grease the wheels of a Government, antiquated indeed, but still capable, did it only honestly stir, of much good and useful work.

DEFAULTING CHINESE COLLECTORS.

A CRIMINAL charge has been brought against a Chinese compradore in the Hongkong Police Court, which forms a notable instance of the dangers which may and do attach to the faulty system of collecting accounts so generally in vogue throughout the open ports as well as at Hongkong. Mr. Bell, the manager of the *Daily Press*, hands to his compradore or shroff, at the beginning of each month, a batch of accounts for collection. These accounts are receipted, but the compradore's returns are trifling in comparison with the amount of the bills entrusted to him. Being taxed with laziness (for apparently he was not suspected of dishonesty) the compradore offers a variety of plausible excuses. In the case which was made more especially the ground of the charge, he attributed the delay to the illness of the debtor; in others, he reported that he had left the bills for endorsement; while the prosecution now allege that the bills had been duly paid on presentation, but that their amounts have been retained by the compradore for his own use. As a natural consequence, under such circumstances, a creditor thinks his constituents dilatory, neglectful, and lacking that regularity and promptitude which ought to distinguish men of business. The status and credit of the latter suffer for a time, until matters have arrived at such a pass that explanation is sought. Of course, we do not comment on the case with any intention of prejudging the compradore's position, but simply because the charge is an illustration of the defects of the present system—a system under which we ourselves, and we doubt not many of our readers whose business involves the collection of numerous small amounts, have from time to time been made to suffer serious loss. The practice which opens up such tempting opportunities to Chinese collectors is that of endorsing the bills for payment by the compradore, a convenient arrangement doubtless for the payer, but which all experience has shown to be a very insecure one for the payee. It may be claimed that a *caveat creditor* principle should apply to any one who lets a receipted bill out of his

Mr. Robinson said it arose in this way: Supposing the case had gone against him on the first point, he should have proceeded to show that the vessel was so strained that they could not so repair her as to place her in the condition she was before the collision. A vessel might be so damaged, without sinking, as to become a total loss. The authorities showed that to have been held to be so.

His Lordship—The Registrar would have to consider the value of the ship just before the collision, and at the time immediately after it. The difference in value is what you would be entitled to.

Mr. Robinson—The defendants' contention was that she was so little injured, that the plaintiff had no right whatever to claim the value of the ship.

His Lordship—They would be required to bring evidence as to what it would cost to repair her. They might bring forward 20 witnesses to say they would repair her and put her in good condition for Tls. 100, and that would be the amount you would be entitled to.

The Registrar—The case was never [put before us in that way.

Mr. Robinson repeated that he was bound to be provided with the evidence he had mentioned. He would have been guilty of gross negligence if he had not been provided with it, and was at a loss to see how it would have been contested. He came now to the question, "What is included in costs of reference?" He had been taken by surprise by the Registrar taking upon himself to say that it was the fixed rule of the Court that one party should pay the costs of reference, and denied that it was inviolable. He had no opportunity of arguing the point, or he thought he could have shown that the justice of the case was not met in that way. How could it be said the defendants were damnified by a statement of claim? A plaintiff must state his claim—it was demanded by the nature of the case. The expense of getting up the statement was caused by the wrongfulness of the party who was held to blame.

His Lordship—But is he not supposed to state his claim in his petition?

Mr. Robinson—Not in Admiralty.

His Lordship—It would be a convenient way, as then it would be at once known what the claim was.

Mr. Robinson—But the defendant might say, "It is your business to file your claim, and after that I will say whether I will pay it or not." Until the claim had been delivered to the defendants, and until the plaintiff had failed to receive satisfaction for that claim, there was no reference at all. Without it, there would be no necessity for reference. (Williams and Bruce; Admiralty Practice, page 282.) If before reference, a formal tender had been made, the plaintiff would generally be required to pay the costs of reference; but supposing the plaintiff accepted the tender, of course the defendant would have to pay the costs of preparing the claim. In conclusion, Mr. Robinson asked his Lordship's attention to the case of the *Gazelle*, in which Dr. Lushington said, if the settlement of indemnification be attended with expense, the party giving rise to it must bear the cost. Again, in the case of the *Sir George Seymour*, before the same judge, a similar rule was laid down. Upon those grounds, he submitted, he trusted to the satisfaction of the Court, that the costs of pre- paration of this claim were expenses necessary through the wrongful act of the defendants, for which they ought reasonably to pay.

Mr. Wainewright, in opposing the motion, said with reference to the first point, all he had to say was that in the getting up of this case it was based solely upon the right established in the case of the *Columbus*, which was the right of a man whose ship was sunk, to oblige the man who sunk her to pay the full value of his ship. To charge the defendant with the costs of evidence that was not made use of, the plaintiff's case being a sound one, admitted of no defence. Looking through his friend's whole bill of costs, in the present case, the inference was that he had done something that was not necessary; and he (Mr. Wainewright) thought it was unfair that the defendants that they should be called upon to pay for evidence that was not necessary. It was clear it was never intended to call evidence of that kind, for the bill mentioned only the evidence of an isolated witness. He contended that his friend had failed to show that the decision of the Registrar and Merchants should be altered. With regard to the second point, the Registrar had decided, in accordance with the practice of the Court, that defendants were not to pay the costs of the reference to the Registrar and Merchants. The preparation of a claim was the very first step in regard to a reference; it was, in fact, an integral part of it. There could be no reference without a claim—therefore the claim was the first part of the reference. Then as to the question, how could the defendants be damnified by the preparation of a claim? That was quite possible, because the claim might be made an unreasonable one, and they might be put to a great deal of expense in meeting such a claim. The Court said to the plaintiff, You make your claim, but you make it at your own peril, as a check upon you in the preparation of your claim; and he could not see that the defendants should be called upon to pay the expense of preparing the claim, for it seemed to him that they could not separate the claim from the rest of the reference. In conclusion Mr. Wainewright cited the case of the *Peerless* (Pritchard's Digest; page 111; par. 231), in which costs for the reference and of the referent were disallowed.

His Lordship, having heard Mr. Robinson in reply, said he would look up the cases cited. An important question of principle had been raised, and he would give his decision on a future day.

Shanghai, January 22nd.

Reg. *v.* Michael Martin.

The prisoner, who was brought up in custody, was sentenced on the 23rd of July last, to six months' imprisonment, on an indictment for sending a threatening letter to Mr. Alfred Silverthorne, of the Little Astor House. The question of deportation was left to be considered at the expiration of the sentence.

The Judge—Are you able to find security?

Prisoner—I do not know. I did not know it would be wanted.

The Judge—Why not? You know your sentence. The finding of security is the only way in which you can stay here.

Prisoner—Will your Lordship allow me to make it clear to you?

The Judge—What have you to say?

Prisoner—I have been resident in Shanghai for ten years, and this was my first offence. It was committed when I was pressed by unhappy circumstances. I should like to see the Order in Council, as to whether deportation should ensue on a first offence. By an old copy I have seen, it does not appear so.

The Judge—I have nothing to do with the old Order—that is repealed.

Prisoner read over a list of first offences in the old Order for which deportation followed, and then said—My first offence was simply sending a threatening letter, and that is not included.

The Judge—I know; but the old Order, as I have said, is repealed. The Order now stands—"Where it is shown on oath, to the satisfaction of any of Her Majesty's Courts in China or in Japan that there is reasonable ground to apprehend that any British subject in China or in Japan is about to commit a breach of the public peace,—or that the acts or conduct of any British subject in China or in Japan are or is likely to produce or excite to a breach of the public peace,—the Court within the jurisdiction whereof he happens to be may cause him to be brought before it, and require him to give security to the satisfaction of the Court, to keep the peace, or for his future good behaviour, as the case may require. Where any British subject is convicted, under this Order, of any crime or offence, the Court within the jurisdiction whereof he happens to be may require him to give security to the satisfaction of the Court for his future good behaviour. In either of these cases, if the person required to give security fails to do so, the Court may order that he be deported from China or Japan to such place as the Court directs." That is the present Order in Council; the sentence upon you was that you should be imprisoned, and that unless you could find security at the expiration of your sentence for your future good behaviour, you should be deported.

Prisoner—Will your Lordship grant me my liberty so that I may try to find security?

The Judge—I have no power to do anything of the kind. The Order in Council is explicit.

Prisoner—Will you give me only a day to go round and see what I can do?

The Judge—I cannot do anything of that kind. My powers are limited by the Order in Council, which says plainly that the person shall be detained in custody until the time for his deportation shall arrive.

Prisoner—Then what security will be required?

The Judge—I shall require two good sureties in $500 each.

Prisoner—For what time

The Judge—For all time—that is, for the time you remain in China. I cannot release you from custody until the sureties are forthcoming, but you can write to who you like on the subject, and every facility will be given you for doing so.

Prisoner—My brother is at present unfortunately away up country, so I am prevented doing what I otherwise should have had a chance of doing. I should like to make arrangements to leave the country with my wife.

The Judge—I can delay your deportation for a time. When will your brother return to Shanghai?

Prisoner—Not until next Wednesday, I am told, my Lord.

The Judge—Well, then, in that case, you can be brought up again on Friday next.

Prisoner—And in the meantime, if I can get sureties, I can have my liberty?

The Judge—Yes; but they must be two British subjects of good repute and adequate means, each in $500.

Prisoner—Can your Lordship not grant me liberty on my own security, with one other?

The Judge—No; what would be the good? You are a bankrupt, supposed not to have one farthing in the world of your own. No; it must be as I have said.

Prisoner was then removed in custody.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 21st.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

Tsang Zing *v.* A. Fergusson.

Claim, $13, *wages.*

Defendant admitted that he owed the plaintiff $11.10, but said that on the 13th inst. a Tls. 10 note was missed from the house, and plaintiff in common with the other servants of the house were told that they would have to find it. Plaintiff immediately ran away, therefore the natural conclusion was that he was the thief. He had never asked for his wages.

Plaintiff said that he was locked in a room and beaten by his mistress, and threatened with a pistol, so he ran away because he was accused of stealing Tls. 10. His clothes had been detained, and were upstairs.

His Worship said there was no proof that plaintiff had stolen the money; if the defendant believed he had, there was a remedy by taking him to the Mixed Court.

Plaintiff—Well, I shall certainly do so; can I have him arrested here?

His Worship—You can give him into the custody of the first policeman you meet.

Defendant—While I am gone, he will disappear. I don't know where he lives.

His Worship—I am not a police officer, and you can hardly expect me to go and look for one for you. I shall, as you admit the amount of $11.10, order that amount with the cost of the summons to be paid into this Court, where it will remain for one week, to give you an opportunity of prosecuting the plaintiff in the Mixed Court; and you must let him have his clothes.

Yü Zu Shing *v.* S. W. Sang.

Claim, $60.50, *money lent.*

This case was called on, but the plaintiff made so much noise in the lobby of the Consular building, that his Worship, to punish him, postponed the hearing, the defendant being content that the hearing should be postponed.

Jan. 22nd.

San-ta-shing *v.* G. Tyler.

Claim $10, *money received by Defendant for and on behalf of the Plaintiff.*

His Honour asked defendant if he admitted the claim?

Defendant replied that he knew nothing whatever of the nature of the claim. He had

made enquiries of the officers of the Court, but could obtain no information on the subject whatever. He now recognized the plaintiff as having been formerly employed as a cook in the gaol.

Plaintiff, cautioned, said through Heding, the Consular interpreter—I was a cook at the gaol for 10 years. I was dismissed on the 17th of last month. I used to receive $7 per month as wages. Four months ago it was reduced to $5 per month. I claim $2 for each of the four months, and $2 for the 17 days of the month I was dismissed.

Defendant said that in July last plaintiff misconducted himself by consenting to be the means of communication between persons outside and the prisoners, for which offence he was disrated in pay. Instead of receiving $7 per month he got $5. But he was so lazy and dirty that eventually he was dismissed.

His HONOUR asked plaintiff why for four months he received the $5 instead of $7, if he thought he was entitled to the higher amount?

Plaintiff said that he did apply to the officers, but was told that Mr. Tyler would not pay him any more.

Defendant said that he joined the Gaol service in Nov., 1873, and on Jan. 1st., 1874, he took charge. The plaintiff had formerly been employed as cook for him (defendant) and the junior constables. The chit coolie also acted as his servant. He disrated the plaintiff in July for misconduct, but he still did the cooking. Both the plaintiff and the chit coolie received extra money from him and the constables for attendance upon them.

His HONOUR asked if the defendant had authority to discharge or disrate any of the servants employed by the Government?

Defendant thought that he had that right; at least he inferred so from the fact that it had been done by his predecessors.

His HONOUR doubted the authority, and expressed his opinion that men paid by Government for public duty should not be converted into private servants.

Judgment for plaintiff for $10 and the costs of the summons.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 23rd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* JOHN BATTISTE.

Stealing a pair of Blankets from the Sailors' Home.

Rehearing—prisoner having petitioned on the ground that when he was tried and convicted he was too stupid, through drink, to know what was going on, or the nature of the charge against him.

CHARLES BROWN, Constable of the Sailors' Home, sworn, stated: About half-past seven o'clock on Sunday last the prisoner came to me for blankets to go to bed, as he did not feel well. I took a pair to his room where the prisoner was in the act of undressing. At eight o'clock I told the boy to serve out the other blankets, less the pair I had already given out; he returned and told me that there were no blankets in the room and no one there. I went to satisfy myself, and then came downstairs. I met a man named Shea, who told me that he had just seen a coloured man going out of the gate with two blankets, one tied-up and the other loose on his arm. I went to look for the man, and also gave information to the constable on the beat near the Home. The blankets have not been found.

By the prisoner—There was no one else in the room when I supplied you with the blankets. Three others also sleep in the same room. It is the first pair of blankets I have missed since I have been constable—that is, from the 12th instant.

By His WORSHIP—I am quite sure there was no one else in the room when I gave him the blankets.

THOS. SHEA, sworn, stated: I am a seaman residing at the Home. On Sunday evening at about eight o'clock I was standing at the gate. I saw the prisoner coming out. He was carrying a red blanket tied-up in a handkerchief under one arm, and another, a green one, on the other. I stopped him and asked where he was going with the blankets. He replied to me, but I could not understand what he said, and then he went down the street. A man named Evans then came up, and I told him what I had seen. He asked if they were his own, and I replied to him, "blest if I know, the blankets have not been served out yet." I then went into the Home, and meeting the constable, told him also what had occurred.

Prisoner here admitted having met and spoken to the witness at the gate, but said that it was his coat and muffler that he had on his arm.

Witness again said that he was quite positive that they were blankets.

Sergeant SKINNER, sworn, stated: I arrested the prisoner at the Sailors' Home on Monday last. Prisoner at first denied the charge, but on the way to the Station he voluntarily made a statement that he had taken the blankets, and would shown me where they were, and that he would have told Mr. Bowen at first, only he spoke so sharp to him. I read the charge to him, and when about to lock him up, he said that he thought he could shew me the house where he had sold them. I went with him, and went to various places, but could get no tidings of them.

Prisoner denied this, and strongly averred his innocence of the charge against him.

His WORSHIP said, although prisoner had stated that he was under the influence of liquor when brought before him on the last occasion, he did not believe it, and was quite sure that he should have noticed the fact, had such been the case. He considered the charge fully proved, and the sentence would now be three months' hard labour, instead of the original one of two months.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 23rd.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., U.S. Consul-General; H. E. the TAOTAI of Shanghai; and Dr. YATES, Interpreter.

CHARLES E. HILL *v.* ESTATE OF YANG TAIKEE.

This case was further resumed to-day, when the case for the defendants was opened by

Mr. DRUMMOND, who said he took the opportunity of returning to the Court some of the documents handed to him by the Consul-General on a previous occasion in connection with the case. The rest of them, five in number, were also there; but he had to ask that one document—a note by the Consul-General—which was in Court on the former occasion, might be returned, as it was not there now.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said that was a note for his own information, and he did not know if it could be put in the case. It was not in the nature of evidence, being simply for his own use.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the document in question was handed to him in connection with the others, and when he looked at it, it appeared to him to be an utter condemnation of the plaintiff's case. He (Mr. Drummond) intended to place great reliance upon it, but he now found it was not in Court.

The CONSUL-GENERAL observed that he did not wish to interfere in the conduct of the case in any way, but if the document was put in, it must be in connection with a statement from him upon it.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he would not have the slightest objection to that.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said with that understanding, he would not object to the document being produced.

Mr. EAMES objected to the production of such a document, as it was not evidence, and especially as other documents had been rejected on former occasions.

Mr. DRUMMOND pointed out that those documents were rejected because they were affidavits of absent persons. The document he wished produced was a note by the Consul-General, who was present.

Mr. EAMES said that did not matter. He considered the note ought not to be produced, and asked, as a right, that his objection to its production might be recorded.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said, of course he did not wish to bias the case in any way. If the document asked for was not in Court, it was with other papers at his office.

Mr. COWIE said it was written on blue paper, and was not in Court.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he would have known nothing about the document if he had not seen it. Would it be produced at some period?

The CONSUL-GENERAL replied in the affirmative, but he could not then send for it, because it was amongst his other papers.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the only difficulty he had, then, was that he hoped to have concluded the case that afternoon, and could not do so without the production of the document.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said if that were so, perhaps it might be obtained, if Mr. Cowie would send a messenger to the office for a box containing papers.

A note was accordingly despatched by messenger for the box.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he now proposed to put in evidence for the defence, consisting of documents supplied from the U. S. Consulate on the former occasion, and including the document marked "C," which was the one that had been sent for. The first paper he would put in was marked "A," and was a letter addressed to the Consul-General by Messrs. Jenkins and Rodgers, the first arbitrators appointed to settle the claims, and included a list of claims approved by them against the Chinese Government, amounting to Tls. 343,590.91, together with their own bill for fees, Tls. 17,900.00, showing a total of Tls. 361,490.91; and amongst the claims so allowed was one by C. E. Hill, of Tls. 12,000. The date was March 3rd, 1863.

Mr. EAMES remarked that this was a peculiar Court, and he had no wish to take technical objections. He might, however, ask why the document just read was not produced in Court when Mr. Jenkins was examined as a witness?

Mr. DRUMMOND replied that he did not then have the document. It had been provided since by the U.S. Consulate, and if Mr. Eames had any objection he could make it now.

Mr. EAMES said the document as it stood made it appear that the amount named in it was the whole of Mr. Hill's claim. It was so at that

The CONSUL-GENERAL said if any explanation was necessary upon any document, he should ask the Tautai to permit the witness to be recalled.

Mr. DRUMMOND, proceeding, said, he would ask that the document "A," should form part of defendant's case, and the only other thing he need refer to upon it was that it had reference to a long list of claims allowed, but the only one the Court need trouble about now was that of the plaintiff.

Mr. EAMES asked if it included the agreement of reference?

Mr. DRUMMOND replied that it did not,—they had not seen it.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said it was among the papers. (He sought for it, and afterwards handed it to Mr. Drummond, who read it.)

It was an agreement come to between Woo Tautai and Geo. F. Seward, as to the settlement of the claims made with reference to the Soonkong Force, of which a settlement was to be made within three months. This document was dated February 2nd, 1862, and was drawn up on the appointment of the first arbitrators.

Mr. EAMES took exception to the date. At the time given, Mr. Hill had no claim.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said the agreement should have been dated February 2nd, 1863—it was evidently a clerical error.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he did not seek to put in that document.

Some conversation of a desultory nature ensued upon the document, and

The CONSUL-GENERAL said they would consider the document put in, as it was a copy in English of the agreement of arbitration.

Mr. DRUMMOND acquiesced, and went on to say, the next document he should submit was one marked "A.A." It was a bill against the Imperial Chinese Government, by Mr. C. E. Hill, for use of the steamer *Keorjeor*, during the month of January, 1863, Tls. 3,000, with a copy in Chinese. The next document "B," was also a bill for use of the *Keorjeor*, from October 1st 1862, to December 31st, 1862, three months, Tls. 9,000, and was approved by H. A. Burgevine. Next would come the paper marked "C," which had not arrived, and the following one, "D," was an affidavit made by C. E. Hill, before the Consul-General, and dated June 19th, 1863, as follows:—

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Shanghai, June 19th, 1863.

CHARLES E. HILL, an American citizen, resident of Shanghai, being duly sworn, deposeth:—

I made a contract with General Burgevine in September last, by which General Burgevine, agent of the Chinese Government, was to take the str. *Keorjeor*, and pay me Tls. 12,000. Papers of transfer were made out, and not delivered, because I did not get the money. The

Mr. Robinson said it arose in this way: Supposing the case had gone against him on the first point, he should have proceeded to show that the vessel was so strained that they could not so repair her as to place her in the condition she was before the collision. A vessel might be so damaged, without sinking, as to become a total loss. The authorities showed that to have been held to be so.

His Lordship—The Registrar would have to consider the value of the ship just before the collision, and at the time immediately after it. The difference in value is what you would be entitled to.

Mr. Robinson—The defendants' contention was that she was so little injured, that the plaintiff had no right whatever to claim the value of the ship.

His Lordship—They would be required to bring evidence as to what it would cost to repair her. They might bring forward 20 witnesses to say they would repair her and put her in good condition for Tls. 100, and that would be the amount you would be entitled to.

The Registrar—The case was never put before us in that way.

Mr. Robinson repeated that he was bound to be provided with the evidence he had mentioned. He would have been guilty of gross negligence if he had not been provided with it, and was at a loss to see how it would have been contested. He came now to the question, "What is included in costs of reference?" He had been taken by surprise by the Registrar taking upon himself to say that it was the fixed rule of the Court that one party should pay the costs of reference, and denied that it was inviolable. He had no opportunity of arguing the point, or he thought he could have shown that the justice of the case was not met in that way. How could it be said the defendants were damnified by a statement of claim? A plaintiff must state his claim—it was demanded by the nature of the case. The expense of getting up the statement was caused by the wrongfulness of the party who was held to blame.

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Mr. Robinson—But the defendant might say, "It is your business to file your claim, and after that I will say whether I will pay it or not." Until the claim had been delivered to the defendants, and until the plaintiff had failed to receive satisfaction for that claim, there was no reference at all. Without it, there would be no necessity for reference. (Williams and Bruce; Admiralty Practice, page 282.) If before reference, a formal tender had been made, the plaintiff would generally be required to pay the costs of reference; but supposing the plaintiff accepted the tender, of course the defendant would have to pay the costs of preparing the claim. In conclusion, Mr. Robinson asked his Lordship's attention to the case of the *Gazelle*, in which Dr. Lushington said, if the settlement of indemnification be attended with expense, the party giving rise to it must bear the cost. Again, in the case of the *Sir George Seymour*, before the same judge, a similar rule was laid down. Upon those grounds, he submitted, he trusted to the satisfaction of the Court, that the costs of preparation of this claim were expenses necessary through the wrongful act of the defendants, for which they ought reasonably to pay.

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The Judge—Are you able to find security?

Prisoner—I do not know. I did not know it would be wanted.

The Judge—Why not? You know your sentence. The finding of security is the only way in which you can stay here.

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The Judge—What have you to say?

Prisoner—I have been resident in Shanghai for ten years, and this was my first offence. It was committed when I was pressed by unhappy circumstances. I should like to see the Order in Council, as to whether deportation should ensue on a first offence. By an old copy I have seen, it does not appear so.

The Judge—I have nothing to do with the old Order—that is repealed.

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The Judge—I know; but the old Order, as I have said, is repealed. The Order now stands—"Where it is shown on oath, to the satisfaction of any of Her Majesty's Courts in China or in Japan that there is reasonable ground to apprehend that any British subject in China or in Japan is about to commit a breach of the public peace,—or that the acts or conduct of any British subject in China or in Japan are or is likely to produce or excite to a breach of the public peace,—the Court within the jurisdiction whereof he happens to be may cause him to be brought before it, and require him to give security to the satisfaction of the Court, to keep the peace, or for his future good behaviour, as the case may require. Where any British subject is convicted, under this Order, of any crime or offence, the Court within the jurisdiction whereof he happens to be may require him to give security to the satisfaction of the Court for his future good behaviour. In either of these cases, if the person required to give security fails to do so, the Court may order that he be deported from China or Japan to such place as the Court directs." That is the present Order in Council; the sentence upon you was that you should be imprisoned, and that unless you could find security at the expiration of your sentence for your future good behaviour, you should be deported.

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Claim, $13, *wages.*

Defendant admitted that he owed the plaintiff $11.10, but said that on the 13th inst. a Tls. 10 note was missed from the house, and plaintiff in common with the other servants of the house were told that they would have to find it. Plaintiff immediately ran away, therefore the natural conclusion was that he was the thief. He had never asked for his wages.

Plaintiff said that he was locked in a room and beaten by his mistress, and threatened with a pistol, so he ran away because he was accused of stealing Tls. 10. His clothes had been detained, and were upstairs.

His Worship said there was no proof that plaintiff had stolen the money; if the defendant believed he had, there was a remedy by taking him to the Mixed Court.

Plaintiff—Well, I shall certainly do so; can I have him arrested here?

His Worship—You can give him into the custody of the first policeman you meet.

Defendant—While I am gone, he will disappear. I don't know where he lives.

His Worship—I am not a police officer, and you can hardly expect me to go and look for one for you. I shall, as you admit the amount of $11.10, order that amount with the cost of the summons to be paid into this Court, where it will remain for one week, to give you an opportunity of prosecuting the plaintiff in the Mixed Court; and you must let him have his clothes.

Yü Zu Shing *v.* S. W. Sang.

Claim, $60.50, *money lent.*

This case was called on, but the plaintiff made so much noise in the lobby of the Consular building, that his Worship, to punish him, postponed the hearing, the defendant being content that the hearing should be postponed.

Jan. 22nd.

San-ta-shing *v.* G. Tyler.

Claim $10, *money received by Defendant for and on behalf of the Plaintiff.*

His Honour asked defendant if he admitted the claim?

Defendant replied that he knew nothing whatever of the nature of the claim. He had

made enquiries of the officers of the Court, but could obtain no information on the subject whatever. He now recognized the plaintiff as having been formerly employed as a cook in the gaol.

Plaintiff, cautioned, said through Heding, the Consular interpreter—I was a cook at the gaol for 10 years. I was dismissed on the 17th of last month. I used to receive $7 per month as wages. Four months ago it was reduced to $5 per month. I claim $2 for each of the four months, and $2 for the 17 days of the month I was dismissed.

Defendant said that in July last plaintiff misconducted himself by consenting to be the means of communication between persons outside and the prisoners, for which offence he was disrated in pay. Instead of receiving $7 per month he got $5. But he was so lazy and dirty that eventually he was dismissed.

His HONOUR asked plaintiff why for four months he received the $5 instead of $7, if he thought he was entitled to the higher amount?

Plaintiff said that he did apply to the officers, but was told that Mr. Tyler would not pay him any more.

Defendant said that he joined the Gaol service in Nov., 1873, and on Jan. 1st., 1874, he took charge. The plaintiff had formerly been employed as cook for him (defendant) and the junior constables. The chit coolie also acted as his servant. He disrated the plaintiff in July for misconduct, but he still did the cooking. Both the plaintiff and the chit coolie received extra money from him and the constables for attendance upon them.

His HONOUR asked if the defendant had authority to discharge or disrate any of the servants employed by the Government?

Defendant thought that he had that right; at least he inferred so from the fact that it had been done by his predecessors.

His HONOUR doubted the authority, and expressed his opinion that men paid by Government for public duty should not be converted into private servants.

Judgment for plaintiff for $10 and the costs of the summons.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 23rd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* JOHN BATTISTE.

Stealing a pair of Blankets from the Sailors' Home.

Rehearing—prisoner having petitioned on the ground that when he was tried and convicted he was too stupid, through drink, to know what was going on, or the nature of the charge against him.

CHARLES BROWN, Constable of the Sailors' Home, sworn, stated: About half-past seven o'clock on Sunday last the prisoner came to me for blankets to go to bed, as he did not feel well. I took a pair to his room where the prisoner was in the act of undressing. At eight o'clock I told the boy to serve out the other blankets, less the pair I had already given out; he returned and told me that there were no blankets in the room and no one there. I went to satisfy myself, and then came downstairs. I met a man named Shea, who told me that he had just seen a coloured man going out of the gate with two blankets, one tied-up and the other loose on his arm. I went to look for the man, and also gave information to the constable on the beat near the Home. The blankets have not been found.

By the prisoner—There was no one else in the room when I supplied you with the blankets. Three others also sleep in the same room. It is the first pair of blankets I have missed since I have been constable—that is, from the 12th instant.

By His WORSHIP—I am quite sure there was no one else in the room when I gave him the blankets.

THOS. SHEA, sworn, stated: I am a seaman residing at the Home. On Sunday evening at about eight o'clock I was standing at the gate. I saw the prisoner coming out. He was carrying a red blanket tied-up in a handkerchief under one arm, and another, a green one, on the other. I stopped him and asked where he was going with the blankets. He replied to me, but I could not understand what he said, and then he went down the street. A man named Evans then came up, and I told him what I had seen. He asked if they were his own, and I replied to him, "blest if I know, the blankets have not been served out yet." I then went into the Home, and meeting the constable, told him also what had occurred.

Prisoner here admitted having met and spoken to the witness at the gate, but said that it was his coat and muffler that he had on his arm.

Witness again said that he was quite positive that they were blankets.

Sergeant SKINNER, sworn, stated: I arrested the prisoner at the Sailors' Home on Monday last. Prisoner at first denied the charge, but on the way to the Station he voluntarily made a statement that he had taken the blankets, and would shown me where they were, and that he would have told Mr. Bowen at first, only he spoke so sharp to him. I read the charge to him, and when about to lock him up, he said that he thought he could shew me the house where he had sold them. I went with him, and went to various places, but could get no tidings of them.

Prisoner denied this, and strongly averred his innocence of the charge against him.

His WORSHIP said, although prisoner had stated that he was under the influence of liquor when brought before him on the last occasion, he did not believe it, and was quite sure that he should have noticed the fact, had such been the case. He considered the charge fully proved, and the sentence would now be three months' hard labour, instead of the original one of two months.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 23rd.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., U.S. Consul-General; H. E. the TAOTAI of Shanghai; and Dr. YATES, Interpreter.

CHARLES E. HILL *v.* ESTATE OF YANG TAIKEE.

This case was further resumed to-day, when the case for the defendants was opened by

Mr. DRUMMOND, who said he took the opportunity of returning to the Court some of the documents handed to him by the Consul-General on a previous occasion in connection with the case. The rest of them, five in number, were also there; but he had to ask that one document—a note by the Consul-General—which was in Court on the former occasion, might be returned, as it was not there now.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said that was a note for his own information, and he did not know if it could be put in the case. It was not in the nature of evidence, being simply for his own use.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the document in question was handed to him in connection with the others, and when he looked at it, it appeared to him to be an utter condemnation of the plaintiff's case. He (Mr. Drummond) intended to place great reliance upon it, but he now found it was not in Court.

The CONSUL-GENERAL observed that he did not wish to interfere in the conduct of the case in any way, but if the document was put in, it must be in connection with a statement from him upon it.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he would not have the slightest objection to that.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said with that understanding, he would not object to the document being produced.

Mr. EAMES objected to the production of such a document, as it was not evidence, and especially as other documents had been rejected on former occasions.

Mr. DRUMMOND pointed out that those documents were rejected because they were affidavits of absent persons. The document he wished produced was a note by the Consul-General, who was present.

Mr. EAMES said that did not matter. He considered the note ought not to be produced, and asked, as a right, that his objection to its production might be recorded.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said, of course he did not wish to bias the case in any way. If the document asked for was not in Court, it was with other papers at his office.

Mr. COWIE said it was written on blue paper, and was not in Court.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he would have known nothing about the document if he had not seen it. Would it be produced at some period?

The CONSUL-GENERAL replied in the affirmative, but he could not then send for it, because it was amongst his other papers.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the only difficulty he had, then, was that he hoped to have concluded the case that afternoon, and could not do so without the production of the document.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said if that were so, perhaps it might be obtained, if Mr. Cowie would send a messenger to the office for a box containing papers.

A note was accordingly despatched by messenger for the box.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he now proposed to put in evidence for the defence, consisting of documents supplied from the U. S. Consulate on the former occasion, and including the document marked "C," which was the one that had been sent for. The first paper he would put in was marked "A," and was a letter addressed to the Consul-General by Messrs. Jenkins and Rodgers, the first arbitrators appointed to settle the claims, and included a list of claims approved by them against the Chinese Government, amounting to Tls. 343,590.91, together with their own bill for fees, Tls. 17,900.00, showing a total of Tls. 361,490.91; and amongst the claims so allowed was one by C. E. Hill, of Tls. 12,000. The date was March 3rd, 1863.

Mr. EAMES remarked that this was a peculiar Court, and he had no wish to take technical objections. He might, however, ask why the document just read was not produced in Court when Mr. Jenkins was examined as a witness?

Mr. DRUMMOND replied that he did not then have the document. It had been provided since by the U.S. Consulate, and if Mr. Eames had any objection he could make it now.

Mr. EAMES said the document as it stood made it appear that the amount named in it was the whole of Mr. Hill's claim. It was so at that

The CONSUL-GENERAL said if any explanation was necessary upon any document, he should ask the Tautai to permit the witness to be recalled.

Mr. DRUMMOND, proceeding, said, he would ask that the document "A," should form part of defendant's case, and the only other thing he need refer to upon it was that it had reference to a long list of claims allowed, but the only one the Court need trouble about now was that of the plaintiff.

Mr. EAMES asked if it included the agreement of reference?

Mr. DRUMMOND replied that it did not,—they had not seen it.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said it was among the papers. (He sought for it, and afterwards handed it to Mr. Drummond, who read it.)

It was an agreement come to between Woo Tautai and Geo. F. Seward, as to the settlement of the claims made with reference to the Soonkong Force, of which a settlement was to be made within three months. This document was dated February 2nd, 1862, and was drawn up on the appointment of the first arbitrators.

Mr. EAMES took exception to the date. At the time given, Mr. Hill had no claim.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said the agreement should have been dated February 2nd, 1863—it was evidently a clerical error.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he did not seek to put in that document.

Some conversation of a desultory nature ensued upon the document, and

The CONSUL-GENERAL said they would consider the document put in, as it was a copy in English of the agreement of arbitration.

Mr. DRUMMOND acquiesced, and went on to say, the next document he should submit was one marked "A.A." It was a bill against the Imperial Chinese Government, by Mr. C. E. Hill, for use of the steamer *Keorjeor*, during the month of January, 1863, Tls. 3,000, with a copy in Chinese. The next document "B," was also a bill for use of the *Keorjeor*, from October 1st 1862, to December 31st, 1862, three months, Tls. 9,000, and was approved by H. A. Burgevine. Next would come the paper marked "C," which had not arrived, and the following one, "D," was an affidavit made by C. E. Hill, before the Consul-General, and dated June 19th, 1863, as follows:—

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
Shanghai, June 19th, 1863.

CHARLES E. HILL, an American citizen, resident of Shanghai, being duly sworn, deposeth:—

I made a contract with General Burgevine in September last, by which General Burgevine as agent of the Chinese Government, was to take the str. *Keorjeor*, and pay me Tls. 12,000. Papers of transfer were made out, and not delivered, because I did not get the money. The

original understanding was that if the purchase money was not paid by 1st. Jan. 1863, the vessel was to receive charter money at Taels 3,000 per month, and all bills paid. I now render an account for the charter money, and Messrs. Thos. Hunt & Co. render an account for articles supplied and alterations. The alterations were made by order of General Burgevine. The charter money is for 3 months at Tls. 3,0 0—Tls. 9,000, and one month under General Holland, same rate, making Tls. 12,000.

General Burgevine approved the first account, and General Holland wrote me a letter stating that during January the vessel was in the Chinese service, that she was under his orders, and that she was the most useful vessel he had.

Before me

GEO. F. SEWARD,
U. S. C.
C. E. HILL.

The document "E," next in succession, consisted of a letter from the Consul-General to Woo Tautai, dated October 13th, 1863, containing the terms of the second arbitration determined upon by them, in which the arbitrators appointed were Messrs. Edward Cunningham and Thomas Hanbury, the matters submitted to them being the various claims against the Chinese Government or Woo Tautai, on account of the Ward Force, the Ward Estate, the *Keorjeor* steamer, and the account of E. J. Benson, Quartermaster General. The object of this arbitration was, as the letter stated, the closing up of the whole business named, and it was therefore expressly agreed that what the arbitrators said should be final, and binding on either party; that the claims which should be declared just by them should be paid by the Tautai within fifteen days from the time the decision was made; and that those claims which were declared not just, or unsupported, should be dropped by the Consul, and never brought forward again. The document "F" was Woo Tautai's answer to the preceding, on October 18th, and intimated among other matters, that he had put his seal to the agreement. The following document, "G," dated 18th January, 1864, gave the result of the second arbitration, and contained two inclosures, one of claims allowed, the other of those disallowed. He (Mr. Drummond) would only put in those disallowed, which would be found in document "H," and included that of C. E. Hill, the plaintiff, for Tls. 12,000. What he (Mr. Drummond) had already said with regard to those documents, would enable the Court and Counsel on the other side to follow what remained for him to say.

Mr. EAMES called attention to the understood arrangement, that all argument in the case was to be submitted in writing.

Mr. DRUMMOND said this was not argument, —he was going to make an application. With reference to "A," he thought he had given sufficient information; if not, he would ask Dr. Yates to interpret to the Tautai its purport.

The CONSUL-GENERAL said it had already been explained that all those documents had been translated, and were in the Tautai's office.

Mr. COWIE asked that Dr. Yates might give the Tautai the meaning of the documents before Mr. Drummond made his application, so that the Court might be reminded of the effect of them. It was possible the Tautai might not have seen them all.

The CONSUL-GENERAL consenting,

Dr. YATES commenced to interpret the meaning of the documents to the Tautai.

The TAUTAI said he had no recollection of any document with regard to the first arbitration, but he remembered very distinctly the appointment of Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury.

Dr. YATES interpreted, by desire, why the award of the first arbitrators was set aside and a further one agreed to.

Mr. DRUMMOND next adverted to document "D," (the letter given above), and was about to comment upon it, when

Mr. EAMES offered a suggestion. He thought the Court understood why the claim was put in for Tls. 12,000—it was clearly explained in the plaintiff's testimony, and had no bearing upon the present claim.

Mr. DRUMMOND then passed on to the other documents above-mentioned, and asked that the Tautai's attention should be called to the list of claims disallowed by Messrs. Cunningham and Hanbury, amongst them being that of the plaintiff.

Dr. YATES accordingly did so.

Mr. DRUMMOND further called attention that in the list of disallowed claims, there was also an item, on account of the *Keorjeor*, by Thomas Hunt and Co., of Tls. 895.78, as well as the plaintiff's claim.

The TAUTAI said that four of the items disallowed at the second arbitration were on account of the *Keorjeor*.

Mr. DRUMMOND was not aware that there were four disallowed.

The TAUTAI said there was one by Colley and Lambuth, of Tls. 90 odd, but he could not remember the fourth.

Mr. DRUMMOND went on to say that at this stage of the case, he should simply ask the Tautai to dismiss it without listening to any further evidence at all. He based his application upon the documents he had submitted. His application was that the case should be dismissed against Taikee entirely.

Mr. EAMES repeated his observation that it was understood there was to be no argument.

Mr. COWIE said there would be no argument, it was merely an application.

Mr. EAMES said it would be likely to lead to argument, because he could not allow such an application to go by default. It seemed to him to be a palpable evasion of the understanding arrived at previously, and that his friend was seeking to take the case out of the hands of the Court.

Mr. DRUMMOND repudiated such an intention.

At this moment, the messenger returned from the U. S. Consulate, with the box before mentioned, and the document alluded to having been produced,

The CONSUL-GENERAL said—This is the memorandum for which you apply. It is a private document, and I do not see what it should be introduced here for. It cannot possibly be understood without being taken in connection with my statement.

Mr. EAMES asked if it would not be better to have the memorandum translated together with the statement, so as to enable both to go before the Tautai at one time?

The CONSUL-GENERAL decided to make his statement now, and at once proceeded with it. He said — Mr. Hill's affidavit was taken by me after the first arbitrators had made their award, and I had begun the discussion with Woo Taotai with regard to the claims in connection with the Ward Force. Whenever a claim was disputed by the Taotai, and it seemed to me necessary, I called the claimant before me and took his sworn statement of his case. That was the way Mr. Hill's statement was made—the statement of June 19th, 1863. I have in my hand a memorandum of my own, dated July 11th, 1863,—the year date is not given here, but I know it from the connection—which is simply a memorandum for my own information. This memorandum is to be read with Mr. Hill's affidavit, which shows that this claim of Tls. 12,000 was made on a contract, alleged to have been entered into between Mr. Hill and General Burgevine. Upon the statements contained in that affidavit, I did not hesitate to say that there was nothing to bind the Chinese Government, because I did not regard General Burgevine as qualified to make charters for steamers. At the same time, there was the fact that the steamer was used by the Force. This memorandum reads, "I am of opinion that the Government should pay a fair charter. I have no authority by Mr. Hill to say that he consents to a reduction of his claim, yet I think it impossible to require more from the Chinese Government than a fair charter. All the circumstances considered, it cannot be required"—(that means, legally required)—"to pay anything; but as the vessel was used and was of service, I should, as an Arbitrator, decide that a fair and reasonable amount should be allowed. I have talked the whole matter over with the Taotai, and he has strenuously refused to allow anything." It is to be understood that this memorandum has reference simply to a claim for Tls. 12,000 against the Chinese Government through Woo Taotai, and was written without knowledge on my part that there was a charter-party with Taikee or anybody else. I had not referred to this document when I made the previous statement here, and had utterly forgotten its existence. It has now refreshed my memory on certain points, and if any questions are put to me upon this statement, I am prepared to reply to them.

Mr. DRUMMOND—There is one question I would like to ask. You stated that at the time you wrote the memorandum, you had only Mr. Hill's claim and affidavit before you, and that you had no knowledge of a charter-party from Taikee to Hill. Have you ever seen or heard of one, since the commencement of this case?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—I do not remember seeing a charter-party, but I remember looking for it a long time afterwards, when Mr. Hill complained of the loss of his papers from the U. S. Consulate. It is not easy to remember all the matters connected with events so long ago. There has been no concord between myself and Mr. Hill throughout the case. I was proceeding one way, on what I believed a full statement of his case. He was going another way, and never explained to me why.

Dr. YATES interpreted the purport of all this to the Taotai.

Mr. DRUMMOND—The claim of Mr. Hill being against the Chinese Government and not against Yang Taikee, there was nothing to bring to your knowledge that there was a claim against Yang Taikee.

The CONSUL-GENERAL—I knew at a later moment that there was a claim made by Mr. Hill against Yang Taikee; it was this claim, while through me he was claiming against the Government, that I could not understand.

Mr. DRUMMOND.—The prayer of Hill's petition is that the claim is made through the Consul-General against Taikee and the Chinese Government.

Mr. EAMES said it must be borne in mind that the petition was drawn up by Hill himself, and was a statement to his Consul. But the whole thing is coming into Court.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then it is not clear at the present time against whom the claim is made?

Mr. EAMES—Yes—we are going against the estate of Yang Taikee.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then up to the time mentioned in the petition, there appears to have been no claim excepting that against the Chinese Government. You said that when Mr. Hill was taking steps through you against the Chinese Government, he was also taking steps himself against Yang Taikee?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—There was nothing done by Mr. Hill through me against Taikee. I do not know whether it was lack of logic on my part or on his part, that I did not get at his case, The double-headed nature of his case has led to a great deal of the delay that has occurred.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then I shall next draw your attention, with reference to these remarks, to the passage in your letter to the Taotai, in which you undertook that what claims were considered by the second arbitrators to be unjust or unsupported, should never be brought forward again. That was the understanding?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—Yes.

Mr. DRUMMOND—That is, as against the Chinese Government?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—Yes, that was my agreement, as against the Chinese Government.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then you consent to their being brought forward in this case as against Taikee, as being a different matter?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—I never had anything to do with Taikee in the matter of those claims, with the exception of the claim as to General Ward's estate. I never knew that Taikee had any official position, but regarded him simply as a kind of compradore, transacting ordinary business for Woo Taotai.

Mr. DRUMMOND—I might also ask, if your memory will serve you,—it is a very long time ago—whether it ever occurred to you at that time that this claim could have been bought forward at any time as against Taikee's private estate?

The CONSUL-GENERAL—It was never brought before me in connection with Taikee. I learned, but only at a late moment, when the Force was under Colonel Gordon's command that Mr. Hill had sold his steamer to Taikee. I supposed it was in consequence of this sale that he was pursuing Taikee.

Mr. DRUMMOND—And it only came to you by hearsay, and in Colonel Gordon's time, that he had sold the steamer to Taikee?

The CONSUL-General—Yes, by hearsay, and in Colonel Gordon's time.

Mr. DRUMMOND—That disposes of the point as to the claim being brought forward a second time. It makes it clear that it is a claim now against Taikee solely, and not against the Chinese Government. That claim you undertook should not be renewed.

The CONSUL-GENERAL—I by no means intend to say that the claim would not lie

against the Chinese Government still. I do not by any means say that my action would bar a proceeding against the Chinese Government now. The Taotai Wao did not carry out the terms of the arbitration, and the claims awarded have not yet been paid.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then it amounts simply to this, that by his petition in the present case, Mr. Hill claims for the charter and use of the *Keorjeor* from June, 1862, to August 1863, a period of fourteen months right through, without break, and asks for judgment against Taikee's heirs to make them pay the full sum with interest; and he also swears that, in the very middle of the term, in September 1862, he makes a contract with General Burgevine to sell her for Tls. 12,000, and that he was to have Tls. 3,000 per month for chartering her if that amount was not paid, the months charged for being October, November, and December, 1862, and January, 1863—those four months being in the very middle of the fourteen months for which he swore he had chartered his vessel to Taikee alone. Those two statements, I submit, cannot possibly be true.

The CONSUL GENERAL.—We agreed to have no argument in Court. If you have anything to put to the Taotai, now is the time to do so.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Then, upon that, I ask that he shall dismiss the case without taking any further evidence.

The CONSUL-GENERAL—Let this application be interpreted to the Taotai, with the addition that I think we require to take all the evidence in the case, to enable us to arrive at a fair and just decision. I consider that to grant such an application would be unjust.

Mr. COWIE.—I should add that I quite concur in the application made by Mr. Drummond, and I think the case should now be dismissed.

Mr. EAMES asked if Mr. Drummond and Mr. Cowie represented different parties?

Mr. COWIE—No, we represent the same defendants.

The CONSUL-GENERAL—This is a thing I never knew before. The Counsel who speaks does so for himself and his associates. I cannot consent to have the application put with such emphasis, and I think that the application is one that cannot be acceded to. We cannot take upon ourselves to decide such a case so arbitrarily.

Mr. DRUMMOND—I have taken the step usual in an English Court.

Mr. EAMES—It appears to me that my friend on the other side is endeavoring by a palpable effort to set aside the arrangement made as to the conduct of the case.

The CONSUL-GENERAL directed Dr. Yates to ask the Taotai if he was disposed to decide the case upon the evidence at present taken, or to go on.

The TAOTAI said the evidence ought to go on until they knew all that both sides had to say. (He at once called a Chinese witness forward.)

Mr. EAMES said that Dr. Jamieson had been in Court for some time, and perhaps it would be convenient to examine him first.

This was acceded to, and

Dr. R. A. JAMIESON, examined by Mr COWIE, deposed—I am a physician and surgeon practising in Shanghai. I was in Shanghai in the years 1862 and 1863. I remember the rebels were then in this neighbourhood. I remember the Force called Ward's Force. It was organised for the purpose of driving the rebels out of the Province. I saw Taikee once only. I cannot say positively what was his connection with the Force. I believed he was paymaster of the Force. It was notorious at the time that he was so acting. I remember that Woo was Taotai during the early part of the time. I only know it by hearsay, and not by my own knowledge. I have always understood that the management of the Force was in Woo's hands, but that Taikee had the payment of it. I remember some foreign steamers were used in connection with the Force, and that the *Keorjeor* was one of them. I do not know if she was chartered by the Government. I know she was used in connection with the operations of the Force. I do not believe that Taikee held any official rank. I remember the capture of the *Keorjeor*; I was on board her a few minutes before she was captured. She was captured by a party headed by Burgevine and a man named, I think, Jones. I had no reason to think that if she had been lost, it would have been a loss to Taikee. When she was blown up it was regarded as a loss the Government would have to bear—that was my impression.

By Mr. EAMES—I have only stated common report, nothing of my own knowledge. I did not actually see her captured, but saw her five minutes afterwards, going down the creek, and also saw Burgevine on board. It was on the 1st or 2nd August, 1863—on a Sunday.

FOO-E-TCHOO, cautioned, deposed—I am agent and rent-collector of the late Taikee's estate, and have been employed by Taikee's family for 27 years. Fourteen years ago, when the rebels were threatening Shanghai, Yang Taikee was head of the establishment. Woo was then Taotai of Shanghai. Taikee was at that time acting as manager of Woo's outside business with foreigners, leasing steamers and things of that sort, Woo not being able to speak English. Taikee was not the agent of the Taotai, who used him only as a means of intercourse with foreigners. When steamers were used for the suppression of the rebellion, along with the "Ever-Victorious Army," Woo Taotai was the master, and Taikee only his mouthpiece. The steamers were chartered, and the Taotai signed the charter-party. I have never seen Woo Taotai affix his stamp to any charter. Taikee had no official seal, he used his own in all private business transactions, but not in chartering steamers. Taikee did not sign charter-parties. I remember all of the steamers' names, but know nothing about the *Keorjeor*. I do not remember that steamer. I do not remember taking any part in the transactions about the steamers, but used to hear Taikee talking about them as to which were good and which were bad. I knew Ward and Burgevine, and that they had no authority to lease a steamer unless the Taotai gave the order to do so. After the suppression of the rebellion, all Taikee's small straggling books and papers in connection with the Force were sent into the city for settlement by Woo. The larger accounts were settled by Taikee, the money being handed over by Woo to him for that purpose. Taikee died at Shanghai in the 4th year of the present reign,—about 1865. Woo Taotai died in the 11th year of the present reign,—in 1873.

By Mr. EAMES—I am 48 years old, and have been for 27 years in Taikee's service in Shanghai. I was at first godown keeper, next had charge of accounts, receiving and paying money. Was never book-keeper. I used to go out sometimes, but was with Taikee every day, and think I should have known if he had ever signed charter-parties. I was not shroff, nor compradore, nor book-keeper. I was a sort of manager; no particular name. I had charge of silk and other goods as they came in or went out. I was not a general manager, there were three or four above me. When the Taotai came to visit Taikee, I used to hear their conversation. There was a special man to attend about the steamers; I had nothing to do with it. The Taotai bought the *Hyson*, through Taikee, for a despatch-boat. The Taotai came to Taikee, and said he wanted the *Hyson* purchased. I do not know the plaintiff, I have never seen him before.

By the TAOTAI—I never heard of any charter of the *Keorjeor*, nor ever knew anything of her.

By the CONSUL-GENERAL—Taikee had no steamers of his own. I do not remember the *Martin White*. The *Tawah* was owned by General Ward and Taikee together.

LEE-WAY-SAN examined by Mr. COWIE, deposed—I belong to Ningpo, and am manager to the pawnbroker outside the North Gate Shanghai. At the time of the rebellion, I was book-keeper with Taikee. There were others above me. I was in the counting-room. The "Ever-Victorious Army" was inaugurated by Woo Taotai, and Taikee did business for it. There were several foreign steamers in connection with the Force. They were chartered by the Taotai. Taikee never chartered any. I remember the names of some of the steamers, but not all of them. I do not remember the *Keorjeor*. Taikee used to often ask me about the chartering of steamers, but I do not remember his asking about the *Keorjeor*. Taikee never used any official stamp; he had his own proper stamp, which was affixed to any important document in which he was concerned. It had four characters. That stamp was always in my charge. It was impossible for one man always to be present. There were three or four others who could use the stamp, but I was generally present. Taikee was a business man, and if he did not know of anything done at the time, he knew afterwards. I do not know the plaintiff. Taikee never spoke to me about this claim. After Taikee's death, parties came to see his widow about the steamers. She did not pay them, because she said the obligations never existed.

By Mr. EAMES—I never saw Woo stamp any charter-parties. I should not know Woo's stamp if I saw it. I have been stating not what I know of my own knowlege, but what should be in all business transactions. Taikee partly owned the *Tawah* and *Martin White* in conjunction with General Ward. That was in 1861 or 1862. The *Hyson* was purchased by the Taotai, and Taikee had nothing to do with it. I do not remember who chartered the *Firefly*. The two bills of Tls. 5000 each on account of the *Tawah* and of the Force, paid to Mr. Hill, I have no recollection of paying myself. I remember Dr. Yates coming to collect this claim. That was in the the fifth or sixth year of the present reign.

By the TAOTAI—Previous to the death of Taikee, I never heard of claim on account of the *Keorjeor*, nor that she was chartered. I never knew that she was used with the "Ever Victorious Army."

By the CONSUL-GENERAL—I never heard any conversation as to the charter-party of the *Keorjeor* between Taikee and Ward. No one came to me to make claim immediately after the death of Taikee. The *Tawah* was used to some extent. I do not know whether the claim on account of the *Martin White* was paid. There was no charter party for the Martin White and *Tawah*. I do not remember that I ever opened a book of Taikee's and saw an entry of Tls. 8,500 for the sale of the *Keorjeor* to Taikee by Mr. Hill. I never heard of any such sale.

This closed the defendant's case.

Mr. EAMES submitted two affidavits as to the loss of the charter-party for the *Keorjeor*. He said be believed they were admissible in any Court of Justice. They were the affidavits of Messrs. Lewis and Rodgers.

Mr. DRUMMOND objected to their being put in, unless the witnesses could be called for cross-examination.

Mr. EAMES would not press the matter, but it was customary in Courts of Admiralty or where loss of life occurred by fire, or in any case of loss of or destruction of documents, to receive affidavits as evidence; and he could not understand why the rule could not be extended to a case like this.

It was called to Mr. Eames's recollection that the Taotai, at an earlier part of the case, had expressed his unwillingness to receive this evidence.

Mr. EAMES asked that as Dr. Yates was conversant with the details of the case, he should be called to the stand to make the statement previously alluded to.

The CONSUL-GENERAL preferred that Dr. Yates should not examined, being of opinion that from the position both he himself and Dr. Yates filled in the Court, it would have been better if his (the Consul-General's) statements could have been avoided.

It was arranged that the arguments of Counsel on both sides should be submitted in writing, in English and Chinese, on Monday, the 1st proximo.

The Court then rose.

Miscellaneous.

TROUBLES IN THE TAICHOW PREFECTURE.

About ten days ago, we noticed the occurrence of a serious popular outbreak at Teentai, in the prefecture of Taichow. The following account of a rather formidable rising in the previous year, given by F. W. White, Esq., Commissioner of Customs at Ningpo, in the last volume of Reports on Trade, shows that the state of this part of the country has been very unsatisfactory for a long time past.

The long continued drought in the summer, which I have elsewhere referred to as causing the almost entire destruction of the Rice crops, both first and second, in the neighbourhood of Ningpo, was also the cause of much distress in other parts of the province, and, notably, in the

Shao-hing department, where it may be said to have been directly the cause of a somewhat serious disturbance which broke out in the Sinch'ang district in the latter part of June. It appears that in the month of April the Acting Governor at Tai-chow-fu, being apprehensive that some of the lawless people of the district over which he presided might have taken refuge in the border districts of the two departments of Taichow and Shaohing, requested the magistrate of Sinch'ang to cause investigation to be made to ascertain whether the "Mên-p'ai," or door-certificates affixed to the door of each family, gave the proper returns of the number of inhabitants, and, in this way, detect if any bad characters were being harboured. The task of carrying out these instructions (which reached Sinch'ang in June,) devolved on a member of the gentry named Yang Yü-ch'ow, who lived in the country close to the Yen hills, some 80 *li* south of the city of Sinch'ang. In order to carry out his work, Yang Yü-ch'ow required an office and a staff of clerks and writers, and he fixed on the family temple of one Chên-kia, as a convenient place for his purpose. The latter would not, however, consent to either lend or let the temple, whereupon Yang Yü-ch'ow took possession of it by force, on the plea that it was wanted for Government service. From the first, the people had looked with an unfavorable and suspicious eye on the new home examination scheme, feeling that they were suspected of dishonesty, or that, otherwise, it was merely a pretence to extort money or service from them. This feeling of distrust was at once fanned into a flame by Yang Yü-ch'ow's high-handed action, and the sympathy expressed for the Chên family was loud and open. Chên-kia, as the head of his family, felt constrained to make some public protest against the forcible occupation of his ancestral temple, but, while he was yet thinking the matter over, a well-known and influential leader of banditti, named Wang Chi-ch'êng, appeared on the scene, and so worked on Chên-kia's already excited feelings, that, at the head of a large crowd, they adjourned to the temple and ejected its occupants, killing in the mêlée a shupan named Shun K'oshao, who ventured to resist them. Yang Yü ch'ow was, fortunately for himself, absent, or he would, doubtless, have shared the same fate; as it was, the excited mob levelled his house to the ground. Yang Yü-ch'ow, hearing of the disturbance, sought refuge in the magistrate's yamên, and complained that "the people had risen," although he, naturally, abstained from mentioning his own share in the matter. The magistrate, acting on this information, sent out officers to quell the disturbance, and at the same time issued a proclamation stating that Chên-kia alone was responsible for the riot, and that no blame would attach to others if they delivered him up. The contents of this proclamation were no sooner public than the people rushed off to arrest Chên-kia, whom they found in his own house, somewhat anxiously waiting the issue of events. Whilst he was considering what course to follow, his former adviser, Wang Chi-chên came up to him, and prompted him to the following speech addressed to the crowd:—

"The magistrate promises you pardon if you deliver me up! He is only taking advantage of your ignorance, knowing you to be simple country people. Let me be given up, and you will also be punished. After all, what have we to fear? When the Rice riot occurred (some years ago) what did the authorities do? Nothing!! and this is far less important." This speech intimidated his auditors, and they anxiously asked what they should do. He replied: "We will take to the hills, and, guarding the approaches, protect ourselves from injustice and oppression."

Arrangements were then at once entered into for the collection of money and arms. Those who contributed readily were unmolested, but refusal to grant the insurgents' demands was severely visited, and what was required was taken by force. The insurgents then retreated to the neighbouring hills, and joined themselves to the local banditti, the combined forces amounting to about 8,000 men. Intelligence of this was promptly sent to the departmental city of Shaohing, and the military commandant there lost no time in moving to Sinch'ang, at the head of 3,000 men. On the 8th July he was joined by Kung Chia-chin, Governor of Shaohing, and an offensive movement was then made against the insurgents, who were strongly encamped amongst the Yen hills. The troops, however, were driven back on Sinch'ang, and daily harassed by the enemy, who kept up an incessant series of attacks; and the position of the city became an alarming one. Urgent appeals for help were sent both to Hangchow and Ningpo, and from the former place were sent 400 men, and from the latter 1,300 men—1,000 of which were Hunan braves belonging to the Hangchow garrison. The day on which the Hunan braves left Hangchow for Sinch'ang, under the command of Chung Chin-ch'ü (formerly Taotai of Ningpo) the insurgents made an attack on the city, but the troops kept their ground, and succeeded in repulsing them, with a loss of 30 killed and wounded, and 20 prisoners. Amongst the latter was one of the chief leaders, named Tang Chi-sin. This partial success inspirited the troops, and being joined, a few days after, by the braves from Hangchow, a combined forward movement was executed against the insurgents' stronghold, and, after a sharp struggle, the troops achieved a decisive success, having completely routed the enemy, who fled in all directions. The chiefs escaped southwards, it is supposed, to Kinhwa, and the movement, so formidable for a time, was completely broken up. For his action in the commencement of the affair the magistrate of Sinch'ang had been removed, and succeeded by an officer named Shih Yü-ch'i. After the above decisive affair quietness was soon restored, but there were still many refugees in the hills, who were afraid to return, and whilst they continued unpardoned the magistrate was afraid that an element of future trouble also remained; he accordingly took an escort of 50 men and penetrated into the hills, when—partly by persuasion, partly by threats—he induced all the disaffected to throw down their arms and resume their allegiance. Peace was thus restored about the middle of August, (the exact date is wanting) after two months and a half of disorder and anxiety. I am not aware that many suffered for their complicity in this outbreak, although it is probable that such of the ringleaders as were taken with arms in their hands were summarily executed.

Clippings.

Notwithstanding that the small-pox is still raging in Tokei with almost unabated virulence; that deaths among the foreign or Eurasian population take place every day; that no fewer than seventeen or eighteen foreigners have been stricken with the malady; that the Ecole Militaire has indefinitely prolonged the usual holidays; the authorities of the Go-Gakko still maintain that their recent action in refusing to close the school was justified. Considerable indignation exists at this determined opposition to the ordinary rules of sanitary science, and it is not impossible that further action will be taken. On Saturday morning studies were resumed at the Kaisei-Gakko, Go-Gakko and Eigo-Gakko, the latter being a new school composed of the English department of the Go-Gakko. As is usual, the resumption of studies was made the occasion of the meeting of the officials of the Mombusho and foreign professors at *déjeuners* given in the repective schools.—*Tokei Journal.*

Some months ago it was hinted in the journals that an Assembly was to be formed from the ranks of the *kahoku* or nobility of Japan; but unfortunate circumstances prevented the immediate assembly of the body, added to which, the intense hatred of Shimadzu Saburo to all works of progress or advancement, threw additional obstacles in the way of founding this institution, which really promises to be a very valuable addition to the legislative power of the Government. Most of the members of the Assembly are young gentlemen who accompanied Iwakura on his ambassadorial mission, and who have specially fitted themselves for the discussion of matters concerning the welfare of the country, by diligent study of the various institutions, social and commercial, found in Europe and the U. S. At length, after some considerable trouble, the Assembly has secured the authorisation of the Government, and meetings will be held in Nagata-machi, the assembly itself being styled the Kazoku Kuwai Kanjo, and numbering at present some two hundred members, Mr. Daijo being the Director, Mr. Akizaki Councillor, and Mr. Yamamichi Secretary. The objects of this Assembly are to discuss all matters of social and commercial importance to the welfare of the country, all political subjects being excluded; and though its numbers are as yet small, it is expected that they will be largely increased so soon as the inaugural session shall have been opened. Besides holding regular sessions, the Assembly proposes to found a school for instructing youths in English, French and German, and a periodical which, besides publishing reports of the sessions, will discuss the topics introduced from an independent basis. There is little question that such an Assembly will, if its labours be rightly directed, be able to work great good to the country, and from the energy which its members now display, we may augur that its career will be one of prosperity and success.—*Tokei Journal.*

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	par ex 73½
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	79
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		8
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.ah	205
Pootung Dock Co..	„ 100	5 p. c.	83
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	5 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd).	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 73½
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 360 „	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	50$		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	$ 578
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 192 ex 73½
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.60 p. sh.	530
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	121 ex 73½
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	129 „
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	6 p c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	4 p c	85
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£98

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 73½

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

SEASON 1874-5.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687.24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	... 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark ... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ... ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3.22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda ..... ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319.98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Carried forward ...			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
	Brought forward		488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Glenearn ..... s.s.	Dec 31	London	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet ..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
		Total.....	489,935.20	80,307.01	570,242.21

TO UNITED STATES.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	614.43	2,840.93	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N.Y.&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo ..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica ..... ,,	... 6	,,	.....	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State ... s.v.	... 23	N.Y.vF'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
		Total.....	10,348.46	97,166.52	107,514.98

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam ..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore ..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	.....	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
		Total.....	4,147.81	5,356.55	9,504.36

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JANUARY 27TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—The M. M. str. *Tigre*, and the P. & O. str. *Hydaspes*, the latter bringing the London mails of 12th ul The cargo of the *Cassandra*, from Hamburg, has been brought on here from Hongkong by the S.S. *Amoy*.

TELEGRAM.—By that dated London 22nd instant, *Cotton* had advanced to 8d. for *Mid. Orleans;* but *Lead* declined to £24 per ton for W.B.; and *Discount* had fallen to 3½ per cent. The quotations for *Shirtings* and *Iron* st at 9s. 9d. and £10.

PIECE GOODS.—The early part of this week was distinguished by large settlements of *Drills* in fulfilment of the orders from JAPA in anticipation of heavy requirements for the NORTH when the season opens, the latest advices overland from TIENTSIN having rep an advance of 2 candareens per piece in the value of the article, and the native holders there all but cleared out. Cheap-priced l English were sought for at first, but there being few in hand, or at least few sellers under Tls. 2.35 *a* 2.36, buyers turned their attent 14-lbs. Cloth, and the sales since last mail-day, which well informed natives assert amount to 40,000 pieces, consist of that weight p pally. Ruling rates have been Tls. 2.33½ *a* 2.36 per piece for 15-lbs., and Tls. 2.30 *a* 2.31 for 14-lbs., the latter figure being the clo quotation for Mendel's *Pillar* chop, and holders firm for a further improvement. Business to the extent of 2,000 pieces in *Dutch D* of fair quality at Tls. 2.29, free of brokerage is reported, and for a lot of *Dragon* chop—good—Tls. 2.34 has been declined.

Grey Shirtings.—Speculation has been the motive power in these also, and considerable purchases of fair to good medium chops of 8½ have been made below the rates current for last mail, viz., Tls. 1.94 *a* 1.95 for Mendel's *Hand and Branch*, Tls. 1.89 *a* 1.90 for Dewhu *Eagle*, Tls. 1.80 for Dewhurst's *Red Pheasants*, and Collie's best *Lion*, Tls. 1.72 *a* 1.75 for the grades next under the last named make Tls. 1.59½ *a* 1.60 for C.P.H. *Peacock* Chop. Sales 65,000 pieces. *Heavy Shirtings* apparently possess the confidence of the dealers, have bought January shipments of Dewhurst's *Eagle* "to arrive" at Tls. 2.61 per piece. Cheap 7-lbs have occasionally been asked and 6-lbs. have been dealt in at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.30½ per piece, the higher quotations being for 5,000 pieces of Dewhurst's *Red Pheasants*.

T-Cloths.—Some little demand for 14×16 square and Mexican 7-lbs. has prevailed, and although it cannot be described as active, sel more especially of the better classes, have extorted a further slight rise from the dealers—Mendel's *Hand and Branch* quality ha realized Tls. 1.50 per piece. Sales of ordinary Mexican cloth at former quotations, viz., Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.33 and Tls. 1.38 per piece, are made. The lower counts of 7-lbs. are low in stock, and not in great supply afloat apparently, consequently the value of such is maintained. 8-lbs. have received rather more notice of late, and, judging from the sale of a small parcel of Mendel's *Hand and Bra* at Tls. 1.75 per piece, the market wears a strengthening aspect. Of 6-lbs. it is unnecessary to speak; there has been nothing d principally because there is hardly any cargo in hand. Sales of all weights estimated at 25,000 *a* 30,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—The desire for fine *White Shirtings* noticed last week still continues, but buyers of floating cargo, and of necessity must be connected with such, there being none here, get accommodated on the old terms, viz., Tls. 2.60 *a* 3.30 per piece for 72 *a* Reeds. These rates evidently are profitable to sellers, and hence probably their willingness to supply the demand. Latterly there been renewed enquiries for 64 Reed, and a small business likewise at former rates has taken place.

Jeans and Sheetings.—Nothing to report. Holders of *Jeans* are inviting offers.

Fancy Cottons.—Considerable sales of blue *Handkerchiefs* and of *Turkey Red Shirtings* have been effected; the former at a slight adva on previous rates, but on the latter buyers have obtained the advantage rather.

Woollens.—The death of the Emperor of China, news of which sad event reached Shanghai on Monday morning last, has had a stirri effect here, and the keen competition for *White, Black* and *Gentian Camlets, Lastings* and *Lustres*, the signs of the national mourning, already raised the value of these articles considerably. On the other hand, *Scarlet* and the other colors, which cannot be worn, are discount, and will probably remain so for a hundred days or so after the Imperial edict announcing the death has been promulgate The following were among the transactions reported yesterday:—1,300 pieces *Black Camlets* at Tls. 12.50 *a* 13 00 per piece, being a in the quotations of the previous day of about 6 mace per piece. 700 pieces of *Black Lastings* at Tls. 9.75 *a* 10.25 per piece, and 500 pie of *Black Lustres*, Plain at Tls. 3.80 *a* 3.90, which is an advance of 5 cand. *a* 1 mace per piece. For an inferior *Gentian Camlet* an offer Tls. 12.50 per piece was yesterday declined. The same cloth was unsaleable at Tls. 12.00 a few days ago; and the buyer of some floati *Scarlet Lastings*, settled at Tls. 13.00 per piece, has been making anxious enquiries as to their probable date of arrival. The native own of *Scarlet Long Ells* are likewise shewing signs of uneasiness, and of a desire to realise. C.P.H. *Scarlet* is barely quotable at Tls. 7. to-day. The only transaction in *Long Ells*, reported since last mail-day, is 740 pieces U. U. at Tls. 7.12½ per piece. For *Figured Orlea* of suitable color a better feeling exists.

Stocks.—On the 22nd instant the Chamber of Commerce published the Returns of Stocks of *Piece Goods* and *Metals* in Foreigners po session here on 31st ultimo. It is reproduced below, and is compared with the Stocks as returned for 1873. The comparison, even makin ample allowance for goods held by those firms who have not made any returns, as a rule favors the 1874 table. To-day, statistics, basi the Stocks upon the list issued by the Chamber of Commerce, are resumed, and it is hardly necessary to add, that, under the circumstance the stocks at date must be headed "estimated."

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.2.5	13.0.0	14.2.5	13.1.0	13.1.5	...	...	12.1.0	13.2.5	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.0	6.9.0	6.7.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.5.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.1	0.5.4½	0.5.6½	0.5.6	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.5.6	0.6.1	0.6.0	0.6.8

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 21ST JANUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.82½	12.55/12.57½	13.80/13.82½	13.10	13.15	...	.....	12.00	12.50	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.75	12.40	13.80	13.00	13.15	...	.....	12.00	12.47½	.....
H.H. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.45/13.50	12.20/12.25	13.55	12.75	13.00	...	.....	.....	...	.....
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ... ,,	0.61½/0.61¾	0.56¼	0.57/0.57½	0.57¾/0.58	.....	0.55	0.57	0.63/0.63¼	0.54½/0.55	.....

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M. 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.40; S.S.G. 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.34; H.H. 200 pcs. av. Tls. 13.24 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs. av. Tls. 0.58¾ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Indiaman 4,000 pcs. at Tls. 1.69 *a* 1.69½ per piece.
Do. C.P.H. Peacock 7,500 pieces at Tls. 1.59¼ *a* 1.59¾ per piece.
7-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Indiaman 750 pieces at Tls. 1.39 per piece.

		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...	₱ pc.	1.3.5 to	1.5.0
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.1.5 ,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.....	,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.5
E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—.			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₱ pc.	1.6.3 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed	,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ...	,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Best.....	,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
RILLS, Am. 40 yds 30 in 15 lbs. ...		3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, ... ,, ...		2.3.2 ,,	2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...		2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....		2.2.5 ,,	2.3.4
EANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...		2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...		1.8.5 ,,	1.9.5
American ,, ,, ,, ...		2.7.5 ,,	.....
HEETINGS—			
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....		3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....		2.7.5 ,,	3.0.0
CLOTHS—			
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.0.5 ,,	1.1.0
7-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.1.8 ,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ...	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.5.5 ,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX		1.8.0 ,,	2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28 in.	₱ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.2
Brown...	,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.2
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White	₱ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40 yds.	,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.9.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...		2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...		3.7.0 ,,	4.0.0
T. REDS, 24 yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,		1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,		2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	₱ yd.	0.1.7 ,,	0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,		0.1.4 ,,	0.1.5
26 in. ,,		0.1.9 ,,	0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,		0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	₱ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,		1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.,	,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,		13.0.0 ,,	13.7.5
G G ,, ,,		13.4.0 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,		13.3.0 ,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	₱ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.9 ,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.2 ,,	.....
LONG ELLS—			
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom.	₱ pc.	7.2.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,		7.2.0 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,		6.9.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,		7.0.0 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,		6.9.0 ,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds	,,	9.5.0 ,,	11.5.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES	,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black.....	,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—No further business from first hands is reported, and the trade generally appears quiet, while ample supplies, here and on the way, are against any revival in prices. *Lead.*—Scarcely any enquiry from native sources, and prices closing weak. As to speculation, it is pretty well finished at present, and a confirmation of the telegram of the 22nd instant will probably settle it entirely. There has been, and is still some trouble amongst the speculators for delivery during this month. The market rate of a particular day seems to be the stumbling block. To-day's quotations are purely nominal. *Tin.*—Only a retail business to report, prices being unchanged. *Copper* remains as last quoted, without any enquiry, and the market for other metals is also quiet, and quotations unaltered.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	155.0.0 *a* 160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....	per Box	6.4.0 *a* .....
Small ,, ...	,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... }	per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ... } nominal	,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23 } no demand.	,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom....	,,	20.2.0 *a* .....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	19.5.0 *a* .....
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.5.0 *a* .....
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best	,,	18.2.5 *a* ... ..
Ore	,,	15.8.0 *a* 16.2.5
HOOP IRON	,,	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0 *a* 31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—		
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	2.0.5 *a* 3.1.0
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.7.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.5 *a* 2.9.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.1.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.3.0
LEAD—L B	,,	6.1.0 *a* 6.1.5
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... .. *a* .....

		Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New	per Plc.	7.6.0 *a* 8.2.0
,, Medium	,,	8.6.0 *a* 9.2.0
,, Best.....	,,	9.4.0 *a* 10.0.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	9.7.0 *a* .....
—White	,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.7.0 *a* 3.8.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.0

ENGAGEMENTS.—*Velocity*, Br. bq., 490 tons, Monthly Charter, 4 *a* 5 months, no lay days—$1,600 per month; *Deogaum*, Br. bq., 447 tons, Nagasaki to London, no lay days—Private terms; *Georgina*, Br. bq., 222 tons, Nagasaki and back, no lay days—$2.45 per ton coal; *Sally*, Br. bq., 296 tons, Nagasaki and back, 14 lay days—$2.40 per ton coal.

COTTON.—Although business seems to be daily decreasing, the quotations of last week still hold. As formerly, the chief buyers are the Yangtsze dealers, and their purchases consist of best staple only. JAPAN seems to be out of the market entirely, and of the Southern ports, CANTON is the only one for which anything respectable has taken place.

EXCHANGE.—Rates looked firmer two days ago, Bank paper being procurable at 5s. 9d. while documentary paper was sold at 5s. 9½d. At the close however Credits can be placed at 5s. 9½d., and documents are held for 5s. 9⅝d. On India, the rate is 301½ nominally, but no business has been reported. On Hongkong the Banks quote 26½ *a* 26⅝, with but little done.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7¼d.		₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 8⅜d. *a* 5s. 8⅝d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9¼d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅜d.		,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight ..... Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.32½		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.31¼		,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 301½		₱ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 301½		₱ 100 ,,
ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 26⅝ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27 per cent. disc.		
INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.		

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.90 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.30 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,595 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 27th January are reported as :—

Stock on 13th January	MALWA,	3,012	Chests.		PATNA,	1,501	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	1,403	,,		,,	680	,,
Total.....	,,	4,415	,,	Total	,,	2,181	,,
Deliveries from 13th January	,,	750½	,,		,,	455	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,664½	,,		,,	1,726	,,

Bargained Opium..... .....1,500 Chests.

PRICES, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing Price.
Malwa—New,...	Tls. 425	415	415
Old, ...	Tls. ...	...	...
Patna—New,...	Tls. 444	438	438
Old, ...	Tls. ...	...	...

Statement of Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 25th Jan., 187 compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 14 @ 19 both numbers inclusive.

Goods.		Re-Exports and their Destination.												
		Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Local.
Grey Shirtings	Pcs.	7,550	950	11,250	21,050	2,300	...	...	100	...	2,200	16,157	...	5,900
T-Cloths	,,	3,120	1,500	4,200	13,000	3,050	...	...	...	...	1,000	1,251	1,000	4,160
White Shirtings	,,	400	150	100	1,650	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,580
Drills	,,	420	...	190	500	120	...	...	30	...	..	902	...	450
Jeans	,,	2,160	40	40	1,800	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings	,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	,,	...	...	...	..	50	...	...	...	...	...	1,244	...	50
Spots, White	,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed	,,	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White	,,	...	..	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	596	...	...
,, Dyed	,,	100	50	...	450	250	...	...	50	...	...	500	...	50
Damasks, Dyed	,,	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes	,,	180	...	50	375	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	580
Turkey Red Shirtings	,,	50	50	..	500	...	...	...	...	...	500	500	...	150
Velvets	,,	84	54	54	174	...	...	...	...	...	...	690	...	160
Velveteens	,,	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	Doz.	...	200	600	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Muslins	Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities	,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Spanish Stripes	,,	114	18	60	494	72	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	180
Medium and Broad Cloths	,,	78	18	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Camlets	,,	20	90	190	410	...	...	...	100	40	...	60	...	120
Long Ells	,,	100	80	120	740	20	...	...	40	20	...	...	...	80
Lastings	,,	100	...	20	220	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...
Crape Lastings	,,	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain	,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	750	...	50
,, Figured	,,	410	60	...	600	...	...	...	...	...	220	220	...	400
,, Crape	,,	...	50	...	200	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	Pcls.	248	779	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	294	...	...	...
Pig Lead	,,	209	...	605	1,598	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.		Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
		For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against. 27/1/74
Grey Shirtings	Pcs.	67,457	139,605	No cargo declared but that of the *Provence*, which brought no Piece Goods.		1,083,300	580,300
T-Cloths	,,	32,281	60,068			545,500	1,209,900
White Shirtings	,,	9,600	10,280			65,600	61,200
Drills	,,	2,612	6,551			237,400	424,000
Jeans	,,	4,300	7,710			33,600	92,200
Sheetings	,,	.....	.....			1,700	49,000
Dyed Shirtings	,,	1,344	1,544			1,300	2,200
Spots, White	,,	.....	149			350	2,000
,, Dyed	,,	.....	.....			.....	2,000
Brocades, White	,,	646	1,046			1,200	500
,, Dyed	,,	1,450	1,750			27,500	20,600
Damasks, Dyed	,,	40	40			7,050	3,400
Chintzes	,,	1,185	3,045			86,500	108,900
Turkey Red Shirtings	,,	1,750	2,911			23,900	35,500
Velvets	,,	1,216	2,470			5,200	10,400
Velveteens	,,	30	150			1,100	7,400
Handkerchiefs	Doz.	2,200	6,450			66,300	140,400
Muslins	Pcs.	.....	196			10,900	18,900
Dimities	,,	200	250			14,500	10,100
Spanish Stripes	,,	920	1,946			8,800	33,700
Medium and Broad Cloths	,,	274	826			9,600	18,800
Camlets	,,	1,030	3,110			19,700	22,500
Long Ells	,,	1,200	2,980			5,000	15,500
Lastings	,,	400	830			11,600	9,300
Crape Lastings	,,	260	380			8,800	3,900
Lustres, Plain	,,	800	1,350			2,700	15,600
,, Figured	,,	1,910	4,350			124,200	127,500
,, Crape	,,	300	560			21,700	11,800
Pig Lead	Pcls.	2,412	2,659			.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod	,,	1,321	3,833			.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Ocean, Glenroy, Gwalior, Velocity, Fleurs Castle, Sarpedon, Tigre, Hydaspes,* and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Our export to date, as compared with that of last season, is :—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,283,332	lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	1,402,459	,,
To United States—Black	Excess	854,964	,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	3,787,589	,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	50,594,071	lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,152,588	,,
To America (per Steamer)	10,047,390	,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	5,862,476	,,

Black.—There have been no settlements during the fortnight, and the unsold stock (against *no stock* in 1874) is estimated at 450 chests.

Green.—A fair business has been transacted during the past two weeks, and we cannot report any marked change in the position of our market. Fine lines of Teenkai and Moyune have been taken at Tls. 43 *a* 53, and country Teas generally have attracted attention, the lowest settlement reported being Tls. 20 for a chop of Fychow. Our stock is still considerable and largely in excess of that of last season ; it will also be noticed that the Export to England has increased rapidly of late, and is now as large as the total for last season.

					Against 1874.
Settlements—Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	23,700	½-chests.	Stock,	62,300 ½-chests.	8,157 ½-chests.
,, Pingsueys	530	,,	,,	7,900 ,,	3,035 ,,
,, Shanghai packed	...	,,	,,	4,000 ,,	3,000 ,,
	24,230	½-chests.		74,200 ½-chests.	14,192 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9¼.	Freight, £3 10s.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	Tls. 20 *a* 40	= 1/1¾ *a* 2/ 1½	= 28¼ *a* 53¾ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 27	= 1/6	= 37 ,,
Shanghai packed	....	=	= ..... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
BLACK	64,862,169 lbs.	58,578,837 lbs.	62,095,178 lbs.
GREEN	9,884,490 ,,	8,482,031 ,,	9,896,572 ,,
	74,746,659 lbs.	67,060,868 lbs.	71,991,750 lbs.
Export to United States and Canada—			
BLACK	1,612,500 lbs.	751,536 lbs.	1,221,843 lbs.
GREEN	14,297,366 ,,	18,084,955 ,,	21,543,133 ,,
	15,909,866 lbs.	18,842,491 lbs.	22,764,976 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	74,746,659 lbs.	67,060,868 lbs.	71,991,750 lbs.
,, Foochow to 2nd Jan.	59,805,269 ,,	52,916,648 ,,	50,863,674 ,,
,, Canton to 4th Jan.	18,555,161 ,,	14,796,041 ,,	19,162,698 ,,
	153,107,089 lbs.	134,773,557 lbs.	142,017,698 lbs.

HANKOW.—We have nothing further to report since the date of our last.

SILK.—Home public telegrams report a limited business doing in silk in London, at steady prices, and quote Red Peacock nominally worth 15s. 0d. per lb. The export of silk since last date, has been 623 bales for London, 1,194 bales for the Continent, 481 bales for New York, and 60 for India, &c., giving a total of 2,358 bales for the fortnight. For the French mail (which closed on the 21st) a large business was transacted, reported at 1,600 bales, for which the following prices were said to have been paid :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Cock and Worm Chop, Nos. 3, 3½ & 4 Tsatlees	395, 370 & 340	19/6, 18/4, 16/10	Tls. 54.45.51.10,47.00
Ku Kee's "Kin Jan." and Kin hock	347½ & 320	17/2 & 15/10	Tls. 48.00 & 44.30
Black Lion, Nos. 3 and 3½	345 & 325	17/1 & 16/1	Tls. 47.70 & 44.95
Blue Elephant	330	16/4	Tls. 45.65
Red Peacock	315 & 317½	15/7 & 15/9	Tls. 43 60 *a* 45.10
Yellow Elephant and Green do.	305 & 280	15/2 & 13/17	Tls. 42.25 & 38.90
"Tung Sen's" "Lan Ling"	292½	14/6	Tls. 41.20
"Ting Chan Kee's" "Vun Yuen"			
"Tae-ho's" "Pang Ling" Kahing Taysaam	315	15/7	Tls. 43.60
"Ching-yuen-sing's Gua-ling" do. do.	310	15/4	Tls. 43.00

During the past week the settlements are estimated at 1,500 bales, giving a total of 3,100 bales settled for the fortnight, which is the largest business transacted for some time past. Amongst the most notable of the late purchases may be mentioned :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.	
"Yah-kee" chop, Nos. 3, 3½ and 4 Tsatlee	397½, 372½, 347½	19/8, 18/6, 17/0	54.60, 51.30, 47.60	joint account.
Dancing Bear Nos. 1, 2 and 3 ,,	350, 330, 310	17/4, 16/4, 15/4	48.50, 45.70, 43.00	,,
Blue Elephant ,,	332½	16/6	45.90	
Red Peacock ,,	322½	15/11	44.60	
S.S S. Dollar ,,	297½	14/9	41.10	

Late purchases of chops show a slight advance, while on the contrary, market kinds are pressed for sale at somewhat lower prices, though the inferiority of nearly all silk now on offer more than counterbalances the slight concession in rates. These large settlements have decreased the unsold stock to 5,700 bales. A good demand existed for the American mails of the 13th and 20th, and fully 450 bales of *re-reeled* silks found buyers at Tls. 335 *a* 440 per picul for Hainings, and Tls. 340 *a* 410 per picul for Tsatlees. A few small parcels of *raws* were taken at Tls. 405 *a* 417½ for Tsatlee chop 3, and Tls. 310 *a* 315 for No. 2 Kahing Taysaams.

List of Stocks of Piece Goods in Foreign possession—(exclusive of those held by three Firms, who made no returns)—on 31st December last, as published by the SHANGHAI GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, on 22nd instant.

	Grey Shirtings.	White Shirtings.	T-Cloths.	Drills.		
				English.	Dutch.	American.
Pieces.	1,195,915	50,814	487,560	204,767	27,390	11,845
Against 31/12/73 ,,	540,168	64,931	1,259,483	259,230	134,620	3,160

	Jeans.			Sheetings.			Gentian Shirtings.	Spotted Shirtings.	
	English.	Dutch.	American.	English.	American.	Dutch.		White.	Dyed.
1874	22,990	2,290	.....	1,680	.....	.....	2,850	500	.....
1873	90,182	6,540	.....	37,150	11,340	320	250	2,043	2,350

	Brocades.		Damasks, Dyed.	Chintzes.	Turkey Red Shirtings.	Velvets.	Velveteens.
	White.	Dyed.					
1874	2,226	28,250	7,090	88,674	26,816	7,698	1,230
1873	250	17,495	3,400	104,780	37,900	6,938	7,002

	Muslins.	Dimities.	Spanish Stripes.	Med. & Broad Habit Cloths.	Camlets.		Long Ells.
					English.	Continental.	
1874	11,100	14,720	10,574	10,140	20,360	1,600	7,010
1873	14,929	7,900	34,070	12,082	21,040	2,360	16,630

	Lastings.	Crape Lastings.	Lustres.			Handkerchiefs.	Lead.	Nailron Iron.
			Crape.	Figured.	Plain.	doz.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1874	12,410	9,170	22,260	128,526	4,050	72,776	26,061	49,148
1873	8,705	4,270	11,883	123,869	17,584	149,022	37,335	20,633

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

January 28, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not given above)—January 25th, German barque *J. H. Jessen*, from Sydney; 27th, British steamer *Priam*, from Liverpool.

Departures.—Jan. 25th, Am. ship *Golden State*, for New York, *viâ* Foochow.

The English mail steamer *Gwalior* takes about 1,600 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¼d. *a* 5s. 9⅜d. First-class Private buyers, 5s. 9⅛d. Private and Documentary, 0s. 0d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Bank Rs. 302 *a* 303. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 302 *a* 303. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26½ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 26 Gold Bars, Tls. 173.20. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 74.00 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.50 per 10 Copper cash, 1,650 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Immediately after the issue of our last report, cash sales were made at 1½ % prem., a several lots were placed at 3 % prem. for March; but these rates were not maintained, sales having shortly afterwards been made at ½ prem. and at par. Sellers now offer shares at 1 % discount, and buyers offer 2 % discount.

S. S. N.'s.—With the exception of a few sales last week at Tls. 79½ cash, and Tls. 82 for March, little or nothing has been done in th stock. The market closes weak, with sellers at Tls. 78½.

Marine Insurance Shares.—*Japans* have advanced to Tls. 82 cash, with buyers. *Chinese Insurance* have been in good demand. A fe shares were placed at 190 *a* 192 some days ago, but sales have just been concluded at $196. *Yangtszes* are wanted at Tls. 580.

Fire Shares.—Business has been done in *Victorias, Chinas* and *Hongkongs* at quotations, and all these stocks are in demand.

Hongkew Wharf Company.—Cash shares are wanted, but shares are on offer on time.

We have had very fine winter weather during the week—cold, but sunny. Thermometer has ranged from 25 min. to 43 max.

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	24,006	26,119	2,611	1,365	54,101	..	54,101
Subsequent Shipments	1,317	1,833	782	152	4,084	..	4,084
Total....	25,323	27,952	3,393	1,517	58,185	..	58,185

COTTON.

	Cleared.	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report	.....	120,288.08	..	..	165,522.75	..	..	64,544.01	..	..	350,354.8
Subsequent Shipments	.....	7,009.44	..	..	40,298.10	..	..	9,608.80	..	..	56,916.3
Total....	.....	127,297.52	..	..	205,820.85	..	..	74,152.81	..	..	407,271.1

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 23rd JANUARY, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	267	267.00	10	12.00	..	..	1	1.00
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	269	269.00	10	12.00	..	..	1	1.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore	24	24.00	125	150.00	69	82.80	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa	163	163.00	8	8.00	35	35.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	69	69.00	..	..	..	..	275	275.00
Patna	16	19.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	8.40	..	..	..	..	23	27.60
Benares	31	37.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3.60	..	..	..	..	34	40.80
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malwa (Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total....	210	219.40	8	8.00	35	35.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	81.00	..	..	..	..	332	343.80

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LONDON *(E.C.)*

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,.....	Dec. 18	Hankow, ...	Jan. 27
San Francisco, ...	„ 12	Yokohama, ...	„ 27
Hongkong, ...	Jan. 30	Nagasaki, ...	Feb. 1
Tientsin,.....	„ 13	Foochow, ...	Jan. 27

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
Hongkong, ...Nov. 12 } Received 19th Dec.
Shanghai,..... „ 6 }

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 30th January, the wife of A. G. MERRILEES, of a daughter.

On the 31st January, Mrs. ALFRED A. KRAUSS, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 31st January, the wife of JOHN T. TAYLOR, of a son.

At Hankow, on the 30th January, Mrs. H. BEAZLEY, of a daughter.

On the 24th inst., at the Hermitage, Hongkong, Mrs. A. G. MORRIS, of a son.

On the 31st Jan. 1875, at the residence of her father, Monsieur J. C. Willaume, Hongkong, the wife of HENRY BEVERIDGE, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 9th Decr., at Newburn, Northumberland, JAMES M. VICKERS, of Shanghai, to ANNIE E., daughter of E. M. Bainbridge, of Dissington Hall.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the morning of the 28th instant, Mr. S. T. LIONEL PHILLIPS, aged 27 years.

On Feb. 3rd, at 11.30 a.m., of croup, JOHN THOMLINSON, youngest son of John Rennie, Esq., of the Kiangnan Arsenal, aged 2 years and seven months.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Messrs. Dow, Walkinshaw, and O. Hirsbrunner; 23 Chinese. Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Japan—Mrs. Hubback, Mrs. Davidson and 2 sons, Professor Davidson, Messrs. Von Velsen, E. Beach, Tisserand, F. T. Campbell and servant, A. Banard, L. Medart and servant, and 2 Japanese. In steerage—Jos. Duncan, 3 Japanese and 8 Chinese. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong—59 Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*—33 Chinese. Per str. *Nankin*, from Hongkong—Mr. U. A. Budd. Per str. *Scotland*—Mr. and Mrs. McClure and two children, Messrs. Date and Douglas. Per M. M. str. *Amazone*, from Marseilles—Messrs. Pearson, Galle and W. C. Ward. From Hongkong—His Excellency E. Jaraldo, the Spanish Minister; Messrs. J. Purdon, John L. Langworthy, A. G. Wood, S. E. Goto Shogiro, J. da Roza, E. H. M. Gower, E. Whittal, Yoshida, Renant, Salmon, S. E. Sameshima and Kawakami.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Sarpedon*, for Port Said—Mr. Schinder. Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Nagasaki—Mr. P. V. Grant. For Yokohama—Messrs. J. Middleton, J. C. Heitmann, R. B. Cuthbertson and J. F. Twombly. For San Francisco—Miss L. E. Dickey, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Messrs. J. R. Coryell, A. H. Macomber, Henry Lyons, S. S. Gilbert and B. J. Fisher.

LEAVING.—Per M. M. S. *Tigre*, for Hongkong—Messrs. Van Nelsen, Arthur Barnard, F. H. Bell, J. F. Campbell, Jamisan, Harmony, F. Wieters, H. A. Manney, Alexandri, Louis Gojon, Mr. and Mrs. Davidson and two children, Mrs. Knoop and one child. For Suez—Mr. R. Schlick. For Marseilles—Messrs. Vesserand, E. P. Hardey, Medard, E. T. Simon, Capt. of brig *St. Francois*, F. E. Andre, 1st officer do., Marrinelli, Parliate, Meilham, P. Barfoot, J. Chateurs.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hou of Rain durir 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Direction.
Jan	° ′	°	°	°					
28	30.200	39.5	46.0	32.0	7	m	..	5	W. S. W.
29	30.252	32.0	39.0	26.0	7	m	..	3	N. W.
30	30.250	34.0	45.0	25.0	7	f	..	0	Z
31	30.154	36.0	49.0	31.0	7	m	..	3	W. S. W.
Feb.									
1	30.252	38.0	48.0	31.0	7	b	..	5	N. N. W.
2	30 154	37.0	48.0	27.0	7	m	..	3	S. W.
3	30.100	41.0	54.0	34.0	8	m	..	5	N. W.

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, FEB. 4, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Green Tea.—On reference to the second paragraph of our retrospect of last year's business, we cannot but marvel at the report we have now to present to our readers, it being for the most part a recital of continuous losses and disastrous results to all concerned in the Trade.

At the close of season 1873-74, profits were advised on October and November shipments of 3d. *a* 4d. per lb. These advices had the usual effect of bringing forward extra supplies of the leaf, which being shipped off at the equivalent of London rates, —on the advanced scale—met a reacting market, and lost heavily. Some expectation was formed, therefore, that opening rates of the current season would be reasonable; the moderate stocks held in London and New York also afforded some confidence to operators at this time.

The increasing popularity of Japan Teas in America has stimulated their production considerably; so much so, as to interfere seriously this season with ordinary calculations regarding the shipments of Green Tea from this Port. The preference now given to steamers for early shipments direct to

the States, caused such an excess in the supply at an early period, that the results were simply ruinous, further impetus being given to the downward course of the market by Importers forcing off their Teas *without reserve*. This state of affairs in America had its effect upon the London market, and many shipments were realized there which were originally intended for New York.

Stocks in London were exceedingly moderate on the arrival of New Pingsueys, but any advantage to be derived therefrom was entirely dissipated by the dreary prospect in America, combined with the excessive quantities offered without reserve immediately on arrival. To the present time, the London market has gradually declined with remarkable consistency, and at the latest dates shews no signs of reaction. On the other hand, the American market [illegible] presumably to the prospect of a duty being imposed, and we think in some measure to a long pause in arrivals. Still, it has not more than reached the level of the English market, and although the advance amounts to the equivalent of about Tls. 6 per picul, quotations continue to shew a loss on shipments of first crop fine grades of Moyunes, Teenkais and Pingsueys.

Musters of New Pingsueys were shewn in bulk about the 20th June, and buying almost immediately commenced, much to the surprise of the natives, at prices some three to four taels above their anticipations, and certainly beyond what they could possibly expect from the position of the consuming markets; anxiety to secure early arrivals by first steamers in New York and London being the incentive to buyers. The decided improvement in the liquoring qualities of the teas, seemed such as to entitle them to a good reception by the Home Trade. This however, was more than counteracted by a general want of style and an unevenness of colour. A strong and advancing market was reported until the departure of the Pacific Mail of July 3rd; then a somewhat easier tone caused a decline of Tls. 2 per picul. The fact of there being two large steamers on the berth direct for New York, again induced firmness and a slight recovery from the decline in prices.

About the second week in July, a few Taiping and were Hoochow Teas were offered, and eagerly taken at fully last year's prices; the quality was improved in liquor, while in the leaf signs of hasty manipulation were apparent. At the close of the month, the arrivals were 40,000 half-chests in excess of the previous season; settlements being only 50,000 half-chests against 40,000 half chests, leaving the exceptionally heavy stock for this early stage of the season of 50,000 half-chests, against 21,000 half-chests. The new Teenkais and Fychows began to arrive on the 23rd July, and a chop was immediately settled at the extreme quotation of Tls. 47 per picul; the quality of these teas was good in the cup, and decidedly superior in make and appearance.

During August, the market declined 2 to 3 taels, leading to a large business for London and America. Moyunes arrived towards the close of the month, and met with eager competition, at rates on a par with the previous year; the quality was of a fair average. Telegraphic advices of first sales of Pingsueys in New York caused these grades to be neglected, except by a few sanguine operators for the London market.

In September, prices gradually declined, until a fall of fully Tls. 5 was established on all grades. Settlements were again heavy, although far behind supplies, the latter coming to hand with conspicuous rapidity; leaving a stock on the 20th of 73,000 half-chests, against 35,000 half-chests.

The export to [illegible] stood at 3,500,000 lbs., against 5,300,000 lbs., and to America 6,750,000 lbs., against 2,350,000 lbs.

Later, the favorable position of London statistics attracted buyers for that market, which arrested somewhat the decline consequent upon the extreme depression advised from New York, where the new imports were losing an average of 10 cents per lb.

The opening of October presented less disparity between supply and demand. Arrivals had fallen off considerably, and thus verified to some extent the Native reports of an unusually early season. A large business was reported the first week or two, at rather firmer prices. Before the close, however, the market receded Tls. 2 per picul, on account of advices giving bad news and serious losses all round. Pingsueys were left in the shade during the month.

Of November, there is little to remark, beyond a small but steady business—without change in prices—chiefly for London, that market being comparatively higher than New York. From the latter, the losses reported were in many instances 12 to 15 cents on Teenkais, and 20 cents on Pingsueys.

In the first week of December, a crisis appears to have been reached in New York, influencing this market to such an extent that Moyunes, Fychows, and Teenkais were bought on more favorable terms than has been known for years, the reduction from the opening of the season being from 8 to 10 taels per picul. This continued until the 13th, when Reuter telegraphed "New York market firmer," giving a stronger tone, and this was followed by a rapid rise in New York quotations to the extent of 10 cents from the lowest point. In the meantime holders here gained confidence, and with the aid of some hurried transactions for the Pacific Mail, succeeded in establishing a rise from the lowest point of two to three taels on common to medium, and four taels on fine to finest. The year closed with a strong although not very general demand, and an appearance of considerable firmness. Pingsueys remained neglected, owing to the enormous losses still advised from all the consuming markets.

Stocks 93,000 half-chests, against 33,000 half-chests.

The lateness of the present season compels us to halt here in our review, which is professedly of the year rather than of the season. In previous years the crop has been sold off earlier, and writing some weeks after the close of the year we have been able to give a complete sketch of the season's operations. This year however large stocks still remain; and we must close our review somewhat abruptly with the end of December's operations.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 20th December, arrived yesterday, by the M.M. steamer *Amazone*.

A mail left for America on the 2nd inst. by the P. M. str. *Costa Rica*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. str. *Tigre*.

The following telegrams only have reached us during the week.

The Powers are intervening to avert the Turco-Montenegrin conflict; nevertheless a collision is apprehended. The Porte has consented to the trial of Montenegrins by a mixed tribunal sitting at Montenegro.

Prince Leopold is better.

Garibaldi is at Rome, where he met with an enthusiastic reception.

Obituary—Kingsley; Lord St. Leonards.

Mr. Bright, at Manchester, has urged the policy of disestablishment.

[illegible] German Minister at Japan.

Mr. Bristowe has submitted his estimate to Congress, proposing the reimposition of the Tea and Coffee Duties.

The Chinese New Year opens on Saturday next; but it is likely to be shorn in this case of much of the usual festivity, on account of the Emperor's death. At any rate, overt rejoicing is forbidden, as shown by the following account of the customary proceedings in China, on the death of an Emperor:—

The "sorrowful proclamation," or official announcement of death, is not published until after the receipt of the "joyful proclamation," or announcement of accession. The proclamations are sent to the Generalissimos, Viceroys, and Governors of the several Provinces, and these in their turn make the contents known to their respective subordinates, instructing them to select a proper time and place for performing the necessary ceremonies. These being chosen, the officials collect in plain clothes (black, and free from colors or embroidery), and read out the announcement of accession. They then proceed to the temple dedicated to the Imperial presence, where they go through the ceremonials of court congratulation. This done, they select another public locality, where, dressed in mourning, they open and read the announcement of demise and solemnize the funeral service, which has to be repeated three successive days,

ace in the morning and once in the evening. The officials then wear mourning for twenty-seven days, keeping their heads unshaven for that period, and refraining from marrying or giving in marriage for 100 days, and from official music for one year. These intervals all reckon from the date of receiving the proclamations.—As regards the people, they are expected to wear mourning, the men as regards caps, the women as regards head ornaments. For twenty-seven days they may not shave, for thirty days they may not marry, and for 100 days all music is to be stopped.

A proclamation very much in this sense was posted on Sunday in the City and at the Mixed Court, announcing the death of the Emperor and giving orders as to the details of mourning to be observed. A translation will be found on another page.

It is said that Fêng, the new Taotai of Shanghai, was directed to take up office at once because, had he delayed till the period of mourning set in, it would be necessary to delay until it was over.

The A. D. C. gave their 42nd performance on Saturday evening. A full critique will be found elsewhere.

The fifth ball given by the Mih-ho-loong Fire and Rifle Company, came off at the Club on Tuesday night, and was in every respect a great success. A full account will be found elsewhere.

A meeting of the French Gas Co. was held on the 29th January. The account showed a profit on the year's working of Tls. 8,642. A divident of 11 per cent will absorb Tls. 4,180, Tls. 4,321 are placed to Reserve, and Tls. 141 carried forward.

We are sorry to find the Committee of the Eurasian school lamenting the want of adequate support. The fees, more purposely fixed at a very low rate in order to encourage attendance, and in the belief that sufficient numbers would be thus attracted to render the institution self-supporting. Up to a certain point the progress was encouraging, but the increase has not been maintained as the Committee were entitled to hope. The present number of scholars is, we believe, 31, and though the progress made by them has been satisfactory, disappointment is very naturally expressed that a much large number do not avail themselves of the institution. In principle, we quite agree with Mr. Hanbury that it is preferable the school should be worked as a public institution; but the Committee find themselves unable to do this without the public support for which they appeal.

Particulars will be found on another page of an attack made yesterday by some villagers near Kung-wang on an American gentleman, Mr. C. E. Hill. The men seem to have been excited by an old woman who was irritated at the prospect of a favourite pond being filled up by the works of the new road. Mr. Hill fortunately escaped without serious hurt.

A fire occurred on Thursday night, on the bank of the Defence Creek, at the upper side of the French Settlement. A Chinese bamboo-built dairy and out-buildings, the latter being filled with straw, had from some unexplained cause caught fire, and burnt with an intensity that destroyed them before the French fire-engines could get to the spot. The greatest danger lay in the proximity of some other Chinese houses, towards and on to which the wind carried quantities of the burning straw, but fortunately without setting them on fire. The Chinese authorities showed a somewhat unusual appreciation of the event, by turning out a strong guard of soldiers, fully armed with rifle, bayonet, &c., but each carrying the inevitable lantern, used on this occasion, presumably, to see their way to the blazing buildings.

The usefulness of the local electric telegraph was strikingly exemplified on the occasion In a very short time after the alarm bells were rung, the Hongkew detachments of the Fire brigade were ready to move, the Hook and Ladder Company had in fact started, and were toiling up the steep ascent of Hongkew Bridge, when the message was telegraphed that their services were not required. They were thus saved a long and useless journey.

We have received the Shanghai Customs Trade Returns for the last quarter of 1874, and abstract some of the principal figures. 457 vessels, measuring 311,865 tons, entered, against 451, measuring 292,615 tons, in the corresponding quarter of 1873; but only 440, measuring 296,640 tons, cleared against 491, measuring 323,436 tons. 124 in each case were sailing ships, the remainder steamers.

The import of Grey Shirtings shows a falling off from 910,918 pieces to 824,502; while T-Cloths show a slight increase from 348,058 to 356,709; the figures being however in this case less than a third of those shown in the corresponding quarter of 1871 and 1872. English Drills stand at 116,900 against [illegible] decrease is also notable in American and Dutch kinds. Sheetings, Chintzes, Velveteens and Handkerchiefs also show a falling off. Turkey Reds figure for 31,700 against 13,600. Woollens shew a total decrease of 10,000 pieces, Long Ells, Figured Lustres, Stripes, and Cloths having each fallen off; while Lastings show a considerable increase.—The import of iron was 65,895 peculs against 17,189; but that of lead only 4,952 against 17,731.—The marked increase of 4,000 chests occurs in opium; Coal, on the other hand, both native and foreign, showing a very marked decrease. There is a large increase in both import and export of Beancake; a considerable decrease in both import and export of Tea; Silk standing at nearly the same figure. The import of Brown Sugar fell off, while that of White more than trebled; the export of both shows a decrease.

There is again a decrease under nearly all heads in Internal Transit; except in that of Silk and Wool for export. The total Revenue for the Quarter was Tls. 828,636 against 931,434. The decrease is spread over every item except outward transit passes; the falling off in tonnage dues was nearly Tls. 10,000.

A motion is fixed for hearing at H. B. M.'s Supreme Court on Monday, before Sir Edmund Hornby, that is calculated to solve a somewhat important point in legal jurisdiction in China and Japan. It is well known that the Tientsin Treaty provides a tribunal for the adjudication of differences between British subjects and Chinese, in the shape of a Court presided over by the Consul and Taotai, who jointly investigate matters brought before them. But subsequently to this Treaty, the Order in Council (1865) was framed, establishing law courts entirely different from the treaty tribunal above-mentioned, and independent of the treaty. The latter court, being more perfect in organisation, and in accordance with English practice, has been exclusively resorted to by litigants. But the Order in Council not having interfered with the provisions of the Treaty of Tientsin in this respect, the Treaty tribunal still exists, and the two Courts are therefore, liable to clash in their jurisdiction. It is also well known with what laxity the Chinese officials enquire into matters of difference between persons of their nationality and foreigners. The motion that is to be argued in the Supreme Court is in reference to a suit heard at Foochow, before a Mixed Court composed of H.B.M.'s Consul in conjunction with H.E. the Taotai there. The suit was brought by Kwo-fuh Tih, master and owner of the junk *Kiu'tsai*, against G. D. Pitman, master of the steamer *Kwangtung*, agent for Douglas Lapraik & Co., and others, owners of the steamer. Mr. Wainewright, solicitor for the defendant, will move the Supreme Court either to declare the judgment of the Mixed Court to be null and void, or to direct the Consul to rehear the suit, in the manner provided by the Order in Council, or to remove it for hearing into this Court. Under the circumstances detailed above, the interest of the motion will appear to lie in the fact of the Judge having to consider the conflict of authority which at present might seem to the uninitiated to exist between the two tribunals; and the motion might definitely set at rest any doubt on the point.

The usual Summary of Mixed Court business will be found on another page.

At the Police Court on Monday, a somewhat unusual charge of robbery was investigated. Two young fellows, an able and ordinary seaman of the British ship *Corona*, were charged with stealing 400lbs. of fat, the skimmings of the ship's coppers. They took the fat, which was contained in two barrels, out of the fore-peak of the vessel on Saturday night, and sold it to a Chinese in Hongkew, bearing the euphonious name of "Buffalo," for $4.50 per barrel. The Chief Officer, on being questioned, said the oleaginous compound belonged to the owners of the vessel, and that he had sold two similar barrels of it in New Zealand, by the authority of the captain, for 25*s.* each. The defence was unique. It was to the effect that the fat was the produce of the boiling of the pork and beef served out as food to the crew, that it was part of the food of the crew, who, if they had chosen to do so, might have gone to the coppers and skimmed it off for themselves; and that, although it was skimmed off by the cook, and put into barrels, it did not belong either to owner or captain, but remained the property of the crew—in this case the

more especially as the cook of the vessel (who was discharged in New Zealand for drunkenness) had saved it, expressly by arrangement with the captain, for sale, the money to be divided among the crew. Mr. Mowat declined to solve this knotty or, rather, greasy point without an interview in Court with the captain. Everything else apart, the case is one which shows the necessity of a more perfect understanding between the captains, officers, and crews of merchant vessels as to the ownership of the refuse of food actually handed over for the men's consumption, and which they might have eaten if they could only have swallowed it.

The possibility of the establishment in Shanghai of a special agency for a purely Japanese line of steamers, plying between this port and Yokohama, to which we drew attention on the 20th ult., appears to have become an accomplished fact. Until further notice, one of the vessels of the "Mitsu-Bishi Steam Navigation Company" will be despatched every Wednesday for Nagasaki, Hiogo, Simonoseki and Yokohama. The Company appear to possess at present only four vessels, the *Tokio-maru* (late *New York*), the *Kanagawa-maru* (late *Madras*), the *Tokai-maru* (late *Acantha*), and the *Luzon*. The times for the despatch of the vessels from Yokohama are not yet notified, but we are informed that more complete arrangements are pending, and will be shortly published.

We understand that shippers of green tea to America, by the *Costa Rica*, escape the duty which is likely to be reimposed. Her bills of lading are dated the 31st January, which is the last day of exemption. Cargo under bills dated the 1st February will be charged.

The Danish barque *Korsor*, which left this port on the 27th, bound for Hongkong, has put back with damage to rudder, sustained by touching the ground during her passage down the river. She is now upon the hard at the Pootung side of the river, effecting the necessary repairs.

The *Ngapuhi*, which since 1862 and until very recently had done duty as Harbour-master's hulk, is now being broken up by her purchasers (Chinese) on the bank of the river at Pootung.

We are informed that the weather on the coast, although fine, has been exceedingly cold, the hills round Foochow and all the way up to this port having been covered with snow since the 23rd inst. Twenty-four hours before the *Costa Rica* left Nagasaki, a severe snowstorm was experienced at that port. The *Costa Rica*, when in Kü Channel, (80 miles from Hiogo), passed and spoke a German barque with her main and mizenmasts gone by the board, but although he proffered assistance, none was required.

The s.s. *Ocean*, while steaming down the river on Friday afternoon, came into collision with the C. N. Co.'s steamer *Ichang*, moored in mid-stream off the French Bund, and caused some slight damage to the rails, stanchions, and woodwork of the upper deck of the latter.

The barque *George Washington* was sold at auction on Friday, by Messrs. L. Moore & Co., for Tls. 2,960. The vessel was bought by the China Merchants' Co., to be made into a hulk, for use at Chinkiang we believe; and the sails, included in the above price, were sold to Mr. Reeves for Tls. 210.

The Treasury Department at Washington has issued a circular in the interests of American ships likely to pass through the Suez Canal; pointing out that the Government of Turkey and the Suez Canal Company have adopted the suggestions of the International Tonnage Commission held at Constantinople in 1873, "in regard to the "unification of tonnage and the deduction "of one franc per ton from the regular "Canal dues in the case of vessels which "are measured according to the Moorsom "system now in use" in the United States. To avail themselves of this arrangement, ships must be provided with a special certificate exhibiting the gross tonnage of the ship and the deduction therefrom authorised by the regulations of the Commissioners. The circular specifies what are these deductions, and contains a form of the certificate required to be signed—in America by the Collector of Customs, in a foreign country, we presume, by the U. S. Consul.

Foreigners who from past experience or present position know something of the inner working of Chinese officialdom, have not hesitated to declare that the agitation of the Formosan question was kept up an undue length of time, in the provinces at any rate, simply with the object of reaping the rich harvest of fresh squeezes which the imminence of war formed the excuse for exacting. Something apparently confirmatory of this view of the case comes to us on excellent authority. The Governor of Kiangse, anxious it is said to show his activity in preparing for the emergency of war that seemed likely to spring from the difficulty with Japan, imposed new taxation in his province which brought in about half a million taels to his treasury before the pacific termination of the affair. Oppressed with this *embarras de riches*, the Governor is now employing a portion of it in the purchase of arms and munitions, among the latter being five million percussion caps, an order which ought to clear the foreign market of these explosive and exploded articles. It is reported that he also intends to fortify the mouth of the Poyang Lake—presumably against sampans and teaboats; and both these patriotic operations will no doubt afford a wide field for jobbery. If, writes our informant, the money thus collected in this and other provinces had been fairly appropriated to meeting the late war preparations, China might have been saved recourse to the unnecessary and somewhat humiliating expedient of raising a foreign loan. Every one in power seems, however, to do the wrong thing. Foreign representatives are the last persons to hear of such matters; the Customs officials appear to have no influence to advise what is right; and there is an absence of homogeneousness in the government of this vast and wealthy empire which is nowhere more apparent than in the mal-administration of its fiscal affairs. In a country possessed of such ample means of its own, the small foreign loan recently contracted appears to be more an evidence of weakness than of wisdom on the part of its counsellors.

The influence of the Empresses-Dowager (of Hien-fung) in the Peking Court has decided the Imperial election in favour of a son of the Prince of Chun. The Prince of Chun is seventh son of the Emperor Taokwang, and his son is therefore of the same generation as the deceased Monarch. A more natural selection would have been the grandson of either the Prince of Tun or the Prince of Kung, both of a generation next to the late Emperor, and who could therefore have been adopted by the young Empress-Dowager. But the latter would in that case have become Regent; and the old Empress have had influence enough to carry the election of the young Prince Tsai-tien, who has to be adopted by them as a son of Hien-fung, and during whose minority therefore they become again regents. The arrangement is not viewed altogether with contentment; but there is no appearance thus far of opposition.

It is only natural that the death of the Emperor and the uncertainty in which the occurrence left the succession, should have given rise to rumours of trouble and all sorts of reports gained currency in Shanghai pending the arrival of certain news. It was rumoured at one time that the possession of the Dragon throne was already being contended for *vi et armis* that the palace was surrounded, and that a large army was at Peking, supposed to be Li Hung-chang's southern legion. Another rumour was that orders had come from Peking, forbidding the Chinese men-of-war in harbour to leave the river unless under direct instructions from the Peking Government. Later on again the Governor (Ah-lu-te) had committed suicide. But, as we have shown, all these rumours turned out to be pure canards, and we mention them only as indicating the uncertainty in the Chinese mind as to the course events would take.

As straws show which way the wind blows, some edicts that had lately appeared in the Peking Gazette suggest that a struggle had been lately going on at Peking between the rival parties whose influence was probably strained on the question of imperial succession. We need hardly refer to the late degradation of Prince Kung and his prompt re-instatement by the influence of the Empresses-Dowager. Later on, the Prince of Tun was put forward to offer certain sacrifices in the stead of the Emperor during his Majesty's fatal illness; while a decree of the 1st January, again, gives prominence to Prince Kung on a similar occasion. More significant than all, is a still later edict advancing Li Hung-chang to the post of Senior Grand Secretary; and the guess may be hazarded that, if we could say to whose influence this appointment is due we should have a clue to the probable bias of that great mandarin, and the view he may take of the present arrangement.

Our Newchwang correspondent complains again of the prevalence of brigandage.

There is no particular news from the South; what there is, will be found under the usual "Outports" heading.

Editorial Selections.

THE NEW EMPEROR.

WE have at last definite information as to the course of events in Peking since the death of the late Emperor; and learn that a boy named Tsai-tien 載湉, a cousin of the late Emperor, is the new ruler of China, under the style and title of Kwang-sü 光緒.

The death of the young monarch who had reigned since August 1861 under the style T'ung Che, took place at about 5 p.m. on the 12th January, in the nineteenth year of his age. Early on the morning following, it was rumoured in Peking that a grandchild of his eldest uncle, the Prince of Tun, had been selected for the succession, in the absence of a direct heir; but in the course of the day it became known that the two Empresses, *i. e.* the Empress Dowager and the Empress Mother (of T'ung Che), the well-known regents during the late minority, had selected the only son of the seventh Prince, the Prince of Ch'un. This child, who is at present, it is said, between three and four years old, was designated as successor to the Throne in a Decree of the Empresses, to which sanction was declared in the valedictory manifesto of the departed sovereign. The selection is popularly attributed to the choice of the Empress Mother, who is a sister of the Princess of Ch'un, and consequently aunt by blood as well as marriage to the child. These two august ladies are said to be daughters of a Manchu functionary formerly in office as Taotai of the Kwei-sui Circuit in Shansi named Chêng-lin 徵麟. The result shows that the Empresses have known how to maintain and exalt the position gained by their coup d'etat in 1861, when they seized the reins of power after the death of Hien-fung; and we cannot but admire the vigor and determination with which they dominate the rival parties and bend princes and ministers to their will. The effect of the present selection is to make them again ex-officio regents, and among the Peking Gazettes which we publish elsewhere will be found an edict appointing them to that office. The youthful sovereign-elect was conveyed to the Palace from his father's residence, at about 4 a.m. on the 13th. The decrees published in the Peking Gazette on that and the following days record the successive official stages of this historical episode. The adoption of the new *Kwoh Hao* or style of the coming reign of the new Emperor was announced in the Gazette of 16th January. The characters chosen are *Kwang Sü* 光緒, which may be translated Continuation of Glory. They appear to have been selected from a sentence occurring in a state-paper of the Sung dynasty, by Ts'ui Yung 崔融; entitled "memorial requesting the bestowal of a title of Honour [on an Imperial person]." The sentence is as follows: 光復丕緒—*i.e.*, gloriously renew the great dynastic continuation.

So far, then, all appears to be settled; everything is tranquil at Peking; and the great mass of the Chinese people care little whether their ruler be Tsai or Yih or Mien or Pu, so long as order is kept, and they are left in peaceable enjoyment of their earnings. There is perhaps a possibility of further rivalry within the walls of the palace; and Peking news will be looked for with special interest for months yet to come. The grandsons both of Prince Tun and Prince Kung were looked on as having better claims, and there seems to be feeling of dissatisfaction at the choice made. Still that feeling has found no open expression, and the same influence which enabled the Empresses to secure the appointment of their nominee may continue to overpower and stifle opposition. Our correspondent says that a regency is about to be constituted on the same basis as the last. But whether he means as to form or *personnel*, is not clear. In the latter case it may be inferred that all are in accord, and that the late foreign policy will be followed out. Otherwise it seems unlikely that Prince Kung will allow himself to be quietly effaced. Of Prince Chun, whom the turn of events has brought into prominence as father of the new Emperor, we know little. He has not, we believe, come much in contact with foreigners, nor is he thought to view them with a very kindly eye. Report credits him with military tastes, and he has, we believe, a position at the head of the Manchu garrison of Peking, which gives him strength to support the new order of things.

THE PRESS AND THE MACAO COOLIE TRADE.

THE *China Mail* very justly complains of the total want of all recognition, on the part of the Anti-Slavery Society, of the efforts made by itself and the other papers in China towards getting rid of the abominable Macao coolie trade. In this protest against the fickleness of public opinion, especially when conducted by the band of would-be philanthropists, the *China Mail* has a right to take the lead. We do not desire to run down the efforts of the Anti-Slavery Society, but at the same time it is only right and fit that they should know, and acknowledge, that while the work undertaken by them was conducted with no loss, social or pecuniary—that in fact, in protesting against the continuance of the traffic, they were doing a thing tending to raise them to a position of philanthropic greatness—no such immunity was vouchsafed to those who, on the spot, boldly and honestly, and for the good of their fellow creatures, exposed the iniquities of the traffic, and finally led to such official action being taken as resulted in its suppression. While philanthropists at home were dreamily waking up to the practices carried on at Macao, the *China Mail*, at the instance of the law officers of the Colony of Hongkong, was being subjected to an expensive and vexatious prosecution. It fortunately happened that the fact of this prosecution having taken place, led to a further investigation of the circumstances attending the continuance of the traffic; but for the loss and the annoyance to which our contemporary was put, in the exposure of practices which the Government finally had to use all its power at home and its influence abroad to suppress, we are not aware that the *China Mail* has ever received one word of thanks or acknowledgment. Although the coolie trade was generally reprobated in Hongkong, and although mercantile houses, notoriously Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., had attempted to procure official interference with its vile practices, the abuse in all probability would have continued to the present day, were it not for the stand made by our contemporary. More than this, the traffic, from the close connection between Macao and Hongkong, was really undermining the mercantile morality of the place. A traffic so lucrative could not fail to attract adventurers; and as a large amount of capital was invested in it, and this capital had mainly to be worked in Hongkong, there was perforce a corresponding effect on the legitimate trade of the Colony. It was in effect becoming a power in the money market of the Colony; and those who hated it most, and held most aloof from it, were yet, however unwillingly, brought in the daily course of business in contact with its secondary effects. It is true that the general public opinion of the Colony was adverse to the traffic; yet there was undoubtedly an under-current of feeling favourable to its continuance, and this under-current became for a time stronger when the Acting Attorney General of the Colony appeared as the prosecutor of the *China Mail*, for alleged libel in exposing the iniquities of the traffic. The other papers of Hongkong gave way, more or less, to this tide, and produced at various times articles having a tendency to gloss over the grosser parts of the traffic. Had not by an accident, in the case of the *Maria Luz*, the venue of the affair been, as it were, transferred from Hongkong to Japan, it would possibly still have been looked upon as a local matter, to be discussed with due discrimination by the local Press at Hongkong. We ourselves were glad of the opportunity afforded to press the arguments put forward by our contemporary the *China Mail*, but we have not had, nor shall we now probably have, with it the honour of martyrdom. We did indeed so far fall under the displeasure of the Attorney-General of the Colony as to incur being denominated by him a mischievous and libellous newspaper, but fortunately his power to bite was not proportionate to his ability for barking,

and we were left alone. The action of the Supreme Government, the bold stand made by the *China Mail*, and possibly, to a small extent, the strictures passed by ourselves on the apathy of the Chinese Government, at last led that sluggish body to make some move; and the first real blow was struck when the harbour of Canton was closed to vessels engaged in the coolie traffic; If it had not been for the bold exposures made by the *China Mail*, the opportunity would not have presented itself of publicly denouncing the traffic; and if it had not been for the denunciations which proceeded from the English Press of China, the iniquities of the traffic would never have become the subject of public comment at home. Philanthropic writers discussing those matters at their ease at home, find it convenient to forget these facts, and the Press in China not only gets no credit for its conduct, but is passed over with a slur.

A PUBLIC MARKET.

The want of a public market in Shanghai has been so long felt, that in opposition to the views of our correspondent Citizen, we are glad to hear that the Municipal Council are taking preliminary steps in the matter, and that there is a likelihood of a definite scheme being submitted to the Ratepayers at the next Annual Meeting. As a matter of fact, Smith's Market has not been found to fulfil all the requirements of the Settlements. It has been found necessary to allow the impromptu market in the Maloo to remain, pending the erection of a suitable building. Our correspondent tacitly admits the inconvenience of this innovation, but can hardly appreciate the extent of the nuisance when he doubts the efficacy of the suggested remedy. A market can hardly under any circumstances be made an æsthetic institution, or one whose neighbourhood would be sought and coveted. But a market in a covered building, especially adapted and carefully supervised, is a thing as different from a market in the open street—as the foreign Settlement from the native city. It is true that early removal of the Maloo stalls is insisted on, and the annoyance thus reduced within the least possible limits. But the fact remains that a street market, in a place having the pretensions Shanghai may claim, to be a well-built and well-ordered city, is very badly out of place.

Some years ago, the then Council suggested to certain private individuals who had offered a site for a market, that they should erect one at their own expense, and that the Council would guarantee that the streets should no longer be made use of. But it was replied that, in case of success, the public would see in this arrangement nothing but the setting up of another monopoly, and that it would probably be found impossible to put such promises in action, for the apparent benefit of private individuals. On the other hand, without such guarantee, the native produce-sellers would prefer to make use of the Maloo pathways, where they were but little interfered with and had to pay no market dues. It became evident, therefore, that no means of avoiding the dilemma existed, short of the Council itself undertaking the proposed market, in the interest of all; and we repeat that we are glad to see the present members are taking up the question. Citizen can surely have but little experience of sanitary arrangements, when he advances the argument that markets must of necessity increase the unhealthiness of the Settlement. Doubtless, if the entire community of Shanghai, native and foreign, could do without supplies, a great improvement in the appearance and the sanitary condition of the Settlement could be effected. As, however, Shanghai must be supplied with the various articles required for food, it behoves the Council to see that their supply shall be effected in the readiest manner and with the least interference with the sanitary condition of the place. It is too evident to need further proof, that these measures can be best carried out in a building erected for the purpose, and under the immediate supervision of the Council. Miss Burdett Coutts' market may not have proved financially a success, but this has not deterred the authorities of London from erecting public markets, when public convenience or public health required them; the latest being the recently rebuilt Billingsgate market, now transformed into a handsome and substantial edifice. The want of public markets has indeed been felt so widely, that scarcely a town exists now in England where the market is not one of the most notable features of the place.

So much for the sanitary aspect of the question. The question of site is quite another, and one about which there will be great difference of opinion. Though the market may be adopted in principle, it does not at all follow that the proposal will be agreed, to build it at the corner of Honan and Foochow roads. That the Council should have suggested this site is very natural. Owing to the fortunate acquirement of premises suitable for carrying on the Municipal administration, the Council has now at its disposal a central plot of ground, and very naturally suggests the utilisation of this ground in connexion with the new scheme. But whether the Ratepayers will wish the property in question so occupied, is quite another question. A market, however well cared for, is, as we have said before, not a desirable neighbour; and a site further back from the foreign quarter would be clearly preferable, if one can be obtained in a convenient situation. It has even been suggested that it would be worth while to keep the plot in Honan Road open, as a lung, in a town which is yearly extending and becoming more crowded. Our correspondent's impression that the value of property would be deteriorated by the presence of the proposed market, is we think exaggerated. The only foreign hong which would really suffer is Chung-wo. Otherwise most of the property about is Chinese and the Honan Road itself is the street par excellence of Chinese stores dealing in those commodities which naturally supplement a market. The corner of the Maloo and the Honan roads would be a good and central position, but the acquisition of the necessary land there would be expensive and perhaps impossible. The need of a market, we may at any rate assume to be indisputable, for we have the experience of the world to guide us. The only question is, has the Council made the best and most practical suggestion as to site? We doubt if the Ratepayers will think so, and surmise that a position further back, in the Chinese quarter, will be deemed preferable. There cannot be any serious difficulty in purchasing a block elsewhere; and the sale of the present plot would furnish ample funds, if fresh outlay is thought undesirable.

REVIEW.

A Handbook of the Canton Vernacular of the Chinese Language by N. B. Dennys, Ph. D., M.R.A.S. &c. Hongkong, 1874.

Unlike the settlement of North China the colonization of Kwangtung falls within historic times. About the year 220, B.C. She Hwangti having firmly established, as seemed to him, the power of the Ts'in dynasty in the north of China, determined to extend his dominion over the south, at that time inhabited by aboriginal tribes whose descendants still exist in scattered communities as Miautsze, a name allied to the Sanskrit *Mlechchha*, our own *Welsh*. With this object in view, he despatched a General named Tu Hwei, to cross the mountains at the head of a formidable army. Tu Hwei was slain in the contest, but his successor, Jên Ngao, retrieved this disaster; and in the following year the newly conquered territory was formed into a province of the empire under the title of Nanhai, a name the recollection of which is still preserved in the Namhoi *hien*, forming one of the districts into which the prefecture of Canton is divided. To quote Mr. Mayers (Journal N.C.B.R.A.S., 1873) "The tribes who successfully encountered Tu Hwei were enabled to resist the disciplined legions from the North, not by force of warlike appliances, or of military skill, but by the craft of the forest born and unfettered savage, with the aid of natural difficulties presented by a wild and pathless country, overgrown with impenetrable woods, and offering neither supplies for the support of an advancing army, nor facilities for the retreat of a force overtaken by disaster. Under the direction of the Chinese Generals, however, military colonists were poured in thousands from the cultivated regions beyond the mountain-barrier of the Mei-ling, into the

newly acquired dependency; forests rapidly disappeared before the axe and fire; fortifications rose where cities were shortly to grow up; the noble rivers disclosed by the labours of the woodman served as a ready means of transport, and where these natural highways proved insufficient, artificial canals were dug to expedite the movements of the subjugating and colonizing armies. A central position for the seat of government was selected at the hills of P'an and Yü, where already a native town existed, and, by a well directed choice, the foundations were planted here of what was to become in future the city of Canton."

On the fall of the T'sin dynasty the province became independent, under the rule of Chao T'o, Jên Ngao's successor, who declared himself sovereign prince of Nan Yüeh, and remained so till, at the close of the 2nd century B.C., it was a second time, under the Hans, added to the empire of China. This short description will enable us to understand many of the peculiarities of the Cantonese. Their occupation was sudden and, so far as it went, complete; and, like colonists under similar circumstances all over the world, they succeeded in retaining many of the archæisms of their original stock. Surrounded by hostile tribes of Miautsze, speaking, as the name given to them by the northern colonists indicates, an incomprehensible jargon, *(mlechh, indistincte loqui)* little communication of a friendly nature took place, and the colonists occupying the plains of the provinces of the two Kwangs appear to have preserved with greater purity than elsewhere both the blood and language of the original founders of the Chinese empire. If we desire to find those links which bind Chinese with the original languages of High Asia, we are forced to have recourse to this furthest off colony of the great She Hwangti. In the common speech of Canton we can trace such words as *mat, honey*, our own *mead*, Sanskrit *madhu*, Greek *methu &c.; lâp* wax, Sanskrit *lepa, unguentum*, Greek *lipos; pak*, a cypress, Greek *peukê*, Latin *picea*; *ch'âm*, a fir, Sans. *druma*, Gr. *drûs*, our own tree, &c. &c.—words the connection of which we should be totally unable to comprehend were we dependent on the modern northern Chinese forms of *mi, la, pai* and *shan*. What is true of the vocabulary of the Cantonese is likewise true of their grammar. There is no such gulf between the ancient literature of China and the spoken dialect of the city of Canton, as exists between the former and the dialects of the north and centre, and more especially the, philologically speaking, utterly degraded patois of the present capital. Many of the old particles, and much of the old structure of the language, still survive in the common speech. Comparing, again, Cantonese with the dialect spoken about Shanghai, a degenerate relic, according to Chinese tradition, of the elder stock of the original language, we notice in both a complete series of four high and four low tones. The presence of a full series of tones in these two dialects, so unlike in other respects, seems to afford strong evidence that already, before historic times, tones as a characteristic of the language were in existence, and that these tones had even then separated into a high and low series. The process of change, therefore, in modern Chinese, would seem to have been from a greater to a lesser number of tones, instead of, as is suggested by the Rev. J. Edkins, the reverse. Pekinese, the furthest removed from the original stock, has therefore but four, compared with the eight of Cantonese. At present, Chinese and some of the languages of the Indo-Chinese peninsula, stand alone in their affectation of tones as altering the meaning of sounds, and this peculiarity has doubtless survived in consequence of the degradation of inflected forms having left few other means of distinguishing identical vocables. A system not unlike tones seems to have, however, prevailed in ancient Sanskrit, and the probable resemblance to tones of the ancient Greek accents has likewise been suggested. In fully inflected languages they rapidly become an excrescence, while in those which for some reason adopted a monosyllabic form, their presence was found useful if not essential. In the progress of language, as in that of species, redundancies have a natural tendency to be cast off or become merely rudimentary; and viewed in this light we can perceive how, while one branch preferred inflexions it naturally lost its tones, another preferring tones as naturally got rid of its inflexions, or reduced them to the rudimentary forms in which they exist in modern Chinese.

To return to our more immediate subject, Dr. Dennys' book on the Canton vernacular is not the first book, nor even the first important and well arranged book, on this subject. For all practical purposes, it is however a new book. Dr. Bridgman's Chrestomathy, a book of the generation which produced Dr. Morrison's Dictionary, has long been out of print. So rare has it become, that the writer has seldom met with a copy. The book was the production of a rare scholar aided by a powerful mind, and few books on Chinese are so well deserving of study. Another book on the vernacular, that of Dr. Williams, is equally rare; the writer does not remember having met with a copy. To have followed these two scholars is no discredit to Dr. Dennys, who has, besides, adopted a course of his own admirably suited for affording a gradual yet thorough insight into the language. "It is customary," he tells us, "to assert that Chinese has no grammar, and if by that it be meant that its construction outrages Western ideas of grammar, the assertion is true. The same word constantly does duty for various parts of speech—just as if we, taking the word '*ambition*,' used it as a noun, adjective, adverb, verb, &c., as convenient; and were to say, he likes *ambition*, he is an *ambition* man, he did it *ambition*, he *ambition* that post. Now we do, with such a word, use it very much in that way (ambition, ambitious, ambitiously, &c.), but we *inflect* it. The Chinese do not, and moreover they use almost any word in a similar manner. But to assert that they have no grammar is to assert a manifest absurdity, as no language can exist without some *custom* of forming sentences, which in time becomes the grammarian's rule."

By means of two sorts of type, italic and roman, as in Mr. Chalmers' little dictionary, the distinction is made between the upper and lower tones of the dialect, which in Cantonese are so marked as to impart a sing-song effect to the spoken language; while the four tones of each division are further marked by the use of two accents, the first or *p'ing sheng* needing none, and the fourth or *juh sheng*, as ending in a consonant, requiring no further distinction. A little practice, with the help of a native well-skilled in the vernacular of Canton city, will readily enable the student to master the tone inflexions of this, the most marked in this respect of Chinese dialects. The headings of the various lessons include each a chapter on a special topic of Chinese grammar. For example, let us take that of Lesson III. "Most Chinese nouns signifying objects, take before them a syllable or word termed by foreigners a classifier or numerative. This is, to a certain extent, generic; *i.e.*, a similar word applies to a large number of nouns having some analogy to each other. Thus, the word CHI, meaning a branch, is applied to pens, candles, whips, pencils, muskets and other straight things; *e.g.*, *a pen*, YAT CHI PAT, 一枝筆; a whip, YAT CHI MA PIN 一枝馬鞭.

"The adjective comes between the classifier and its noun when following a numeral; thus, *a large pen*, YAT CHI TAI PAT, 一枝大筆.

"The classifiers are distinguished in the vocabularies of these lessons by being placed within brackets."

A note is appended giving a fuller description of what are for convenience sake called classifiers, Dr. Dennys' acknowledging that the word, though sufficiently useful to be retained, is, like many similar words, to a great extent a misnomer. In a similar manner, the student is led by degrees to comprehend the more abstruse parts of Cantonese grammar. A useful innovation is that the separate sentences under each heading take to a great extent the form of a continued conversation, thereby addressing themselves better to the comprehension, and taking a firmer hold on the memory than would ordinary disjointed sentences. For the sake of the general student we would have desired to see an index to the lessons. Many will doubtless appeal to the book for evidence as to the existence of some particular idiom, and its value as a work of reference would thereby be much increased. Dr. Dennys has likewise adhered to what we conceive to be the objectionable system of marking short instead of long vowels. To any one accustomed to the contrary system, made use of in alliterating Greek or Sanskrit vocables, of representing the long vowel by a circumflex, the result is more or less perplexing.

We are glad to acknowledge Dr. Dennys' book as a valuable contribution to the study of Chinese generally, as well as a vast help

to those for whom it is more immediately intended, the students of the vernacular of Kwangtung; and to congratulate the author on the fact of the book having been approved of as a text-book for the examinations in Chinese by the Colonial Government of Hongkong.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

Our Newchwang correspondent complains of the frequency of robberies in the neighborhood. A foreign missionary was plundered the other day on the highway, not 40 miles from Newchwang.—Writing on the 1st January our correspondent says—Although the Thr. (Fahrt.) has ranged between five and twelve degrees under Zero during the last few days, the river is not yet frozen over opposite the settlement. Higher up, where the water is not impregnated with salt, carts have been crossing for two weeks. A great deal of snow has fallen, and next year's crop will be none the worse for that. Produce is arriving in large quantities, if one may judge of the long strings of carts along the roads, from early morning till dewy eve.

In business there is nothing doing, the last few sales of goods having been forced to pay off old scores—and rates obtained are therefore not reliable.

Messrs. Bush Bros.' Circular says:—Malwa remains dull, the quotation being nominally Tls. 470 to Tls. 480 per chest. Produce quotations are—for cash now, delivery in spring:—

Beancake.....	Tls.	2.70	per 10 pcs.
Peas.....	,,	2.12	,, 300 ,,
Oil	,,	2.10	,, picul.

AMOY.

The *China Mail's* correspondent writes on 18th January that the *H. C. Orsted* was at Amoy with the small end of cable which is to connect the Foochow line with Kulang-sou, but H.E. the Taotai, in the absence of any instructions on the subject, is opposing its being laid. It would appear that the Great Northern Company has commenced this line without the proper authority from the Imperial Government, and that though allowed to lay the wires from the Foochow end, the officials at this end have no power to grant permission to do the same. The *Ling Fêng* was to leave on the 18th for Takao, with Mr. Henderson, Lighthouse Engineer, on board. The races have been definitively settled *not* to take place this year, for want of ponies. Still training goes on, for the Hongkong meeting.

FOOCHOW.

A reward is offered for the apprehension of a late Chinese steward of H.M.S. *Kestrel*, who is supposed to have left for Shanghai, after committing various robberies on board.—The *Foochow Herald* states that an 18-ton Armstrong gun, or "Woolwich Infant," has been added to the Arsenal armaments, and will shortly be placed on one of the batteries recently constructed in that neighbourhood.—The telegraph line to Pagoda Anchorage was cut on the 16th instant, near the Arsenal, and about 1,500 feet of wire stolen. The line has been repaired. The *Herald* reports that H.B.M. Consul, who was instrumental in obtaining permission to build the line, has absolutely refused to assist in the apprehension and punishment of the culprits. The other Consuls, however, have taken up the case on behalf of the Company.—Captain Hoskier, the Engineer-in-Chief to the Great Northern Telegraph Company, started on the 11th instant, overland, for Amoy. Captain Hoskier, is instructed to push on the construction of the line between Foochow and that place.—The *Herald* of 21st January contains a statement regarding the difficulties raised by the Chinese in connection with this enterprise, which we quote elsewhere. The *Herald* understands that the Chinese authorities contemplate establishing a Dockyard at Sharp Peak, for the building of men-of-war.—It is reported that a number of Chinese pupils, at present studying at the Arsenal, will proceed to England after the Chinese New Year holidays, for the purpose of pursuing their studies in that country.

HONGKONG.

The *China Mail*, in noticing the retirement of the Postmaster-General, Mr. Mitchell, remarks that his pension is calculated on a basis which, though it gives a result strictly just, can hardly be termed generous. Mr. Mitchell, in fact, receives precisely what any other official of equal length of service, without any special claims to consideration, would receive. In view of the fact that he has served on almost every commission ordered during the past twelve years, has conducted several enquiries, and has undoubtedly displayed unusual zeal in the performance of duties bearing essentially on the welfare of the revenue, the *Mail* very properly urges that the Government should draw some distinction in his favour.—On the retirement of Deputy Inspector-General Loney from the charge of the Royal Naval Hospital, Admiral Shadwell has written him a letter expressing cordial appreciation of the able and efficient manner in which Dr. Loney has conducted the duties, which the Admiral further intends to bring under the notice of the Admiralty.—Mr. Philip Davis has been convicted on the charge of obtaining goods under false pretences, and sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

An inquest has been held on the death of J. C. Bobsen, a master mariner, native of Hamburg, who died from the effects of opium. He had been drinking for some time before.—A Chinese signalman, engaged on night duty, has been starved to death on the Peak, the coroner's jury finding that insufficient food and scanty clothing led to his death. It seems the unfortunate man was paid $6 a month, and 20 cents for oil. The jury recommended that the Chinese signalmen should in future be provided with some clothes, in addition to their overcoats.—An attempt is being made to raise the *Albay*. The *Leonor* is now in Dock, and the *Times* says her repair will occupy at least four months. The external damage is nearly all on the starboard side, where some yards of the iron-plating were completely smashed in. The fittings are of course much damaged by being so long under water; but the machinery, except that it is quite rusted, has not greatly suffered.—The *Hanyang* is to be run as a day, instead of a night boat on the Canton river.—A public meeting has been held to consider the advisability of establishing a Temperance Hall in Hongkong, somewhat similar to that carried on in Shanghai. The meeting, which was well attended, was unanimous as to the desirability of such an establishment, and a number of those present gave in their names as subscribers. A Committee was ultimately appointed to look out for a suitable building, and it is intended to have the institution ready for opening, if possible, early next month.—News has been received that the bark *Pepita* is a total wreck at Sual.

HIOGO.

The *News*, in speaking of the new postal arrangements at Kobe, made by Mr. Carr, the foreign superintendent there, says, "Letters for Nagasaki, Shanghai, &c., may in future be posted up to 9 o'clock on t evening preceding the departure of t mail steamer, and letters for Yokoha and beyond up to within one hour of t time fixed for the vessel's departure." The statistics of trade for the ports Hiogo and Osaka for the six months en ing December 31st, 1874, as compiled the Chamber of Commerce, were pu lished in the *News* on the 23rd instan The result, generally, shows an increa of $87,000 in the imports, and $585,000 the exports. Some of the items show falling-off, and among these are tha which appeared in the return for the lat half of 1873, which have, says the *New* "now disappeared altogether, or hide the diminished heads under the style 'Sundries.' Of these rice is by far t most important; this, from figuring as export to the amount of $417,049, h become an import to the figure of $7,56 Wheat, which was good for $67,637, now no longer placed. Silkworm's egg from descending to the modest sum $1,250, have now disappeared entirely and silk, after gradually dwindling dow to $10,080, at length has reached zero." An English paper pulp manufacturi company, of considerable capital, is abo to commence operations at Kobé. T works are to be under the control of Mr Charles Rickerby, a gentleman long ident fied with journalism in Yokohama.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* says, "The sudden death Mr. Albert G. Bates from suffocation, whi in a bath heated by a charcoal stove, h caused much sensation and grief amon his friends in Yedo. Mr. Bates w attached to the foreign educational sta of the Government, and was esteemed as promising and industrious member of t This is by no means the first case in whi a foreigner has lost his life by the use this seductive, but unquestionably dange ous kind of bath, against the use of whic any warning at this moment would b supererogatory."—The same paper say the petition sent to Japan by the Corean according to a native journal, was to th effect that if the Government would ove look their past misconduct they woul receive the next Ambassador from Japa with greater deference. Arrangement were accordingly made to despatch Mori yama to the Corea, but the execution o the contemplated mission has been post poned for the present."—The *Herald* states that the battalion of Royal Marine only remains here until arrangements ca be made for their return to England so that it might be inferred that th removal of the English troops from Japan at an earlier period than ha been generally supposed is intended.—The *Herald* announces the appointment of Mr von Brandt as German Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Peking, t be replaced here by Mr. von Holleben now *Chargé d'Affaires* at Peking. During Mr. von Brandt's long residence in Japa he has been extremely popular. Mr. Consul Zappe is to discharge the functions o *Chargé d'Affaires* between the time of depar ture of Mr. von Brandt and the arrival o his successor.—On the night of the 14th instant, another shock of earthquake, last ing a considerable time, was felt in Yoko hama, and caused much alarm.—A match at football between the Patriarchs and Juniors was played on the 14th, and was won by the former.—The Ja panese Government is making prepara tions to send productions, both natural and manufactured, to the 1876 Exhibition in the United States.—On the 9th inst. a grand banquet was given at Hamagoten in honor of General Saigo and his officers who have returned from the Formosan expedition, and other gentlemen who were concerned during the late difficulty wi China. General Le Gendre, M. Boissonade,

Mr Hill, and Mr. Smith were present.—The libel case of W. G. Howell (*Japan Mail*) *v.* J. R. Anglin and C. D. Moss (*Japan Gazette*) occupied the whole of the 19th instant, in H. B. M.'s Provincial Court. The jury, after retiring for a quarter of hour, brought in a verdict for the plaintiff, giving the nominal damages of $1. The question of costs was reserved by the Court.—Two Japanese officers left here on the morning of the 19th, by the M. M. S. S. *Tanais*, on a mission from the Japanese Government to Siam, but the exact object of their journey remains unknown.—Dr. J. J. R. Dalliston, for many years an esteemed resident of the community, died of fever on the 20th instant.—On Monday, the 18th, a petition was filed in H. B. M.'s Bankruptcy Court, on the application of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, that respondent, E. Wallace, be adjudicated bankrupt, he having failed to pay bills owing to appellants to the amount of $8,700. The case was adjourned until the 2nd prox., respondent to file an amendment to his answer to the petition, and to state clearly what his defence would be.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Jan. 1st.—(1)—A Decree. Let Shên Ping-ch'êng (the present Taotai at Shanghai) be appointed to the vacant post of Judicial Commissioner for the province of Honan.

(2)—A Decree. Whereas, since the commencement of winter, the fall of snow at Peking has been very slight, and the need of moisture experienced by the soil is of serious importance, Our heart is stirred profoundly with devout anxiety. We ordain therefore that on the 4th instant, the Prince of Kung, Yih-sin, do reverently offer incense on our behalf at the Ta Kao-Tien,—and that incense be at the same time offered severally by the Princes of Tun, Yih-tsung, at the Shih Ying Kung, by the Prince of Ch'un, Yih-hwan, at the Chao Hien Miao; by the Prince of Fu, Yih-hwei, at the Süan Jên Miao; by the Prince of Hwei, Yih-siang, at the Ning Ho Miao.

(3)—Wu Yüan-ping, 吳元炳, the newly appointed Governor of Kiangsu, reports his arrival on the 27th November at Nanking, where on the 30th he received the seal of his office from the Governor-General, who had been temporarily in charge of it, together with imperial death warrant, archives, etc. He will immediately set out for Soochow, to enter on his official residence.

(4)—Ting Pao-chêng 丁寶楨, Governor of Shantung, reports having received on the 3rd December, on his return to the provincial capital, the imperial rescript negativing his application for permission to visit Peking and present himself before his Majesty. (See *Gazette* of Dec. 13, 1874). He consequently resumed his seal of office on the 6th December. His *locum tenens*, Wen-pin, the Governor-General of the Grain Transport, at the same time reports his withdrawal from the acting Governorship.

Jan. 2nd.—(1)—A Decree. Let Fêng Tsün-kwang 馮焌光 be appointed to the vacant post of Intendant of the Su-Sung-Tai Circuit (Taotai at Shanghai).

(2)—A Decree, in pursuance of a further report from the Boards of Civil Office and War, conferring donations, in honour of the Empress-Mother's 40th birthday, on two more octogenarian ladies. The mother of Chang Chao-tung, Governor of Kwangtung, receives a tablet imperially inscribed, a sandalwood sceptre inlaid with jade, and a number of rolls of silk and satin. The mother of a Brigadier-General in Kwangsi is honoured with similar gifts.

(3) The Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh memorializes with reference to the conduct of the late Magistrate of the Tunkwang district (the extreme western frontier-city included within the limits of Kansuh). This officer is accused of having been in league with one of his clerks, some relatives, and a *Kü-jên* graduate of the district, in extensive malversations of the grain stored under his jurisdiction, under pretext of supplying the army commissariat, and further of extorting large sums of money by means of requisitions from the people. He is also charged with having wrongfully caused the death of a petty official delegated on a mission by a Taotai in Kansuh, with some scores of the soldiers accompanying him. The Magistrate himself, having been brought as a prisoner to the provincial capital, has there died from disease, and he is consequently beyond the reach of punishment; but steps have been taken to cause the arrest at Hami of his late retainer and confederate, who is found to have purchased the rank of assistant magistrate under an assumed name, and to have obtained employment as a volunteer under the *amban* of Hami. It is further requested that the *kü-jên* graduate be stripped of his degree, and of honours and promotion conferred upon him owing to misrepresentations.—Rescript assenting to these proposals.

(4)—The Assistant Resident at K'urun (Urga, the capital of Western Mongolia), memorializes representing that the city in question is the seat of government for the two eastern tribes of the Khalkhas, and that since insurrectionary troubles began to make themselves felt, it has become the headquarters of the troops employed for defensive purposes, as well as of traders from far and near. The officer charged with the superintendence of the traders has been directed at once to enforce a stringent control, and also to encourage the growth of the commercial population, in order to promote the assemblage of the supplies that the increase in the number of inhabitants has rendered needful. It now appears, however, that with a largely augmented population, the number of houses in the trading quarter, which is limited by regulation, is insufficient, and there is not storage-room enough to guard the merchandise brought to the spot from exposure to the weather. The Assistant Resident has therefore granted permission to the trading community to build houses as they see fit, to meet the demand for accommodation. Rescript: It is noted.

(5)—The Resident and Assistant Resident at Kobdo memorialize reporting that for some time past the post road through the region of Urianghai and of the Turgut tribe has been infested by bands of Mongol robbers, who have made the country about the Burkhan river their especial haunt. A party of 20 soldiers was sent out in August last to scour the country in pursuit of these banditti, and one morning at daylight, four of their horses were stolen from the picket by two of the robbers of whom they were in search. After a long chase, the four stolen horses were found tethered outside two Mongol tents in a secluded valley, with seventeen others, and after a sharp struggle the occupants of the tents, four Mongols, were captured and brought in as prisoners. They have been executed, and their heads suspended as a warning, at the scene of their offence.

Jan. 3rd—(1) A Decree. Let the Board consider and report with reference to the memorial from the Censor Hü T'ing-kwei, who requests that the revenue and expenditure of the several provinces be stringently audited, with a view to the enforcement of economy.

(2) A Decree, based on a memorial from the Superintendents of the Imperial carriage department, complaining that heavy arrears of revenue are left owing to the funds of that establishment. The Governor-General of Chihli is directed to cause an immediate payment of Tls. 8,700 to be made, and to give orders to his subordinates for the collection and payment of the long-standing arrears of ground-rent appropriated to this department.

Jan. 4th.—(Court Circular). The Governor-General of the Two Kwang paid his respects on his arrival at Peking.

(1) The Assistant Governor and Literary Chancellor of Fêng-t'ien (Manchuria) memorializes impeaching the sub-Prefect of Kin-chow T'ing for having arbitrarily and illegally flogged certain licentiates of his department. No less than 29 petitions have been lodged with the departmental supervisor of instruction, on the part of the civil and military graduates under his jurisdiction, protesting against this violation of the privilege of their order. It appears that the three individuals who suffered the indignity complained of had been summoned with others to take their turn of military duty, and happened to be behind time on the 4th November last, when the magistrate required them to escort his family to the provincial capital, whither he was sending them in consequence of a rebellious outbreak that had occurred. He flew into a rage at their delay, and, not content with pommelling them with his own hands, he caused them to be stripped and to be beaten to the extent of upwards of 300 blows. Scarred and bleeding, they were still further outraged by being thrown into confinement in chains. According to the regulations laid down in the handbook for the literary directorate, trivial offences on the part of licentiates are to be notified by the district authorities to the superintendents of instruction, who will inflict penalties; and in the case of offences of a serious order, the guilty person is to be sentenced only after having been deprived of his grade by the Literary Chancellor. The sub-Prefect who has inflicted corporal punishment regardless of the immunities secured by these regulations, has incurred a severe penalty, and he is accordingly denounced. A rescript cashiering the official in question has already appeared.

Jan. 5th.—(1)—The Governor of Shensi, Shao Hêng-yü 邵亨豫 renews his appeal for leave to retire from the public service. In the course of last year he twice had *congés* granted him for the care of his health, and having with a great effort returned to the discharge of his duty, he has hoped for a gradual recovery, but in vain. He is troubled with asthmatic cough, bowel complaints, and a continually increasing weakness. He is compelled to rely on assistance when moving about, and grows dizzy after being seated for a short time at his table. He assures his Majesty that his application is dictated by no selfish desire for rest, and that if he should be so fortunate as to recover his strength in the least, he would hasten to lay his forehead in the dust before the Palace gate and ask for re-employment. The people within his jurisdiction are happy and prosperous, steps having been taken to relieve, where necessary, the distress caused in certain localities by floods and hailstorms.—Rescript: Let Shao Hêng-yü take one month's congé. He need not vacate his post.

(2)—The military Governor of Ili, Yung-ts'üan 榮全, memorializes beseeching the speedy appointment of a successor to relieve him in his present post. He is oppressed with maladies of different descriptions, and although he has obtained remedies from Peking, there are no physicians on his wild border station who can properly diagnose his complaint. His breathing is at times affected, and his speech confused—of late he has been unable to sleep at night, and both his lower

extremities suffer from increasing muscular contraction, whilst at the same time his eyesight is growing dim. He feels that the responsibility of military command is too heavy for him to bear. The present memorial, he adds, is drafted on his behalf by the chief of his staff.—Rescript: Let Yung-ts'üan take two months' congé. He need not vacate his post.

(3)—The Military Governor of Fêng-t'ien reports the conclusion of the autumn patrol of the Corean frontier, according to the regulation which imposes the duty four times per annum. In the summer and autumn quarters, the duty is discharged by Chinese and Corean officials jointly, the object being to keep an eye on squatters who would, if not restrained, cross the frontier and take possession of the uncultivated border-lands. In August last a Manchu colonel was appointed to discharge the duty of the autumn patrol, and the King of Corea was notified in due time by the Board of Ceremonies at Moukden to give orders to the authorities of his own country to the same end. Colonel K'ing-si has now reported that he has proceeded to the Corean frontier, and has patrolled it in concert with a Corean official, who, on the 8th October, delivered to him a stamped certificate setting forth the fact that the border is in a state of tranquillity.

Jan. 6th.—(Court Circular). Audience was given to the Grand Council, the Ministers of the Presence, the Comptrollers of the Household, and the Ministers of the Imperial Study. (N.B.—This in consequence of the grave relapse in his Majesty's state of health, which declared itself yesterday).

(1)—The Presidents of the Board of War memorialize on the case of the rebel outlaw Chang Chao-show, who was detected lately in the train of General Ma Ju-lung on his visit to Peking (see *Gazette* of Dec. 6, 1874). On being brought to trial, the culprit confessed his identity, stating that after assuming a false name he had enlisted as a brave in the service of Ma Ju-lung, to whom he never revealed the circumstances of his past history. Ma Ju-lung likewise steadfastly denied any knowledge of the antecedents of the man. Upon this the Board of Punishments solicited that the Board of War be called upon to pronounce a decision as to the penalty which should be inflicted upon Ma Ju-lung, and the present report is in pursuance of a rescript to that effect. The only legal enactment which can be discovered as applicable to the case is the following: If any convict under transportation to Turkestan, who by law has incurred the penalty of death, make his escape, and if he take up his abode in any other place for a period exceeding half a month, the district authority who has failed to detect him shall be degraded by one step, and left in office. Further provisoes define the additional degrees of severity that may be given to sentences of this kind, for laches in the discharge of official duty; and it is proposed that the severest degree of penalty be now inflicted, to wit, entire deprivation of rank, with retention of office.—A rescript confirming this has already appeared.

(2)—The Vice-president Ho T'ing-k'ien present a report embodying the result of his survey of one of the buildings of the Eastern Mausolea, which is in a completely ruined state. Details are given of the works of reconstruction that are required.

January 7th.—The Censor Ying-chên, a member of the Imperial lineage (*tsung-shih*), and his colleagues, charged with the supervision of the roadways, memorialize reporting misconduct on the part of a member of the Imperial lineage who has been found keeping an opium-shop. On the 11th December last the Censor Liu Kwoh-kwang, in the execution of his duty, was passing along a certain street in the north part of the city, when he observed a heap of liquid mud in front of a shop, which he ordered the keeper of the shop to level. The man not only refused to obey, but also raised an unseemly clamour; and when the Censor's attendants were directed to make him a prisoner, five or six men came forward who resisted the arrest. On their being asked as to their occupation, they acknowledged themselves to be keepers of an opium-shop, and another person next came forward, wearing a button, who stated himself to be a *tsung-shih* (Imperial clansman), belonging to the bordered white banner, named Siang-ling, who made opposition to the enquiry, and raised violent uproar in the public street. As he was a *tsung-shih*, he was not apprehended at the time, but was subsequently summoned before the proper military authority, together with a companion named Fêng-kw'ei, also a bannerman; a set of articles used in opium smoking and the house-register being at the same time produced. The individuals were subsequently brought before the Censors, when Siang-nêng (*alias* Siang-ling) alleged that he had taken possession of the opium-shop on the absconding of the actual proprietor, a man named Li, from whom he had claimed repayment of a debt. In the house-register, however, which was issued in October last, the shop is entered as kept by Siang-ta, of the bordered white banner, and the names of three assistants are given. It further appears that Siang-nêng was in league with a self-styled *tsung-shih*, a notorious bad character, and that the opium-shop was frequented as a receiving house for stolen property by a numerous gang of vagabonds. Numerous charges have been preferred in the Imperial Clan Court against Siang-nêng; and it is now solicited that proper legal proceedings be instituted against this delinquent and his associates.

In a postscript memorial, it is requested that the regulations be put in force which prohibit the members of the Imperial lineage from living in the outer or Chinese city. It is found that their immunities are availed of by certain members of the clan, to give shelter and assistance to criminals.

(2)—The Governor of Kwang-si, Liu Ch'ang-Yeo, memorializes reporting that the Anamese envoy P'an She-shuh, and his suite, on their return from the tribute embassy to Peking, having arrived at the provincial capital on June 22nd, set out subsequently on their further journey homeward, and are now reported by the local authorities as having crossed the frontier at the Chên Nan border-station 鎮南關 on the 20th September.

Jan. 8th.—The Governor of Shantung reports the rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking (see *Gazette* of May 15, 1874). The complainant, Ma Ch'ao-i, a native of K'ai Chow in Chihli, complained that his uncle, a ferryman named Ma King-fêng, had been carried off as a prisoner to P'u Chow, in Shantung, by a police runner named Fang Man, and others, in revenge for the capture of certain highwaymen with whom they were in league, and whom Ma King-fêng had delayed by refusing to ferry them across a river when pursued. It was alleged that Fang Man and his fellow police runners had put Ma King-fêng to death in an inn, and that all attempts to bring them to justice had been defeated. The Governor now reports that on Ma Ch'ao-i being sent to the province from Peking, and an investigation being ordered, an official was despatched to P'u Chow to investigate the case in concert with the department Magistrate. Their enquiry elicited the fact that there was no such person as Fang Man employed as a police runner. The two other persons implicated, Fang T'ing-lin and Fang T'sing-piao, being ill, were unable to undertake the journey to the provincial capital, and only the documents relating to the case were consequently transmitted to the Judicial Commissioner. On this being done, the appellant, Ma Ch'ao-i, came forward and voluntarily acknowledged the fact of the case to be that his uncle, having been induced by certain persons who are not in custody to commit divers acts of robbery, had been apprehended by the P'u Chow authorities, and had died from disease in prison. He had not been wrongfully laid hold of, confined in an inn, and put to death by the police, (as stated in his appeal). He had brought forward this charge in ignorance of the real facts, while filled with grief for his uncle's death; but now, having assured himself of the true particulars, he would not venture to persevere in a false charge, and he begged that the production of witnesses to be confronted with him might be dispensed with. He acknowledged that there was no such person as Fang Man. On referring to the documents it appears that in January 1873, the then department Magistrate of P'u Chow apprehended a culprit named Ma Urh-ma Tsai, who was the same with Ma King-fêng, and who confessed to sundry acts of robbery at different places. The prisoner's father, Ma Sin-kien, and a relative, came to the Magistracy to apply for his release on bail, but it was refused, and he died in prison on the 15th February. Investigation has thus proved the falsity of Ma Ch'ao-i's complaint, but as it originated in grief for his uncle's death, there is a distinction between its nature and that of a wantonly calumnious charge. As, moreover, he acknowledged the fact before trial, he is entitled to lenient treatment, and should be exempted from punishment. Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments take note.

(2) The Governor of Shantung reports the settlement of another appeal case, with the invariable result, viz., the establishment of the utter falsity of the charge preferred at Peking.

Jan. 9th.—(Court Circular). Had audience—the Grand Council, the Ministers of the Presence, the Comptrollers of the Household, and the Ministers of the Hung Têh Tien (imperial study).

A Decree. Let Li Hung-chang be Grand Secretary of the Wên Hwa Tien 文華殿; Wên-siang be Grand Secretary of the Wu Ying Tien 武英殿; and Pao-yün be Grand Secretary of the T'i Jên Koh 體仁閣.

(Note.—The above indicated re-arrangement of the titles of three out of four *Ta Hio Sze*, or Grand Secretaries, the fourth being Tso Tsung-t'ang, Governor-General of Kansuh and Shensi, is consequent upon the death of Juilin, Governor-General of the two Kwang, and Grand Secretary of the Wên Hwa Tien. The localization of each of the four titles connects them with certain buildings within the palace-city, without any active significance as regards functions attaching to the post—indeed, the position of Grand Secretary, although the highest prize of the Chinese bureaucracy, and analogous to the honourable distinction of Field Marshal in the British army, does not necessarily carry with it any increase of influence or voice in the affairs of the Government. What is remarkable in the present re-arrangement is that the senior post is given to a Chinese, Li Hung-chang, who moves up from the Wu Ying Tien, instead of to a Manchu, to whom precedence has almost invariably been assigned under like circumstances hitherto).

Official Papers.

DECREES RELATING TO THE EMPEROR'S DEATH.

Decrees on decease of the Emperor of China, Jan. 12th, 1875. (Peking Gazette, Jan. 13th, 1875).

1.—Yih Tsung, Prince of Tun,
Yih Sin, Prince of Kung,
Yih Hwan, Prince of Ch'un,
Yih Hwei, Prince of Fu,
Yih Siang, Prince of Hwei,
Tsai Che, Prince of 3rd rank,
Tsai Ch'êng, do. do.
Yih Mu, an imperial duke,
Peh-yen-na-mó-hu, Yih Kw'ang, King-show, } Ministers of the Presence.
Pao-yün, Shên Kwei-fên, Li Hung-tsao, } Ministers of the Grand Council,
Ying-kwei, Ts'ung-lun, Kwei-ling, Yung-luh, Ming-shan, Kwei-pao, Wên-si, } Comptrollers of the Household,
Sü T'ung, Ung T'ung-ho, Wang K'ing-k'i, and } Ministers of the Imperial Study,
Hwang Yü, P'an Tsu-yin, Sun I-king, Sü Fu, Chang Kia-jang, } Ministers of the Imperial Library,

have received as follows the benign mandate of their Majesties the Empress Ts'ze-An-Twan-Yu K'ang-King, and Ts'ze-Hi-Twan-Yeo-K'ang-I. *

Let Tsai' Tien 載湉 son of Yih Hwan, the Prince of Ch'un, become adopted as the son of the Emperor Wên Tsung Hien, and enter upon the inheritance of the great dynastic line, as Emperor by succession.

A special Decree.

2. The benign Mandate of the Empress Dowager and Empress Mother (titles as above) has been reverently received as follows:

Whereas His Majesty the Emperor has ascended upon the Dragon to be a guest on high, without offspring born to his inheritance, no course has been open but that of causing Tsai T'ien, son of the Prince of Ch'un, to become adopted as the son of the Emperor Wên Tsung Hien, † and to enter upon the inheritance of the great dynastic line as Emperor by succession. When a prince shall have been born to the Emperor, he shall become adopted as the inheritor of His Majesty now departed. A special Decree.

3.—The benign mandate of their Majesties the Empress Dowager and the Empress mother (titles as above), has been reverently received as follows:

Let the Prince of Tun; the Prince of Kung; the Prince of Ch'un; Peh-yen-na-mó-hu, Prince [by title] Potorakat'ai of the K'orch'in Mongols; the Prince Yih Kw'ang; King Show, consort of the Imperial princess; the Grand Secretary Pao-yün; the President of the Board of Civil office and comptroller of the Household, Ying Kwei; the President of the Board of Ceremonies, Ling-kwei; and the President of the Board of Works, Li Hung-tsao, arrange in reverence the obsequial rites and perform their duty with the solemnity that is fitting.

4.—The benign mandate of their Majesties the Empress Dowager and Empress Mother has been received as follows:—

Let the brevets of rank as expectant officials of the King T'ang class conferred upon Li Têh-li and Chwang Show-ho, ‡ be withdrawn and cancelled, and their buttons and peacock's feathers be taken from them.

5.—A Decree. Whereas on the 5th day of this moon (the 12th January, 1875) at the *yeo* hour (5-7 P.M.) His Majesty the Emperor departed this life, ascending upon the Dragon to be a guest on high,—the benign mandate of the Empress Dowager, and Empress Mother, (titles as above) was by Us reverently received, commanding us to enter upon the inheritance of the great succession. Prostrate upon the earth We bewailed Our grief to Heaven, vainly stretching out our hands in lamentation. For thirteen years, as We in humility reflect, His Majesty now departed reigned under the canopy of Heaven. In reverent observance of the Ancestral precepts He made the counsels prompted by maternal love His guide, applying himself with awe-struck zeal to the toilsome performance of His duty. For not a single day, in reverence for Heaven and in obedience to the Ancestral pattern, did he cease to be inspired with devotion in the cause of government and love on behalf of His people. He gave the charge of office to the attached and wise. He vanquished and subdued the great revolt. The welfare of the people and the policy of the State were ever present in His inmost thoughts. Sincere in the deepest measure must be, at this time, the grief and lamentation of all to whom the breath of life is given. Not in words can We give expression to the sadness which pierces Our heart and shews itself in tears of blood. Grave in Our mind is the trust bequeathed, the burden of which is charged upon Our unworthy person; yet know We that We are able to depend, in Our Capital and throughout the Empire, upon Our Ministers and servants, high and low, in the ranks of the civil and military administration. Unitedly they will strive in uprightness and loyalty to maintain on Our behalf an ever improving rule. It behoves the governments of all the Provinces to bear a gentle sway over the people committed to our charge. Thus will consolation be administered to the soul in heaven of His Majesty now departed. Fervent is our hope that this may be!

For the observance of the rites of mourning, we have reverently received a charge, by the testament of His Majesty now departed, that in obedience to previous usage the mourning garb be laid aside at the end of seven and twenty days. To do this our feelings, in very truth, will not consent. We shall observe with reverence, in strict adherence to the rule of ancient times, three years of mourning, that expression may in some slight part be given to the grief that fills our mind.

As regards all the acts of sacrifice and worship prescribed by canon for the Temples of the State, it is fitting nothing be diminished in the allotted ceremonial on account of the present mourning. Let therefore the departments that are concerned assemble to decide what steps it is right to take, as former precedent directs, for the appointment of officials reverently to discharge the duty on Our behalf, or for Our personal performance of the ritual, and make report to Us thereon. Let the rites of mourning to be observed by the officials and the people throughout the empire be conducted in conformity with the established rule. Let this be promulgated for the information of all in Our capital and throughout the Empire.

Valedictory Manifesto of the deceased Emperor.

6.—An Edict of His Majesty the Emperor, saith:—

It was owing to the exalted love of Our late Imperial father, Our canopy and support, that the Divine Vessel ¶ was bestowed upon Our keeping. Having set foot in Our childhood upon the Throne, as We succeeded to Our great heritage in reverent devoutness, from the moment of Our accession We had, gazing upward, to thank their two Majesties the Empresses for that, in ordering as Regents the affairs of Government, they devoted night and day to their laborious task. When, later, in obedience to their benign commands We personally assumed the supreme power, We looked on high for guidance to the Ancestral precepts of the Sacred Ones before Us, and, in devotion to Our government, and love toward Our people, made the fear of Heaven and the example of Our forefathers the mainspring of every act. Conscious of Our own deficiency, We have not dared to do ought but labour late and early with anxious application. To be unwearied day by day ‖ has been Our single purpose. For more than ten years past, blest with the counsels of maternal love We have striven earnestly to advance toward the highest path of order. It has, indeed, happily been true that the armies of the State, as they successively advanced from point to point, have vanquished and subdued the rebels of Yüeh and the Nien, and in the provinces of the South and West the Miao and Mussulman insurgents have been severally conquered, and brought into submission. Tranquillity has been everywhere restored; but though the miseries of war have ceased, the wounds of our people are not yet healed. Whenever this thought has occupied Our mind, sleep and repose have been alike denied Us. Whenever, too, in times of visitation by flood or drought, Our governors in the provinces have prayed Us to remit taxation or bestow relief, the immediate outpouring of Our bounty has in no case been withheld. The anxious care that in the seclusion of Our palace has filled our breast must have been witnessed by Our ministers and people throughout the empire.

Our bodily constitution has through Our life been strong, and when in the eleventh moon of this year We were attacked by small-pox, We gave the utmost care to the preservation of Our health; but for some days past Our strength has gradually failed, until the hope of recovery has passed away. We recognize in this the will of Heaven. Mindful of the grave interests of the dynastic line, We feel that it behoves Us to transmit Our charge to worthy hands, and We have now received the benign Mandate of their two Majesties the the Empresses, in these words:—"Let Tsai Tien, the son of Yih Hwan, Prince of Ch'un, be adopted as heir to His Majesty the Emperor Wên Tsung Hien, and enter upon the inheritance of the great dynastic line, as emperor by succession. A special Decree."

Our imperial successor is virtuously disposed and filial, and endowed with bright intelligence. We are assured that he will know how to accept with reverence the trust that is bestowed. Heaven, who gives the people birth, sets up a ruler for them, and makes him their governor and pastor. Let him exert himself continually with anxious painstaking and diligent awe. By making choice of his servants wisely § he will give the people ease, and will assure Our great inheritance for ever. Let him, moreover, cherish with filial devotion their Majesties the two Empresses, and look upwards to console their loving hearts. It is equally Our hope that Our Ministers and servants, civil and military, will unite in upright and loyal efforts, each zealous in the discharge of his allotted duty, that thus they may uphold for Our adopted successor a more and more glorious rule. If this be done, the cravings of Our breast will be assuaged.

In obedience to former usage, let the

* The first of the two Empresses, it may be well to note here, is the actual Empress Dowager, or consort of the Emperor Hien Fêng, at the time of his death in 1861. The second is the *mother* of the Emperor just deceased; who was raised in virtue of her maternity to the position of Empress adjoint The titles Ts'ze-An and T'sze-Hi indicate in their meaning the peculiarity in their position of each of the two Imperial ladies. If the liberty be taken to borrow a rendering from the Latin, and to translat Ts'ze-an by *Placidia* and Ts'ze hi by *Felicia*, the unfamiliarity in the appearance and sound of these titles may be diminished for the reader unacquainted with Chinese.

† The title by canonization of the Emperor Hien Fêng, who died in 1861.

‡ The two Imperial physicians, who were promoted on his late Majesty's apparent convalescence.

¶ The Divine Vessel or instrument—*i.e.*, the throne. This metaphor, invariably employed on occasions such as the present, is derived from a passage in the Chronicles of the Han dynasty.

‖ The exhortation addressed by Yu to his sovereign, Shun-Shoo King, Book IV., ch. 1.

§ A quotation from the "Counsels of Kao Yao," Shoo King, Book III., Ch. 1.

robes of mourning be laid aside at the end of seven and twenty days. Be this proclaimed throughout the Empire for the information of all.

7.—A Decree. Whereas in the eleventh year of Hien Fêng (1861) on the decease of His Majesty the Emperor Wen Tsung Hien, His Majesty now departed excused, in conformity with precedent, the Manchu Generals, Governors-General, Governors, Commanders-in-Chief, provincial Commissioners of Finance and Justice, together with the Comptrollers of the Salt and Customs' revenue and Superintendents of the manufactories, from the duty of coming to the capital to do homage before the imperial coffin—now, inasmuch as His Majesty has departed this life and ascended to the empyrean heights, let all the high officials concerned take note that they need not ask permission to come to the capital to do homage before the imperial coffin, to the end that no neglect be entailed in the functions of their office. What is incumbent upon them is that they do exert their efforts for the complete fulfilment of their duty, and thus shew themselves not unworthy of their trust. The mere form of ceremonial observance is not that which is important. Let this be promulgated for the information of all.

8.—A Decree.—Twan Siu has memorialized, stating that his complaint gives no hope of speedy recovery, and he implores that he may be relieved of his official duties, and that his state allowance as a duke of the imperial lineage be terminated. Let Twan Siu be relieved of his duties and his allowance cease.

9.—A Decree. In the 3rd moon of the 26th year of Tao Kwang (1846) His Majesty the Emperor Süan Tsung Ch'êng, Our imperial Ancestor, issued a special edict, in the following terms :—

"The two names [given to an emperor] should not be capriciously altered in demonstration of respect. Henceforward, on a successor to the Throne being declared, let the first character of his name, as before, remain unchanged ; neither let any diminution be made in the strokes of which it is composed. As regards the second character, let decision be taken at the time with reference to the stroke that should be dispensed with. Let this be enrolled among the fundamental institutes."

This having been reverently received, We now, in respectful obedience to the will of Our august predecessor, ordain that the first character of the imperial name be written as before, without necessity of alteration. For the second character, let the last stroke be omitted, and alteration as a token of respect be made by writing the character as 浒. All books that have been printed before the issue of this decree remain unaffected by it.

The Court Circular contains only the following announcements :—

The Prince of Ch'un applies for a congé of ten days.

The Grand Council had audience.

Decree declaring a Regency to be constituted. (Peking Gazette, Jan. 15th, 1875.)

A Decree.

We have this day received a memorial from the Princes and nobles, Grand Secretaries, and Presidents of the Six Boards and Nine Superior Courts, beseeching that their Majesties the two Empresses should take upon themselves the functions of a Regency. Having reverently presented this for the affectionate perusal of their Majesties, We have reverently received the benign Mandate of Her Majesty the Empress Ts'ze-An-Twan-Yü-K'ang-K'ing and Her Majesty the Empress Ts'ze-Hi-Twan-Yü-K'ang-I in these words :—

The perusal of the memorial which the Princes and ministers have presented, ha made Us to feel with added poignancy the sorrow We are unable to dispel. The institution of a Regency from behind the Curtain §§ is essentially a temporary expedient. In consideration of the fact that His Majesty who has succeeded to the Throne is at present of a tender age, and moreover that, in times so filled with trouble the Princes and Ministers cannot be left without a source to look to for authority, We have no choice but to yield consent to their entreaty, until His Majesty who has now succeeded shall have fulfilled the period of his education, when We will forthwith return the government into His hands.

In reverently receiving this Decree, We have cause indeed to feel devoutly grateful for such benign commands. Notwithstanding the deficiencies of Our unworthy person, their Majesties the two Empresses have deigned to cause Us by their benign Mandate to enter upon the succession of the great dynastic line, magnifying Us to become recipient of the resplendent Commission from on High ; and, looking upward, We have been charged with the burden of the trust committed to Our keeping by His Majesty who has departed. Great is the bequest and difficult the task bestowed ! Sorrowful, sorrowful is Our distress ! ** Yet, as it has happily been ordered, the protection of their two Majesties the Empresses is vouchsafed until in person We take into Our hands the Supreme power. It behoves ye, Princes, nobles, and ministers, and officers high and low, to put forth your strenuous efforts, striving one and all in uprightness and loyalty to yield with joint accord support to an ever improving rule. Thus will ye give comfort above to the soul in heaven of His Majesty now departed, and gratify below the hope of our subjects within the limits of the seas. Great in such case will be the happiness vouchsafed to Us ! Let the Princes, nobles, and Ministers as aforesaid duly decide in consultation, and memorialize upon the arrangements which it is proper should be made for the conduct of the Regency.

Let this be promulgated throughout the empire for the information of all.

The following is a rough translation of a Notification regarding the Emperor's death, which was posted on Sunday in Shanghai. It is in substance a memorial by the Board of Rites, and is prefaced, locally, by the usual announcement that the Taotai has received it with instructions to promulgate it &c. The Mixed Court Magistrate adds that he has received verbal orders from the Taotai to post it, and that all officials are to govern themselves accordingly.

The Li-poo (Board of Rites) respectfully petitions. Whereas the deceased Emperor (Ta-hing—great departed) has been borne aloft on a dragon to be a guest on high, it is therefore proper that his parting notification (E-chao 遺詔) should be respectfully issued. Your Ministers have ascertained that by established law the Li-poo should respectfully engrave and issue copies to each of the Governors-General and Governors, to the yamens of the eight banners, to the Imperial city, to all the yamens of Shung-ching (the native place of the Imperial family), to Thibet, and to the yamens of the Manchu Military Governors. The notification will be given to the Board of War, to be issued to the Governors of each province. The custom heretofore has been to send a messenger to carry the proclamation ; and on the day that it arrives in each province, the civil and military mandarins, in conjunction with the literati old a young, the fringe taken off from their ha and in mourning clothes, will go o to the suburbs and, kneeling on t ground, reverently receive it. When th get back to their yamens, they will kn three times and kotow nine times ; and, st kneeling, will listen to the reading of t proclamation. When it is finished th will arise and, lamenting, will agai perform three kneelings and nine kotow The civil and military mandarins wi thenceforward all wear complete [mourni dress for 27 days, and for three days th will lament morning and eveni in conjunction with the literati. T wives of officers and such others will al wear mourning clothes for 27 days, and the officers of the 18 provinces will refra from marrying during the year. Neith must they have any music.

All the military and the people of t 18 provinces will wear mourning for days ; for one month they will not marr and for 100 days they will not have musi The officials, military and people, will n shave their heads for 100 days. The G vernors-general and Governors, and suc officials, will refrain from burning incen before the Gods (acts of public worship.)

It is further written in the law, th Ambassadors shall be sent to take noti of the event to Corea. It will be the du of the Board to petition to this effe And when the notice arrives, the King the said country will respectfully me it dressed in mourning clothes ; no mus being allowed at the ceremony. The Am bassadors will not be present at any banqu during their stay. To all the other depende cies of the Empire, such as Mongolia, it wi be the duty of the Colonial office to send officer to carry forth the message, whi will be received with like ceremony as the case of Corea.

It is also ascertained that it is writte in the Wai-tien (book of ceremonies), th in the 42nd year of Kienlung, a petition w made by the Li-poo, and consent was give to send the [obituary] notice to the Boar of War, which should transmit it to each the 18 provinces for promulgation.

Not only in this way will the trouble Post-horses be saved, but each province wi be earlier in getting into mourning. A this is on record.

Now on this occasion, in order to th respectful promulgation of the notice the Emperor's death, besides sending t Corea, it will be the duty of the Board Rites to prepare a petition (to the throne that the distribution to all the Chiefs Mongolia shall be entrusted to the Colonia office. In regard to the distribution t the 18 provinces, it will be right to ac in accordance with the regulation of th 42nd year of Kienlung. It will be for th Li-poo to deliver the notice to the Boar of War to be distributed ; that all th Mandarins of the provinces may at a early date be able to put on proper clothe and perform their required ceremonies With this view, this petition is respectfully submitted for hearing.

§§ *Chui-lieu-ting-chêng*—the expression sanctioned by historical usage for the regency of an Empress, who, with "a curtain dropped before her gives ear to the affairs of government."

** *K'iung-k'iung-tsai-kiu*—an expression attributed by the historian Tso K'iu-ming to Duke Ai of Lu, on hearing of the decease of Confucius.

Public Meetings.

THE FRENCH GAS COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the French Gas Company was held on the 29th January at the offices of the Agents. Present:— Messrs. S. A. Viguier, (in the chair), F Nissen, A. Hennequin, Dr. Pichon, J. F Rodewald, Capt. West, and A. Nachtrieb representing 315 shares.

Dr. Pichon and Mr. Rodewald were elected scrutators, and Mr. Nachtrieb secretary.

The Chairman said that as the Report had been printed and issued to the shareholders some days ago, it might be taken as read. The accounts had been

audited, as formerly, by Mr. Morel and Mr Brandt, who had carefully performed their duty. He now had to propose—

That the Report of the Agents for the year 1874, as printed, be adopted and passed.—Carried.

Precis of Report.

The number of street lamps remains without change, there being 191, of which 172 only are lighted each evening; and no augmentation can be expected under this head until the Council reconsiders the resolution it arrived at some time ago, to light but half the lamps on the Bund and dispense with five in other parts of the settlement. The consumption for street lighting has scarcely varied, being 62,456 cubic metres, against 62,090 the previous year, on which no increase can be expected while the Council's decision not to light the streets till midnight on moonlight nights (14th to 19th of Chinese moon inclusive,) remains in force. On the other hand, private consumers have increased from 75 to 81, and the consumption from 73,252 to 81,492 cubic metres. No actual change has taken place among Chinese; the native consumers numbering at the end of the year what they did at the beginning, viz., eleven, and this notwithstanding that the Company has offered special facilities and in various ways endeavoured to lead them to appreciate the advantages of gas-lighting. The loss by escapes is 7 per cent. against 4.18, but the Agents consider this very satisfactory, in presence of the works which have been going on, the repairs executed on the mains, and above all the loss incurred by the riot in the Concession last May, as to which no favourable reply has yet been received respecting a claim rendered. The following table is given of the quantity of gas made, the consumption, and the total waste during the year :—

Chiffres indiqués au Compteur de l'Usine	Le 31 Déc. 1874..	982,856
	Le 31 Déc. 1873..	822,725
Fabrication des 12 mois en mètres cubes		160,131
Consommation.— de la Voie Publique		62,456
des Compteurs		81,492
de l'Intérieur de l'Usine		5,970
Fuites Totales de l'Année		10,213
Totale..		160,131

The financial situation of the Company is equally very satisfactory, the year terminating with a cash balance of Tls. 723.77, while the only debt is one of Tls. 249.39 to the Agents. A new gasometer, the purchase of which was entrusted to Mr. A. Nachtrieb, has arrived in perfect order, and the cost, which was over Tls. 7,000, has been entirely defrayed. The profits of the year still exceed those of the preceding one, arising from increase in the sale of gas, and from a decline in the price of coal, which latter has cost Tls. 5 a ton, while during 1873 it could not be bought at Tls. 5½. In February last a dividend of 6 per cent. was declared on the last half of 1873; in July an interim dividend of 5 per cent for 1874, and one of 6 per cent for the second half of the year is now recommended, making 11 per cent for the year. It is proposed to divide the total net profits, of Tls. 8,642.33, as follows :—

Half to the Reserve Fund	₹4,321.16
Dividend already paid on ₹38,000 @ 5 %	1,900.00
Dividend payable on ₹38,000 @ 6 %	2,280.00
Carried to new account.....	141.17
	₹ 8,642.33

Mr. NISSEN proposed and Dr. PICHON seconded—

That the Accounts for the year 1874 be accepted and passed.

BALANCE SHEET.

	Taëls.
Usine	37,915.55
Appareils en Location— Suivant Inventaire à ce jour (No. 1)	1,000.00
Appareils d'Eclairage— Suivant Inventaire à ce jour (No. 2)	6,448.38
Exploitat on— Suivant Inventaire No. 3)	1,550.00
Caisse	723.77
Taëls..	47,637.70

	Taëls.
Capital	38,000.00
Fonds de Reserve	2,645.98
Profits et Pertes	6,742.33
Nachtrieb, Leroy & Co.	249.39
Taëls..	47,637.70

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

		Taëls.
Bénéfice sur l'Exercice 1873		7,063.47
Intérêts reçus du Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris	41.05	
Bénéfice sur l'Exploitation	12,710.62	
idem sur Appareils d'Eclairage ..	676.81	
idem sur Appareils en Location ..	581.95	
idem sur les Installations d'Appareils	114.74	
		14,125.17
Taëls..		21,188.64
		Taëls.
Fonds de reserve	2,883.47	
Dividende sur T. 38,000 à 11 pour cent	4,180.00	
Reste à payer dividende sur 53 Actions	257.50	3,922.50
		6,805.97
Pertes occasionnées par les faillites....	10.83	
Frais généraux	4,627.61	
		4,638.44
Dépréciation sur les Appareils en Location		1,101.90
Bénéfice net à ce jour, ex (? cum) dividende Juillet		8,642.33
Taëls..		21,188.64

It was resolved, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN—

That the profits of the Company for the year 1874 be divided as follows :—

To Reserve Fund .....Tls.	4,321.1.6
Dividend of 5 % already paid on Tls. 38,000 ,,	1,900.0.0
Dividend of 6 % to be paid on Tls. 38,000 ,,	2,280.0.0
Carried to new Account ..... ,,	141.1.7
Tls	8,642.3.3

Mr. NACHTRIEB proposed—

That the payment of the six per cent dividend commence on 15th February.

This in consequence of the interruption to business caused by the Chinese New-year. The proposition was agreed to, and the Agents were instructed to carry it out.

Mr. NACHTRIEB then proposed, and Mr. PICHON seconded—

That the retiring Directors, Messrs. Viguier and Nissen, be re-elected.—Carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, and to the Directors and Agents for their excellent management of the Company's affairs during the past year, concluded the business.

HONGKEW SCHOOL REPORT.

W. H. Medhurst, E. Iveson, R. S. Gundry, R. Miller, Arch. Little, A. N. Brown, Committee.

The last printed Report was dated 21st March, 1874, since which time the school has progressed steadily, and the children have kept up their number.

As the Committee found difficulty in awakening public interest in the institution, an effort was made to make it self-supporting by allowing Mrs. Gill to take the fees, she herself paying all expenses, and by changing the name from "Eurasian" to "Hongkew" school, thus inducing the attendance of children other than those of Eurasian birth, and meeting the expenses thereby. This plan has not met with the approval of Mr. Thomas Hanbury, who gave the use of the building rent free for a term of years; he wishes the school to remain a purely public institution, and one in which the community should take an interest, contributing towards its support.

The Committee, therefore, are compelled to appeal to the public for contributions to enable them to carry out the original plan; or they must admit their inability to conduct the school, and the institution must fall to the ground after expiry of the present lease. To enlist public sympathy, the Committee would suggest a personal inspection of the school, and they would point out that Eurasians as a class, demand that attention from this community which they receive in India and elsewhere.

It is difficult to form any estimate of the number of Eurasians in these Settlements, but without doubt they are gradually increasing; and it is necessary, not only in the cause of philanthropy, but in the interests of the community itself, that their education should be attended to, in order to prevent their becoming a burdensome and possibly troublesome class in the future.

An examination was lately held by the Committee, and the children did credit to Mrs. and Miss Gill's teaching; the discipline was good, and the health of all was satisfactory.

In conclusion, the Committee would beg those having charge of Eurasian children, to send them to this school; so that by greater numbers the expenses may be proportionately reduced and the institution flourish.

Amusements.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

Bright, genial weather on Saturday afternoon induced a large company of ladies and gentlemen to attend the meet for the Paper Hunt at Overweg's Bungalow, where, at about three o'clock, a field of some forty horsemen assembled for the start. The country selected for the run was over the Pagoda side, leading from the bungalow towards Sicawei, crossing the creek of that name, and several others, and so round by the Hermitage to the finish at the Lawn, a spin of about nine miles, covered in little over fifty minutes. The foxes were merciful as regarded jumps, none of those to be negotiated being extra-formidable, and the paper was so judiciously laid, that although two or three checks occurred, only one was of any duration, affording excellent breathing time, and enabling the ponies so far to keep pretty well together. But a worse enemy even than creeks and ditches presented itself in the course of the run. The continuance of dry weather had converted the surface-mud of previous days into a dry and almost impalpable dust, which rose in clouds as the leading ponies gallopped onwards, enveloping those behind in just such a cloud as might be supposed to have concealed Ixion during his interview with Juno, and so bewildering the ponies that they stumbled and fell in all directions, in several instances cantering at their own sweet will over the plain for a long distance before suffering themselves to be caught and remounted. One of the amiable quadrupeds indeed got so far away, that his whilom rider, a Naval tyro, gave up the hunt altogether, both for pony and paper, accepting the opportune offer of a seat in a friendly trap, and adopting the doctrine of chances as to the pony finding its way home. The Lawn, at the finish, presented a pleasant and animated scene. Many ladies were there, and a large concourse of the sterner sex, while outside, waiting in the road, was such an assemblage of traps, broughams, &c., as reminded one strongly of the suburban meets at Egham or Hampton. The last jump was easy enough to look at, and in fact, several bipeds cleared it easily during the afternoon, but when the quadrupeds came to look at it, more than three-fourths of them refused, and it was only by dint of whip and spur that the recalcitrants were got over at all. Perhaps the large crowd of spectators just in front of them at the time operated as a deterrent. But "all's well that ends well," and this afternoon's sport ended pleasantly. For the light weights, Mr. Walker and Mr E. H. Gore-Booth, whose ponies each took a flying leap over the final obstacle, came in first so near together that it was almost a question of a dead heat. Mr. Walker was less than a length in front, and was thus first of the light weights. Mr. H. J. Limby won the honours for the heavies, Mr. Paynter being second, but both these were some distance behind several of the light weights.

THE A. D. C. PERFORMANCE.

The Amateur Dramatic Club gave their second performance for the present season in the New Lyceum, on Saturday night. The theatre was very well filled, from pit to gallery; and the first novelty to attract the eye was the neat and tasteful decoration by which the former white waste of its interior was replaced or relieved. Nothing obtrusive had been introduced, however; the white ceiling reflected as before the effulgence of the sunlight, but the now pale blue of the walls rested the eye as one looked around the house, and an edging of maroon velvet gave colour to the bald front of the dress circle and to the orchestra box, while a few narrow lines of gold contrasted agreeably with the very moderate display of colour.

The orchestra, under the direction of M. Remusat, having played a very pretty overture in spirited style, the curtain rose on the petite drama by Benjamin Webster, entitled "One Touch of Nature." As the piece has been already produced by the A. D. C., at a comparatively recent date, we do not require to give any detailed description of it now. It is enough to recall the incident upon which its interest hinges. An old copyist is accidentally placed in a position to rehearse, as substitute, the part of a father to a long-lost daughter, with the actress selected to play the part, but who has hitherto been unable to invest herself with it. In the actress the old man has recognised his own child, though she as yet is entirely ignorant of the relationship. The playwright's phrases fail to touch her, but when the old man casts aside his assumed part, and describes scenes and incidents of the actress's childhood, memory is awakened, and the "One Touch of Nature" calls forth the exclamation "My Father," in tones of genuine feeling, as she throws herself into the arms which have longed to embrace her. The author of the play is delighted, but his satisfaction is checked by finding that the newly awakened feeling which would secure the success of his piece is likely to be reserved for the father who has had his daughter restored to him, instead of being simulated on the stage.

The part of Mr. William Penn Holder, the copyist, was again taken by *Mr. Griffin*, who was careful never to over-act it, while he sounded all its depths of pathos. In a certain line of characters, and this was one of them, Mr. Griffin's acting is more than clever—it is gifted; when he comes on, he may be recognisable under the disguise of his make-up, but as the piece proceeds, his individuality is entirely lost in his assumed character. Thus the audience sympathised with Mr. Penn Holder, and were gratified that his "one touch of nature" had succeeded; but there was no special call for Mr. Griffin, when the curtain fell, though Mr. Griffin deserved the compliment. *Mr. Thomas Hawk* is a very important accession to the corps. His impersonation of Mr. Beaumont Fletcher, barrister and dramatic author, was unconventional and natural, yet had quite enough force, tempered by evenness of treatment. He is happier, however, in an active than a passive position; and when old Penn Holder poured into his ear the story of his wrongs and troubles, he found Mr. Fletcher a somewhat impatient if a sympathetic listener. But it must be remembered that Mr. Fletcher was irritated by encounters with a capricious actress and her jealous lover. The rather ungracious part of Mr. Belgrave, the jealous gentleman in question, who is "not to be imposed on," was given to *Mr. Montressor*, and he deserves not a little credit for the spirit and correctness of his performance. A slight air of consciousness showed that Mr. Montressor found himself in a novel position, but this scarcely detracted from the merit of his acting, and will have been overcome after a few appearances. *Mr. Isaacs* was well up in his part as Jones, the porter, but we doubt if he could be heard through the house. A nervous tendency to overdo the part, also, was traceable in his treatment; but he is a new actor, to the local stage at any rate, and with a little study, under judicious advice, will be a very useful one. *Miss Castor* was simply admirable in the rôle of Miss Constance Belmour—charming as to appearance; unconstrained, vivacious, and wonderfully natural as to manner; and word-perfect as to her acquaintance with the part. The piece on the whole went very smoothly, and the audience were lavish in their applause as the curtain descended.

The orchestra now gave a musical selection by way of interlude, played for the gratification of those of the audience (including of course all the ladies) who had not left their seats to "soothe their royal souls with pleasant reek," which a great many did in the lobby, talking the while of the drama in general and the A.D.C. in particular. The curtain then rose on Mr. W. S. Gilbert's very pretty burlesque "Thespis, or the Gods grown old," which had been thoroughly "acclimatized" by the literary, artistic, and musical talent of the A. D. C. But though Shanghai offered subjects enough, and any number of Josses, for the representation, Olympus there was none. Looking round for a substitute, the A. D. C. determined, doubtless from motives of economy, to patronise the native production; and selecting that which was most accessible, engaged the Feng wan-shan hills for the occasion. As it was inconvenient that Mahomet should go to the mountain, the local talent, (which by the way includes a Prophet), contrived to transfer the familiar eminences to Shanghai—on canvas. The ascent of the curtain, then, disclosed a very fine view of Feng-wan-shan and the creeks, which must have elicited a call for the artist, had not the mist partially obscuring it prevented full appreciation of its beauty until the grey mantle rolled away at the bidding of Apollo. As there is a possibility that the burlesque may be reproduced at no distant date, when some of the disadvantages under which it was, after all very successfully, presented on Saturday will not recur, we refrain from doing more at present than indicating generally its construction. The Gods are grieving over the disrepute and neglect they have fallen into, as they learn from a visit Mercury has just paid to earth, or rather to Shanghai. Thespis and his company of the Thessalian theatre visit Olympus on a picnicking excursion, navigating the creeks of course in a house-boat. After momentarily resenting the invasion of the sacred mount, Jupiter consults with Thespis, and in the end adopts his suggestion to visit earth for a year with his fellow-gods, while Thespis and his company fill their places, the father of the drama assuring Jupiter that he has often represented him on the stage, but did not find the part take with the public. The Gods depart, leaving Mercury to be consulted by Thespis in any difficulty; but though the latter gives his satellites *carte blanche* in the direction of human affairs, he hears no complaints, and assuming that all goes well, he believes old Jupiter has much exaggerated the difficulties of the position. Mercury, however, on the eve of the Gods' return, informs Thespis that so far from there being no complaints, there are a "thundering lot," but as they are only presented once a year, the Gods themselves will look into them. The return of the Gods is heralded by the P. & O. mail signals being hoisted on the Customs flagstaff, and the usual two guns. A "very mixed" Court is formed, and the Gods proceed to hear the petitions, which consist of complaints of mismanagement in Shanghai; and Thespis and his satellites are hard pressed to find excuses for the failure of their experiments. Thespis makes a grand exculpatory speech, and with a wave of his sceptre calls into view a "Model Settlement,"—showing a very effective picture of the Shanghai Bund, with the proposed new gardens. The audience applauded vehemently; and after repeated calls, the artist yielded to the demand that he should appear at the footlights. Mr. Prophet's brush has but lately been enlisted in the scenic service, and has proved an acquisition.

The burlesque, which is an excellent one in itself, has been localised with considerable ability, and put on the stage with great completeness. There were a number of songs and choruses containing local allusions, and hits in dialogue abounded, but it not infrequently happened that in delivery the latter failed to hit the mark. The leading parts were well acted, but there was sometimes a lack of smoothness, which argued insufficient study or irregularity at rehearsal. It should be remembered, however, that several important changes occurred in the cast at a late date; and for this reason the more praise must especially be given to *Miss Walbro's* very happy playing of Mercury, and *Miss Britannia Metal's* animated and comical acting and make-up as Diana. The Gods—Jupiter, *Mr. Will Honeycomb;* Apollo, *Mr. Doolittle*; and Mars, *Mr. Rewerb*, proved worthy of the positions assigned to them. *Mr. Drinkwater*, as Thespis, exerted himself at all points, but seemed to some extent oppressed with managerial responsibilities of a real as well as assumed nature. His stump speech kept the audience laughing, but the recurring phrase which formed the answer to his amusing category of great questions, failed altogether to tell, for the reason, no doubt, that it too closely resembled the refrain in his previous burlesque oration. *Mr. Honeycomb*, highly successful in his Jovian songs, was less fortunate with the jovial drinking chorus which he gave in the character of Waterion, the audience evidently regarding it as out of place. We should remark that the chorus was finely rendered, however. Thespis was fairly supported by his Thessalian Company, from among whom we may single out Preposteros, *Mr. Barkins;* Tipseion, *Mr. Carpenter*, (who was generally useful, and good); the ladies, Nicemis, (*Miss Castor*) (as attractive a brunette in this as she was a blonde in the other piece); Daphne (*Miss Jimny Rickshaw*), who certainly had a graceful carriage; and Imperia (*Miss Electra Plate*)—in a high state of polish. The Glee Club rendered very efficient aid with the choruses, and would probably have done better had not serious indisposition compelled *Miss Elliot*, early in the rehearsals, to relinquish her part as leading vocalist. Mr. Fentum followed the singers—" interpreted the symphonies," as the programme had it—very closely and skilfully, on the piano. The entertainment, as we have already said, was very successful; and since it would be a pity so much scenery, dressing, and adapting should be devoted to one representation, we hope the A. D. C. will "do it again," amending the burlesque wherever Saturday's experience suggested. We have little doubt that a second representation would be in some respects an improvement on the first.

THE MIH-HO-LOONG BALL.

If the Mih-ho-loong Company, like Goldsmith's dancing pair, desired to win renown by holding out to tire all others down, they might certainly claim to have attained the distinction in the matter of their annual ball, for it appears but too probable that no Company or society will attempt to divide with them the honour of giving the

grand assembly of the season. That success has always attended the Mih-ho-loong Ball is due greatly no doubt to the strength of the Company, socially speaking, but scarcely less so perhaps to the hospitable and liberal spirit which appears to animate the members in regard to these splendid entertainments. So far as the exertions of the Mih-ho-loongs themselves could ensure it, their fifth Ball, which came off at the Club on Tuesday night, eclipsed its predecessors in the various arrangements for the gratification and comfort of their numerous guests. The reward they most desired, however, the presence of their lady friends, was less encouragingly accorded than on some former occasions, although the number of acceptances led to high expectations in this respect. The cold weather of the past week appears chiefly to be responsible for causing a falling away from over seventy acceptances to an attendance of just fifty, by placing *hors de danse* not a few ladies who had purposed being present. There were still sufficient, however, to make a very gay and animated ballroom, and to carry the affair off without any appreciable diminution of its accustomed *eclat*.

The decorations should first be noticed in proceeding to a description of the scene, as they were the first thing to attract the attention of the visitor. In these the more conspicuous elements were of course those which, approved by the appropriateness and good taste of their design, have been given a permanent place in the ball-room armoury of the Company; but the introduction of much that was new, gave the interest and grace of novelty. A double chain of varicoloured Chinese lanterns spanned the Bund, from the Club to the jetty in front, and formed both a beacon and a barrier—in the latter view, something much pleasanter to be pulled up at, on a night journey, than those our Chinese friends interpose on water. It was discovered that another art had lately sent a representative to Shanghai, that of gas illuminating, and the work of the Shanghai Gas Company's artist was blazoned on the Club façade, where the letters "M. H. L.," and a finely formed star showed in the clearest manner what star was in the ascendant for the night. Having passed through the mat portico which sheltered from the keen night air, and pledged overcoats for the usual pawnticket, the visitor ascended to what may be called the ball floor of the Club, for spacious though it be, the ballroom, ladies' room, refreshment, supper, and card and smoking rooms, absorb all except the landing and verandahs, and these again, enclosed by the traditional pink and white banners, are utilised as withdrawing rooms and orchestra. A neat canopy is hung at the head of the stair, and the inner half of the landing has been made into a pavilion which is soon established as the favorite resort after the dances. Its principal ornament is a star of highly burnished bayonets placed on a red shield, around which is the motto "Shoulder to Shoulder." The bayonets are of the old triangular shape and we believe were lent from the Armory of the new Taotai, Fêng. Stands of arms also surrounded the pillars of the pavilion. At the head of the principal room, our old friend the fiery flying dragon is confined in his illuminated cage, from which radiate bayonets in bristling array, while underneath stands a row of rifles with swords fixed. In the other half of the ballroom are not less familiar decorations—in the shield with the motto "Defence not Defiance," and that which, round quarterings of hatchets and trumpets, announces in the words "Say the word and down comes your house," the prompt remedy the Company are prepared to apply when the enemy fire has to be cut off. A multiplicity of ornamental spears, banners, monogram shields, emblems and trophies, interspersed with evergreens in many forms, were grouped or hung about the rooms, which rarely if ever presented a more effective spectacle, or were more comfortably arranged.

Dancing did not commence till shortly before ten, when the excellent band of the U.S. corvette *Hartford* commenced the opening galop. A portion of the front verandah was made the orchestra, a very convenient arrangement at it seemed to us, although some of the dancers remarked that it led to the music being unequally diffused through the ballroom. The ladies' dresses were remarkable for variety and beauty; and the uniforms of British and United States Naval Officers, contrasting with the bright red shirts of the hosts, and these again with ordinary civilian dress, presented altogether a very effective scene. A few minutes after midnight, when two-thirds of the programme had been danced, the call to supper was heard, and half an hour was devoted to that pleasant interlude. The supper was on this occasion especially creditable to the caterer, Mr. Williams, the Club Steward, whose experience and reliability in matters of the sort we have frequently been called on to notice. It also deserves to be mentioned that the superior quality of some of the wines was the subject of general approval.

The remaining dances on the card were got through rapidly, and by two o'clock the ballroom was deserted by the ladies; while a few of their late partners sought consolation for a brief space longer by a visit to the supper room, where with a merry song and chorus they wound up the festivity.

Miscellaneous.

ATTACK ON A FOREIGNER.

An attack, which, from circumstances detailed below, it will be seen was evidently premeditated, was made yesterday forenoon, by a large mob of Chinese peasants and labourers, upon Mr. C. E. Hill, while on his way along the new roadway now making between Hongkew and Woosung. He had arrived at the village of Kungwang, about four miles from Shanghai, at about ten o'clock, and had sat down on a bank on the road to write an order for $100 for a man to take back to Shanghai, when he observed a well-known old woman of the neighbourhood, named Sw', with whom there had been several previous disturbances with reference to the new road, coming towards him at the head of some forty or fifty men, armed with bamboos and hoes. The old woman raised the cry, "Kill him! kill him!" in response to which the mob, which was rapidly increasing in numbers, made a rush towards Mr. Hill, who had hardly time to get up and stand on the defensive before they were upon him. He retreated, facing them, towards Woosung, the mob raising loud cries and screaming one to another, working themselves into a state of wild excitement, and crowding in upon him from all directions. By dexterously manœuvring, he managed to keep on the outskirts of the crowd, now increased to over 200, until he reached the banks of a creek, across which he succeeded in leaping, while for a time it operated as a barrier to the progress of his pursuers. The rearmost of these, however, soon pushed the foremost into the water, and they were all quickly across, giving utterance to the wildest yells, and rapidly continuing the pursuit of Mr. Hill over the adjoining paddy field. At the further side of this field there was another creek, across which he knew there was a rude stone bridge; towards this bridge Mr. Hill made his way, and succeeded in getting upon it just as the now infuriated mob closed with him a second time, numbers of them beating and punching him with their bamboos and hoes, tearing his overcoat to pieces, smashing his hat, and otherwise seriously maltreating him. He, however, managed to keep off many of the blows with a Penang cane he was carrying, and also wrested a bamboo from the man who carried it. With these in his hands, he made a stand on the stones forming the bridge, and soon laid half-a-dozen or more of his assailants on the ground; numbers, however, continuing to beat at him, amid shouts of "Kill him! kill him! Foreign devil! Throw him in the creek!" Near this place, there were a number of Chinese workmen, employed on the road, engaged in driving piles for a culvert, all of whom came to the spot, and though they seemed afraid to fight the rioters, exclaimed, "Don't hurt him, he's a good man, pays us money." Some in the crowd replied, "We don't want his money, we've got others." A large number of the mob at this point turned their attention to the workmen, attacked them violently, and, after beating them for nearly a quarter of an hour, left two of the headmen, Wong and Husey, for dead on the ground. After lying for some time in a state of insensibility, the men were removed to a neighbouring joss-house, and their injuries attended to. The other workmen all ran away, feeling their lives were in danger by having shown sympathy for Mr. Hill. They made their way to Hongkew, where they excited great consternation by spreading the report that Mr. Hill and his two headmen were murdered. While one portion of the mob was beating the workmen, the other continued the attack on Mr. Hill, but seeing one after another fall under his blows, they gradually drew off, and he took the opportunity of continuing his retreat towards the river—hatless and covered with mud and bruises. Fortunately he was not again followed, and pursued his way with difficulty on foot until he reached the house of Mr. Vail, at the Hongkew Wharf, where he was immediately put to bed and his bruises examined by Dr. Macgowan, who, fearful of internal injury having been sustained from the punching with the bamboos, ordered strict quiet to be maintained both by the patient and those around him, and the room to be darkened.

There can be no doubt that the plucky manner in which Mr. Hill defended himself at the joss-house bridge, alone saved his life; for there was no help near, and but for this, and the fact of the mob separating to attack the workmen, the chances are that an atrocious murder would have had to be recorded. It is, however, proper to state that some people working in the fields on the other side of the joss-house creek, shouted to the mob, "Do not come over here, or we'll beat you," under cover of which friendly remonstrance, seconded as it was by the knock-down blows some of them had received, Mr. Hill succeeded in getting away as above described.

The excitement in the Settlements when, by the arrival of some of the workmen, it became known that such a dastardly attack had been made upon a foreigner, coupled by their report that both he and two of his workmen were killed, can be easily imagined. The report flew like lightning, and many persons prepared to hasten to the scene. The news was immediately conveyed to the U. S. Consulate-General, and Mr. Seward at once telegraphed to the various police stations for all the available men to be sent to Kungwang. The arrival of Mr. Hill shortly afterwards, however, showed that this step was not needed, and the order was countermanded. Mr. Seward, Dr. Yates, and Mr. O. B. Bradford, with several other gentlemen, and followed by Acting-Superintendent Stripling and Inspectors Fowler and Wilson, with several constables, however, hastened to the village.

The party proceeded across country to Kungwang, and found that many of the assailants had gone to the district city of Pao-shan, taking with them the two head men who were so badly beaten, and also the old woman, no doubt with the view of giving such a version of the affair as would throw the blame on the foreigner and his native assistants, and so cause the latter to be punished according to the usual Chinese custom. Pursuit was instantly resumed toward Woosung, the party taking different routes across country. They arrived on the bank of the Woosung creek just in time to capture the last of the party, a respectable looking man, who had received a severe wound on the temple, which had bled profusely, and which he accounted for by saying the roof of his house had fallen in upon him. Others of the party were seen climbing the further bank of the creek, but there being no boats at hand the pursuit could not be continued. Mr. Stripling, however, despatched a *tepao* to Pao-shan to bring back the two headmen, and the pursuing party then returned to Woosung, in the neighbourhood of which place two more of the rioters were captured. The pursuing party returned to Shanghai in a steam launch, arriving about ten o'clock.

At eleven, the *tepao* came to Hongkew Police Station with the intelligence that the two headmen had been recovered from Pao-shan, and another of the assailants and the old woman captured. They were detained, he added, at Kungwang by a No. 1 *tepao*. Mr. Stripling directed that the men should be brought to Hongkew at an early hour this morning, and the old woman no later than nine o'clock, when a court of investigation will be opened at the U. S. Consulate-General.

The only known cause for such an attack appears to be that the old woman Sw', who was the owner of a house, some land, and a pond, in the line of the new road, refused to sell at a reasonable rate; while the negotiations were pending, the pond was filled up, and some neighbouring property purchased for $2,000, rendering the purchase of hers, with the exception of the pond, unnecessary. This seems to have exasperated the old lady so much, that she was heard to utter threats as to what she would do. Several warnings of what was about to happen were given to Mr. Hill by peasants of the locality, but he disregarded them so completely as to daily attend to his duty unarmed. His constant presence in the neighbourhood, associated him in the old lady's mind with the filling up of her pond and the non-sale of her property, and the result was as above described.

Correspondence.

THE PROPOSED PUBLIC MARKET.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—A small paragraph appeared in the report of the Municipal Council's meeting of the 5th October, as follows:—"*Iron Market.*—Plans have been prepared and estimates sent for from England, for a Market, should the Ratepayers at their next Meeting approve of constructing a building of the kind on the Council's vacant land in the Honan road."

No notice appears to have been taken of the matter by the public in general, and certainly if the folly of any scheme would insure its being rejected, no notice would be necessary. Such, however, is, unfortunately, not always the case in Shanghai; and as I hear plans and specifications are now on their way out, for the perfecting of the scheme, I think it about time, at any rate, to endeavour to point out some of the objections to the plan.

I would suggest that no market is required; that "Smith's" is quite sufficient and well situated for the purpose, and that if the Municipalities are determined to endeavour to try and upset the present system, they had better try their success with Smith's Market, a space of ground already prepared for the purpose, without going to the expense of buying new buildings, and appropriating valuable ground for an idea.

That "markets make themselves" is a fact that (after the failure of nearly every known attempt to change them) needs no argument; you cannot force sellers of market-stuff into any one corner, unless you can clearly make it to their advantage. As soon as a strict surveillance of the Police is removed, the seller finds his way back to the old haunt, where, having a reputation, he easily disposes of his produce, and probably does better than his brother, who rents a stall in the "expensive foreign building;" so that, financially, the market would be like Miss Burdett Coutts' handsome one in London, and probably prove a *very* "white elephant."

That a market is a nuisance, is incontrovertible, and that such a thing could be permitted in the centre of any town, could only point to the ignorance or effeteness of the towns-people. Why should we have it here?

The present system of sewers is difficult enough to keep moderately sweet, without the addition of market drainage to ebb and flow up and down the length of the Honan and Foochow roads. But when one begins to estimate the amount of garbage that has to lie sweltering in the market during a summer's day, or has to be carried past one's doors through the hot atmosphere of 9.30 a.m., one would naturally suppose that the idea of this mass of decomposing matter would suggest visions of cholera and dysentery, sufficient to deter the most sanguine believer in the scheme from endeavouring to carry it through.

The noise and obstruction to the general traffic are minor disadvantages, after the all-important object of health, but even these deserve consideration; and if a market in the Maloo is decidedly undesirable, query if removing it to the proposed site will better matters?

I have only touched on public grounds for objecting to the plan. How far it would be just to property owners in the neighbourhood, is a point that is sure to receive the Landrenters' consideration.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
CITIZEN.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 26th Jan.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, Chief Judge.

Motion to Review the Taxation of Costs, in re the Collision between the Brig "St. Francois" and the steamer "Cawdor Castle."

Mr. ROBINSON for plaintiffs.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT for defendants.

Decision:—

His LORDSHIP, in deciding the points by this motion, said:—

With respect to the disallowance of the items under dates the 21st and 23rd November 1874, by the Registrar, I am inclined to direct that officer to review his taxation, and allow a proper proportion of them; and I do so on this ground, that Mr. Chagneau, the Surveyor appointed by the French Consulate, was leaving the Port, and in the probable event that the issue between the parties would ultimate in a question of the amount of damage sustained, his evidence would be necessary, and could not without risk have been passed over.

I sustain the objection to the item on the 24th of November, for attendance on Captain Deslandes. No issue was joined at the time, and there was then no occasion for the evidence of Mr. Deslandes, or of even any expression of opinion from him. To allow such an item would be to open the door to charges for attendance on any number of persons, who might call on a solicitor and express an opinion on some point in a case without being invited or asked.

I entirely concur with the Registrar in his disallowance of the items under dates from the 5th to 14th December, which are for the preparation of particulars of claim for damage referred to the Registrar and Merchants. The case of the *Peerless* (1. Prit., Dig. 111, p. 231) is a clear authority for their disallowance; but apart from this case, it occurs to me that on principle they could not be allowed. The costs of preparing a claim for a reference which is ordered by the Court, are only costs in the principal cause when no special order is made as to them; and when, in consequence of the allowance made, the party making the claim gets his costs as a matter of course. It seems to follow, then, that the practice—which is a good one—of not allowing the costs of the reference when a claim is reduced a fourth, refers to every part of the matters referred, and especially to that portion of them in which the offence, so to speak, originates, and which calls for the application of the penalty. On this motioneach party will pay their own costs.

An allusion was made in the argument to the case of the *Columbus*, on which the plaintiff relied as to the principle which should guide the Registrar and Merchants when assessing the damage incurred. I am anxious that it should not be assumed that I concur in thinking that case an authority in every case when a ship sinks after a collision. Under the probable facts of that particular case, Dr. Lushington's judgment was no doubt right, but it does not follow that the reasons he gives would be applicable to any other state of facts. I think the Registrar and Merchants were justified in looking upon it as an authority, but I am by no means clear that there were not facts in that case, not alluded to in the Report, which induced the learned Judge to depart from the usual principle of assessing damage. I shall endeavour to ascertain this by a reference to the Court of Admiralty in England.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, January 30th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

LING-AH-UNG, *v.* K. JESSOP.

This was a summons for $11, for wages as coolie. Defendant did not appear, and judgment was given for plaintiff.

C. R. ENGLAND *v.* C. D. RIDINGS.

Plaintiff, a storekeeper, sued defendant to recover $21.80, for goods sold and delivered. Defendant did not appear. Plaintiff said he had presented the bill a great many times, and had been promised payment, on the faith of which he had supplied the defendant with more goods.—Judgment for plaintiff.

C. R. ENGLAND *v.* C. CORNE.

In this case, plaintiff claimed $28 for goods sold and delivered. It was stated that defendant was sick, and could not appear to the summons; that he had no employment, and that his wife was obliged to go out to work to support him. It was further stated that defendant's household furniture was attached for rent, though the landlord kindly permitted it to remain in the house; and that the wife had said that many of the goods supplied must have been consumed while she was away from home at work, as she knew nothing about them.

His HONOUR asked what were the goods?

Plaintiff replied, meat, tinned goods, beer, porter, cooper, and a case of schnapps.

His HONOUR said he would give judgment against the defendant, but it seemed likely to be a barren one.

Feb. 1st.

YU-ZU-SHING *v.* T. W. SONG.

Both parties in this case were Chinamen, the defendant being a British subject from Singapore.

Plaintiff sought to recover $60.50, amount of Customs' duty he had been charged at Ningpo, upon seventy-nine slabs of tin sold to him by the defendant.

The case has been before the Court previously, but was adjourned till this morning, Heding now acting as interpreter for plaintiff, the defendant speaking excellent English.

The point of the case turned upon the quality of the tin sold, the defendant having given the plaintiff a Customs' exemption-pass for "tin" only; but when the slabs were landed at Ningpo, the Customs' Examiner found they were "compound tin," a different article altogether, and therefore liable to pay import duty. Had the metal corresponded with the description given in the exemption-pass, it would have been landed free of duty. Plaintiff therefore sought to recover the amount he had been obliged to pay through, as he alleged, the defendant's error. The quality of tin he ordered was "solder," or common tin, and not "compound" tin.

Defendant said he imported the 79 slabs from Singapore, the value being Tls. 9.8 per picul, upon which he had paid Tls. 1.25 per picul duty; and that they were sold to the plaintiff as common tin, and not as the best. The slabs were of the description mentioned in the invoice, as he thought. He considered the plaintiff's claim too high.

Plaintiff, in reply to a question, was understood to say that he had the Ningpo certificate as to what he had paid, at his house.

His HONOUR, after some time spent in examining the Customs' tariff and regulations as to these articles, said before he could decide the case, he must see the certificate from Ningpo as to what amount of duty the defendant had paid upon the slabs. It was perfectly possible that the defendant was telling the truth, that he had paid duty upon this particular metal as tin, which was not tin. With regard to the duty paid by the plaintiff at Ningpo, the defendant had better endeavour to prove an exemption-certificate, describing the metal as compound tin, and then plaintiff armed with this would probably get back the amount he had been charged. The defendant had also better go to the Customs' authorities here himself, and inform them of the circumstances under which he was being sued by the plaintiff.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Jan. 27th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* G. HADDEN.

Defendant, a seaman out of employ, was charged with being drunk and assaulting a Chinese boy, employed at the Sailors' Home.

In answer to his WORSHIP, defendant said he supposed he had struck the complainant, but he was not quite sure about it, as he was drunk.

Complainant deposed that he had some plates, &c., in both hands, containing food for sick men in the Home, when defendant struck him. Defendant had also struck him a week ago.

Defendant admitted that he did so, because complainant called him a thief.

His WORSHIP sentenced him to one week's hard labour, in default of paying a fine of $5.

R. *v.* RICHARD GREENWOOD.

Defendant in this case was quartermaster of the steamer *Fleurs Castle*, and he was charged with being drunk and making a disturbance on board, on the morning of the 26th instant.

The Second Officer proved this portion of the case; and J. Brewer, another quartermaster, deposed that defendant, when he came on board, used abusive language toward him, and also struck him, but he returned the blow, and a scuffle ensued.

Captain DICKIE informed the magistrate that he heard a great disturbance on board, and that the defendant was the principal cause of it. He had frequently used insulting language towards the officers, and had been reprimanded for it.

Fined $5.

Captain HUBBACK, of the steamer *Estepona*, was summoned by a Japanese boy, who had acted as his servant on board, for assaulting him on the 3rd January, and on several other occasions, during the voyage from Yokohama to this port.

Complainant's testimony, to the above effect, was interpreted by the Japanese Consular interpreter.

Defendant, who denied the charge, said that the boy was not used to the sea, and sometimes falling down, had broken several pieces of the dinner service. He emphatically denied having at any time struck the complainant, but admitted having taken him by the ear on one occasion, as he did not attend when he was speaking to him. Complainant was not on the articles. His wages were to be $10 per month.

His WORSHIP did not consider that the complainant had made out his case, but asked if the Captain was willing to take him back to Japan?

Defendant said he would give him a passage to Yokohama, but that he would not have him again as his boy. He left the ship very unceremoniously, and went to the Japanese Consul. The Interpreter came on board, and the result was that the lad had taken out this summons. The charge was a fabrication from beginning to end.

The case was settled by his Worship instructing the complainant to go on board either on Saturday night or Sunday morning, when he would be taken back to Yokohama.

Jan. 28th.

R. *v.* JOHN CREIGHTON.

Drunk and Incapable.

His WORSHIP said that this was defendant's fourth offence.

Defendant said that he was to be sent home in the steamer *Sarpedon*, but that she did not sail until Saturday morning.

His WORSHIP ordered that defendant be imprisoned until the ship was ready to sail, when he would be taken on board by the constable.

R. *v.* HENRY MCCLOUGHLIN.

Henry McCloughlin, a seaman of the steamer *Fleurs Castle*, was charged with being drunk and creating a disturbance on board, and also with being absent without leave.

Defendant admitted the charge.

Fined $3 for making a disturbance, to pay the cost of the summons, and to forfeit two days' pay, for being absent without leave.

Jan. 29th.

R. *v.* WATSON.

JOHN WATSON, who said he had been an A.B. on board the British barque *Deogaum*, Captain Burlar, gave himself up to be dealt with by the Court, under the peculiar circumstances narrated below.

His WORSHIP having told the man to go into the dock, asked him if he gave himself up as a deserter from the barque?

Defendant—I must leave that to you, because I came on shore to see you, and while I was away the ship sailed. I had asked the captain to let me come on shore to see you, and he said, "I will not give you permission, but you can go."

His WORSHIP was obliged to question the defendant very closely to elicit a connected story, his replies being as follow:—It was on Thursday, the 21st instant, I first asked leave to come ashore, and on Saturday I asked twice, but the captain refused on each occasion. When I asked him the first time on Saturday, he threatened to strike me with a poker. Twenty minutes afterwards, I asked him the second time. The ship lay in the river about seventeen days. The complaint I had to make against the captain was that the food was not properly cooked. The time was about 11.30 on Saturday morning when I first asked leave on that day to come ashore, and the barque sailed the same afternoon. I came on shore, and went to the Shipping-office, but was told I could not see the shipping master until two o'clock.

His WORSHIP—Then I suppose you give yourself up as being absent without leave?

Defendant—The captain would not give me leave. He has had difficulties several times with others of the crew about the food, since he has been on this coast.

His WORSHIP—I have not heard of any, and was going to remark about it.

Defendant—It was so, I assure you, Sir.

His WORSHIP—But you knew the ship was going to sail the same afternoon?

Defendant—I knew that, and that was why I wanted to come ashore and get a summons in the morning, but the captain would not allow me.

His WORSHIP—Where was the *Deogaum* going?

Defendant—From Shanghai to Nagasaki, and then to England.

His WORSHIP—How long were you on board?

Defendant—Three months and about thirteen days, and there were $18.40 due to me for wages. My clothes were sent on shore, and I received them. I believe they were sent by one of the men.

His WORSHIP—Did you not know that one of the men sent them?

Defendant—I did not know they were to be sent, but by a note that was in the bag I saw that one of the men did send them. They were brought in a sampan to the steps at the back of the Sailors' Home, while I was standing there. The barque was lying off the Sailors' Home. There was no name on the bag, but the sampan man said it was "for the man with one eye,"—(defendant has but one eye.)

The Usher, who had been sent to ascertain the correct dates of the barque's clearance and sailing, returned and said she was cleared on the 21st and sailed on the 23rd instant. She had gone to Nagasaki, but was expected here again.

Defendant said he heard the captain say she had cleared for England.

His WORSHIP—If you did not know your clothes were coming on shore, how was it you were standing at the steps at the precise time they were brought?

Defendant—I was at the Sailors' Home, and happened to be on the steps.

His WORSHIP—If you had any complaint to make against your ship, you had plenty of time to do it in. But she was here for sixteen days before you made any complaint, by your own showing. If there had been any real ground of complaint, there is no doubt that either you or some other of the crew would have made it known earlier. I must take it, therefore, that there was no complaint made, and that is borne out by the fact that there is even now no complaint by any other of the men on board. By your own account you seem to have hung on until the very last minute, and then stole ashore, or came ashore, in some way—I do not know, from what you have said, how—but you came ashore in some way, and there is no doubt as to the fact that you did so to get away from the ship. Then your clothes being sent after you, shows it is pretty clear that you left her without any intention of returning, and they must have thought so on board by sending your clothes so soon after you. Your leaving the ship in this way—being absent without leave—within twenty-four hours of sailing, amounts nearly to desertion, and I am not sure it is not desertion. With respect to your having $18 due to you as wages, I am not sure about that either; I shall sentence you to a month's hard labour.

Defendant was removed in custody.

January 30th.

R. *v.* GRAHAM.

GEORGE GRAHAM, a youth, came to the Court, in company with Mr. Bowen, Superintendent of the Sailors' Home, under the following circumstances:—It appears that on Friday, he shipped from the Home, for the *Inverness*, bound for New York, as an ordinary seaman, and was to have gone on board the same night. He refused to go on board, and the vessel had sailed without him. He said he did not wish to go. He (Mr. Bowen) told him it was not permitted for men to ship and then refuse to go on board, and urged him to go at once, but he still refused.

The Defendant, in answer to the charge, said he met the Captain of the *Inverness* between five and six o'clock the same evening, who told him to come on board at nine o'clock the next morning, as the ship would sail at eleven. It was at 9.30 on Friday night when Mr. Bowen spoke to him, and he (defendant) told him what the Captain had said.

Mr. BOWEN said it was the defendant's duty to have gone on board on the night of the day on which he had signed articles. He told him the vessel was to sail at daylight the next morning, and he said he would go on board in the morning.

His WORSHIP—Then he did not refuse altogether to go on board?

Mr. BOWEN—No, only on that night.

His WORSHIP—I understood you to mean that he had refused altogether.

Defendant said if he had not met the Captain, he meant to have gone on board on

Friday night. He got up at 6.30 on Saturday morning, and went off in a sampan to get on board, when he found the vessel had sailed.

His Worship asked in what vessel the defendant came to Shanghai, and how long he had been here?

Mr. Bowen replied that he came in the *Sooloo*, and had been in the Home about two months. He had had an opportunity of going to England, but did not care to go. His conduct in the Home had been very good. It was his (Mr. Bowen's) duty to bring such a case as this before the Court, as a check upon others who might also wish to act in a similar manner, which there was a tendency towards. Otherwise, the men would become an expense to the Consul. The defendant told him the same thing that he had now told the Court.

Defendant, in reply to further questions by his Worship, said there was a gentleman with the Captain when he met him on Friday evening, whom he believed to have been the Captain of the *Corona*.

His Worship said it was quite possible the Captain did tell the defendant to come on board in the morning, and if he (the Captain) went away earlier than he at first intended, the defendant was not to blame. It was only because defendant had been well-behaved in the Home that he was inclined to believe his story. It was very easy to make up such a story, however; and, as there were many seamen in Court, he wished them not to think it was easy to come there at any time with such a story, unless it was the truth. The truthfulness of the defendant's statement prevented his case becoming one of desertion. It was an unfortunate thing for him, but he must go back again, and Mr. Bowen could inquire of the Captain of the *Corona* if he was in company with the Captain of the *Inverness* at the time named by the defendant. At present, he believed the defendant's statement, for if the Captain had altered his time of departure, of course the defendant was not to blame.

February 1st.

R. *v.* John Symons.

Defendant, a stoker, was charged by a foreign constable with being drunk and disorderly in the Broadway, Hongkew, at 12.40 on Sunday morning.

Fined $2, and ordered to go back to his ship.

R. *v.* John Skeat and Richard Jones.

Charge of Larceny.

Defendants are seamen of the *Corona*, and were charged under peculiar circumstances with having stolen two barrels of pork and beef fat, each containing about 200 lbs.

The defence was that they were guilty of having sod the fat, but they did not know whether they were guilty of stealing it, as it was the property of the crew and did not belong to the ship at all.

H. C. Pearce, Chief Officer, who represented Captain Robertson, deposed that it had been an understanding between the captain and a cook who was formerly in the ship, that the latter was to have all the fat from the ship's coppers as a perquisite at the end of the voyage, if he did his duty properly. He was, however, discharged in New Zealand or account of drunkenness. Four barrels of fat had been saved by the cook on the voyage from England to New Zealand, there having been a number of enigrants and a crew and a half on board, which made it worth while to save it. Witness sold two of the barrels in New Zealand by the authority of the Captain, and would have also sold the remaining two if he could have got a good price for them. There was none saved on the voyage between New Zealand and Shanghai, because there were fewer people on board and it was not worth while. For the two barrels sold, he obtained 25*s.* each, the other two remaining on board the ship, in the fore peak. There was no lock, the peak being closed with a hatch, but not fastened. The fate belonged to the owners of the ship, and not to the prisoners.

The prisoner Skeat said that during the voyage from England to New Zealand no salt meat was consumed in the cabin—the cook told him so the day he was discharged, and he also said he had saved four barrels of fat during the voyage from the meat served out to the crew, but the Captain refused to let him have it, although it belonged to the crew.

The Chief Officer denied the statement that no salt meat had been consumed in the cabin on the voyage out.

William Sinclair, second officer, deposed that on Saturday night about 7.30, he heard a noise on deck, and on going out to see what caused it, he saw the prisoners rolling a barrel each along the wharf, away from the ship. He went after them and spoke to them about it, but they took no notice, and went on. They rolled the barrels to "Buffalo's," a Chinaman, near the wharf, and went into the shop. Witness also went there, and ascertained that they had sold the barrels for $4.50 each. The barrels were taken back to the ship.

By Skeat—When I saw you on the wharf, I told you to take the barrels back to the ship.

Skeat—You said "all right," after you had looked at them, and then went away. He then asked that the Chief Officer should be recalled to prove that the cook signed for the fat.

The Chief Officer said it was not the practice for a cook to sign for the fat. It was a perquisite that might be granted to him, on the condition that he behaved himself well. It might sometimes happen that the cook signed for the fat, but witness did not think it was so in the present case. The ship remained about 40 days in New Zealand, and arrived at Shanghai on the 8th ult.

Skeat stated, and his statement was supported by Jones, that the fat was saved out of the crew's allowance of 1½-lb. of meat each per day. The cook saved it, in order to sell it and divide the money amongst the men. If the men went to the coppers and skimmed it off themselves, they could have taken it in that way. It was part of their food, and the prisoners said they did not see that the Captain had the right to take it from them. It was not fat cut off the meat, but that which boiled out in cooking and rose to the surface of the water.

His Worship asked how many men formed the crew?

Skeat said there were twenty-four.

His Worship—Why should you take the other twenty-two men's fat?

Skeat—We did not take it for ourselves. The money was to be divided amongst the eight men who are left on board. All the others are gone away, but we had their authority to sell the fat. We should not have sold it on Saturday night, but we asked the Captain to advance us some money and he would not give us any. He (Skeat) bought bread with his share of the money.

The Chief Officer said there must have been others besides the prisoners concerned in the matter, because the prisoners (who are mere youths) could not have got the barrels out of the fore peak without help. They had no right to go into the fore peak at all.

Skeat said the fat from the fresh meat consumed in the cabin was sold to the emigrants; a cook could sell any amount of fat from fresh meat in that way, but not that from salt meat.

Jones said there were plenty of witnesses in Court, who could prove what he and Skeat said to be true.

His Worship—How did they get into the fore peak?

The Chief Officer—By lifting the hatch.

Skeat—The hatch was more often off than on all night, but it was shut down on Saturday night and we lifted it.

His Worship—From your own account of the matter, there are a number of circumstances which seem to point to the conclusion that you felt you had no right to the fat, or you would not have remained 40 days in New Zealand without disposing of it; neither would you have remained here since the 8th January without selling it. The reason you give is, that you sold it because the Captain would not give you money; but if the fat was yours, you had a right to ask for it to sell without regard to the Captain's giving you money at all. But I should like to see the Captain on the subject here, at ten to-morrow morning. Let the men go back to the ship, and attend here also at the same hour.

The prisoners then left the dock.

February 2nd.

R. *v.* John Skeat and Richard Jones.

This case, which was remanded from Monday, was again proceeded with.

John Robertson, sworn, stated—I am master of the British ship *Corona*. On the voyage out from England to New Zealand, salt meat was from time to time cooked for the cabin. The four barrels of fat in question were saved from the meat cooked for the whole ship's company, in number twenty-four. I promised the cook (discharged in New Zealand) that he should have the fat on condition that he behaved himself during the voyage. He misbehaved, and consequently forfeited his claim to it. The fat saved is the ship's property. It is at the cook's option to skim it from the coppers. Many cooks throw it away. The men have nothing to do with it. They could have what they required for cooking purposes at the time, but if they do not ask for it they are not entitled to it. Two casks of fat were sold in Dunedin, New Zealand, by the chief officer, who handed the amount realized to me. I have the power either to credit the owners with it, or to give it to the mates. At all times in general it is used for ship purposes, greasing the masts, mixing with tar, &c., but if there is a surplus it could be sold for the ship's benefit. The casks in which the fat was saved in this instance are the ship's property. I have not credited the owners with the amount received for the other two casks sold.

In answer to His Worship, if he had any questions to ask the witness, Skeat said—I don't see how the captain can take our meat.

His Worship—It is absurd for you to talk about your meat.

Skeat—Well, Sir, the fat is weighed out to us with the meat.

His Worship—Then you should have claimed it at the time. The time for you to claim your share was when it was in the coppers.

Skeat—Why, Sir, most of the fat contained in the four casks was accumulated on the forecastle, and returned by us to the cook on the understanding that when it was sold we received a share of the proceeds. If we had not done so, he could not have saved one cask full, instead of four, during the passage. If you opened the casks you would find pieces of fat as big as that (holding up both closed fists).

Capt. Robertson—The beef is not fat, and is the best I have ever seen on board ship. The Doctor on board praised it. I am not a fat eater, but I can eat that on board, it is so nice.

His Worship—Do you press this charge against the defendants?

Captain Robertson—Yes, it is the ship's property, and I will not give way to them.

Skeat—If you please, Sir, we went on board yesterday, but we were not allowed to turn to, and there was nothing for us to eat.

Capt. Robertson, in answer to his Worship, said the men have no right in the fore-peak. Their character is very indifferent; Skeat's especially, as he is very insolent. I could not better myself, or I should not have kept him so long. He has tried to get away from the ship several times.

His Worship, to defendants—I cannot look at this case in any other way, than that the fat is the property of the ship. I am also clear that you knew that, and looking at all the facts of the case, I am quite sure that you felt that you had no right to it. If you had honestly believed that it was your property, you had nothing more to do than ask permission to take it on shore. Another fact was, that the barrels were in the fore-peak, where the Captain assures me you had no right to go and where the ship's property only is kept. You have been in port 20 days, and yet you did not take it, but when you do, you wait until half-past 7 o'clock, when it is dark.

Skeat—I beg pardon, but I forgot to tell you that on Saturday last I asked the Captain for my discharge. The Chief Officer asked me what I was saying to the Captain, I told him, and added that there was some fat on board which I intended to sell, as it belonged to the crew.

His Worship—You told me that you took it because the Captain refused to give you money. I shall sentence you to one month's imprisonment with hard labour, each, and you will have to pay the cost of your maintenance during your incarceration.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, Jan. 29th.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., *Consul-General.*

Desertion.

JOHN HENDRICKS, a seaman of the American ship *Star of the West*, was charged with the above offence.

Defendant came to the Consulate on the 28th instant, asking permission to ship, confessing that he had deserted from the *Star of the West*, but in extenuation said that he was dissatisfied on board, and that the Captain would not allow him to come to the Consulate to make his complaint. Since he had been on shore he had sold some of his clothes to get something to eat.

The COURT said that although the defendant had been on shore for two days, he did not come to the Consulate to make any complaint, thereby shewing that he intended to desert from his ship.

Sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment.

MIXED COURT BUSINESS.

At the Mixed Court, on Friday, before the Chinese Magistrate and A. Davenport, Esq., another well-known Chinese thief was brought up charged with the very English offence of stealing lead from the roof of a house, known to London thieves as "flying the blue pigeon." From 18-lbs. to 20-lbs. of the metal were missed from an unoccupied house in Broadway, Hongkew, and there was no doubt the prisoner was the thief. As he was in a very weak state of health, the magistrate only sentenced him to undergo a month's cangue; then to be brought up again for further punishment, "if he is able to bear it."

At the Mixed Court on Monday, before Mr. Davenport, British Assessor (Chên being absent), a remanded charge against Chinese for stealing coal ashes refuse from a foreign hong was brought up for disposal. The prosecutor failed to attend the Court on Saturday, which led to the case being remanded, the accused being detained in custody. Yesterday morning there was again no prosecutor, and the charge was dismissed. It was felt that it would be better for the interests of justice, in cases where foreigners are concerned against Chinese, that the charge should either be prosecuted or intimation given of its withdrawal. In the present instance, as in some others, the accused were detained in custody for more than two days upon an accusation only.

On Wednesday morning, a native constable doing duty on the Bund, stopped a jinricksha, in which a man whom he knew to be a suspicious character, was riding. The constable found the bottom of the vehicle crammed with a variety of Chinese clothing, and the man being unable to give a good account of his possession of the articles, was taken to the police station, and detained. Enquiry led to the discovery that the clothing had been stolen from a house in the Shanse-road. The prisoner was taken before the authorities at the Mixed Court yesterday, and being recognised as an old thief, was sentenced to receive 200 blows (which were then administered), and to undergo three months' cangue.

On Tuesday evening, at about the dinner hour, a Chinaman was found prowling about the boys' apartments in the rear of a gentleman's residence in Hongkew. One of the boys happened to leave the dining room for some purpose, and found the fellow in an upper room. On being asked what he wanted there, he replied that he had made a mistake in the house, as he intended to have gone into the next one, adding that he had been told by the cook engaged there that he might go and take out some clothing to pawn. He was given into custody, and yesterday taken before the Chinese magistrate and Dr. Yates, at the Mixed Court, when, after evidence of the above facts had been given, he was remanded for further enquiry.

Between six and seven o'clock on Thursday night, a seizure of opium, alleged to have been smuggled, was made in the Canton-road, under more than usually peculiar circumstances. It appears that some lekin runners watched a Chinaman go into a house in the above named road, and on his coming out again they suspected he had opium concealed on his person. They accordingly seized him, when several Europeans came up, and a struggle ensued for the possession of the drug which was found on him. The result was that one of the runners was severely cut on the hand, with, as is supposed, a flexible stick one of the Europeans was carrying; and ultimately they all went to the Central Police Station, and laid the case before Mr. Inspector Fowler. Four balls of the opium were taken to the Station, which one of the foreigners claimed as his, saying that four other balls had been "stolen." The case was brought before the authorities at the Mixed Court the next morning. The Europeans concerned in the matter did not appear, and the four balls of the drug seized were ordered to be confiscated.

A case thoroughly illustrative of Chinese duplicity and cunning, was investigated before the Chinese magistrate and Dr. Yates at the Mixed Court, on Thursday. It appeared that during Thursday night, a foreign constable noticed the door of a small shop, in the Fukhien-road, occupied by a Chinese repairer of watches, standing open. He went into the place, and finding no one there, remained in the neighbourhood until a native constable came up, who remained in charge. Towards morning, a Chinese came to the shop and entered it, telling the native constable, whose appearance there seemed to surprise him, that he was a friend of the proprietor. He next looked round the shop, and said that several watches and three clocks had been stolen, and then hastily went away. The owner of the shop came in about half-past seven o'clock, and on being questioned by the constable, said it was true that some watches and three clocks had been stolen. He was asked to go to the Louza Police Station and report the alleged robbery, and at once did so. At the Station, he was closely questioned by Mr. Inspector Wilson, and prevaricated to such an extent in his story, both as to his alleged loss and also as to where he had spent the night, that suspicion was aroused, and he was made to turn his pockets out. In them were found a number of pawn-tickets for the identical articles, and he was of course detained in custody, and taken yesterday to the Court. The prisoner is the same man who, about six months ago, reported that thieves had entered his house and stolen some watches. The Chinese magistrate was at first disposed to inflict a heavy punishment at once, for the illegal pawning of the property, but ultimately ordered the delinquent to be taken, in charge of a policeman, to redeem the whole of it, and to be brought up again for sentence.

The Mixed Court magistrate was induced in the end of last week to agree to an attempt being made to deal vigorously with the predatory classes of Chinese who infest the Settlements. In accordance with this understanding, the Police arrested, in little more than twenty-four hours, over twenty notorious thieves and dangerous vagrants, and on Monday this first instalment of the mass of iniquity was marched up to the Court. It was found, however, when they got there, that so far from being in a fair way to solution, the problem of how to deal with them only began to show its difficulties. The Magistrate was willing that they should be locked up, for three months if the Police pleased—at the Police Station; but this Mr. Stripling strenuously argued against, and his representations were supported by A. Davenport, Esq., H.M. Vice-Consul, who sat as Assessor. Mr. Stripling pointed out that to compel the Municipality to find these bad characters quarters and board during a term of imprisonment, would be to relieve the Chinese authorities of a responsibility as to their subjects which each nationality in Shanghai bore for itself. It was suggested that the prisoners should be sent to the Chehsien's Yamên, but this it was feared would only result in their liberation within a day or two, and their return to their old haunts The inadequacy of the punishments meted out to culprits who came before the Court, was referred to as having the effect rather of attracting the criminal class to this settlement than of driving them away; and it was noticed that the severer justice of the Chinese Magistrate from the French Settlement, who occupied his brother mandarin's seat during the absence of the latter on a philanthropic mission to Japan in connection with the *Maria Luz* coolie business, had a most wholesome result. Chên was understood to say that there was no accommodation at the Mixed Court for so many, but room could be found perhaps for half the number, if the Municipality looked after the other half. Mr. Stripling represented that the cells at the Stations were not intended to be filled by permanent prisoners. The police had already to keep too many, in confinement; while as to canguing the crowd, there were not collars available for so many necks. The kneeling prisoners swayed in unison by their interlaced and knotted tails, and cried out in chorus against being imprisoned—no slight hardship to them at the Chinese New Year, when business is briskest. They were of all ages, from an artful young dodger who is a clever artist at cutting and picking pockets, to an ancient Fagin who has grown gray in crime. The majority wore an interested but decidedly impudent air. Only one showed a modest desire to keep in the background—a noted burglar, who appeared anxious to escape attention. Consideration of the question of their disposal having been concluded, it was decided that they should be well bambooed the same afternoon, in presence of a foreign sergeant of police, and then given an opportunity of leaving the Settlement within two days, which if they neglected to do, they would be again punished on being caught. The modest "cracksman," as the most eminent member of the profession present, was singled out to wear the decoration of the cangue for three months, a distinction which to a person of his retiring nature will probably prove rather burdensome.

Clippings.

The steamer *Priam* left Liverpool on Nov. 26th, and arrived at Woosung on the 27th instant; having made the passage in sixty-two days, including all stoppages, although during the voyage she experienced a strong gale in the Bay of Biscay, and heavy monsoon up the China sea.

From the Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for the six months ending the 30th September last, we learn that the increased value of Imports and Exports during that period over the corresponding period of last year amounted to Rs. 3,650,767, or 9.19 per cent.; of this sum Rs. 2,579,279 is due to Imports and Rs. 1,071,488 to Exports.—*Friend of India.*

Friday night. He got up at 6.30 on Saturday morning, and went off in a sampan to get on board, when he found the vessel had sailed.

His Worship asked in what vessel the defendant came to Shanghai, and how long he had been here?

Mr. Bowen replied that he came in the *Sooloo*, and had been in the Home about two months. He had had an opportunity of going to England, but did not care to go. His conduct in the Home had been very good. It was his (Mr. Bowen's) duty to bring such a case as this before the Court, as a check upon others who might also wish to act in a similar manner, which there was a tendency towards. Otherwise, the men would become an expense to the Consul. The defendant told him the same thing that he had now told the Court.

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February 1st.

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Defendant, a stoker, was charged by a foreign constable with being drunk and disorderly in the Broadway, Hongkew, at 12.40 on Sunday morning.

Fined $2, and ordered to go back to his ship.

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Defendants are seamen of the *Corona*, and were charged under peculiar circumstances with having stolen two barrels of pork and beef fat, each containing about 200 lbs.

The defence was that they were guilty of having sod the fat, but they did not know whether they were guilty of stealing it, as it was the property of the crew and did not belong to the ship at all.

H. C. Pearce, Chief Officer, who represented Captain Robertson, deposed that it had been an understanding between the captain and a cook who was formerly in the ship, that the latter was to have all the fat from the ship's coppers as a perquisite at the end of the voyage, if he did his duty properly. He was, however, discharged in New Zealand or account of drunkenness. Four barrels of fat had been saved by the cook on the voyage from England to New Zealand, there having been a number of enigrants and a crew and a half on board, which made it worth while to save it. Witness sold two of the barrels in New Zealand by the authority of the Captain, and would have also sold the remaining two if he could have got a good price for them. There was none saved on the voyage between New Zealand and Shanghai, because there were fewer people on board and it was not worth while. For the two barrels sold, he obtained 25*s.* each, the other two remaining on board the ship, in the fore peak. There was no lock, the peak being closed with a hatch, but not fastened. The fate belonged to the owners of the ship, and not to the prisoners.

The prisoner Skeat said that during the voyage from England to New Zealand no salt meat was consumed in the cabin—the cook told him so the day he was discharged, and he also said he had saved four barrels of fat during the voyage from the meat served out to the crew, but the Captain refused to let him have it, although it belonged to the crew.

The Chief Officer denied the statement that no salt meat had been consumed in the cabin on the voyage out.

William Sinclair, second officer, deposed that on Saturday night about 7.30, he heard a noise on deck, and on going out to see what caused it, he saw the prisoners rolling a barrel each along the wharf, away from the ship. He went after them and spoke to them about it, but they took no notice, and went on. They rolled the barrels to "Buffalo's," a Chinaman, near the wharf, and went into the shop. Witness also went there, and ascertained that they had sold the barrels for $4.50 each. The barrels were taken back to the ship.

By Skeat—When I saw you on the wharf, I told you to take the barrels back to the ship.

Skeat—You said "all right," after you had looked at them, and then went away. He then asked that the Chief Officer should be recalled to prove that the cook signed for the fat.

The Chief Officer said it was not the practice for a cook to sign for the fat. It was a perquisite that might be granted to him, on the condition that he behaved himself well. It might sometimes happen that the cook signed for the fat, but witness did not think it was so in the present case. The ship remained about 40 days in New Zealand, and arrived at Shanghai on the 8th ult.

Skeat stated, and his statement was supported by Jones, that the fat was saved out of the crew's allowance of 1½-lb. of meat each per day. The cook saved it, in order to sell it and divide the money amongst the men. If the men went to the coppers and skimmed it off themselves, they could have taken it in that way. It was part of their food, and the prisoners said they did not see that the Captain had the right to take it from them. It was not fat cut off the meat, but that which boiled out in cooking and rose to the surface of the water.

His Worship asked how many men formed the crew?

Skeat said there were twenty-four.

His Worship—Why should you take the other twenty-two men's fat?

Skeat—We did not take it for ourselves. The money was to be divided amongst the eight men who are left on board. All the others are gone away, but we had their authority to sell the fat. We should not have sold it on Saturday night, but we asked the Captain to advance us some money and he would not give us any. He (Skeat) bought bread with his share of the money.

The Chief Officer said there must have been others besides the prisoners concerned in the matter, because the prisoners (who are mere youths) could not have got the barrels out of the fore peak without help. They had no right to go into the fore peak at all.

Skeat said the fat from the fresh meat consumed in the cabin was sold to the emigrants; a cook could sell any amount of fat from fresh meat in that way, but not that from salt meat.

Jones said there were plenty of witnesses in Court, who could prove what he and Skeat said to be true.

His Worship—How did they get into the fore peak?

The Chief Officer—By lifting the hatch.

Skeat—The hatch was more often off than on all night, but it was shut down on Saturday night and we lifted it.

His Worship—From your own account of the matter, there are a number of circumstances which seem to point to the conclusion that you felt you had no right to the fat, or you would not have remained 40 days in New Zealand without disposing of it; neither would you have remained here since the 8th January without selling it. The reason you give is, that you sold it because the Captain would not give you money; but if the fat was yours, you had a right to ask for it to sell without regard to the Captain's giving you money at all. But I should like to see the Captain on the subject here, at ten to-morrow morning. Let the men go back to the ship, and attend here also at the same hour.

The prisoners then left the dock.

February 2nd.

R. *v.* John Skeat and Richard Jones.

This case, which was remanded from Monday, was again proceeded with.

John Robertson, sworn, stated—I am master of the British ship *Corona*. On the voyage out from England to New Zealand, salt meat was from time to time cooked for the cabin. The four barrels of fat in question were saved from the meat cooked for the whole ship's company, in number twenty-four. I promised the cook (discharged in New Zealand) that he should have the fat on condition that he behaved himself during the voyage. He misbehaved, and consequently forfeited his claim to it. The fat saved is the ship's property. It is at the cook's option to skim it from the coppers. Many cooks throw it away. The men have nothing to do with it. They could have what they required for cooking purposes at the time, but if they do not ask for it they are not entitled to it. Two casks of fat were sold in Dunedin, New Zealand, by the chief officer, who handed the amount realized to me. I have the power either to credit the owners with it, or to give it to the mates. At all times in general it is used for ship purposes, greasing the masts, mixing with tar, &c., but if there is a surplus it could be sold for the ship's benefit. The casks in which the fat was saved in this instance are the ship's property. I have not credited the owners with the amount received for the other two casks sold.

In answer to His Worship, if he had any questions to ask the witness, Skeat said—I don't see how the captain can take our meat.

His Worship—It is absurd for you to talk about your meat.

Skeat—Well, Sir, the fat is weighed out to us with the meat.

His Worship—Then you should have claimed it at the time. The time for you to claim your share was when it was in the coppers.

Skeat—Why, Sir, most of the fat contained in the four casks was accumulated on the forecastle, and returned by us to the cook on the understanding that when it was sold we received a share of the proceeds. If we had not done so, he could not have saved one cask full, instead of four, during the passage. If you opened the casks you would find pieces of fat as big as that (holding up both closed fists).

Capt. Robertson—The beef is not fat, and is the best I have ever seen on board ship. The Doctor on board praised it. I am not a fat eater, but I can eat that on board, it is so nice.

His Worship—Do you press this charge against the defendants?

Captain Robertson—Yes, it is the ship's property, and I will not give way to them.

Skeat—If you please, Sir, we went on board yesterday, but we were not allowed to turn to, and there was nothing for us to eat.

Capt. Robertson, in answer to his Worship, said the men have no right in the fore-peak. Their character is very indifferent; Skeat's especially, as he is very insolent. I could not better myself, or I should not have kept him so long. He has tried to get away from the ship several times.

His Worship, to defendants—I cannot look at this case in any other way, than that the fat is the property of the ship. I am also clear that you knew that, and looking at all the facts of the case, I am quite sure that you felt that you had no right to it. If you had honestly believed that it was your property, you had nothing more to do than ask permission to take it on shore. Another fact was, that the barrels were in the fore-peak, where the Captain assures me you had no right to go and where the ship's property only is kept. You have been in port 20 days, and yet you did not take it, but when you do, you wait until half-past 7 o'clock, when it is dark.

Skeat—I beg pardon, but I forgot to tell you that on Saturday last I asked the Captain for my discharge. The Chief Officer asked me what I was saying to the Captain, I told him, and added that there was some fat on board which I intended to sell, as it belonged to the crew.

His Worship—You told me that you took it because the Captain refused to give you money. I shall sentence you to one month's imprisonment with hard labour, each, and you will have to pay the cost of your maintenance during your incarceration.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, Jan. 29th.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., *Consul-General.*

Desertion.

JOHN HENDRICKS, a seaman of the American ship *Star of the West*, was charged with the above offence.

Defendant came to the Consulate on the 28th instant, asking permission to ship, confessing that he had deserted from the *Star of the West*, but in extenuation said that he was dissatisfied on board, and that the Captain would not allow him to come to the Consulate to make his complaint. Since he had been on shore he had sold some of his clothes to get something to eat.

The COURT said that although the defendant had been on shore for two days, he did not come to the Consulate to make any complaint, thereby shewing that he intended to desert from his ship.

Sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment.

MIXED COURT BUSINESS.

At the Mixed Court, on Friday, before the Chinese Magistrate and A. Davenport, Esq., another well-known Chinese thief was brought up charged with the very English offence of stealing lead from the roof of a house, known to London thieves as "flying the blue pigeon." From 18-lbs. to 20-lbs. of the metal were missed from an unoccupied house in Broadway, Hongkew, and there was no doubt the prisoner was the thief. As he was in a very weak state of health, the magistrate only sentenced him to undergo a month's cangue; then to be brought up again for further punishment, "if he is able to bear it."

At the Mixed Court on Monday, before Mr. Davenport, British Assessor (Chên being absent), a remanded charge against Chinese for stealing coal ashes refuse from a foreign hong was brought up for disposal. The prosecutor failed to attend the Court on Saturday, which led to the case being remanded, the accused being detained in custody. Yesterday morning there was again no prosecutor, and the charge was dismissed. It was felt that it would be better for the interests of justice, in cases where foreigners are concerned against Chinese, that the charge should either be prosecuted or intimation given of its withdrawal. In the present instance, as in some others, the accused were detained in custody for more than two days upon an accusation only.

On Wednesday morning, a native constable doing duty on the Bund, stopped a jinricksha, in which a man whom he knew to be a suspicious character, was riding. The constable found the bottom of the vehicle crammed with a variety of Chinese clothing, and the man being unable to give a good account of his possession of the articles, was taken to the police station, and detained. Enquiry led to the discovery that the clothing had been stolen from a house in the Shanse-road. The prisoner was taken before the authorities at the Mixed Court yesterday, and being recognised as an old thief, was sentenced to receive 200 blows (which were then administered), and to undergo three months' cangue.

On Tuesday evening, at about the dinner hour, a Chinaman was found prowling about the boys' apartments in the rear of a gentleman's residence in Hongkew. One of the boys happened to leave the dining room for some purpose, and found the fellow in an upper room. On being asked what he wanted there, he replied that he had made a mistake in the house, as he intended to have gone into the next one, adding that he had been told by the cook engaged there that he might go and take out some clothing to pawn. He was given into custody, and yesterday taken before the Chinese magistrate and Dr. Yates, at the Mixed Court, when, after evidence of the above facts had been given, he was remanded for further enquiry.

Between six and seven o'clock on Thursday night, a seizure of opium, alleged to have been smuggled, was made in the Canton-road, under more than usually peculiar circumstances. It appears that some lekin runners watched a Chinaman go into a house in the above named road, and on his coming out again they suspected he had opium concealed on his person. They accordingly seized him, when several Europeans came up, and a struggle ensued for the possession of the drug which was found on him. The result was that one of the runners was severely cut on the hand, with, as is supposed, a flexible stick one of the Europeans was carrying; and ultimately they all went to the Central Police Station, and laid the case before Mr. Inspector Fowler. Four balls of the opium were taken to the Station, which one of the foreigners claimed as his, saying that four other balls had been "stolen." The case was brought before the authorities at the Mixed Court the next morning. The Europeans concerned in the matter did not appear, and the four balls of the drug seized were ordered to be confiscated.

A case thoroughly illustrative of Chinese duplicity and cunning, was investigated before the Chinese magistrate and Dr. Yates at the Mixed Court, on Thursday. It appeared that during Thursday night, a foreign constable noticed the door of a small shop, in the Fukhien-road, occupied by a Chinese repairer of watches, standing open. He went into the place, and finding no one there, remained in the neighbourhood until a native constable came up, who remained in charge. Towards morning, a Chinese came to the shop and entered it, telling the native constable, whose appearance there seemed to surprise him, that he was a friend of the proprietor. He next looked round the shop, and said that several watches and three clocks had been stolen, and then hastily went away. The owner of the shop came in about half-past seven o'clock, and on being questioned by the constable, said it was true that some watches and three clocks had been stolen. He was asked to go to the Louza Police Station and report the alleged robbery, and at once did so. At the Station, he was closely questioned by Mr. Inspector Wilson, and prevaricated to such an extent in his story, both as to his alleged loss and also as to where he had spent the night, that suspicion was aroused, and he was made to turn his pockets out. In them were found a number of pawn-tickets for the identical articles, and he was of course detained in custody, and taken yesterday to the Court. The prisoner is the same man who, about six months ago, reported that thieves had entered his house and stolen some watches. The Chinese magistrate was at first disposed to inflict a heavy punishment at once, for the illegal pawning of the property, but ultimately ordered the delinquent to be taken, in charge of a policeman, to redeem the whole of it, and to be brought up again for sentence.

The Mixed Court magistrate was induced in the end of last week to agree to an attempt being made to deal vigorously with the predatory classes of Chinese who infest the Settlements. In accordance with this understanding, the Police arrested, in little more than twenty-four hours, over twenty notorious thieves and dangerous vagrants, and on Monday this first instalment of the mass of iniquity was marched up to the Court. It was found, however, when they got there, that so far from being in a fair way to solution, the problem of how to deal with them only began to show its difficulties. The Magistrate was willing that they should be locked up, for three months if the Police pleased—at the Police Station; but this Mr. Stripling strenuously argued against, and his representations were supported by A. Davenport, Esq., H.M. Vice-Consul, who sat as Assessor. Mr. Stripling pointed out that to compel the Municipality to find these bad characters quarters and board during a term of imprisonment, would be to relieve the Chinese authorities of a responsibility as to their subjects which each nationality in Shanghai bore for itself. It was suggested that the prisoners should be sent to the Chehsien's Yamên, but this it was feared would only result in their liberation within a day or two, and their return to their old haunts The inadequacy of the punishments meted out to culprits who came before the Court, was referred to as having the effect rather of attracting the criminal class to this settlement than of driving them away; and it was noticed that the severer justice of the Chinese Magistrate from the French Settlement, who occupied his brother mandarin's seat during the absence of the latter on a philanthropic mission to Japan in connection with the *Maria Luz* coolie business, had a most wholesome result. Chên was understood to say that there was no accommodation at the Mixed Court for so many, but room could be found perhaps for half the number, if the Municipality looked after the other half. Mr. Stripling represented that the cells at the Stations were not intended to be filled by permanent prisoners. The police had already to keep too many, in confinement; while as to canguing the crowd, there were not collars available for so many necks. The kneeling prisoners swayed in unison by their interlaced and knotted tails, and cried out in chorus against being imprisoned—no slight hardship to them at the Chinese New Year, when business is briskest. They were of all ages, from an artful young dodger who is a clever artist at cutting and picking pockets, to an ancient Fagin who has grown gray in crime. The majority wore an interested but decidedly impudent air. Only one showed a modest desire to keep in the background—a noted burglar, who appeared anxious to escape attention. Consideration of the question of their disposal having been concluded, it was decided that they should be well bambooed the same afternoon, in presence of a foreign sergeant of police, and then given an opportunity of leaving the Settlement within two days, which if they neglected to do, they would be again punished on being caught. The modest "cracksman," as the most eminent member of the profession present, was singled out to wear the decoration of the cangue for three months, a distinction which to a person of his retiring nature will probably prove rather burdensome.

Clippings.

The steamer *Priam* left Liverpool on Nov. 26th, and arrived at Woosung on the 27th instant; having made the passage in sixty-two days, including all stoppages, although during the voyage she experienced a strong gale in the Bay of Biscay, and heavy monsoon up the China sea.

From the Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for the six months ending the 30th September last, we learn that the increased value of Imports and Exports during that period over the corresponding period of last year amounted to Rs. 3,650,767, or 9.19 per cent.; of this sum Rs. 2,579,279 is due to Imports and Rs. 1,071,488 to Exports.—*Friend of India.*

The departure, on the 14th instant, by the French mail steamer, of three of the best known residents in the Colony is worthy of notice. The Hon. R. Rowett, as a member of the Legislative Council, and Chairman (for a time) of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, was connected with many important movements in the Colony during his residence here, and he was very generally esteemed as a valuable and faithful public servant. The numerous friends he acquired in the Colony united in expressing regret at his departure. Mr. George Heard, whose failing health compelled him to seek a change of air, was as widely known and as generally liked. And Mr. S. D. Sassoon, who was known and respected as a leading merchant, and whose liberality, courtesy and kindly spirit had made him very popular with the commercial community, also left amidst much regret.—*China Overland Trade Report.*

We have received news from Persia which will carry grief to the hearts of every Parsee in Bombay. The chief of the Parsee community in the dominions of the Shah, a man of great personal weight and high in the confidence of his sovereign, has been basely assassinated. His death, it would appear, has been compassed at the instigation of certain functionaries who were known to have been jealous of his influence, and we understand that on a previous occasion a determined attempt had been made to get rid of him by the dagger of an assassin. Rasheed Mehrban gained great popularity amongst the Iranee Parsees by the energetic measures which he took during the recent famine to save the lives of his countrymen. The Shah, who always viewed him with favour, had conferred upon him magisterial rights over the Parsee quarter of Yezd, and he was empowered to flog Moslems who should without good reason trespass upon Parsee precincts. The possession of this and other privileges made him peculiarly obnoxious to certain classes of Mahomedans, especially among the inferior grade of the officials. These latter were scandalised at the spectacle of a Kaffir riding in a carriage and having a retinue. The fact that Rasheed distributed money and corn amongst the Moslem victims of the famine did not mitigate this fanatical dislike. On one occasion, a gang of armed ruffians got on the terraced roof of his house and surrounded him; but by his great strength and resolution he overmastered the leader and compelled the others to fly. But none of the miscreants were arrested, and his brothers and friends constantly apprehended a renewed attack upon him and advised him to go to Teheran, where he would be more safe. This advice he unfortunately disregarded, and on the 28th ultimo he fell by the hand of an assassin, at noonday in the bazaar. The local authorities appear to have taken no steps for the arrest of the murderer and his instigators. But since the Shah and the Vizier have been appealed to, there can be little doubt that for the credit of the Persian Government substantial justice will be dealt out to the guilty. Two of the brothers of the unfortunate Rasheed are well-known merchants carrying on business in Bombay under the name of Godrez Mehrban & Co. They were secretaries to the Persian Famine Relief Fund organised in Bombay.—*Times of India.*

In the pages of the China Commercial Reports just sent home by her Majesty's Consuls, there is new matter of much moment for those who administer the revenues of India. The solvency of our Eastern Empire depends, in a large degree, upon the enormous annual profits made by the Bengal and Malwa opium cultivation. Those profits, in turn, depend upon whether or no China grows the poppy for herself, and produces it successfully as regards quality and quantity. Let but two facts arise—the proof that the best opium can be manufactured from Chinese poppies, and the news that the Celestial Government resolve to legalise the manufacture, and at that instant the Finance of India would sustain a blow very serious in its commercial and administrative consequences. At present we know most Indian authorities stoutly maintain that no country can produce opium to equal the Patna and Malwa qualities; and that the Chinese will never buy, if they can afford the Indian luxury, any other samples. We are also aware that the returns of our opium-trade remain "magnificent," and that there is at present no marked diminution in the demand. Nevertheless Indian Chancellors and the Marquis of Salisbury should very carefully ponder the subjoined quotations from this China Blue-Book. Consul Sinclair, from Foochow foo, writes: "The chief feature to remark upon is a falling-off in the consumption of Patna, a reason for which is the China-grown drug having been in more plentiful supply, roughly estimated at about 1,700 piculs against 1,000 piculs in the year 1872." Consul Hughes, of Hankow, reports: "The smuggling of native opium was this year unusually large, as the triennial examinations for the degree of M.A. attracted great numbers of candidates, and many of those who came from districts producing opium or bordering on Hoonan or Szechuen, are said to have carried in their baggage—which in such cases is, as a rule, exempt from Customs examination — considerable quantities of opium." From Kewkiang, Vice-Consul King sends word, "In the province of Szechuen, which I visited in the autumn, the cultivation of the poppy appeared to be general, and the consumption of opium almost universal. From time to time the officials fulminate more or less severe orders against the cultivation and sale, but, from all I could learn, no prohibitive measures are put in practice." Acting-Consul Harvey, of Newchwang, reports: "There can be no doubt that the cultivation of the poppy is on the increase throughout the whole of Manchuria. The area under cultivation is greater last year than it was in 1872. The action of the Imperial and local authorities is very irregular and uncertain. Proclamations are issued from time to time forbidding the cultivation of the poppy; on the other hand, the existence of the native drug has been recognised in this place, and the tax upon it is fixed at one-third less than that charged on the foreign article." No one who knows the vast importance of this matter will deny that these messages are very ominous as to the quantity of the native drug, while as to the improving quality the subjoined remark from Consul Mongan, of Tientsin, is surely suggestive: "Shansi produced last year the best native drug, and it is reported to have been sold there lately at 544 taels per 100 catties, a higher rate than that at which Indian opium was disposed of here." The Indian Government has long been aware of this growing competition, and are bound to keep it in view, for, although at present we command the market, grave deficit or a fiscal convulsion would follow any sudden revolution.—*Daily Telegraph.*

THE YUNNAN EXPEDITION.

(Rangoon Gazette.)

We have been knocking for some years past at what may be called the front door of China, and from Tientsin, on the North, down to our own island of Hongkong on the South, at various ports along the coast we have succeeded to a limited extent in gaining admittance. The "Central flowery land" has, however, been practically closed to all excepting now and again some enterprising Jesuit Missionary. The expedition which left on Saturday, (12th December), and which after a week's detention at Mandalay is to start for Bhamo, and thence for the Chinese frontier, is about to attempt the back door—and taken in front and rear simultaneously by the advancing forces of civilization, it is to be hoped that Chinese exclusiveness and conservatism may yield. In fact, already hopeful signs of it are to be noted. The wonderful advances made by Japan in an incredibly short space of time, and the striking facility with which she has adopted and assimilated many of the leading features of occidental civilization, as traceable in the application of science, appear to have considerably impressed the Chinese authorities. It is only a few years since Sir Macdonald Stephenson visited China, and made great efforts—efforts doomed unfortunately to disappointment—to obtain the countenance and support of the Government of Pekin for a railway system he proposed to inaugurate. A pretty working model was sent to the Emperor, but the *fanqui* was told to go about his business—neither he nor his railways were wanted. . . . . (After noticing the Foochow and Amoy telegraph, the writer goes on to say):—But the Chinese mind is moreover becoming familiarized with the idea of railroads. The example of Japan and the recent invasion, which appears to have operated like an electric shock, has thoroughly stirred the country, and at Tientsin—tolerably close to Pekin—Li-hung-chang, a leading Chinese statesman, is projecting a railroad to connect those two places, and a second from the seaboard to the coalfields of Pao-ting-fu. The movement will in all probability deepen and widen. *Ce n'est que le premier pas qui coute*, and possibly it is not too much to expect, judging from what has been done in Burmah the last ten years, that before another ten elapse, in place of steamboat excursions terminating at Bhamo, we may be in a position to ask for a return ticket by rail to China.

THE PROGRESS OF THE TELEGRAPH TO AMOY.

(Foochow Herald.)

In a recent issue we announced the temporary suspension of operations in connection with the projected line of telegraph to Amoy. We are informed that the Great Northern Telegraph Company were induced to believe that by suspending the work for a short period they might, by direct negotiations with the Chinese Authorities, arrive at an understanding by means of which the terms originally agreed upon might be carried out in the full spirit of the original concession. It was also hoped that the native officials might, by calm argument, be convinced of the folly and inutility of interfering either directly or indirectly with the Company's property. In order to facilitate matters, the Chief Manager of the Company in China, Mr. Dreyer, assisted by the Company's Engineer in Chief, Captain Hoskier, and introduced by the United States Consul, held several interviews with the Fantai, the Taotai—Pan—who is notoriously anti-foreign, and the Commissioners of the Foreign Board of Trade. The only result of these interviews was that the Fantai—admitting the soundness of the Company's position—proposed to issue instructions to the officials on the route, to protect the line, and he also offered to appoint deputies who should accompany Captain Hoskier overland to Amoy. These propositions would have been reasonable enough had not the Fantai adroitly attempted to tack on another condition, viz.: that the Company should cause an official despatch to be sent from the Danish Consulate, to the effect that in the event of any trouble arising —through the turbulence of the people—the Chinese Authorities should not be held responsible. This proposal was at once—for obvious reasons—rejected by the Company. It would have been in the highest degree injudicious, if not absurd, to have consented for one moment to an arrangement by which the Chinese officials—ever watchful and intriguing—could disclaim all responsibility for the unlawful acts of their own people. We have seen the facility with which the wires were pulled at the time of the Tientsin massacre, by ruffianly and cowardly mandarins. We all know how the supposed popular feeling against foreign life and property is stirred up, not by the people, but by their natural enemies—the so-called *literati*; and knowing this, can we wonder that the Great Northern Telegraph Company declined to put their sole trust in the professed good faith of the Provincial Government.

Four days after the final interview between the Mandarins and the Company's representatives, Pan—Taotai—wrote to the latter, peremptorily ordering the removal of that portion of the line already constructed, otherwise threatening to pull it down. This very communication from Pan furnishes us with the key to the entire Mandarin policy. It is pretty evident that they were not sincere in their professed desire to carry out their engagements with the Company, and that in the meantime they are seeking by threats and intrigue to jeopardize the entire undertaking, in defiance of all recognized principels of political honesty and good faith. The Company, conscious of the soundness of its position, is not to be deterred from prosecuting the work, either by intimidation or deception, and we are glad to learn that the line is to be pushed forward with increased vigour. Let trust that ere long this important enterprise will become an established fact.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 3RD, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—The steamers *Priam*, *Nankin*, and *Scotland*.

TELEGRAMS—dated London 29th Jan.—*Cotton* 7 7/8d. for *Mid. Orleans*; *Lead*, W.B., £24 per ton; and *Discount* 3 per cent.; *Shirtings* and *Iron*, no change.

PIECE GOODS.—The business recorded since 27th ultimo does not amount to much in the aggregate. Still, sales have been of daily occurrence, and, considering season, and the disheartening advices that come from nearly every quarter inland, the wonder is that there has been anything done. At the commencement of the week, *Black*, *Gentian* and *White* Woollen goods, *Camlets* chiefly, were wanted in anticipation of the decree which was to order the natives into mourning for the late Emperor, and holders of such, being unwilling to break up their assortments without a due consideration, obtained good prices, comparatively, while the demand lasted. In the value of *White Camlets* an advance of nearly Tls. 2 per piece from the lowest point was established. *Black* have risen fully Tls. 1 per piece, and an inferior and mildewed *Gentian* color, which was formerly unsaleable almost, has been disposed of at fully 7 mace better than could have been got about a fortnight ago. *Black Lastings* also improved another quarter of a Tael per piece, and *Black Lustres* and *Medium Cloths* benefited slightly. But in the mourning department all excitement is now over and quietness reigns. *Woollens*, otherwise than as above stated, have received but little attention, the only business published being 200 pieces, *Gentian Long Ells*, at Tls. 6.60, and about 500 pieces C.P.H. assorted *Spanish Stripes* at Tls. 0.60 per yard. In COTTON fabrics, purchases have embraced *Grey Shirtings* of all weights at former quotations; *White Shirtings*, 56 *a* 66 Reeds, to the extent of 6,000 pieces at rather easier rates; *T-Cloths*, 14-lbs. *Drills*, *Gentian Shirtings*, *Turkey Red Shirtings* and *Handkerchiefs*, and most of the sales have been for immediate or early clearance, the principal buyers being the JAPAN and SOOCHOW dealers. The following is a *précis* of sales as reported since last mail day, viz. :—

Grey Shirtings—6-lbs.	4,000	pieces	at Tls.	1.29 *a* 1.31	per piece.
—7-lbs.	5,000	,,	,,	1.35½ *a* 1.37	,,
—8¼-lbs.	12,000	,,	,,	1.63 *a* 1.81	,,
—9 10/12-lbs.	5,000	,,	Eagles ,,	2.60 *a* —	,,
T-Cloths—8-lbs.	3,000	,,	,,	1.60 *a* 1.70	,,
—6-lbs.	600	,,	Dewhurst's M.T. ,,	1.25 *a* —	,,
—7-lbs.	6,000	,,	Mex. Ordinary ,,	1.31 *a* 1.35	,,
Drills—English—14-lbs.	3,800	,,	,,	2.30 *a* 2.32½	,,
Gentian Shirtings	1,000	,,	,,	2.50 *a* —	,,
Turkey Reds—2¼ *a* 3-lbs.	2,250	,,	,,	1.70 *a* 1.98	,,
Handkerchiefs	4,000	doz.	,,	0.51 *a* 0.63	per dozen.

At the close, there is some little enquiry for 64-Reed *White Shirtings*, 15-lbs. Dragon *English Drills*, and Ordinary 7-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* at cheap prices, but otherwise the market is quiet, and business is virtually closed for the holidays, which may be said to have commenced on 1st instant, the first New Year settling day.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.7.5	13.0.0	14.2.5	13.2.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.3.0	13.7.5	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.0	6.8.0	6.7.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.7.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ... per yard ...	0.5.7½	0.5.4½	0.5.9	0.5.9	0.6.0	0.5.8	0.5.8	0.6.1	0.6.3	0.6.5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 28TH JANUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.10	12.85	13.85/13.90	13.10	13.15	...	.....	12.00	13.65	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.10/13.17½	12.55/12.75	13.87½/13.95	13.00	13.10	...	.....	11.90	13.65/13.70	.....
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.57½/0.58¾	0.55½/0.56¼	0.60¼/0.61	0.57½	.....	0.59	0.62	0.61½/0.62	0.63¼/0.63¾	.....
C.P.H. Long Ells, p. pec.. ,,	7.20/7.21	6.70/6.72	6.50	.....	6.92½	...	.....	7.13	6.57	6.20

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M. 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.23; S.S.G. 450 pcs., av. Tls. 13.20 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs. av. Tls. 0.58¾ H.H. Scarlet 120 pieces at Tls. 0.58½ per yard.
Do C.P. H. Brown 36 pieces at 0.60¼ per yard.
Long Ells, C. P. H. 1,000 pieces av. Tls. 7.06 per piece.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Britannia chop, 3,000 pcs. at Tls. 1.68¾ *a* 1.69 per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...℔ pc.	1.3.5 to	1.5.0
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9½-lbs. ..... ,,	2.1.5 ,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.5
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...℔ pc.	1.6.3 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, ... ,, ...	2.3.2 ,,	2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.5 ,,	2.3.4
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb...	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.5 ,,	1.9.5
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.5 ,,	1.1.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.8 ,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.5 ,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0 ,,	2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ℔ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.2
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.2
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ℔ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.9.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.0.0
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ℔ yd.	0.1.7 ,,	0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,,	0.1.5
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,	0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....℔ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0 ,,	13.5.0
G G ,, ,,	13.2.5 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.1.5 ,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ℔ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.8¾ ,,	... ..
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.2 ,,	.....
LONG ELLS—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ℔ pc.	7.1.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.2.0 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.0 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,	9.5.0 ,,	11.5.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black ..... ,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—Prospects are still discouraging, and the arrival of the *Nankin* (s.s.) has placed further supplies on the market. This vessel brings the *Iron* sold to arrive at Tls. 2.95 per picul (as reported 2nd December,) but the buyer has *just* got out of his purchase through the steamer being a few days behind the time guaranteed, and the seller has accepted Tls. 2.85 from another dealer. The only other transaction is for 4,000 bundles similar quality—say "good ordinary"—at Tls. 2.80 per picul, and the market closes very weak. *Lead.*—Business, as far as the native is concerned, is almost suspended, and quotations to-day are purely nominal. The article has been exported more freely of late to Foochow and other consuming districts. The other kinds of Metals require no comment to-day.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	155.0.0 a160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.4.0 a .....
Small ,,	,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... (nominal)	per Pcl.	6.5.0 a 6.7.5
18 ... (no demand.)	,,	7.0.0 a .....
19/23	,,	7.7.5 a 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom....	,,	20.7.0 a .....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	19.9.0 a .....
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.5.0 a .....
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0 a 3.4.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 a 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... a .....
Slab, best	,,	18.2.5 a ... ..
Ore	,,	15.8.0 a 16.2.5
HOOP IRON	,,	3.3.0 a 3.4.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0 a 31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—		
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.5 a 3.1.0
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.0 a 2.7.0
M. M. Crown..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.5 a 2.9.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.9.0 a 3.1.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 a 3.3.0
LEAD—L B	,,	6.1.0 a 6.1.5
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... .. a .....

		Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New	per Plc.	7.6.0 a 8.2.0
,, Medium	,,	8.6.0 a 9.2.0
,, Best.....	,,	9.6.0 a 10.2.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 a 6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 a 5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 a 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 a 5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 a 4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 a 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 a 3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 a 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 a 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 a 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	9.7.0 a .....
—White	,,	15.0.0 a 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 a 3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 a 4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 a 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 a 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 a 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.7.0 a 3.8.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0 a 10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 a 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 a 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5 a 0.5.0

COTTON.—An advance of 2 mace per picul in the value of finest Shanghai staple has been established since last mail day, and the market closes firmly on light stocks of this particular quality, the quotations for medium to common descriptions being rather weak, with only a faint enquiry.

EXCHANGE.—Owing to the near approach of the Native holidays, there has been little done. Bank paper is quoted 5s. 8¾d., but the demand is trifling. Credits have been placed mostly at 5s. 9⅜d. to Banks, and 5s. 9½d. to private buyers, but at the close, rates are slightly weaker, Credits having been sold to-day to Banks at 5s. 9¼d. Documents throughout have been quoted 5s. 9½d. Francs have been sold to a small extent at 7.32½. In Rupees, a few lacs have been settled at 303¼, for wire, in a week or two. On Hongkong, the closing quotation is 26½, with but little doing.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7¼d.	₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 8⅜d. a 5s. 8⅝d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9½d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅝d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.32½	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.31¼	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...	Rs. 301½	₱ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	...Rs. 301½	₱ 100 ,,

On Hongkong,—Bank Bills, demand, 26½ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27 per cent. disc.
Interest.—7½ a 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.875 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.30 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,530 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—There is only a moderate business to record. *Green Teas* have been firmly held and some chops at Tls. 25 a 30 shew an advance of Tl. 1 per picul. The stock now remaining is not likely to be reduced until after China New Year.

Settlements for the week:					Stock	
Black—82 chests at Tls. 17.					Stock—360 chests.	
Green—Fychow, Moyune, &c.	10,464	½-chests,	at Tls.	19 a 35½.	Stock—52,000	½-chests.
Pingsuey	1,423	,,	,,	23 a 24.	6,950	,,
Shanghai-packed	—	,,	,,	— a —.	4,000	,,
Total.....	11,887	,,			Total... 62,950	,,

Export to Great Britain to date (exclusive of lost Cargoes)—

	1874-1875.			1873-1874.
Black	65,002,138 lbs.	against	58,639,016 lbs.	
Green	10,248,533 ,,	,,	9,020,506 ,,	
Total	75,250,671 ,,	,,	67,659,622 ,,	

To America and Canada—

Black	1,612,500 lbs.	against	792,785 lbs.
Green	15,359,119 ,,	,,	19,598,809 ,,
	16,971,619 ,,	,,	20,391,594

SILK.—Home telegrams report a moderate demand for silk, at slightly higher prices; holders firm; Red Peacocks 15s. 3d., and common No. 5 Tsatlees 12s. 9d.; deliveries for January 3,800 bales,—Stock 28,200 bales. A fair amount of business has been done, but transactions have been curtailed by the inferiority of the silk offered. About 1,000 bales have found buyers, increasing total settlements to date to 64,500 bales, against 50,550 bales last season. The following prices are said to have been paid :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Gold Lion, Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4	Tls. 390, 370, 350, 330	19/3, 18/4, 17/4, 16/4	Frs. 53.90, 51.20, 48.50, 45.75
Cat and Bee, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 352½ & 332½	17/6 & 16/6	Frs. 48.90 & 46.10
Beauti ul Woman, No. 2	Tls. 330	16/4	Frs. 4 .75
Yellow Elephant	Tls. 312½	15/6	Frs. 43.40
Market 4 Tsatlee	Tls. 330 a 350	16/4 a 17/4	Frs. 45 75 a 48.50
Common do.	Tls. 260 a 280	12/11 a 13/11	Frs. 36.40 a 39.00
Hangch w Tsatlees	Tls. 260 a 300	12/11 a 14/11	Frs. 36.30 a 41.70
Marke. Kahings	Tls. 250 a 290	12/5 a 14/5	Frs. 34.90 a 40.40
Coarse Taysaams	Tls. 245 a 260	12/3 a 12/11	Frs. 34.24 a 31.30
Market Skeins	Tls. 235 a 250	11/9 a 12/5	Frs. 32,88 a 34,90

The above purchases shew an advance, and the market closes firm at these rates. The unsold stock is further reduced, and is now estimated at 4,000 bales.

For the American mail of the 2nd instant, barely 50 bales of re-reels found buyers, and these were taken at quotations showing an advance on previous rates.

The Mail Steamer is expected to take 900 Bales, and the s.s. *Priam* has about 30 Bales engaged for New York.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 1st Feb., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 20 @ 25, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	2,800	6,200	3,000	8,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,250
T-Cloths..... ,,	1,570	1,650	1,730	5,350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,680
White Shirtings ..... ,,	200	200	100	2,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,820
Drills ..... ,,	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	420
Jeans ..... ,,	510	...	...	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	50	50	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	...	100	...	240	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	350
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Velvets ..... ,,	...	30	30	174	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Velveteens..... ,,	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	800	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,880
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	36	72	54	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	312
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	10	24	6	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Camlets ..... ,,	...	40	100	370	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	70
Long Ells ..... ,,	40	40	20	520	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lastings..... ,,	40	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
,, Figured ..... ,,	120	60	60	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	680
,, Crape ..... ,,	30	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	512	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	...	110	452	841	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against. 3/2/74
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	26,950	166,555	157,746	157,846	1,214,200	530,300
T-Cloths ..... ,,	15,980	76,048	36,264	36,714	566,200	1,180,300
White Shirtings..... ,,	4,920	15,150	30,830	30,830	91,500	58,600
Drills ..... ,,	600	7,157	8,469	8,469	245,300	419,800
Jeans ..... ,,	770	8,480	14,778	14,778	47,600	89,900
Sheetings..... ,,	80	80	.....	.....	1,600	53,000
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	140	1,684	2,758	2,758	3,900	2,200
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	.....	350	2,500
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,700
Brocades, White ..... ,,	.....	1,046	.....	.....	1,200	200
,, Dyed ..... ,,	350	2,100	2,850	2,850	30,000	19,800
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	40	600	600	7,650	3,400
Chintzes ..... ,,	700	3,745	2,054	2,054	87,000	106,000
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	100	3,011	9,442	9,442	33,200	35,300
Velvets..... ,,	438	2,908	2,442	2,442	7,200	10,100
Velveteens ..... ,,	174	324	380	380	1,300	7,300
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	3,080	9,530	1,510	1,510	64,800	135,400
Muslins .....Pcs.	.....	196	400	400	11,300	18,700
Dimities ..... ,,	300	550	.....	.....	14,200	10,100
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	684	2,630	1,172	1,172	9,300	33,600
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	322	1,148	878	878	10,200	18,400
Camlets ..... ,,	780	3,890	2,720	2,720	21,600	21,200
Long Ells..... ,,	680	4,660	1,740	1,740	6,100	14,100
Lastings ..... ,,	160	990	1,360	1,360	12,800	8,600
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	80	460	900	900	9,600	3,900
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	100	1,450	500	500	3,100	15,700
,, Figured ..... ,,	970	5,320	307	307	123,500	125,400
,, Crape ..... ,,	230	790	1,000	1,000	22,500	11,200
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	1,403	4,062	3,258	3,258	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	512	4,345	2,523	2,523	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Velocity, Fleurs Castle, Tigre, Hydaspes, Amoy, Nankin, Scotland, Priam*, and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

February 4, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not given above)—None.

Departures.—January 31st, British barque *Petro*, for New York; February 2nd, *Sarpedon*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Tigre* takes about 800 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8⅞d. *a* 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¼d. First-class to Priva buyers, 5s. 9⅛d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Ban demand, Rs. 304½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 304½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26½ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 2 Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.90 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.60 per 1 Copper cash, —— per tael.

Shares.—The most notable change in the share market since we last wrote, is a further fall in Banks, which are now quoted at 6 p cent. discount. S. S. N.'s are also quoted Tls. 3 lower, at 76. N.-C. Str. Co.'s have improved Tl. 1. There has been a general impro ment in Insurance shares. Yangtszes have risen from Tls. 578 to Tls. 585. China & Japans and Chinese Insurance having risen, respectivel Tls. 3 and $3, and Hongkong Fires $5.

Land.—The "Wae-nün" property, consisting of about 4 *mow* 5 *fun* of land, with a two-storied dwelling house of ten rooms, offices a godown beneath, tearoom, out-offices and stabling detached, and a small European-built dwelling house with large godown, was sold auction on Friday, for Tls. 18,100.

The Weather has again been perfectly fine during the week, the thermometer ranging from 25 min. to 54 max.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	6 % disct.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	76
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205 ex div.
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	84
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70 ex divd.
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 73½
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	$ 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 83
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 195
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.60 p. sh.	535
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	122
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	129
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	4 p. c.	87 Feb.
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong .. 73½

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for **3 months, or longer, *payable in advance.***

Crystal Glass Chandeliers,

Wall Lights, Mirrors, Lamps, Table Glass, China, Earthenware, & Fountains, for India, South America, &c.

The Patent Challenge "Punkah Lamp."

Table Glass, Cut, Engraved & Jewelled,
in great variety.

GILT DINNER SERVICES,
From £3, 10s. to 1,000 Guineas.

DESSERT, TEA, AND BREAKFAST SERVICES, IN GREAT VARIETY.

NEW DECORATIONS FOR THE DINING TABLE.

J. DEFRIES & SONS,
Manufacturers of Storer's
PATENT PERPETUAL CRYSTAL TABLE FOUNTAIN,

which, when complete with Flowers and Fruits forms the most Elegant Ornament for Dining-Rooms, Ball-Rooms, Drawing-Rooms, and Conservatories. They are portable, most elegant and new in design, and rich in appearance. Also the CONSERVATORY FOUNTAIN, 4 to 6 feet high, which is quite independent of a service of water pipes, tanks, and other expensive accessories, *most important for India*, and having no mechanism, cannot possibly get out of order.

The most wonderful invention of the day.

FOUNTAINS in Great Variety. For Perfumed Waters, from £2, 17s. to 100 Guineas.

FOUNTAINS in Crystal and Gilt, for the Dining-Room and Drawing-Room.

FOUNTAINS in Crystal, Electro Plate, or Gilt. } For India and other Markets.
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A large assortment to be seen at the extensive Show Rooms.

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CLOCKS for the DINING and DRAWING ROOM, VESTIBULE, LIBRARY, and CARRIAGE, &c.

THE ANNUAL CLOCK with CALENDAR BAROMETER, &c., goes accurately fo Twelve Months when once Wound, in Marble Bronze, and Ormolu.

THE SINGING-BIRD CLOCK, quite new. MUSICAL BOXES and MECHANICAL PICTURES.

CHANDELIERS IN CRYSTAL,
BRONZE, ORMOLU AND SILVER.
CANDELABRA FOR GAS OR CANDLES,
With the True Oriental Colours.
FOUNTAINS and MOSQUES for INDIA
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Mirrors, Wall Lights, Lamps, and Chandelie for India.
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J. DEFRIES & SONS,
Manufacturers to Her Majesty the Queen, H Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and Contractors to Government.
City Show Room and Principal Depôt—
147 HOUNDSDITCH, LONDO
Works: London, Birmingham, and Paris
Established 1905.
*** Orders must be accompanied by a R mittance or Reference to a Firm in Englan
o-a-f 6fe-75 11 Feb. 7th, 187

THE
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

NOTICE.

THE Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 1st to the 15th February, both days included.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insc. Co., Limi
15fe 2216 Hongkong, 15th Jan., 187

The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Sixth Ordinary Annual Meeting of Shareholders in the above Company will be held at the Office of the Company, No. 7, Queen's Road, on MONDAY, the 15th February next, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to receive a Statement of Accounts to 31st December 1874, the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,
Hongkong Fire Insurance Coy., Limited.
15fe 2328 Hongkong, 15th Jan., 1875.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 405. SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 11, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℔ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Dec. 25	Hankow,	Feb. 4
San Francisco,	,, 12	Yokohama,	,, 2
Hongkong,	Feb. 5	Nagasaki,	,, 5
Tientsin,	Jan. 13	Foochow,	,, 5

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Nov. 19 } Received 24th Dec.
Shanghai, ... ,, 13 }

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 9th inst., the wife of W. T. MILLEY, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 9th inst., the wife of J. S. HALSEY, of the I. M. Customs, of a son.

On 3rd instant, the wife of T. PYKE, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On February 6th, 1875, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, A. W. DOUTHWAITE, China Inland Mission, of Sheffield, to ELIZABETH, daughter of David Doig, Manchester.

Also at the same time and place, DAVID CRANSTON, Engineer, son of Thomas Cranston, Greenock, to MARION, youngest daughter of William Auld, Whitburn, N.B.

Also at the same time and place, CHARLES T. FISHE, Hon. Sec. in China for the China Inland Mission, (son of Colonel Fishe, R.A., late H. E. I. Co.'s Madras H.A., of Drogheda, Ireland,) to ELLEN MARY, youngest daughter of Joseph Faulding, The Grange, New Barnet, Herts. Indian Papers please copy.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 1st February, Mrs. J. LAWRIE, aged 35 years.

On the 5th instant, ROBERT ELLIOT SOUTHWELL, aged 27 years.

At Kobe, Japan, on the 27th January, ARVED VON KNOBLOCH, late Acting-Consul for the German Empire, aged 24 years.

On 29th January, 1872, at Amoy, Mr. JOHN STEFFENS, of Hamburg, for many years foreman Amoy Dock, aged 34 years.

On the 22nd Dec., at 67, Granville-park, Blackheath, S.E., ARTHUR J. MCCLATCHIE, second son of Rev. Canon McClatchie, of Shanghai, China, aged 24.

At Suez, on the 15th December, 1874, on his way home, JACOB W. RASCH, of Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Tung Ting*, for Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Douthwaite. For Hankow—Capt. Bolton, Messrs. Pike, Hjousbery and Tong-sing-sing. Per P.M. str. *Golden Age*, for Nagasaki—Rev. Salmon, Rev. Renaut, Messrs. H. Gribble, M. Sheveliff, W. Kolegin and native servant, and T. Caltanon. For Yokohama—Messrs. Ed. Whittall, J. L. Langworthy, Jas. Davidson; His Excellency Navoubou Sameshima, and Mr. Kawakauri.

ARRIVED.—Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, from Japan—Capt. K. S. Conning, Capt. Satterwhite, Messrs. W. C. Korthals, L. K. Goldsmith, Dermer, Mrs. Damoey and child. Steerage—three. Per str. *Hochung*, from Amoy—Captain Nicholson, and 80 Chinese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Messrs. Drought, Tatham, Schmidt, Nicholson, Dubois and Barito, and seven Chinese. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—35 Chinese. Per str. *State of Virginia*, from London—Mr. Napier. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Campbell. Per P. & O. str. *Kashgar*, from Southampton Lieut. R. R. Ingersoll, U. S. N.; Messrs. Gardner and one servant, A. J. Yranovicle, A. S. Cordes, F. Jamsetjee; one Italian Missionary; three Sisters of Charity; 20 Chinese. Per P.M. str. *Nevada*, from Yokohama—Mr. F. R. Wetmore and servant, and one in the Steerage. From Hiogo—Messrs. E. D. Loomis, H. W. Wheeler and R. Smith. From Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Janssen, Messrs. Picard, Delacoir, Arents, Vacher, and three Europeans in Steerage. Per str. *Yungching*, from Hongkong—50 Chinese.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. steamer *Hydaspes*, for Hongkong—Lieut. Ingersoll, Messrs. Beach, J. R. Bromley, R. Smith, H. S. Young, and Korthalls. For Southampton—Mrs. Domoney and child, Mrs. Baschlin and child. For Galle—Mr. Baschlin.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Feb.	° ′	°	°	°					
4	30 152	44.0	53.0	38.0	7	b	..	0	Z
5	30.100	39.0	56.0	34.0	8	f	..	2	N. N. W.
6	30 354	41.0	5 .0	32.0	8	b	..	8	N. E.
7	30.400	37.0	38.0	30.0	8	c	6	4	,,
8	30.2 2	43.0	42.0	33.0	8	r	24	4	E. N. E.
9	30.050	46.0	43.0	39.0	8	r	24	7	,,
10	30.152	44.0	43.0	37.0	8	r	21	3	N. E.

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. SHELLIM EZEKIEL SHELLIM in our Firm in China and Hongkong ceased on the 31st December, 1874. Mr. EDWARD ELIAS SASSOON has been admitted a partner therein from the 1st January, 1875.

E. D. SASSOON & Co.

25fe 52 Shanghai, 11th February, 1875.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.

tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

NOW READY.

A TRANSLATION OF THE "PEKING GAZETTE" for **1873**; 8vo. cloth Price—$ 2.

For Sale, at the *North-China Herald* Office, and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s, No. 1*a* Canton Road.

ALSO,

A TRANSLATION of the GAZETTE for **1872**. Price—$2. Reprinted from the *N.-C. Herald & S. C. & C. Gazette*.

tf 666no-a-w Shanghai, 4th March, 1874.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 6.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Political. The leading incident of the past year has been the quarrel between China and Japan about Formosa. Some years ago, a Liuchiuan junk was wrecked on the East Coast of Formosa, and the crew murdered by the natives. Japan claims sovereignty over the Liuchius, which were a more immediate dependency of Satsuma until the extinction of feudality during the late revolution; and the Satsuma clan were especially loud in their demand that the outrage should be punished. The cry was echoed by thousands of the military class, who were fretting for active employment; and the Japanese Government instructed its Ambassador to broach the matter at Peking in the Spring of '73. There seems no doubt that the Chinese Government repudiated responsibility for the action of the Formosans, and that Japan intimated

its intention, in that case, to take their punishment into its own hands. Accordingly, transports were bought and chartered, and an expedition was collected and sent; a landing was effected without difficulty, camps were created, roads made, various savage tribes were attacked, dispersed, or subjugated and,—symptoms were further shown of an intention to colonize and retain sovereignty over the eastern half of the island. It is very doubtful whether the Chinese had seriously considered themselves sovereign over this part of Formosa, or whether they did not really consider their rule and responsibility ceased at the line separating their settlements from the uninvaded territory of the aborigines. To escape trouble themselves, therefore, and to throw upon Japan the onus of punishing the savages, had seemed to the Peking Government marvellously astute; but the tables appeared to be turning most unpleasantly when the interlopers threatened to occupy permanently lands over which they had disclaimed control, but which national pride would not allow them to see tamely occupied by others. Sharp jealously was awakened at the prospect of a Japanese colony arising collaterally with their own. And the Fohkien Government, as more especially connected with Formosa, lost no time in requesting the intruders to withdraw, directly their avowed object had been attained. But the Japanese answer was clear. If you were sovereign in Formosa, you were responsible for the acts of your subjects; in denying responsibility you denied your territorial right, and can have nothing to object to the presence or proceedings of others.

It is needless to follow the course of negociations, which assumed a more and more warlike aspect till, in the autumn, collision seemed inevitable. The Chinese had collected large forces at Taiwan and on the mainland, while the Japanese had reinforcements available for despatch in case of final rupture. But, whatever may have been the wishes of the soldiery, there can be no doubt the two Governments were more or less afraid of each other, and anxious for peace. The question of withdrawal upon compensation was mooted—and entertained; but the Japanese demanded Tls. 5,000,000. The Chinese scouted the suggestion; and the two parties were on the verge of war—the suite of the Japanese embassy having actually left Peking, when the British Minister intervened and brought about a compromise. Japan eventually agreed to withdraw on a recognition by China that she had been right in her enterprise, and on receipt of Tls. 500,000, of which one-fifth as compensation for the murdered Liuchiuans and the remainder as payment for the buildings erected and roads made by them during their occupation; the Chinese further undertaking to keep the Formosans in order for the future. The text of the treaty setting forth those conditions will be found in the *N-C. Herald* of the 26th November.

Both parties have reason to be grateful to Mr. Wade for his share in bringing about this result. A war between China and Japan would not only have been a murderous and exhausting one, but would very probably have set loose the rebellious elements always present in China society, and only recently chained down by the successful action of the Imperialist troops in various quarters of the Empire. Japan has still sufficient work to do in consolidating her new system, and advancing the reforms she has initiated, without the trouble and cost of a foreign war. Nor have Foreigners less reason for congratulation that such a contingency has been obviated; for trade would have been seriously disturbed and hindered, and mercantile interests proportionately hurt. The best proof that the settlement was a fair one, lies in the apparent fact that both nations are pleased. The Chinese consider they have gained their point in asserting their rule over Formosa; while the Japanese consider it a mark of triumph that they have extracted an indemnity from their opponent. The excitement seems now to have quite subsided, and the general opinion is that the incident is closed. The indemnity has been paid, and the island is evacuated.

The preparations made by either side during the somewhat angry negociations, entailed large expense, and have been no doubt one cause of a loan recently negociated by the Viceroy of Fohkien through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The loan is the first which has been formally contracted by the Chinese Government in the public market, and is guaranteed on the revenues of the Maritime Customs; the interest is fixed at 8 per cent. It was issued at £95, at an exchange of 5s. 7d. to the tael, and rose at once to a slight premium.

That the Government of so vast a country, having within itself so great resources, should be obliged to borrow so small a sum, is a strong condemnation of the financial system against which we are perpetually protesting. Trade is crushed by excessive taxation; its course is diverted by the oppressive levies of the inland Customs, and commerce is thus choked and languishes under the double difficulties of transit and exaction. A serious outbreak which occurred last year in the Taichow prefecture (*N.-C. Herald*, Dec. 31st), gives one instance of the extent to which this blind policy has been driven. The efforts made of late years to suppress rebellion in various parts of the empire have no doubt caused immense outlay and embarrassed the Government finances; but the means taken to get money have been the surest way of stopping its collection; the sponge has been squeezed dry, and dissatisfaction is rife among the people. As we wrote in commenting on the Taiche émeute:—"China ought now to entering on a long course of sperity. A rebellion which destro in many districts nearly the whol the population, and which has le the successors of the former inhabi a soil left fallow for years, and populated to one-half the extent it co easily support—has been put down, trade refuses to answer to the call m on it. Produce there is in abunda if only the people be permitted to m use of it. Yet, instead of prosper they can only earn a precarious liv hood from a land in many ways o flowing with wealth. The people everywhere oppressed, the interch of commodities is rendered impossi by repressive exactions, and the natu growth of capital put a stop to official interference. Such is the st of China at the close of 1874."

Very evidently, China now wa rest to recover from the exhaust caused by foreign wars and inter rebellions; and, in face of this f we cannot but consider unwise apparent purpose of trying to reco sway over the portions of East Turkestan which have been lately co stituted an independent kingdom und the Atalik Ghazee. These outlyi dependencies have been always a sour of weakness to her rather than strength, and the effort to recov them will mean a waste of substan for the sake of shadowy power. Th Viceroy Tso has been lately makin wise efforts to reorganise Chinese ad ministration over the recovered provinc of Kansuh, and the Peking Governme would do well to restrain his effor to that difficult task. There, as i Yunnan, large garrisons will still b needed; but garrisons can be maintaine at far less cost than standing armie and garrisons will suffice in both case to keep down and stamp out the embe of rebellion which still retain som spark of life.

Kweichow and Yunnan seem to be in this respect, much in the same con dition. Both are subjugated, but both are uneasy. Subdued, however, they are; and the whole eighteen provinces seem to be, at the close of 1874, as tranquil as they ever have been or are likely to be until the whole system of Government is changed.

The principle of Foreign audiences, which was admitted in 1873, has continued to be recognised. What we wrote, however, in describing the first audience in our restrospect of that year, has been fully justified by documents subsequently brought to light. Not only were measures not then taken to establish clearly, in the eyes of the Chinese, the true position and power of foreigners, by affirming the equality of footing on which the audience had been claimed; but a description of the incident was circulated in the inland provinces, having for its object to bring ridicule on foreigners and their repre-

entatives, in the eyes of all readers. *N.-C. Herald* July 4th, and *Times* ugust 17th, 1874.)

Our last retrospect chronicled the marriage of the young Emperor Tung-che, nd his assumption of the reins of power. he present article would be bald, if e omitted reference to his death. The ncident belongs, however, properly to he record of 1875, and will claim rominence when the close of the urrent year invites us to pen our nnual sketch of the events it shall ave witnessed. It would be out of lace for us to do more, now, than efer to the "departure." At the close of 1874, Tung-che was still Emperor of China, though his illness was well known, and a decree of the 18th Dec. had constituted the Empresses Dowager regents, pending its duration. The year's history has not enabled Foreigners, nor, certainly, his own subjects in the provinces, to gain much insight into the young Emperor's character. It is difficult to trace the impress of individual will in the current routine orders that find utterance in the *Peking Gazette*. The only really personal actions with which we have been able to connect him, are his visit in the spring to the Imperial Tombs (*N.-C. Herald*, April 25th), and his petulant degradation of Prince Kung in the following September (*N.-C. Herald*, September 19th.) It is possible to connect both these incidents with the Chinese belief that His Majesty was intolerant of restraint, and anxious always, for good or evil, to break out from the palace walls; but such an attempt would be pure speculation, and out of place, therefore, in an article which is professedly a record rather than an essay. Suffice it to say that His Majesty is credited with various nocturnal excursions, and with occasional exhibitions of self-will that excited anxiety among his relatives—though whether the honest anxiety of advisers fearing for his welfare, or the terror of *maires du palais* dreading a master who showed energy and might some day wish to see with his own eyes, we have no sufficient evidence to judge. The Empresses Dowager appear to have retained the influence naturally acquired during their long regency; and we find the Emperor obediently reinstating Prince Kung, at their desire, after his little ebulition in September, and looking to them to govern his Empire when illness overtook him.

The growth and the developement of the Chinese mercantile marine has been one of the most marked incidents of his late Majesty's reign; the Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, laboriously created by Li Hung-chang, on the idea apparently—however distorted—of European mail services, has grown during the year in strength and influence. Largely subsidised by an extravagant grant for the conveyance of tribute rice, it is able to hold its own against foreign competition; and, however false the economy of the measure, however patent the intention to ruin foreign interests, one cannot help but admire the patriotic, intent of the founder. Foreign steamers had destroyed the native junk trade; with foreign vessels should foreigners in turn be driven from the coast. The project may be romantic but certainly deserves the credit of boldness. The promoters seem to be at least earnest, for there is no doubt they intend adding largely to the number of their vessels.

The conclusion of a treaty with Peru is the only other political incident we recall, of note or interest. It is unnecessary to go over again, here, the often trodden ground of coolie emigration, or to repeat that Western humanity would soon have exacted a complete stoppage of the traffic, had not the two nations concerned agreed on measures for its proper regulation. China sent a mission to South America and Cuba, to enquire into the actual condition of the emigrant, at the same time that Peru sent a mission to China to negociate a treaty legalising emigration. Both objects have been accomplished. The Chinese Mission has returned, and Mr. Macpherson has gone to Peking to give, we presume, an account of his enquiry. The Peruvian envoy has negociated a treaty which has been signed and ratified. It only remains for us to hope that China will exercise a real and careful protectorate over those of her subjects whom the very treaty she has concluded encourages to adventure themselves on Peruvian soil. The treaty will be worse than useless unless she have the will and the intention to see its provisions executed.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 25th December arrived on Tuesday, by the P. & O. steamer *Kashgar*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. str. *Hydaspes*.

The following telegrams have been received from Reuter during the week:—

The Emperors of Germany, Austria, and Russia have received envoys notifying the accession of Alphonso.

Obituary—Sterndale Bennett.

A battle took place at Olerga yesterday, in which the Carlists were defeated. Pampeluna is relieved. The troops are advancing victoriously. The Royalists are advancing. The Carlists outflanked and retreating.

Parliament was opened by Commission. The Queen's Speech states that the Government continues to receive assurances of friendship from Foreign Powers. Trusts that peace will remain unbroken. Considering the importance of the principles involved, the widely divergent views expressed at the Brussels Conference, and the improbability of their reconciliation, proposals for further negociations had been declined. The past year had been generally prosperous. The progress throughout the Colonial empire had been steady.

Bills were announced relating to Judicature, the improvement of Workmen's dwellings, Sanitary Laws, Friendly Societies, amendment of Merchant Shipping Act, better security against personal violence, and the establishment of public prosecutions.

The re-imposition of the Tea Duties in America is doubtful.

The mourning observances on account of the Emperor's death have caused the New Year holidays to pass very quietly. The usual noises of crackers and gongs have been remarkably absent; and far less than the usual number of Chinese have been careering on the round of visits that usually entails double labour on chair bearers and 'ricksha and wheelbarrow men, while their masters take holiday. The men, however, do not probably much object, for they take the privilege of charging considerably higher fares during the five days the festivities are supposed to endure.

The official regulations regarding mourning for the late Emperor are giving opportunity to sharpers. A Chinaman dressed in a silk coat was stopped two days ago by a pseudo-runner, who asked him whether he did not know the order against gorgeous clothing, and pretended to arrest him for contravening it. The Chinaman gave up his coat to escape the threatened difficulty. In another similar case, however, the would-be thief caught a Tartar; a well dressed man, who was similarly accosted, regretted that he had no money to give as a fine, but invited the swindler to accompany him to a pawnshop where he would raise some. The latter consented, and the two went together. The money was raised, and handed to the rascal, who thought he had made his *coup*; but the other then at once arrested him, and gave him in charge for taking money under false pretences.

It is unfortunate that the stoppage of the river steamers, during the New-Year holidays, delays the arrival of the Peking mail just when it is most anxiously expected. At least, we presume the letters are lying in Chinkeang awaiting transport. The usual rumours are flying around very freely in the meantime. The new Emperor is dead; Li has a large army near Peking, has been beheaded, has seized the throne; one of the Empresses has committed suicide, &c., &c. The probability of some disturbance arising makes it just worth while mentioning the gossip; but the Chinese officials, who might have been expected to get early news, viâ Nanking and Soochow, profess to know simply nothing. It does seem strange that no official announcement of the new reign has yet been promulgated. We do not like speculating on the possible course of action of high officials and mandarins, when the arrival of the Peking mail may at any moment disprove our surmise; otherwise the situation gives room for very much conjecture.

The Municipal Council minutes which we publish elsewhere cover a great deal of ground, and will be read with interest by owners of property in the Settlement. We are glad to see the Council are following up the matter of widening roads. As we do not hold with Mr. Hart's reported view that the trade of Shanghai

will have migrated to Chinkiang in five years, we hold that few Municipal matters are more important than provision for the growing traffic. The report by the Works' Committee, which we publish elsewhere, records several steps in this direction. So long as the required land is ceded, the public will probably be content to leave the particular form of document in which the cession shall be recorded, to the discretion of the Council and their legal adviser. In other words, it was hardly necessary to publish the proposed "form" in these minutes.—The Tautai has conceived a fear that the people near Sinza, having never been accustomed to bad smells from slaughter-houses, may object to having one built in their neighborhood. The people near Pah-sen-djaw (near the Ningpo Joss-House) on the other hand are believed to like them, and H. E. thinks that site had better be retained. Mr. Seward has undertaken to calm His Excellency's paternal fears.—We are sorry to see that a difficulty exists in the way of lowering the Hongkew Creek bridge; the Chinese having objected that it will interfere with boat traffic. It remains to be seen whether the protest is well founded.

It is satisfactory to learn that the expenditure has been kept within the budget figures.—The Council ask for wider powers in regard to assessing property.—They also consider the number of wheelbarrows and jinrickshas plying in the Settlement needs reducing.—The Council have asked the various Fire Insurance Companies represented in Shanghai, to authorise the Fire Brigade to act for them at fires to the best of their knowledge, skill and ability, and have received answers fully satisfactory from some, but meaningless and non-committal in the case of others We are almost surprised that the Fire Department do not, some day, leave a fire on premises insured in one of these companies, to burn itself out. Perhaps the agents would then think it worth while to authorise action—or even to contribute towards the expenses of the Department.—The Defence Committee report in favour of replacing the howitzers at present worked by the Volunteer Artillery, by Gatling guns.

The proceedings of the French Municipal Council, at their sittings of the 12th and 19th January, were chiefly of a routine character. A report on the difficulty about the Rues de Ningpo and Saigon, near the Ningpo Joss House, was laid on the table, and it was resolved to circulate it and ask the aid of the French Minister to recover the land enclosed by the Ningpo Guild.—The Council have not yet succeeded in recovering the documents lodged in the Belgian Consulate during the trial of the tax-collector Godaert, and have asked the aid of the Belgian Minister to this end.—It was resolved to hire horses from Mr. Charrier at $19 a head per mensem; he taking over the present stock at Tls. 15 a head.

We are glad to learn that a project for establishing Water Works is rapidly assuming shape; and that there is a likelihood of the scheme being brought before the public in about a month. The idea is to bring water from the neighbourhood of Loonghwa; the cost will be great, but the lowest estimates of consumption show every prospect of a profitable return; it is believed the Chinese can be persuaded to take shares to a considerable amount in the undertaking.

The arguments of counsel in the case "C. E. Hill *v.* Estate of Yang Taikee," have been submitted to the Court in English and Chinese, as directed, and are now under consideration. The date for the delivery of judgment is not yet fixed.

The investigation of the circumstances attending the assault by Chinese on Mr. C. E. Hill, on the 3rd instant, is being pursued by the proper authorities. Three of the assailants have been already taken to the U. S. Consulate, but in the absence of the others, who were left in custody of the *Tepao* at Kungwang, and were to have been brought to Hongkew at an early hour, a remand was necessary.

An accident, which proved fatal, happened in the Maloo on Friday afternoon. An elderly native woman was getting off a wheelbarrow, just as a trap driven by a foreigner was passing. Contrary to the driver's expectation, the woman stepped backwards into the roadway, and was knocked down by the pony and so severely injured that she died in the Ningpo hospital the same night.

Telegraphic communication between Nagasaki and Vladivostock was re-established yesterday.

We have received a pamphlet entitled "A narrative of re ent events in Tongking," which we anticipate pleasure in perusing. It is from the pen of M. Cordier, and comprises the paper from which extracts were read at the meeting of the Asiatic Society in December last.

Some telegrams in the Calcutta *Englishman* convey the impression of rather serious complication in Baroda. It will be remembered that the British resident at Baroda, Colonel Phayre, was poisoned there some months ago, but fortunately recovered. Whether the present arrest is immediately connected with that crime; whether the Gaekwar is suspected of connivance—we cannot glean. But it is known that the Government had serious cause for dissatisfaction with his administration, before that occurrence; and it is quite likely that they have since pulled the reins tighter, and that he has become so restive as to necessitate sterner measures. A number of European troops have been moved up, and the Gaekwar himself has been arrested—on what charge, we must wait apparently for the papers to explain. It may perhaps interest some of our readers, if we add that Baroda is the capital of a small feudal dependency of that name, having an area of some 12,000 square miles, and is situated 240 miles N. by E. from Bombay.

The *Kashgar* brings only one day later papers from Hongkong, and the single item of news we can find is a report of an application by the Mess. Mar. to have the award in the case of the *Ava-Rona* collision, reconsidered. The objections urged were, first, that all the items were too high; second, that some were decided on a wrong principle; third, that others were charged twice over; and fourth, that some were allowed on insufficient evidence.

The *China Mail* says a light-house is to be erected on the South Coast of Formosa. The place selected is South-west Point.—Mr. Brown will shortly take up the post of Commissioner of Customs at this port.

The Nagasaki *Express* reports a heavy gale on the night of the 4th inst.—During the whole week the weather was wet and chilly, and snow showers fell frequently. On Thursday night, the wind increased to almost a gale, and steam was got up on board the steamers in harbour. More cable and extra anchors were let go from the sailing vessels, yet they dragged their anchors a considerable distance.—The same paper apprehends that small-pox, which has been very prevalent in Yeddo, is extending westwards.

The Hiogo *News* mentions a heavy gale at Osaka, which did some damage. It is feared that, as is usually the case with these Westerly gales, a good deal of damage was done to native craft and some lives lost. One big junk was seen to founder. The s.s. *Shooeyleen* dragged her anchors, and her commander had to slip both chains to keep her from driving on to shallows. The s.s. *Kathleen*, having been given a foul berth by another steamer, had to slip a chain also, and it was only by dint of great exertions on the part of her officers and crew that they managed to get the other anchor up. Both the *Kathleen* and the *Shooeyleen* put to sea and made the best of their way to Kobe harbour.—Our readers will not have forgotten the pig and rabbit mania which prevailed some time ago in Japan. The latest rage is reported from Niigata to be one for breeding a kind of gold fish called "*Koi*," whereof the body is white and the head only a light red. A fish one foot long will fetch 35 yen. The reason for this extraordinary fancy is that the rumour has been started that gold can be extracted from the scales—and some people have turned their fields into fish ponds and hope to get as much as ten thousand yen from this source.

The *Mail* says the small-pox epidemic is apparently on the decrease in Yeddo, but it has unfortunately gained in virulence in Yokohama. Even in Yeddo, the disease is still carrying off numbers of the native infant population. It will be remembered that the duration of the last visitation did not exceed six weeks, and there is fair room to hope that the improved sanitary arrangements in, and the better drainage of, the Settlement may limit the present epidemic to a like period.—The departure of the *Adventure* troopship, though fixed for the 15th proximo, will be contingent upon the preparations of the French troops. Should these not be sufficiently advanced to permit of their leaving on that day, the sailing of the *Adventure* will be delayed.—A heavy snow fall occurred on the 24th Jan.—The amount of costs in the case W. G. Howell *v.* the Proprietor of the *Japan Gazette* has been settled in Chambers, at $25; "the Judge being of opinion that under the tariff and in view of the damages given" he could not allow more.

Editorial Selections.

EASTERN TURKESTAN.

MR. NEY ELIAS, in his account of his adventurous journey through Western Mongolia, gives us some details of the irruption of the Mahommedan rebels, which may enable us to form a better idea of the state of affairs in the North-west. In alluding, in November last, to a probable explanation of the reported success of the son of the Ameer of Kashgar, Kuli Beg, we suggested that the victory alluded to was over the Tunganees, and not over the Chinese troops, whose furthest advance was but little beyond Hami. The account of the raid of the former into Western Mongolia, which Mr. Elias narrowly escaped, bears us completely out in our view of the situation, and moreover enables us to form some idea of the character of the insurgents who have been carrying war, or rather a series of depredations, against both Chinese and the districts annexed by the Ameer. In the interests of order alone, and quite independent of any political bias towards China or Kashgar, the successes of Kuli Beg must be a matter of congratulation to all interested in Central Asia. Mr. Elias arrival at Uliassutai on the 20th of November, 1872. A few days prior to his arrival he had heard reports of an irruption of the Mohammedans from the south, but was scarcely prepared for what he afterwards saw. In October, 1870, a similar irruption had occurred, and all the inhabitants who survived, as well as all those connected with Uliassutai by commercial or other relations, preserved a lively recollection of the occurrence, when a small body of Mohammedans from Urumtsi and Kutchen attacked the place and took it in a few hours. Mr. Elias found as civil governor a Manchew Che-kun, one of the joint Ambassadors who accompained the Burlingame Mission, and found that his conduct towards him was everything that could be wished. At Uliassutai the Chinese officials were able to muster about 2,000 troops, of whom about 1,400 were Amoor Tartar cavalry and the remainder Chinese infantry. They were about to start in pursuit of the insurgents, but led by false reports from the Mongols, whose terror of the Tunganees was so extreme that the first rumour of their presence was sufficient to send the entire tribe into the mountains, the troops proceeded to search for the insurgents in the opposite direction to that in which they had really gone. The important town of Kobdo, the seat of an Amban, and of a Chinese garrison, was thus left open, and the Tunganees took the opportunity of making a raid on it. Mr. Elias, who arrived a few days after the occurrence, had an opportunity of seeing the result. The garrison at the time consisted of about 750 Chinese soldiers, armed with matchlocks, of whom 250 had undergone a partial course of instruction in foreign drill, and about 900 Tartar cavalry. The insurgent forces consisted of, at the outside, 300 persons, and of that number a large proportion were women and children, or Mongols who had joined as guides on condition of having their lives spared; no very formidable force to attack a town with a garrison numbering some sixteen hundred troops. On the 18th of November they crossed the pass leading to Kobdo, driving before them about a thousand loose camels; they were for the most part mounted on camels, and with the exception of some twenty, had no better weapons than spears, or bows and arrows. The Chinese infantry were sent out to meet them, and commenced firing at random. They then suddenly broke and retired to a joss house, at the head of the town, round which a ditch had been dug the day before. The Tartar cavalry was then sent out to charge the advancing force, but retired with equal speed before coming into contact with them. The Chinese seemed to have made a short stand for a few minutes, when they became panic-stricken and rushed for the fortified city, which they gained after losing no less than 150 of their number, leaving the whole of the open town at the mercy of the insurgents. These latter devoted two days to the deliberate sacking of the town, and then next proceeded deliberately to burn it with the women and children left alive, riding about from house to house applying matches and firewood, the soldiers from the city walls looking on, but notwithstanding their numbers, afraid to move or apparently fire a shot. On the 20th of the month the Tunganees quietly retired by the same road they had entered, not having lost a single man killed, though possibly a few may have been wounded. The town naturally presented a miserable appearance on Mr. Elias' arrival. The Chinese dead had been buried, but as the Mongols never inter, the dead bodies of those of them who had been killed were lying about in all directions. Most of the houses were burned to the lower walls, and all had been looted; there was not a shop remaining or a single article of food to be bought. Enormous stocks of wood and grass, collected by the merchants from considerable distances for the use of their caravans, had been burned to cinders, and there was scarcely a camel left in the place for the collection of more. Such is the event given by an eye-witness. Mr. Elias, unfortunately, does not give us the name of the Amban, who was in a state of too great terror to see him, but upon whom he had to be dependant for food, the only remaining stores being those contained in the fortress. We have always held that the possession of those outlying dependencies was a source of weakness to China, and this account of the state of affairs in Western Mongolia goes to prove how useless are the garrisons kept up at great expense. Even looking at the affair from a Chinese point of view, we may see how Kuli Beg's victory may have been a desirable thing, as preserving Mongolia from such visits for the future. We may, however, learn more. The Chinese troops have for years been unable to cope on their own ground with the Tunganees, while the arms of the Ameer have been rapidly advancing. This situation certainly lends no hope that the Chinese will, in the long run, and when brought face to face with the comparatively well drilled troops of the Ameer, be successful Should any internal difficulty arise in China, the presence of the Ameer on the frontiers may lead to complications of a nature not easy to surmount.

REPORTS ON TRADE AT THE TREATY PORTS IN CHINA FOR THE YEAR 1873.

It is to be regretted that the arrangements of the Statistical Department of the Foreign Customs have not permitted the publication of these reports at an earlier date. The fault does not, we are well aware, lie with the Department in Shanghai, but in mistaken direction from Peking which overloaded it with a quantity of matter relating to the Vienna Exhibition—matter of interest no doubt, but which should not have been allowed to thrust aside reports having value almost directly proportionate to their early publication. As a body, the present volume of reports is scarcely up to the average, and the ports of Shanghai, Hankow and Canton, three of the principal in forming an estimate of the trade of the year, do not contribute to its pages. Of the reports published, that from Mr. Morehead, Assistant-in-charge at Swatow, is undoubtedly the fullest in its details, and at the same time displays most knowledge of the course of trade. On the whole, the reports indicate a depression in trade, and it is noteworthy that the heaviest reduction in the receipts occurs mainly in native articles. We have from Peking Gazettes and other sources given the true explanation of this, but we cannot but remark the strange abstention from discussion on this topic which as a general rule marks the reports. Mr. Taintor, in his last report, had so nearly exhausted the mercantile topics current at Newchwang, that but little was left for his successor to say. Mr. Man does, however, give us a curious description of the flow of emigration into Manchuria, from the northern provinces of China :—

In China proper, whatever is thought in reference to official maladministration, the respect for law and order which so generally prevails around the Treaty ports renders the course of trade, when once established, a relatively smooth and predeterminable affair of judgment. But in Manchuria it is as yet otherwise. A great portion of the vast region known by this name is still somewhat in a transition state, and the new occupants of the land, before whom the remnant of the original Tartar population is rapidly disappearing, have been left sadly in want of that strong leadership and firm control which is a safeguard of the exiled European. The human wave which, for two hundred years, has surged in this direction is, in practice, encountered by but few official barriers.

When passing, voluntarily, the Customs Station at Shanhai-kwan, emigrants are certainly catechised as to their destination, and their answers, stating the Division or Commandery they desire to settle in are, together with a few personal particulars concerning them, forwarded for the information of the ruling Boards. Laxity, however, exists in the carrying out of these regulations, and the state of wreck into which the Great Wall has fallen enables those who object to being questioned to altogether escape the ordeal and its accompanying squeeze by diverging a few hundred yards to one of the many gaps which cut the rampart.*

To this overland influx, which is composed in great part of people from Chihli moving eastward by families and carrying their old folk and children in their train, must be added the far more considerable number of single men who yearly enter the country by the sea route, chiefly from the ports along the southern shores of the Gulf. These people, although respectable enough in the aggregate, still include in their ranks many disaffected Mahomedans and, till quite recently, a proportion also of ex-Taipings and broken Nienfei. On arrival here at Taku-shan, or at the smaller sea-coast towns on the Liaotung promontory, they are subjected to not even the semblance of supervision before spoken of. The bad characters amongst them may wander abroad in search of congenial occupation or may skulk in the purlieus of the cities waiting for something to turn up. It is this element in our local polity which constitutes a chief drawback to quick advancement, and it is to the spread of those refining influences which have as yet knocked in vain at the door of the Chinese conservation, that we can look alone for bringing about a change. Iron roads,—nay, even metalled highways,—would be worth far more than all the legions which are at present periodically required to preserve the peace: the telegraph wire would work as a charm. Until, however, the time arrives for these things to come to pass, capital—that marrow of a new country—will be slow to find, in this noble dominion, an abiding haven, and lawlessness can hardly fail to remain, as now, a salient feature of China's greatest extra-mural possession.

Mr. Man then gives an account of the feeble measures taken to reduce to order the province of Shingking, measures so far successful that it is generally possible, by the payment of blackmail, for a merchant to get his goods laid down in the interior of the Province. Even to this rule there are exceptions, and at intervals the whole of the Province seems to revert to a state of utter lawlessness. Yet it is admirably situated, and under any properly constituted government would rapidly increase in prosperity. Mr. Man reiterates the prophecy of an early predecessor, and looks forward to the day as not far distant when opium should be one of the staple exports of Newchwang. We have before alluded, in reviewing the trade of the port, to the very interesting position it occupied with regard to the production of the drug. Judging from the statistics of the year, the consumption of foreign opium remains constant, but this by no means contradicts the assertion that the use of opium generally is increasing; and for a time it is not unlikely that, as in the case of Hankow, the import of foreign opium will go on simultaneously with the export of home-grown. In other respects the trade of Newchwang cannot be said to have been satisfactory. Foreign imports exhibit a notable decrease, and what is more to the point in judging of the future of the port, native imports and exports both show a marked falling off. The amount of sugar taken into consumption in the Northern ports of China, affords perhaps the best index as to the prosperity or the reverse of the people. The import at Newchwang exhibits a decline of more than one-half. At Tientsin the same tale has to be told. The trade year by year seems to fall off, by slight degrees indeed, but sufficient to indicate something wrong. If the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company were a genuine concern, we should have anticipated some useful result from its formation. Tientsin, the chief terminus of its operations, does not respond in the smallest degree. The facilities for trade, so far as steamers were concerned, were already sufficient, and the increased tonnage has to be supported, not out of an increased carrying trade, but out of the finances of the empire. Chefoo follows Tientsin with a falling off in the import of cotton goods of 350,000 pieces. Opium and metals share in the depression. The value of the native trade likewise is on the wane, though the article of sugar shows a slight increase. The Acting Commissioner has only the following congratulatory remark to present to his readers:—

But if Chefoo has not the advantage of enabling its residents rapidly to acquire wealth, it confers on them the boon of a lovely and healthy climate, in a place surrounded by most charming scenery. Such already was the renown of the latter in ancient times that it attracted two Emperors to visit the Chefoo Bluff from there to watch the rising of the sun, or, as the detractors of the fame of these two worthies will have it, there to propitiate the spirits of the sea so as to grant to them an interview for bestowing on them the gift of immortality. It was in the year 219 B.C. that the Emperor Shih-hwang (始皇) of the Ts'in Dynasty (秦朝) was on the peninsula, where he is said to have caused a stone tablet to be raised on the highest hill. Shih-hwang re-visited Chefoo in the following year. In 94 B.C. the Emperor Wu-ti (武帝) is said to have visited the Chefoo peninsula (in both cases Chefoo proper is meant, not Yentai) to watch the sun rise. Two stones are still to be found there which are reported to have been intended by Wu-ti towards building a bridge to connect one of the Chefoo mountains with one of the nine heavens.

Proceeding to the reports from the river ports, we miss Hankow from the number. We know from other sources that the year was one of great depression all round; this decrease is by no means balanced by the slight rise shown at Kiukiang. The trade at the latter port has been so mismanaged, that any improved action on the part of the officials, native or foreign, was bound to be met by an increase in the local trade. Hankow, Chinkiang, Ningpo, and even Swatow, were the real suppliers of the districts, which would naturally have looked to Kiukiang as their mart. Artificial impediments alone have prevented the port from assuming a greater importance than it has hitherto done. One of the principal items of increase in the trade of the port, the export of green teas, has not, however, been conducive to the interests of the foreign purchasers. Mr. Novion's report on the trade at Chinkiang is of the same doleful nature as those of his predecessors in the present volume. Mr. Novion tries to throw a glow over the undoubted depression which has prevailed, but, judged by the experience gained from the other reports, we must say unsuccessfully. It is quite immature to suppose with Mr. Novion that the prosperity which should have been induced by the export, in 1872, of nearly two millions peculs of rice and other grain, in foreign bottoms, to say nothing of what left in native craft, probably nearly as much, could so soon have evaporated, as to show 1873 a year of decreasing instead of increasing prosperity. The true cause is deeper, and is to be found in the increased burdens on trade, which are gradually but surely, from one end of the empire to the other, pressing on its very existence.

II.

Leaving the northern ports, and reviewing the trade of those lying south of the Yangtsze, we may observe in the various reports of the Commissioners the same feeling of depression so evidently marked in North-China. Trade, in fact, during the year in question, was simply stagnating. No new developement has anywhere to be remarked, and lower prices went hand in hand with a diminished or stationary demand. It was not that the year was in any respect one of disaster. The crops generally were fair, and no external influence which could in any way have affected trade for the worse had been bought to bear. Internally, the affairs of the Empire were going on as usual; scarcely a ripple disturbed the calm face of political affairs. Yet trade was undeniably languishing, and apparently native trade even worse than foreign. At Ningpo, foreign imports show a slight increase in value, principally to be accounted for by an increase in the import of opium; this latter depending on local circumstances being caused by the lower scale of duties changed at Ningpo as compared with other ports, notably Foochow. Native imports and exports both exhibited a falling off. The import of sugar especially, a good mark of the prosperity of a district, having dwindled from 39,000 to 22,000 piculs. This was partially to be accounted for by a failure in the rice crop. The latter was made good by imports in native craft from Kiangsu, noteably Chinkiang. In exports, the chief falling off was in tea, but for this the Chinese dealers were themselves responsible. An increasing demand for Chehkiang teas for export had been meet by so great a deterioration in the quality that, warned by previous losses, foreigners at Shanghai had refused to purchase the wretched stuff offered in the market. It was a pity that, at Foochow, a similar complaint should have been made on the other side. The import of foreign piece goods, never very lively at that port, had diminished, and a portion of this decrease was attributed to the continually deteriorating quality of the goods placed on the

* Reports on Trade, 1867.

market. Notwithstanding the protests of Chambers of Commerce, there seems as yet to be no practical plan suggested of getting rid of this hindrance to our trade in China.

Trade at Foochow has had to bear so many burdens, and is hampered with so many restrictions, that the port has never had a fair chance of exhibiting its real capabilities. An instance is afforded in the case of opium, which would naturally make its way to the interior of the province through the port having the largest export trade. It is curious to find that, owing to the excessive local dues charged as compared with other ports, the import has for years back been steadily decreasing; Swatow, Amoy, Ningpo, and even Kiukiang, receiving most of the drug which would naturally enter by way of Foochow. The same may be said of native goods, which seem carefully to avoid so vexatious a port. Mr. Wright suggests that a part of the apparent diminution in native trade may be accounted for by the improvement in the class of native vessels trading with the port, and whose cargoes do not pass through the Foreign Inspectorate. It certainly seems difficult to account for the enormous value of the exports from Fuhkien as compared with its imports, without the intervention of a considerable native trade, but the topic is one which has never been fairly discussed. One sign of improvement is noticeable at Formosa, and that is the increase in the number and value of goods sent inland under transit pass. The principal ground for wonder is, however, that more do not avail themselves of this apparently ready means of avoiding vexatious imposts. Probably the fear of having the far more important export trade interfered with, prevents any firm stand being made. The report from Amoy gives a detailed description of the trade of the port, well worth study, but hardly bearing condensation. In some respects, the report is more satisfactory than those that have preceded it. The imports of foreign piece goods, as well as of raw cotton, have increased, as also have those of beancake and other native manures. This would seem to imply that more land is being devoted to the production of sugar, the article for the growth of which the southern portion of Fuhkien seems best adapted. That this import took place contemporaneously with a partial failure of the rice crop, proves that the country contains resources within itself for the development of trade which have, as yet, never been taken advantage of. Mr. Hughes makes the statement with regard to the production of sugar, that—"It is probable that China was one of the first countries to cultivate the sugar-cane, as there is no doubt that sugar-candy—which was, perhaps, the earliest form of sugar—was made by Chinese and exported to India in the remote past." Marco Polo, however, distinctly states that the refining of sugar was introduced under the Yuen dynasty, the Chinese prior to that time being only able to produce treacle. The sugar-cane possibly was indigenous to China, but as the Chinese name for sugar is not aboriginal, but Aryan, t'ang representing the Sanscrit *Sar*-kar-â, the Greek sacchar, we are justified in believing that its cultivation was introduced by some of the earlier Aryan colonists.

At Swatow, Mr. Moorhead, the assistant in charge, gives a particularly clear and concise description of the native regulations of the province with regard to the import of opium. Without these statistics it would be difficult to account for the very remarkable increase which has taken place in the import of opium at the port in question. In 1868, Swatow took 4,272 piculs of opium, and ranked sixth in the list of ports receiving the drug direct from foreign sources. In 1873 it took 9,063, and ranked third, being inferior only to Shanghai and Chinkiang. The report gives a table of inland stations and the rates of duty leviable at each, an example which we would like to see followed by other Commissioners, as thereby the cause of many apparent anomalies could be understood. The arrangement of the stations is such that Swatow is placed at an advantage as compared with Canton, Amoy or Foochow. The arrangements necessary for the conduct of the opium trade render the facilities for other import trade greater, and hence we may notice a general advance in the ordinary staples of foreign import. Against this, however, had to be placed the fact that the provinces of Kwangtung and Fuhkien had suffered severely from a scarcity in crops for the two years proceeding the date of the report; notwithstanding, the sugar trade showed a satisfactory increase, a matter of great moment here as at Amoy.—Mr. Moorhead's report is at once concise and perspicuous, and bears evidence of great care in its preparation.

REVIEW.

Confucian Cosmogony.—A Translation of Section forty-nine of the "Complete Works" of the Philosopher Choo-Foo-Tze, with Explanatory Notes. By the Rev. THOS. MCCLATCHIE, M.A.—Trübner, 1874.

As man gradually emerged into intelligence, the perception of something external to him which was not himself, enjoyed by him in common with less highly endowed animals, must at an early period have been supplemented by the perception of phenomena following one another in regular sequence, but with the production of which he had nothing to do. With each change of season there was a change in the features of the landscape, in the habits of the animals by which he was surrounded, and in his own sensations. Most remarkable of all, the sun rose, ran his daily course in the heavens, accompanied by the production of grateful warmth, by the carolling of birds, and the bursting of all visible nature into vigour and beauty, and sank out of sight bringing coolness and the shining host of stars. At longer intervals the moon appeared, and waxed and waned, and then disappeared, to renew after a while the same cycle of phases. At still longer intervals the seasons pursued their changes, while through a longer period yet the places of the sun's rising and setting oscillated between fixed points never perceptibly falling short of the assigned limit or overpassing it. Do what he might, if he ever tried to do anything, he could not alter these inexorable sequences, and thus by a line upon line process of unconscious education, continued probably through millenniums, the conception of a cause differing from the human will and independent of it, but operating upon the external world, became one of the conditions of thought, whatever impression the constant iteration of the observation had stamped upon the brains of successive generations having been hereditarily transmitted in ever increasing intensity. Ages before the first dawn of history, many of the "forms of thought" which we now call necessary must thus have gradually become fixed, although it is impossible to trace them except by theory. We may, however, confidently assume that the idea of a cause acting in external nature, however dimly conceived, was conceived at a very early stage in man's intellectual development. Obviously it must have preceded any form of worship. A time eventually came when to some one of mental power above the average the question suggested itself whether this cause was inherent in the bodies exhibiting phenomena of change either cyclical or discontinuous, just as a man's hair and nails grew without any exercise of his will or of anybody else's, or was seated outside them imparting change to them in the same manner as a man for his own purposes voluntarily altered the relations of bodies within his range. This in one form or another is the problem which we find exercising the minds of philosophers at the moment when we get our first glimpse of intellectual activity on our globe, and it is the problem which, as yet unsettled, divides the two great schools of thinkers at the present day. Thales (B.C. 639-542) and Pythagoras (B.C. 570—504), the founders of the Ionic and Italic Schools respectively, were deeply imbued with the ancient learning of the Egyptians, and from their teaching we may infer the doctrines formulised in the earliest philosophical schools of which we have even a faint record. To both the world was living, animated by a soul which was hardly if at all conceivable apart from the universe in which it had its being. Anaxagoras (B.C. 500-428) placed a "regulating intelligence" at the helm of the universe, and thus first obscurely shadowed forth a philosophy of Theism. The limits of space forbid us to follow in detail the teaching of the various early Greek sages. But it is instructive to notice that when first we light on a definite philosophical system, we find men explaining causation by themselves, applying their whole nature to the explanation of the phenomena which surround them, and seeking for the analogues of their will and even of their sensations in the external world. It was by a process of refinement that Anaximenes replaced by air as the ultimate element of the universe, and as the soul itself, the water which Thales assumed as his first principle. To the air of Anaximenes Diogenes imparted intellectual properties. Fire became the substance of the universe in the hands of Heraclitus (B.C. 503) while Anaximander (B.C. 573) taught that the beginning of things was an illimitable chaos. It was, as we have seen, reserved for Anaxagoras to teach the existence of a Nous, immaterial, infinite, independent, omniscient, unchangeable, and rigidly separate from the material universe. Here there was at last a definite cause of phenomena, altogether external to the phenomena themselves. Socrates, as we learn from Xenophon, further developed this conception, and taught the existence of a Supreme Being—the immaterial and infinite governor of all things, the intelligent artificer of the world, and the author and vindicator of all moral laws. Here our brief review of the progress of Greek philosophy in this direction may stop. We refrain from summarising the speculations of later philosophers, as we shall have incidentally to refer to certain of their opinions. We turn now to the solution of the problem of the universe arrived at by Chinese thinkers

Not only Chinese scholars, but all those who are interested in the progress of speculation, owe a debt of gratitude to

Canon McClatchie for the work which he has accomplished. We have here for the first time in an English dress an important portion of the writings of one who, according to native historians, was the only one who fully comprehended the true import of the learning of Confucius. Whether the value of Choo's investigations into the nature of things be real or artificial, there is at all events a value attaching to them, for, in the words of Dr. Medhurst, "the opinions of Choo-foo-tsze constitute the orthodoxy of China, and all who differ from them are considered heterodox." Choo was a native of Anhuei, and lived from A.D. 1130 to 1201. His childhood and youth were marked by extraordinary precocity, and after graduating he assumed office. Having passed through the ranks of assistant magistrate, magistrate and prefect, he was appointed Imperial essayist and reader to the Emperor Ning-tsung. If we are to believe his biographer, his administration was scrupulously pure and patriotic, his character above suspicion, and his manners characterised by that formality which to us appears tedious and trivial, but to the Chinese symbolises a mind well regulated and well stored. At an early period of his life he diligently studied the classics, and also the Buddhist and Taoist systems, but these latter he soon laid aside to devote himself exclusively to the works of the ancient sages, and to the search after true principles. How far he succeeded in that search it will be for the students of Mr. McClatchie's translation to determine.

That all knowledge is relative is a proposition formulised in comparatively recent times. But the impossibility of eliminating the consciousness of a reality lying beyond phenomena, which is implied in that proposition, must, as we have shewn above, have been felt from a very early period. The mystery of the universe's existence is the one problem which all systems of religion and philosophy from the grossest to the most cultivated have been framed to solve. Yet at the present day, the result of ages of bitter argument is stated alike by philosophers and theologians to be simply this—that "the Power which the Universe manifests to us is utterly inscrutable." This conclusion may limit fruitless speculation in the future, but even where its truth was felt it had no effect in the past. Let us follow the Chinese philosopher through the maze of hypothesis and reasoning into which he plunges when he attempts to interpret the great enigma.

We start with the general proposition that "In the whole universe there is no such thing as Air without Fate, or Fate without Air." Fate and Air are totally distinct, yet are co-existent, co-eternal and equally necessary. A certain priority in rank is accorded to Fate, which is impersonal, formless, unalterable, perfectly pure and superlatively good, yet is only manifested through the Air. Without it, the universe would be chaos, yet its action is blind, for "the Air has the power of condensing and forming things, but Fate neither devises nor plans, nor makes anything." Nature, which is spontaneously benevolent and upright, is the inherence of Fate in Air, and man is man only in so far as he contains a portion of this same fate within the "shell" of his body which is filled with and surrounded by the "light and dark Air of Heaven and Earth." Along with Fate and Air, infinite space is assumed, though tacitly, for limits and number are conceived as necessary upon the interaction of the two great principles. Air (accidentally) produces Form by its accumulation, and Fate uniting with it and "spiritualising the Air," thus produces Mind. Anything which changes its form ceases to exist as such, and cannot resume its original state. There is no Heavenly Ruler. That matters occur so or so is altogether due to Fate. "Fate is incorporeal Reason, the origin of life, the Air is the corporeal vessel, the receptacle of Life." Yet while denying the intelligence of Fate and the existence of a Supreme Ruler, we are by a curious confusion taught that the "Fate (idea) of a thing exists before the thing itself has any existence." Even Plato when conceiving the eternal reality of ideas independent of the apprehending mind, did not attempt to get rid of a Divine mind in which they were eternally and perfectly conceived. Finally, there is a sentiment of justice (left unaccounted for) which is constantly being outraged by the course of human events. To explain this obvious imperfection in nature the philosopher suggests that the "original air was vitiated;" "intrinsically, we cannot predicate perfection or imperfection, freedom or obstruction of Fate. But since the air bestowed on things is diverse, then the air when imperfect obtains fate imperfectly," just as "in the reception of light there is the distinction of much or little, dulness or brilliancy, and yet we do not receive two lights."

This though a brief is a fair summary of Part I. There is a remarkable analogy between the explanation of imperfection given by the Chinese philosopher, and the Platonic teaching that in every phenomenon we have absolute perfection hampered by the surrounding conditions, and therefore only partially developed. We will refer to Mr. McClatchie's voluminous and learned notes in the sequel. Meanwhile it is interesting to notice the accordance between Choo-foo-tsze's assumptions and the results of our modern philosophy. Let the reader replace the terms *Fate* and *Air* by the terms *Force* and *Matter*, and he might easily imagine that he was studying the latest developments of science. Neither is manifested without the other. Either is inconceivable without the other. Both are eternal and necessary. Nature is the inherence of Force in Matter, and what is commonly called man's soul is measured by the interchange of relations between the molecules of his brain substance. Form is the outcome of incalculable external conditions which, in the absence of positive knowledge, may be described as producing a fortuitous result. Mind itself is an abstraction from the phenomena of thinking. The doctrine of evolution involves the doctrine of dissolution and teaches with all the certainty which the relativity of our knowledge admits, that a form once reached and abandoned can never be re-attained. And finally, when the Chinese writer of the 12th century tells us that there is no Heavenly Ruler, but that Fate is Incorporeal Reason, we seem to hear in anticipation Dean Mansel in the 19th century telling us that "the fundamental conceptions of Rational Theology are self-destructive ..... how for example can Infinite Power be able to do all things, and yet Infinite Goodness be unable to do evil? How can Infinite Justice exact the utmost penalty for every sin, and yet Infinite Mercy pardon the sinner? How can infinite Wisdom know all that is to come, and yet Infinite Freedom be at liberty to do, or to forbear? How is the existence of evil compatible with that of an infinitely perfect Being; for if he wills it he is not infinitely good; and if he wills it not, his will is thwarted and his sphere of action limited?"

We pass now to Part II., which is entitled *The Great Extreme*. This to start with is defined as "just the same as Fate," but in order to make it intelligible we must assume that it really includes both Fate and Air, that it is in fact co-extensive with the "Nature" of Part I. "The Great Extreme is just the Fate inherent in all things ..... it is just one Air which divided obliquely and became two Airs; the part which has motion is the Light, and that which has rest is the Darkness. It all divided and became five Airs; scattered, and became all things, ... it is Fate and nothing else," and so through a series of propositions in appearance mutually contradictory, but which taken together amount to a definition of Great Extreme as the Kosmos eventuating produced by the interaction of Force and Matter. Fate, as fate, was described as being in operation, but "when manifested form (as the Great Extreme) it is natural disposition; for example 'Moved and generates the light,' this statement shews natural disposition." Here then we have at length a "soul of the world" adumbrated. The Great Extreme is "Reason inherent in Heaven, Earth and all things, and mind in man acting as the lord of the whole body. ..... It is most high, most beautiful, most subtle, most divine, surpassing everything." The essential point, however, is that "soul" is merely a development of nature. The Great Extreme is alternately in motion and at rest. "Before motion there is rest ..... before rest there is motion." It "is not confined to place, has no bodily form, and no single place can contain it ..... Before manifestation ..... within it were Pleasure, Anger, Grief and Joy ..... the infinite Great Extreme never ceases altogether, but only when the fruit is perfected it ceases to generate for a while (when all things are about to return to Chaos.)" Again at page 55, "The whole shall return to Chaos, and men and things shall all cease to exist, and then the world shall begin again;" and so in many passages in Part III. "Non-manifestation is the Rest of the Great Extreme, and manifestation is the motion of the Great Extreme." So far all is intelligible. It is hard to believe that Choo-foo-tze intentionally wrote nonsense, yet it is equally hard even with the aid of the notes to make anything but nonsense out of the discussion on page 3 as to the distinction between "Nature" and the "Great Extreme." We pass this by therefore, and in closing this resume of Part II would again trace the analogies which appear to exist between Choo's doctrines and those of ancient and modern thinkers. Thus, we get a hint of the everlasting succession of redistributions of matter and motion which reduced our system from its primary nebulous condition and which will certainly redistribute it again by the absorption of motion and concomitant diffusion of matter. This was anticipated by Plato in his theory of secular recurrence. And yet again, Tyndall's now famous "fiery cloud" containing the potentialities of all actions and emotions, seems anticipated by the Great Extreme within which, before manifestation, were Pleasure, Anger Grief and Joy.

Parts III. and IV. deal more strictly with cosmongony. "In the beginning, "Heaven and Earth were just the light "and dark air." A movement of revolution being somehow (unexplained) imparted to this mass, the Earth was formed by the subsidence of sediment, while the subtle portions became heaven and the heavenly bodies, surrounding the Earth on all sides, and both above and below. There was a transition period when Fire and Water as the proximate principles of Heaven and Earth, existed, the former eventually producing wind, thunder, lightning, sun and stars, and the latter by its sediment producing the Earth. But the Earth is undergoing ceaseless change. "We frequently see on lofty mountains, the shells of the sea-snail and pearl-oyster, as it were generated in the middle of stones; these stones were part of the soil of the former world. The sea-snail and pearl-oyster belong to the water; so that which was below changed and became high." In the light of this prophetic view of modern geological science it is at once ludicrous and lamentable to find some few still existent divines pointing to the testaceous shells found

on mountain summits as irrefragable proofs of the reality of "the universal deluge."

It is not until we get far into the book that we find any allusion to the existence of a universal law. Nor indeed is the term used or the notion more than hinted at. Yet that the writer was on the brink of a great discovery, and missed it only through an unlucky chance, is evident from his argument that Heaven and Earth must exercise Mind, else "assuredly oxen would produce horses, and peach trees would send forth plum blossoms." But this implied law is spontaneously determined at the initial stage of each cycle of evolution. Evidently it is that of "fitness," and its test is human reason, for "Man is the same as Heaven," and Mind which is the ruling power of Heaven and Earth is 'the same as the supreme Emperor, and penetrates all things,' and is further defined as Benevolence. "To say that Heaven has a person up there who judges good and evil, we must not assert this. To say that there is nothing whatever which rules it, we also must not assert." This is the modern position of expectant scepticism. But the desire for something more tangible even in the philosopher's mind betrays itself a few pages further on:—"There certainly is a governing power. Heaven is a most hard and *yang* thing, spontaneously revolving without ceasing. There must be a governing power which causes this motion. People must inquire into this matter for themselves; it cannot be fully decided by merely discoursing about it. ... It is just this one thing which pervades the midst of matters and things;...so that nothing can be without this one thing. Hence it is said that it "is in both places, and is therefore incom- "prehensible." The fourth part closes with applications of the theory to the good and evil in man's nature, and to the development of moral qualities and of the physical elements—Metal, Wood, Water, Fire and Earth. Into these we will not enter. We have sufficiently indicated the scope of the work, and we have endeavoured to shew that it possesses an interest and importance which its title hardly implies. Our sketch has necessarily been imperfect, but our short-comings can easily be remedied by a perusal of the book itself. Its one great fault, as it seems to us, lies in the various senses in which terms such as Mind, Nature, Fate etc. are employed. But we must recollect that few of our own philosophical works are free from ambiguity in the use of, for example, the term Idea.

A few words now regarding the notes with which Mr. McClatchie has enriched his translation. Without an accurate knowledge, which we do not possess, of the entire system whereof Choo is rather the expositor than the inventor, much of the argument in the text is only with difficulty intelligible. But armed with this knowledge Mr. McClatchie is able to identify Fate (*Shen*) with God, Reason, the "Unity" and "Goodness" and the "Adorner" of Plato, and the "Space" of Philo. So also the eternal, primordial Air is equivalent to Chaos, to the first man, to the "Jupiter" of Anaximenes, and is the *Shang-te* of the Confucianists. "Nature" again he identifies with the "Nature" of the Stoics. Summarised, the creed of the Confucianists as expounded by Choo-fo-tze, contains the following articles—the eternity of a first God, inherent in eternal Matter but not conceived as apart from Matter; the Unity and universal distribution of the first God; the animation of the Kosmos, and the identity of man with it; the union in the Kosmos and man of body and mind, the latter being partly rational and partly sentient; and lastly the distinction between the Divine Reason or first God (*Shen*), and the Demiurgic mind or second God (*Shang-te*). Although there is no trace of a controversial spirit throughout these notes, Mr McClatchie has tacitly heaped together a formidable array of arguments against the missionary scholars who insist upon representing the God of the Christians as identical with the *Shangte* of the Confucianists. To reproduce these arguments would almost be to reproduce the notes. We therefore take almost at random the following passages:—"The first God, who is above mind or the Demiurgos, is the only real Ens in the Kosmos, and compared to him the Kosmos itself or animated *Shangte* is non-ens. . . *Shangte* is the Demiurge or second God who owes his existence and all his powers to the eternal fate or Incorporeal Reason." Yet it is to be admitted that while the Confucianists plainly acknowledge the one "Fate" as in reality Father of all things, they wholly neglect it, and offer to the Second God or *Shangte* all the Worship due to the first.

Here we must take leave of Mr. McClatchie's book. The labour expended upon it can but faintly be conceived from its size. It is a most important contribution to the history of thought, while the author's reputation is a sufficient guarantee for its importance as a contribution to our knowledge of Chinese literature. The volume as regards externals is well printed on good paper and is neatly and strongly bound. There are but few errata, and most of these are noted in a short table at the end. Somewhat more care might, however, have been advantageously expended upon the printing of the few Greek words used.

R. A. JAMIESON.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

The usual rumours about banditti reach us—the last to the effect that some 200 cavalry soldiers attacked a large number of robbers (about 300 strong), and were defeated, with great slaughter on both sides. It is nothing now for the Imperial troops to suffer defeat, the outlaws being better armed, and as a rule much more plucky. The latter expect no mercy, and of course never receive any when they are caught alive, so they fight like mad whenever they are put to it.

For the first time since the port was opened, a foreigner has been robbed on the highway. This was a Belgian Catholic Missionary, who was bound here from Mongolia, for medical advice. When some forty miles to the North East of Yingtzŭ, Mynheer Metman was surrounded by what he and his servants mistook for Imperial soldiers, but who unfortunately turned out to be brigands, for they took the missionary's saddle pony with all gear, his gun, pistol, and all portable articles, even his clothing and that of his domestics. From feelings of pity they returned to him a skin coat, and his snuff box, one of the sympathising follows of Dick Turpin remarking that a man could no more do without his snuff than without opium. The coat was very necessary also, as the Thr. has been ten to twelve degrees below zero, forty-two to forty-four degrees of frost. The travelling cart was left behind, for want of a pony which the freebooters took a fancy to, and the poor sick foreigner had to walk forty miles.

Is it not too bad that the roads so near a port should be so unsafe, when there are actually five hundred foreign armed and drilled soldiers on the spot, doing nothing but gambling and quarreling with the townspeople night and day? Perhaps it is not so much to be wondered at, for *on dit* the magistrate has lately been dismissed on account of his being concerned with the brigands—who, it appears, receive due notice when any attempt is to be made against them. In fact, the Ma-tsu (mounted robbers) are in the pay of the mandarins—or these are paid by them—it amounts to the same thing, and they feel quite secure. The chief of the band who robbed Mr. Metman—a young fellow of about 18 years, told his victim if he wanted to reclaim some of his effects, to apply to the nearest mandarin, who knew him—that his (the chief's name) was Wang (something) and that he lived at such a village. There were about 14 fellows under his orders, all well mounted and well dressed, the commander especially being quite a swell. The matter is in the hands of our worthy Consul, Mr. Adkins, who is now acting for all nations, as the U. S. Consul is always absent from his post during the winter. We have every reason to believe, therefore, that there will be such a stir made as will induce the mandarins to advise their protégés in future not to meddle with the Barbarian. It is fortunate perhaps that the missionary was surrounded and robbed before he could make use of his firearms, for if he had shot one or two, he would certainly have been killed. This may happen to any one who would naturally object to give up his coat and trowsers at such a cold season, and it would be poor consolation to feel that the Chinese Government is responsible for the consequences.

We have had considerable difficulty in supplying the larder with the Christmas and New-year delicacies, which can only be obtained at Moukden, some 120 miles off. Messengers have been stopped and robbed on the way there; but what is worse, some on the return voyage, with partridges, pheasants, venison, wild boar, bear's paws and such like seasonable commodities, have been deprived of what we may almost call our necessaries; for a dinner now without boar's paws is almost an insult to one's guests. All look for the dish as much as for the roast beef and plum-pudding.

On 28th, nearly all the community were present at the funeral of the late Abbé Simon. The ceremony in the Roman Catholic chapel, designed and built by the deceased, was most imposing. The service was conducted by the Pro-vicaire Boyer, assisted by six Foreign priests, Monseigneur Ridel, Bishop of Corea, being present also. Poor Simon! He little thought that the first important service in the chapel he worked so hard for, would be his own funeral. Like many of his brethren who devote their lives to the mission—this gentleman was well off in a pecuniary point of view, and spent his patrimony entirely for the support of natives and works of his profession, living himself in as homely a manner as the poorest Chinaman. Deeds, not words, are what such men are justly celebrated for.

30th December, 1874.

I notice that your correspondents allude to the Lesser Bustard, and I fancy we can boast of being visited by the big one here. Last week one of our sportsmen bagged a bird weighing 25 lbs., which proved to be a real "Otis tarda" male, the female is much smaller. The neck and head are ash colored, and under the beak there was a quantity of fluff like a beard. This is the only Bustard bagged this season. It is very difficult to get near these birds, and they require an S.S.G. wire cartridge to bring them down. The flesh is magnificent, and even one bird at a time, you may imagine, pays one for the trouble of riding twenty miles and walking ten miles after them.

13th January, 1875.

TIENTSIN.

During the afternoon of the 14th instant, news of a startling and sad nature reached us from foreigners resident in the metropolis, to the effect that at about five o'clock in the afternoon of the 12th instant the Emperor of China had breathed his last. For some days previous to the 14th

instant, through rumors here and in Peking, and latterly from the Peking Gazettes, we had first learnt that the Emperor was ill of small-pox. But latterly, we had been led to believe that His Majesty had got over his illness, and that he was going on favorably. On suddenly learning then of his death on the afternoon of the 14th instant, our surprise and sorrow were great; for we regarded his demise as a serious calamity to his country. On the 14th instant we likewise heard, through the same sources, that a son, said to be only four years of age of the Prince of Chun (so pronounced in Peking, and not *Shun*, as pronounced in the South of China—the seventh son of the former Emperor Taou-kwang)—had been fixed upon by his late Majesty, Tung Che, as his successor, setting aside the sons of the fifth and sixth sons of Taou-kwang, namely, the Prince of Tun and the Prince of Kung. During the afternoon of the 16th instant the Peking Gazette of the 13th instant came to hand. , and from it we were made acquainted with an Edict of that date, promulgated by the Empresses Dowager in the name of the new sovereign, announcing the death of the Emperor, Tung Che, and that His Majesty had by will selected for his successor a son of the Prince of Chun, named Tsae-teen.

The edict further stated that his Majesty confirmed in their position a number of high officials (enumerated). The names of Prince Kung and Wânseang do not appear amongst the officials of the Privy Council. In the Gazette of the 31st ultimo, there was an announcement that Wân-seang had applied for, and had been granted, three months leave of absence; but whether this be or be not the reason for his name not appearing, I am unable to state.

There is no mention in the Edict of the 13th instant of any changes having been made amongst the high officers of the provinces. These latter, however, have been commanded to remain at their posts, and not to repair to the capital to present themselves for audiences. Previous to the death of the late Emperor, it was promulgated in the Gazette of the 9th instant that Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General of the province of Chihli, had been promoted to the highest post given to a Chinese official, namely, to that of minister of state (Ta-heo-sze) of the Wăn-hwa-teen. The same Gazette announced that Wănseang had been promoted to the position of Minister of State of the Woo-ying-teen; and that Paou-keun had been promoted to that of assistant minister of state (Heĕ-pan-ta-heo-sze) of the Te-jin-ko. These appear to be offices connected with the appointments of Ministers of State.

The ministry, as hitherto so called by foreigners, is at the commencement of the new reign composed of Li Hung-chang, (as minister, styled Li Chung-tang), first minister of state; of Wănseang, (styled Wău Chung-tang), second minister of state; of Paoukeun, assistant minister of state; and of Tso Tsung-tang, assistant minister of state. Li Hung-chang, as Governor-General of the province of Chihli, resides at Tientsin, eighty miles from Peking; Tso Tsung-tang, as Governor-General of the provinces of Shense and Kansuh, resides at Sin-gan-foo, eight hundred and fifty-five miles from Peking. Their distance, consequently, precludes all possibility of their acting as advisers to the Throne for the carrying on of daily public business, in the light in which advisers of the Throne are considered when ministers of state in Europe. The official positions, then, of Ta-heo-sze and Tsé-pan-ta-heo-sze, hitherto translated ministers of state and assistant ministers of state, must not be regarded by us as official advisers of the Emperor in the discharging of his public duties. Should these officials be permanently residing at Peking, and in the Privy Council, they would, of course, act in that capacity. So far as we know here at present, and gather from the Edict of the 13th instant, the advisers of the Throne as members of the Privy Council (Keun-ke-choo) are Paou-keun, Shin Kwei-fun, and Li Hung-tsaou. In the reign of the late Emperor Tung-che, the Prince of Kung and Wan-seang formed members of the Keun-ke-choo or Privy Council; but whether they still continue to do so under the new régime, I am at present unable to say. The Chinese people here and at Peking have likewise remarked the absence of the names of Prince Kung and Wanseang in the list of the members of the Privy Council, and they have further remarked the absence in the list of the Edict of 13th instant of three officials belonging to the party of Prince Kung, namely Chung-shih, president of the Board of Punishments; Chung-how (formerly of Tientsin) Vice-President of the Board of War; and Ching-lin (formerly Taoutai at Newchwang) chief of the Colonial office; all of whom, Chung-shih, brother of Chunghow excepted, have been, as members of the Tsung-le Yamen, for years constantly engaged in transacting business with the foreign officials at the capital. Chung-shih, I may add, although not in the Tsung-le Yamun, was socially connected with foreigners. I am so very particular in mentioning all these circumstances at this conjuncture in political affairs, as it was notorious last winter amongst the Chinese people in Peking, that the feelings of the Prince of Chun were anti-foreign; and that these five high officials were viewed as favorably disposed towards foreigners.

Up to the death of the late Emperor Tung-che, the members of the Tsung-le Yamun, or Foreign office, were composed of the Prince of Kung, Wân-seang, Paou-keun, Maou Chang-he, Shin Kwei-fun, Tung-keun, Chung-lun, Chung-how, and Ching-lin; but whether they all still continue to be members of the Tsung-le Yamun I am unable at present to state, as no mention is made of the Tsung-le Yamun in the Edict in question. I allude to this department as it is the one with which alone the Foreign Ministers at Peking transact their international business.

In the Gazette of the 13th instant the Prince of Chun obtains ten days leave of absence. Why he asked for leave just as his son Tsae-teen had succeeded to the Throne, cannot be learnt from the Gazette in question; and it would be only waste of paper to write down the various surmises of people here on the subject. Last winter I always heard him spoken of as a man fond of military affairs, and of his being the chief of the foreign-trained and armed Manchew army, raised at the capital during several years past. I never heard it said that any of the foreign officials had come into relations with him, either on business or socially. There is no doubt of the Prince of Chun having got the superior force of the military of the capital at his back; and consequently he is in a position to maintain the new Emperor on the Throne.

The people of Tientsin appear at this time to be content with the new order of things. From what we can see and hear, all they appear to care about is complete tranquillity, so that they may quietly make a living and money for themselves and their families; and they are apparently quite indifferent as to what member of the Manchow imperial family has succeeded to the Throne and become their sovereign. They feel, in fact, quite as indifferent as I do here in Tientsin—since we must have a king to give us stability—whether the Prince of Wales or the Duke of Edinburgh becomes King of England, neither my welfare nor my pecuniary interests being affected by whatever member of the German family becomes the head of the country. In what way, however, the Princes of Tun and Kung, the elder brothers of the Prince of Chung, may view the new order of public affairs, is quite a different matter; in a short time I have no doubt we shall see whether the change affects them injuriously or not.

All foreigners having relations with China must deplore the death of the late Emperor Tung-che. He had only just, we may say, become the sovereign of his country; he had admitted, since he assumed power, the foreign ministers to audiences, one step on his part in the right direction for the benefit of China; he had gone amongst his subjects on several occasions during the last eighteen months in a wise way, which his immediate predecessors had never done; and he was apparently moving on in a progressive policy as fast as could be reasonably expected, considering his only having been a real sovereign for a few months and his being a youth of 19 years old.

The new sovereign of China, the son of the Prince of Chun, the adopted child of the Empresses Dowager, is only four years of age; and he will not for fifteen years to come assume the personal control of the Empire. During all this time, then, the Empresses Dowager will, as during the twelve years minority of Tung-che, act as regents; and being females they will as heretofore not grant audiences to the foreign ministers. The death of Tung-che has, consequently, again opened a gulf between the Envoys of foreign governments and the Court of Pekings; fifteen years will be required before it will be possible for the foreign Ministers to again pass the threshold of the palace to have audiences of the Ruler of China. This period at the same time unfortunately likewise tends to keep asunder the people of China from foreign nations. That the Chinese population may be speedily made to comprehend by ocular demonstation that their sovereign stands on no higher ground than the sovereigns of foreign nations, and thus be made throughly sensible of their ignorance in regard to their own actual condition and to the civilization of foreign nations, I cannot help coming to the conclusion that Foreign Governments will demand, and that at an early day, that the court barriers of Peking be levelled as in European nations. I can hardly fancy that another fifteen years will be allowed to pass ere this work shall be done.

The rumors current in Tientsin during the last four days regarding Chinese political affairs here and in Peking, would if written down make a volume of respectable size. One was that Li Hung-chang was on his way here in all haste. Another that he was marching on Peking at the wish of a high personage there. Another that the mandarins of Tientsin were preparing to lay infernal machines of destruction off Taku to prevent foreign vessels coming up the river in spring. Another that the young Empress had died on the 14th instant from drinking of a cup of liquid which was not alone composed of tea. Another that the most frightful anarchy was existing in Peking amongst the high officials and their followers, &c., &c., &c. The stories about Li Hung-chang and the mandarins arose in the fertile brains of the population, and had no foundation of truth. In regard to the Peking rumors, your correspondent in that place will no doubt advise you by this courier.

Since the departure of the last courier, the Chinese have been gathering in their ice crops from the river, whose ice is now eleven inches in thickness. Every night, all along the river off the Settlement, one could see numerous lighted lanterns, and hear the voices of the crowds of Chinese laborers engaged in cutting the ice and in carrying it on shore to the ice houses. Up to yesterday at 1 P.M. we had for a long time back very mild pleasant weather. At that hour a northerly gale

set in which is continuing at present. This morning the thermometer stood at 16° Fahr., and it is hourly falling. The ice will consequently be thicker to-morrow morning.

PURITAN.

18th Jan., 1875.

FOOCHOW.

By the steamer *Dragon*, we have Foochow advices to the 1st February. The *Herald* says the work of laying the line of telegraph to Amoy has been again interrupted. A mob of Chinese, led on by Yamên runners and armed with knives, sickles, and spears, attacked the native workmen engaged, on the 22nd ultimo, near Kwang Taou, inflicted a severe beating upon several, plundered their clothing and tools, and dispersed the entire party. The foreigners present were not interfered with, and as they had orders not to use their weapons unless personally assailed, they appear to have been passive. A few Penang lawyers would, in that case, have been more useful than revolvers. The "lawyer" is a very handy weapon, and can hardly be called lethal; it won't go off in hitting a man over the head, so that both the striker and people behind are perfectly safe, while the man in front is apt to be incommoded. However, to continue the *Herald's* narrative, "Captain Hoskicer, accompanied by his foreign staff, called upon the Elder of Kwang Taou on the following day and demanded an explanation regarding the attack. The Elder disclaimed all responsibility, stating that he had only heard of the disturbance that morning, that his people were not concerned, and that the whole disturbance had been the work of outside villagers; he further asserted that his people were not opposed to the telegraph, but, on the contrary, were prepared to render every assistance to the Company's workmen. This was the position of affairs on the morning of the 23rd ultimo. It was plain enough that the whole attack had been planned by the authorities; it was equally plain that unless the Company's staff were prepared to fight their way through Kwang Taou, it would be quite impossible to continue the work of construction. Under these circumstances, Captain Hoskicer determined—wisely, we think—to return to Foochow. This was accordingly done, the entire party reaching the Settlement on Sunday last. The Company have since, we understand, communicated particulars of the attack and robbery to the authorities, with a view to obtaining satisfaction."

Another Arsenal, under foreign superintendence, is about to be opened in the City. A Mr. Betts has arrived from England to take charge of the Torpedo department, and other foreigners are expected to join very shortly.—The thermometer was as low as 33° on the night of the 22nd ult. On the following morning the hill sides were partially covered with snow, which remained on the ground during the entire day. The phenomenon is somewhat unusual in this part of the world, and is regarded by many of the Natives as a happy omen for the New Year.

The *Market Report* of the 29th Jan. says business in Tea during the week had been limited to few transactions in Oolongs and Scented Teas. The unsold stock of Congou remained at 2,500 chests.—Sales have been 1500 pieces of 7 lbs. T-Cloths at $1.75 piece. Lead is quoted at $8.50 per picul, but holders are asking $8.75, with no buyers.—The O. S. S. Co's steamer *Priam*, from Shanghai *en route* to London, was expected. The ship *Golden State* was expected shortly from Shanghai to load for New York, and is said to be engaged full at £3 per 40 cubic feet. The barque *William Turner* is expected to load for Melbourne.

HIOGO.

The *Hiogo News* records a painful incident in the death of Mr. A. von Knoblock, Acting Consul for North-Germany. "Shortly after one o'clock, the clerk of the Court, having occasion to go to the office of the deceased, found him stretched out on a sofa, his head leaning over the side, and a pistol with one barrel discharged lying in a pool of blood by the side of the couch. Dr. Thornicraft was quickly in attendance, but death must have been almost instantaneous, as the bullet passed through the head of the unfortunate gentleman, entering above the right ear." During his short residence in Kobe, says the *News*, deceased had not only earned the respect of his own countrymen, but also of all with whom he was brought in contact, and his untimely end has deprived his country of an energetic and painstaking public servant. Mr. Kempermann, of the German Legation, arrived the next morning from Tokio, and has assunmed charge of the Consulate, pending the arrival from Europe of Dr. Focke.

The *Daijokwan* have notified a penalty on the sale of adulterated or damaged drugs.—The first fall of snow of the season, in quantity worth noticing, took place on the 29th.—The occasion is taken of the reappearance of the *Minato Shimbun* in an enlarged form, to give copious translations which, however, though quaint, have not much interest as news.

A curious story of Japanese life is first related. A man of sixty has a wife of thirty and two children. The wife is made love to by a priest, to whom she gives money from her husband's savings. Finding this out, the husband separates from the wife, who takes the children with her. Later on, the priest turns jinriksha man and marries the woman. When the ex-husband hears this he goes to his late wife's house when the new husband is away, and is about to stab her with a knife, when the ex-priest arrives. Upon the latter demanding what the old man is doing with his wife, the intruder replies that he is angry with the woman because she has refused to let him see his children. The ward officers now intervene, and the old man takes charge of the children; the editor thinks he acts wisely.

Another writer laments that girls are not taught literature, spinning, weaving, and dressmaking, rather than music, singing and dancing; these latter accomplishments, he says, are costly and lead to drinking and still worse vices. He wants to see the teachers of these objectionable arts heavily taxed. We fancy we have seen a somewhat similar idea expressed in European papers, though the remedy is a novel one.—It seems, too, that the practice of taking a new name in connexion with a new inheritance is not confined to Europe. The Editor makes merry over a wight who, on coming into some property, changed his name from Yoshimura—a name which sounds as "flower village" or "good village"—to Ashiya, *i.e.*, "rush house" or "bad house," whichever you like. But becoming poor, he returned to his first cognomen, and thenceforth his fortunes improved. This reminds the Editor of another man who lived in Midosuji. He was named Heimon, which means "peaceable gate," but also sounds like the word which expresses "confined to one's house;" and, becoming bankrupt, he has had to close his doors. Had he borne the name of Kaimon, "opened gate," it is suggested that his fortunes might have been happier.

YOKOHAMA.

The files of Japan newspapers brought by the *Golden Age* yesterday, contain very little news of general interest. The *Hochi Shinbun* announces the birth of an Imperial princess on the 22nd ult., and that all officials of and above a certain rank were commanded to present themselves at the palace to make their congratulations.—The *Mail* says that a representation has been made to the Government deprecating the freedom with which the native newspapers canvas its acts. The Government, in reply, stated that the laws regulating the Press were quite sufficient to prevent any abuse of it, and "that men must learn to decide for themselves whether comments are good or bad." The Government thus appears desirous of encouraging the growth of political thought and discussion among the people, and to give perfect freedom to the Press, an example that might well be followed by some older nations westwards.—The *Mail* draws attention to the memorial of the President of the Formosan Commission to H. M. the Tenno, which it says sums up the labours of the Board in terms of congratulation, "not unbecoming, in the face of a confessed success."—The same paper speaks out boldly against General Grant's suggestion for the disposal of the American share of the Shimonoseki indemnity, which, it says, ought to constitute a splendid endowment either for the education of young Japanese in America, or for the furtherance of educational purposes in this country.—Small-pox is still prevalent at Yedo and Yokohama, and the recurrence of a case in the British Camp has caused the Royal Marine battalion to be confined to barracks. A large village on the road to Adawara has suffered so severely from the disease, that it is difficult to find among the healthy inhabitants a sufficient number able and willing to nurse the sick; all who can are escaping to the hills.—The *Gazette* reports an accident to a seaman of H.M.S. *Thalia*, named McCull, who fell from the foretop into the water, striking his head against the ratlines in the fall, and inflicting a severe wound. One of his shipmates dived from the ship and rescued him, and he seems likely to recover.—The Return Foot Ball Match, between the Settlement and the Services, on the 21st ult., resulted in favour of the latter, they having obtained two goals to their opponent's one. The funeral of the late Dr. J. J. R. Dalliston took place on the 22nd and was one of the largest ever witnessed in Yokohama. The deceased was a universal favourite.—Japanese thieves seem to be as brisk as ever. In one day, at Tokio, three robberies from the person were committed. A match factory is about to be established at Hiranuma, Yokohama, for which machinery has arrived from America.

The annual meeting of the Race Club was held on the 27th ultimo. Three of the retiring committee, Messrs. Strachan, Fraser, and Sandwith, were re-elected, and Messrs. Russell Robertson aad Cruickshank were appointed to fill the vacancies. The sum granted by Government for defraying the expenses connected with the Japanese Department of the Centennial Exhibition to be given in America, next year, says a native paper, is 200,000 *yen*; of which 100,000 *yen* is for travelling expenses and lodging, 20,000 for the conveyance of material, and the remaining 80,000 for the purchase of curiosities.

HONGKONG.

The report of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. shows a net profit on 1873 of $207,000. This will have to be divided as follows: 30 per cent. ($62,000) to reserve, 20 per cent. ($41,400) to contributing shareholders, and 50 per cent. ($103,500) dividend to shareholders. This will enable a dividend of $51.75 per share. The working account of 1874 shews a balance at credit of $233,784.—The opposition which has been going on lately on the Canton river, ceased on the 31st ult. That was accordingly the last day on which cheap

fares to Canton were charged; and this fact becoming known, the Hongkong, Canton and Macao steamers both to and from Canton were crowded to excess. The number of passengers to Canton so much exceeded the accommodation of the *Kiukiang* that a large number had to be turned back, even half an hour before the time of starting. The incoming steamer was so thronged that there was hardly standing room.—There was to be a yacht race on the 4th instant.—The Registrar-General's returns show that, after deducting the deaths which were caused by the disastrous typhoon of September last, the rate of mortality for every thousand persons among the British and foreign community for the year 1874 was 29.39, and among the Chinese 23.19, while in 1873 the rate for the former was 27.72, and for the latter 22.29. The greatest increase, nearly 2 in the thousand, is observable in the mortality among the British and foreign residents.

The Report of the Hongkong Hotel Company shows a profit on the half year of $6521. The Directors propose dividing 2.50 per share, carrying $4.000 to reserve and carrying forward $74. A meeting of the Medical Missionary Society was held on the 21st ulto. The report shows a successful year's working.—The *Gazette* of Saturday contains a notification to the effect that his Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Henry Lowcock, Esq., to be a member of the Legislative Council, *vice* Richard Rowett, Esq., resigned.—The *Daily Press* reports the arrival from the Mariana Isles of twenty Spaniards and natives of Manila who had been transported there by the Philippine Government in 1872, for taking part in the revolution. Most of them are very rich, and they have all obtained a pardon.—The arrival of H. M. S. *Vigilant* at Singapore from England, is chronicled.

Among the passengers in the last French mail, were the Chevalier Schaeffer, Austrian Minister, bound for Saigon, and Conte Litta Biumi, Italian Chargé d'affaires, for Marseilles.—Application has been made in the Supreme Court on behalf of Messrs. W. F. B. Sams and William McGregor Smith, lately trading in co-partnership with Mr. Victor Kresser, in the Sugar Refinery, to have them adjudicated bankrupts. His Lordship granted the application.—Attempts made on the 25th and 26th to float the *Albay* at high tide, were unsuccessful.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Jan. 10th.—(1) A Decree, referring again to the want of snow in the neighbourhood of Peking. In addition to the propitiatory offerings commanded by decree on the 1st instant, it is now further ordained that incense be again offered on the 13th inst., by five of the Imperial Princes at different temples.

(2)—The Governor-General, Li Hung-chang, memorializes denouncing the officials answerable for the escape of a prisoner while under convoy. It has been reported to him by the District Magistrate of Sha-ho that on the 6th September a prisoner was received at that district from another magistracy, to be forwarded on, and on the following morning, after examination of the fetters, a guard of police and soldiers was detailed to escort the man on to the next stage. Some of the soldiers and police lagged behind on account of illness. At a certain point on the journey, the prisoner was allowed to get out of the cart for a purpose, and just at that moment a gale of wind came on which startled the mules and caused them to run away. While the guard were running after the cart, the prisoner managed to break his fetters and escape. He has not been recaptured. The offence of which he was guilty was that of causing the death of a married woman, whom he threw down and kicked, for which he had been sentenced to strangulation. The Magistrate's investigation had elicited no proof of guilty connivance at his escape on the part of the soldiers and police. The Governor-General pronounces it as his opinion that decided negligence has been shown, and begs that the two district magistrates concerned be adjudged a penalty by the proper Board.

Jan 11th.—(Court Circular)—The Prince of Kung returns thanks for the gift of a sable-skin robe.

(1)—A Decree replying to a memorial from the Governor-General Tso Tsung-t'ang, who, in reporting the death of the late ex-Salt Comptroller of Kwangtung, Chung K'ien-kün, dwells upon the liberality and public spirit with which he contributed from his official income to the relief of the distressed (as reported a few months ago). Sanction is given to the Governor-General's application that materials for the biography of the deceased be supplied by the authorities of Hupeh and Kwangtung to the Office of the National Historians, to be duly enrolled among the lives of distinguished public servants, as an encouragement to others.

(2).—The Governor of Honan reports the rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking. The accusation of murder to which it relates grew out of incidents in the Nien-fei disorders of 1860-1862, and the accused person is pronounced innocent of the charge.

Jan. 12th. (1)—A Decree. Li Tsung-hi memorializes declaring that his complaint grows daily more severe, and beseeching permission to resign his office. Let Li Tsung-hi vacate his office, and attend in tranquillity to the care of his health. Let Liu Kw'ên-yih act temporarily as Governor-General of the Two Kiang, and let Liu Ping-chang 劉秉璋 act temporarily as Governor of Kiangsi.

(2).—Li Tsung-hi memorializes on passing in review the qualifications of Tautais now in office, and requests a decree degrading a functionary from his rank and appointing him elsewhere. The Tautai charged with the supervision of the Salt department of Kiangnan, Têng Yü-Kung 鄧裕功, is reported somewhat addicted to the vice [of opium-smoking], and shews no capacity for rousing himself into activity. Let him be degraded to the rank and office of sub-prefect, and await selection for an appointment by the Board, in furtherance of the stringency of the rules of office.

(3)—The Governor of Honan memorializes representing the exhaustion of the resources of the provincial exchequer, and praying that a portion of the demands upon the revenue of the province may be remitted. He explains that since the two army corps which for some years were employed in Honan passed beyond the frontier, the utter depletion of the treasury had compelled him to solicit in a previous Memorial that payment of the different subsidies which Honan was called upon to furnish might be suspended for a time; but in reply he received a despatch from the Board of Revenue urging continuous payment, which could not be pretermitted without giving an excuse to other provinces to bring forward like requests. The Governor now returns to his entreaty, pointing out that, owing to the entirely inland situation of Honan, with no command over the great highways of commerce and navigation such as furnishes a Customs' revenue to other provinces, his own jurisdiction is exceptionally poor. The two army corps already mentioned, during their six years of campaigning in Honan and the provinces to the west, absorbed the entire fatness of the land. The only source of income consists in the land revenue and miscellaneous duties, yielding a revenue of some Tls. 2,150,000. The outgoings for the support of the two army corps and of the regular and irregular forces of the province, together with the supply of arms and munitions, amount to upwards of Tls. 1,400,000, to which, when an intercalary month occurs, an additional sum of Tls. 100,000 and odd must be reckoned. The original sum prescribed for expenditure on the Yellow River works was Tls. 200,000 per annum, but the additional expenditure of late years for extraordinary repairs has mounted up until more than double the above sum is now reached. These two sources of outlay make together the amount of upwards of Tls. 2,000,000. When to this are added the Taels 250,000 required as the annual subsidy to Peking, the expenditure is already in excess of income. The absolutely indispensable outlay for the pay of the garrison troops and the salaries of the official establishment amounts to Tls. 700,000 per annum, so that the Treasury is absolutely drained dry, and no amount of financial expedients will suffice to establish an equilibrium. The total amount of subsidies with which the province has been assessed for the current year, on behalf of official salaries in the three Manchurian provinces, the garrisons in Turkestan, etc. etc., is Tls. 2,023,000, of which amount there remain unpaid no less than Tls. 1,955,600. The Governor is compelled, accordingly to submit once more his prayer for a revision of the demands upon his exchequer.

Jan. 13th.—[The Decrees and Manifestoes relating to the decease of the Emperor on the 12th inst., which occupy the greater portion of this day's *Gazette*, were published on the 3rd inst.]

(—)—King-show, Consort of the Imperial Prince, and director of the Imperial Equipage Department, with his colleagues, memorializes representing that in former times funds were invested by this department of the Court in the acquisition of lands by purchase or mortgage in different parts of the Province of Chihli, yielding an annual rental of Taels 20,755.0.1.7, which, according to regulation confirmed by Decree, should be remitted at the end of each year from the provincial treasury. The amount in question served to defray the salaries and allowances of the officers employed under the department, as well as the expenses of all kinds entailed in the service. Up to last year, however, payments on this account from the treasury of Chihli were in arrear to the amount of four hundred and eighty-nine thousand Taels, and upwards. Repeated demands for the sum of Taels 8,700, due on account of the revenue of last year, have been addressed without result to the Governor-General of Chihli, and it is now besought that he may be commanded to cause immediate payment of the sum in question to be made, and steps to be taken for the gradual collection and payment of the arrears.

Jan. 14th (1)—A Decree of their Majesties the Empress Dowager and the Empress Mother:—We have received a memorial from the Prince of Tun and his colleagues, requesting that the act of grace heretofore bestowed be now revoked. This application is inspired by feelings most honourable. Let, therefore, as is requested, the honours conferred by the Decree of the 23rd December on the princes and ministers be revoked and annulled, and let the two steps of honorary rank conferred by the same Decree on officials, high and low, throughout the empire, be at the same time revoked and cancelled. Let the proper departments take note.

(2)—A Decree of their Majesties the Empress Dowager and the Empress Mother:—We have received this day a memorial from the Prince of Ch'un, stating that the complaint under which he formerly laboured has broken out afresh, and

entreating that special grace be shewn him in the granting of permission to strive for the preservation of his existence. On perusal of the Prince's memorial, expressed in terms of earnest supplication, which are inspired by the most honourable feeling, We ordain that the Princes, Nobles, Grand Secretaries, the Six Boards and Nine Superior Courts, do consult with careful deliberation upon the proper course to be pursued, in fulfilment of every requirement of what is right and proper under the circumstances.

[*N.B.*—The Prince of Ch'un, whose application for leave to resign his offices is indicated above, is the father of the child who has become Emperor of China. According to public report, the Prince was in reality overcome by the shock of the announcement; but in any case His Highness would be obliged to withdraw from his functions as a Minister of the Presence, and his other State employments, since he could not render acts of homage to his own son.]

Jan. 15th.—(1) [Decree announcing that the Empresses consent to undertake the conduct of a Regency, published in *Daily News* of Feb. 3rd.]

(2)—The benign Mandate of their Majesties the two Empresses has been received as follows: Let all the works undertaken at the buildings on the Three Lakes, whether actually in progress or not yet begun, be forthwith discontinued. [N.B.—The works in question were ordered to be undertaken in September last, in the neighbourhood of the Imperial Palace, for the accommodation of the two Empresses Dowager, on the abandonment of the works at Yüan-ming Yüan being decided on].

(3)—A Decree commanding the selection of a posthumous canonical title for his late Majesty, whose virtues are extolled in the name of his successor. For thirteen years, it is recounted, His Majesty ruled beneath Heaven, in devout fear and unbending reverence. In toilsome devotion to duty, and awe-stricken assiduity, he spent no single day in which his thoughts were not devoted, in veneration of Heaven and application of the Ancestral precepts, to industry in the cause of government and love toward his people. His performances of worship at the temples of the State were reverent and sincere. He was indefatigable at the proper epochs in his pilgrimages to the mausolea of the departed sovereigns. He cherished in the sublimity of filial piety their two Majesties the Empresses. From the highest antiquity his equal has not lived, as is known indeed to all his subjects. When he first acceded to the Throne, he laboured diligently, day and night, under the direction of the benign maternal counsels, to accomplish his studies, under the tutelage of learned ministers. In the course of a few years, the rebels of the South and the roving banditti of the North were wholly subdued, and the provinces of the South and West once more enjoyed tranquillity. His tender regard for the welfare of his people was shown in his compassion for those in bondage under the law, and in the indulgence he displayed in times of disaster from flood and drought. The great assemblage of Princes and ministers will accordingly deliberate upon the title that it is proper to enrol in the sacred canon.

(4)—A Decree naming the princes, nobles and ministers who are to wear mourning for one hundred days. With the exception of those named, all other officials will wear mourning for twenty-seven days only.

(5)—A Decree of the two Empresses, in reply to a memorial by the Censor Yü Shang-hwa, with reference to the two physicians who attended his late Majesty. It is commanded that they be stripped of their rank, and continue under this penal sentence to discharge their official duty. (For previous chastisement see *Gazette* of 13th inst.)

(5)—The Grand Secretary Wên-siang memorializes (on or about the 28th Dec., 1874), renewing his entreaty for leave to retire from his office. On the 30th September last he memorialized to this effect, stating that his health did not permit him to attend to all his duties, and begging to be relieved of his office, in order that he might devote himself solely to the management of Foreign affairs. In reply, his Majesty deigned to grant him a further congé of three months. In gratitude for such favours he hastened to occupy himself with restorative treatment, trusting that after the settlement of the Formosan affair, he might, perhaps, be able to resume the discharge of his functions. The Formosan affair, however, is but just concluded, and his health is worse than ever. He is consequently obliged to reiterate his entreaty for leave to resign, not feeling himself capable even, as before, of undertaking to devote himself solely to Foreign affairs. If favoured under the circumstances of his grievous illness with his Majesty's leave to retire for the purpose of attending to the care of his health, he will not fail, should the blessings diffused by his Majesty contribute to his recovery, to prostrate himself in the dust before the palace gate, and solicit re-employment. (For rescript granting three months' additional congé, see *Gazette* of Dec. 29, 1874.)

(6.) The Governor-General of the Two Kiang reports the total quantity of common and superior rice transmitted to Peking from the province of Kiangsu during the season 1874. He adverts to the condition of the provinces, as yet but partially recovered from the devastation caused by the rebellion, much land still remaining untilled, whilst that which has been brought under cultivation again, from its being overgrown with dense vegetation and having remained long unploughed, requires a great outlay on the part of the husbandman, with comparatively small results. The province was also visited with severe tempests toward the end of last summer, just as the cotton and rice crops were flowering, whereby much damage was done; and when fine weather returned about harvest time, epidemic sickness prevailed very extensively among the agricultural population. All these causes have produced distress, which it has been necessary to take into consideration. After making all allowances and granting exemption in sundry cases, the quantity of rice collected and shipped was 696,100 piculs, beside 18,700 piculs by way of waste and transhipment allowance, and a further proportion of 13,905 piculs as additional surplus. The quantity further provided as excess or wastage allowance for the junks was 57,100 piculs.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council meeting of 18th January, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. John G. Purdon (Chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The cash state for the week ending 16th inst. was laid on the table for inspection.

Staff—On the recommendation of the Finance Committee it was decided to engage Mr. E. A. Fabris in the room of Mr. J. M. Fabris, on a probationary term of three months, at the end of which time the question of a permanent engagement will be considered.

Burial of Persons in Cemeteries without Death Certificates.—In accordance with the recommendation of the Watch Committee, it was resolved that no permit for burial in the Municipal Cemetery be granted until Certificate of the cause or probable cause of death from some competent authority be granted to the Sexton for the satisfaction of the Council. Any case in which it was not forthcoming being immediately reported to the Secretary.

Land Office.—Transfers of land in H.B.M's Consular Registers. Duplicate plans for Municipal archives.—Letter read from H.B.M's. Consul stating that the arrangement as to forwarding duplicate plans to the Council has not been strictly carried out, owing to the difficulty in inducing applicants to hand in plans at the time of registry, but in cases where the requisition is complied with, the Council might depend on his furthering their views so far as lies in his power.

Police—Cases of assault upon the person having become frequent during the past six months, and there appearing to exist an unusual amount of crime in the Settlement, it was decided to call on Mr. Stripling, the Acting Superintendent of Police, for a report as to what may in his opinion be the cause, and more especially whether the strength of the Police Force at the present time is sufficient for the requirements of the place.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE, RATE, AND APPEAL COMMITTEE FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY.

Books.—The Books have been examined, and the Cash Balances shown in the Municipal Ledger compared and agreed with the Bankers' Pass Book and certificate.

Statements showing the expenditure of the Works' and Watch Departments up to end of December ultimo, as compared with the Budget have been investigated.

The Committee are glad to state that as far as practicable so far the expenditure has been kept within the Budget figures.

Weekly Returns from the Local Post Office have been examined.

The Returns called for by Mr. J. P. Bisset (vide Resolution No. VI.) at the Ratepayers meeting held on 8th June, 1874, have been made up, and forwarded to that gentleman, in order that the Committee might be satisfied that they contain the information required before proceeding to publish them.

Assessments. — Several applications have been made on the part of Householders, for reduction in the assessments of their respective premises.

The Council having no authority whatever to make any alterations in the assessment of 1873, on which they have been instructed by the Ratepayers to collect the Municipal rates, the applications have not been granted.

At the same time, without expressing any opinion as to the assessed valuation of property in the Settlement as at present existing, the means of adjusting the assessment of property for purpose of taxation are unsatisfactory, and the Committee would recommend that at the forthcoming Meeting of Ratepayers, the Finance Committee shall be empowered to deal with special cases—their decision being considered as final and binding.

Staff.—Mr. S. Reynell has been placed in charge of the Dues office.

P. C. Kemball has been allowed Tls. 5 a month in addition to his pay as Constable, whilst performing the duties of Clerk at the Dues office.

Interest to 31st December last on Municipal Loan of June, 1873, has been paid.

The Cash Balance on evening of 31st January, was:—

In Compradore's hands	Tls.	1,971.65
In Bank Deposit	,,	15,000 00
Do. Current Account	,,	9,120.07
	Tls.	26,091.72

REPORT OF THE WATCH COMMITTEE FOR JANUARY, 1875.

Jinrickshas.—The Committee having conferred with the Acting Superintendent of Police, with regard to the petition from the Proprietors of Jinrickshas, that the Municipal Regulations with regard to carrying of lights and loitering in the streets should be applied to Wheelbarrows, have come to the conclusion that it would be quite impracticable to enforce them, without an increase in the strength of the Police Force, owing to the great number of wheelbarrows now in the Settlement.

That there are too many of both classes of vehicles is evident, and a motion to reduce the number the Committee would recommend

being brought forward at the next meeting of Ratepayers.

The argument put forward by the petitioners that they are placed at a disadvantage in plying for hire so long as wheelbarrows loiter in the streets, does not appear to hold good.

The experience of the past twelve months shows that the regulations drawn up for the control of Jinricksha traffic are so persistently disregarded, that it requires constant vigilance and extra exertions on the part of the Police to prevent the throughfares being obstructed, and the necessity of some improvement in this respect has been brought before the petitioners.

Shanghai Fire Department—The various offices represented in Shanghai having been requested to grant a formal authority to the offices of the Fire Brigade to act at all fires in which they may be interested, to the best of their knowledge, skill, and ability, replies have been received as under :—

Lancashire Fire Ins. Co. Commercial Union Ins. Co. Royal Insurance Co. Norwich Union Fire Ins. Co. Sun Fire Office. Imperial Fire Insurance Co. Northern Assurance Co.	Any authority necessary can, in their opinion, only be given by the Municipal authorities.
Guardian Assurance Co.	Agent will write to Head office.
Phoenix Fire Office	Do not recognize necessity of giving the formal authority asked for
Hamburg Bremen Fire Ins. Company.	Assent, on condition that no expenses will arise to the Company in consequence
Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company	Assent, reserving power to act when present and to cancel authority given at a moment's notice.
London Ass. Corporation Manchester Fire Insce. Co. North-German Fire Insce. Co. Transatlantic Fire Insce. Co. of Hamburg Queen Insce. Co. of Liverpool China Fire Insurance Co.	Assent unconditional.
Alliance Fire Insurance Co. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. Victoria Fire Insurance Co.	Agents assent so far as in their power.
Hanseatic Fire Insurance Co.	Agents will write to Head office.

Assistance of Police at Fires—Guided by the opinion of the Chief Engineer of the S. F. D., and the acting Superintendent of Police—the following reply bearing on the nature of assistance to be afforded by the Municipal police at fires, has been addressed to the Signatories of the letter referred to in the Minutes of Council Meeting, 27th December, last, (published in *North-China Daily News*, 21st December) :—

16th January, 1875.

Gentlemen,—Your letter of 10th December last complaining of the want of organized and efficient assistance by the Municipal Police at Fires, has been considered, and in reply I have been directed to state as follows;—

That the Police have attended every Fire that has occurred within the limits of the Settlements, and cheerfully afforded assistance wherever it has been required.

That no complaint or application for assistance from any Member of the Fire Brigade has reached the Superintendent of Police or other acting in his place, without being attended to, and there is no record of any instance when the movements or action of the Brigade have been impeded by the Public. Individual cases of obstruction or interference doubtless will occur, but they are extremely rare, and are easily dealt with.

The Council apprehend no difficulty in preventing bystanders from crowding too closely on the Brigade while at work.

An attempt to enforce such a measure as the one suggested, would probably create a vast amount of ill-feeling, and might possibly lead to complications, the result of which it is difficult to forsee

Since the introduction of Extincteurs, the Police have often succeeded in extinguishing or arresting the progress of fires, and if their duties had been confined to keeping the ground clear of the public, several fires that have occurred on Foreign property would have proved most disastrous before the Brigade could have rendered any assistance.

The action of Police at fires must be guided by circumstances, and the Council conceive that no better arrangement can be come to, than to leave the matter in the hands of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department and the officer in charge of the Police at fires.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
Edward B. Souper,
Secretary.

To Messrs. E. W. Rice.
John H. Vail.
J. H. Cheverton.
L. Moore.
C. P. Blethen.

Refuge for Destitute Native Orphans.—The following correspondence has passed with the Chinese authorities through the usual channel.

United States Consulate General.
Shanghai, 4th January, 1875.

John G. Purdon, Esq.
Chairman, Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Sir,—I have the honor as Senior Consul to hand to you the inclosed letter received by me from the Mixed Court Magistrate, and to ask for your views thereupon for the information of my Colleagues.

(Sd.) George F. Seward,
Consul-General.

Mixed Court Magistrate to Mr. Seward,
United States Consul-General

26th day, 11th Moon. January 3rd, 1875.

Tong-Ting-Tsu, a Councillor of a benevolent Institution, and three other Councillors, have petitioned me saying. At Shanghai, both within and without the city there are many orphan children who have no means of living. Truly their situation is to be pitied. After consultation it is proposed to provide the means and procure a place where they may be provided for, and where some can devote their attention to studying books, and others to learning trades, etc. The amount available is not sufficient, and as an institution of this kind anticipates a long term of years, the necessary funds will have to be provided, little by little. In order to accomplish this desirable end, it is proposed that in all the Tea shops, within and without the city, for each cup of tea ordered, *one cash* extra shall be paid into the Treasury of this fund. In this way a sufficient fund to keep up this institution from year to year can be secured.

From their petition I infer that these parties have petitioned Your Excellency and the Municipal Council on the subject. They now wish me to issue a proclamation before they inaugurate this measure. As Your Excellency has long had the interest of the people at heart, I think you will approve this laudable measure. I do not know what the Municipal Council will think of it, therefore I have not yet issued the desired proclamation. I desire that you will consult with the Municipal Council, and use your best efforts to have them approve the measure And when you know their views in regard to the matter, favor me with an answer. This is a good thing, and if the scheme can be carried into operation so that the unprotected can be provided for, the credit will all be due to Your Excellency's good offices.

I have, etc.,

7th January, 1875.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, covering despatch from the Mixed Court Magistrate pointing out the need of establishing a Refuge for Orphan Children in destitute circumstances, and suggesting in order to raise a fund for the purpose, to levy a contribution of one cash on each cup of tea sold at the tea shops in the Foreign Settlements and in the City.

In reply, the Council while sympathizing with all projects having for their object charity to the poor, are of opinion that an enforced tax for that purpose is objectionable, and they further would wish to discourage all attempts on the part of the Chinese authorities to collect direct taxes from the natives residing within the limits of the Municipality, as such attempts would be sure to lead to trouble from unauthorized parties making them pretences to levy contributions.

The Council, therefore, trust that the Consuls will use their influence to prevent the scheme, as set forth in the letter of the Mixed Court Magistrate, from being carried out.

(Sd.) John G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Bayley's Hydrostatic Watering Vans.—The idea of introducing these in Shanghai has been abandoned. The Committee find that the vans cannot be built light enough to be drawn by an ordinary sized pony or mule.

Certificate of Cause of Death.—A difficulty is experienced in obtaining in every instance certificate of cause of death from a competent authority before granting permit for burial in the Municipal Cemeteries.

The Committee consider it absolutely necessary, for the protection of the community and the floating population, that such a certificate should be forthcoming, and recommend the question to the immediate attention of the Council.

Protection of Pontoons.—The regrettable instances of drowning by persons walking over pontoons into the river, have led the Committee to consider whether any means can be devised for protecting the pontoons, but they regret that at present they see none.

To put fixed railings would interfere with the shipping and landing of cargo, and if to obviate this difficulty they were made moveable, the Committee are of opinion that accidents would be more frequent than at present, owing to the danger of the chains being replaced carelessly, or possibly not put up at all after being used.

In large ports—London, Liverpool and Hull, he pontoons have no better means of protecon than those in Shanghai.

Report of Defence Committee for the Months of December and January.

Gatling Guns.—The subjoined Report has been received relative to the substitution of Gatlings for the present heavy Ordnance.

Shanghai, Nov. 16th, 1874.

The Secretary of the
Municipal Council.

Dear Sir,—In compliance with the wishes expressed in your letter dated 26th ultimo, relating to Gatling Gun Ordnance, I beg to inform you, that having formed a Committee for the purpose of inspecting and witnessing the practice of one of these guns, kindly lent from U. S. S. *Saco*, they are of opinion that this gun would greatly strengthen the Corps, but as a larger calibre would likewise be required, say for battering purpose, they proposed the purchase of 2 small steel guns as per Memo. attached, and one Gatling, carrrying the same cartridge as now used for the Rifle, so that no confusion would arise from having different ammunition. As president of the Committee I agreed with their opinion.

(Sd.) T. Brewer,
Capt. & Adjt. General,
S. V. C.

Memo of 7 lbs: Per Ordnance—
Steel-Rifled Muzzle-Loading.

	Dimensions. ft. in.	Weight. lbs. oz.	Cost. £ s. d.
Gun calibre 3 in. length	2. 5	150. —	32. 12. —
Carriage with check ropes ..		110. 8	
Elevating Screw		6. 6	22. 4. —
Wheels each diameter	2. 6	39. —	
Limber with wheels.....		130. —	10. — —
Implements, say		20. —	2. 4. —
Total cost.....			67. — —

Ammunition.

Shell—common per 100	£17.14.8
,, double ,, ...	28.11.3
,, Shrapnel ,, ...	26. 4.3
Shot—case ,, ...	6.15.0

There can be only one opinion as to the desirability of the change, and the Secretary has been instructed to ascertain what prices can be obtained for the Howitzers.

Steel Guns.—The recommendation by the Committee of Officers, that two small steel guns for battering purposes should be added to the armament, the Committee do not endorse, being of opinion that they are not necessary.

The Officer commanding H.B.M. Forces in Hongkong has replied that there will be no difficulty in temporarily detailing a Non-Commissioned Officer to drill the Volunteer Corps.

12-Pounder Guns.—The Committee have accepted three 12-pounder guns kindly presented by Mr. Oliver, executor of the late Mr. J. M. Lloyd.

Report of the Public Works' Committee for December and January.

Drainpipes ordered from England in August last have been shipped by "*Sir Lancelot*" and "*Deerhound.*"

Bridges.—Yang King Pang, No. 1—Plans and Estimates have been received from various manufacturers in Europe.

Bund Line.—Yang King Pang.—Bridges.—Yang King Pang.—It has been arranged that delegates from the French Council shall meet the Committee to discuss these important matters.

Bunding.—North side Soochow Creek.—It has been proposed to the owners of property between the Free Ferry and the site of "Will's" Bridge, that in view of the great improvement to their property they should bear the difference in cost between constructing a full instead of a dwarf bunding at that part of the Creek.

Footbridge.—Keangse Road.—Mr. Thorndike having added two additional spans, in accordance with the Council's recommendation, the Committee recommend Tls. 200 being voted towards the additional expense that will be incurred in consequence.

Contracts with Chinese.—For the protection of the Municipality it has been determined to insert a clause in contracts with Chinese, that in case of dispute the English shall be taken as the true version.

Interference with Municipal Contractors by Chinese petty officials.—The following proclamation has been issued by the Chehsien :—

Proclamation by Hsien regarding interference with Municipal Contractors.

Whereas the Tipao Wang Mien-chang some time ago complained to me that one Chang-ta-yung was pulling down a wooden bridge over a creek near Sinza, and building a narrow culvert so as to obstruct the flow of the water and interfere with the agricultural operations of the people, and whereas a number of the heads of the villagers shortly after presented a petition to the same effect, I caused Chang-ta-yung to be summoned and examined, when he stated that he was not the Contractor for this work, but that one Kwo-chin-Chiang was, and gave security to produce him. I also made a personal examination of the place, and find that if a new stone bridge is to be built, the opening should not be less than five or six feet wide, so as to permit of a free flow of water sufficient for the wants of the country people

Whereas also the English Consul has written, complaining on behalf of the Municipal Council of interference with their Contractors by underlings of this Yamên, to which I am replying in this particular case, requesting him to direct Mr. Fabris to have the proposed bridge, whether of wood or stone, enlarged to not less than five or six feet in width for the convenience of the agriculturalists. It is therefore necessary to issue a Proclamation, in this matter.

Now therefore let the said Tipao and all country people take notice, that foreigners may rebuild bridges for their convenience, and provided there is room enough underneath for the flow of water, the work must be allowed to proceed without hindrance or interference on frivolous pretexts. If hereafter any, falsely calling themselves official messengers, molest or interfere with the Contractors they shall be arrested and severely punished. Let all tremble and obey.

Nov. 14th, 1874.

Translated by G. JAMIESON.

Roads. — Widening of. — The Committee have addressed the proprietors interested, with regard to surrender of portion of their lots required for the widening of the following Roads :—

Canton Road—between Keangse and Szechuen Roads—North side.

Foochow Road—between Quangse Road and Defence Creek.

Surrender of land for public uses.—The following form is submitted, and if approved will be used in future on all occasions of obtaining land for Municipal purposes :—

TO ALL TO WHOM These Presents shall come send greeting. WHEREAS——desirous of surrendering to the public use a certain portion of land now belonging to——. Now therefore——the said————————in consideration of the sum of Taels————paid to——(and the receipt whereof——do hereby acknowledge), do hereby grant and assign unto the Municipal Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, North of the Yang-king-pang, all that piece or parcel of land measuring——mow,——li,——fun and——haou, being a portion of Lot No.——and comprised in the Title Deed numbered——, and registered in the———Consulate at Shanghai, and which said piece is colored red in the plan hereto annexed. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same unto the said Municipal Council and their successors in perpetuity upon trust for such public uses as the said Municipal Council may think fit.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF——have hereunto subscribed ——name and affixed——seal this——day of———187—.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of

New Road, West side, Hongkew Creek.—Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have agreed to remove the "Pacific House" for the widening of the road, receiving Tls. 750 compensation.

Chaou Foong Road.—Pond is being filled in by the Council.

Upper Yuen-Ming-Yuen Road—Gnaomen Road.—Some misapprehension appearing to exist as to the name of the thoroughfare leading from the Pekin Road to the Free Ferry, the Committee would point out that the name of the road is the Upper Yuen-Ming-Yuen Road, as shown on the plan of the Settlement made in 1864-66. The Gnaomen Road was the name anterior to that date.

Markham Road.—Widening of in front of Trefancha.—The following letter addressed to Mr. F. H. Bell closes the correspondence published in the last report on this matter, and shows the action taken by the Committee :—

8th December, 1874.

SIR,—Your letter of 21st ulto. having been laid before the Council, they instruct me to state that the surrender of the portion of your property to widen the Markham Road having been a voluntary concession on your part, they have no desire to press any claim to the ground, and you are therefore at liberty to resume possession of it, should you see fit to do so.

(Sd.) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

F. H. BELL, Esq.

Widening of roads.—The following proposition from Mr. E. M. Smith for the improvement of certain roads, has been agreed to.

MEMORANDA OF LAND TO BE SURRENDERED TO THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

1.—That four feet shall be added to the width of the upper Quangse Road from Nanking Road to road marked A on plan attached to agreement dated 8th March, 1872.

2.—That eight feet shall be added to the width of Foochow Road from the Defence Creek Bund to the lower Quangse Road.

3.—That eight feet shall be added to the width of the lower Quangse Road from the Foochow Road to near its junction with the Hankow Road as far as my property extends.

4.—That Mr. Hogg shall receive the same number of square feet taken by the Council from his lot for the continuation of the North Chekiang Road to the Hankow Road, which area shall be added to the East half of his lot as agreed.

5.—That an equivalent area shall be given to Mr. Godfrey for the ground required to make a thirty feet road from Road A on plan referred to above to Stone Bridge road, as agreed.

6.—That the ground to be surrendered to the Council as hereinbefore set forth shall be noted on the Title Deeds at the Land-office of the British Consulate.

(Sd.) E. M. SMITH.

Slaughter House.—The subjoined letter from the Senior Consul, giving cover to H. E. the Tautai's reply to the Council's application to erect a Slaughter-house at Sinza, in the neighbourhood of the Gas Works, has been received.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,
Shanghai, 8th December, 1874.

EDWARD B. SOUPER, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Council, Shanghai.

SIR,—I inclose to you herewith a copy of a dispatch from the Tautai in regard to the slaughter-house matter.

As the conclusions taken by him are unsatisfactory, I yesterday saw the Mixed Court magistrate and arranged a basis for a further examination of the matter.

I have no doubt at all that the consent of the authorities to the proposed site can be secured, and I will see that it be done at an early moment. Meanwhile I think you may move to ascertain whether the land can be bought.

(Sd.) GEORGE F. SEWARD,
Consul-General.

Tautai to Mr. Seward, U. S. Consul-General, 25th 10th Moon.

December 3rd, 1874.

On the 17th 9th Moon, I received Y. E.'s letters informing me that the Municipal Council proposed to build a slaughter-house somewhere near the Gas Works.

I directed the Shanghai and Mixed Court Magistrates to inspect the locality and report.

They have now reported, saying that although there is vacant ground near the Gas Works, they think that the people in that vicinity having never been annoyed by the bad smells arising from a slaughter-house, will be sure to complain.

Moreover, as the North wind will bring the bad smell into the Concession, there will be danger of sickness therefrom. Without the West gate, at a place known as Pah-sen-djaw, there have for some time been slaughter-houses. Therefore it does not seem desirable to build them elsewhere. In regard to the locality near the Gas Works, if the people should not acquiesce, then the scheme would not be admissible. If the Municipal Council insist on building another slaughter-house, let them find a place somewhere near the Pah-sen-djaw. In regard to the slaughter of beeves there are two kinds, the kind used by foreigners for beef and the kind used for plowing the fields. The latter kind should not be slaughtered. We request that you will inform Mr. Seward, the Consul-General.

I accordingly send herewith their report and have to request that you will inform the Municipal Council.

Dec. 4th, 1874.

M. T. YATES, *Interpreter.*

Mr. Seward's suggestion has been acted upon, and steps have been taken to ascertain what the land at Sinza can be bought for.

Wards.—A scheme for administrating the Settlements by Wards is being prepared.

Drainage.—The Committee's attention having been called of late to the apparent bad condition of the drains, they have enquired into the matter, and on refering to the Engineer they find that the drains are examined every week and deposit where it exists removed.

Ventilators.—Opinions having been expressed in favor of fixing ventilators in some of the drains, the Committee, regarding the sewage as not of a dangerous nature, do not see the necessity of ventilators at present.

Public Garden.—A plan of an Iron Pavilion by Messrs. MacFarlane & Co., of Glasgow, has been submitted to the Committee, and it will be laid before the Ratepayers at the next Meeting to decide as to ordering the Pavilion or not. The cost is estimated at Tls. 1,000.

Hongkew Creek—Iron Bridge.—An offer has been made by a responsible firm to lower the Iron Bridge, Broadway, for Tls. 300; but the work the Committee regret to say is being delayed for reasons which will be gathered from the following correspondence which has passed between the chairman of the Consular Body and the Committee. In the meantime, the Committee are taking steps to ascertain the class and number of boats passing up and out of the creek :—

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,
Shanghai, 7th January, 1875.

JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman Municipal Council, Shanghai.

SIR,—I beg leave to inform you that a man named Wong, head Councillor of the Paoshan-hien, resident at Kung Wan, a very intelligent and well-disposed person, has been to this office and spoken about the proposed lowering of the Broadway Bridge over the Hongkew creek. He thinks that if it be lowered it will interfere with boat traffic. I promised him that I would lay the subject before the Council. It would seem desirable to carefully examine the point raised before proceeding with the work. Would it be possible to dispense with the trestle work under the bridge? This would admit of lowering the bridge three feet, without obstructing the passage of boats more than at present. It is particularly desirable to deal carefully with this question in view of the railroad operations, and the fact that the same people are affected by both matters.

(Sd.) GEORGE F. SEWARD,
Consul-General.

Shanghai, 8th January, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th inst., No. 7971, regarding the contemplated lowering of the bridge over the Hongkew Creek at the Broadway, and in reply beg to state that the question has been carefully considered by the Board, and finding it impossible to do away with the trestle work they have determined to lower the whole bridge.

When lowered it will be fully as high above the water as the bridges crossing the Yang-king-pang Creek, and the Board are of opinion will allow sufficient headway for all practical purposes.

(Sd.) JOHN J. PURDON,
Chairman.

GEORGE F. SEWARD, Esq.
U. S. Consul-General,
Chairman, Consular Body Shanghai.

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,
Shanghai, 13th January, 1875.

JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council, Shanghai.

SIR,—I have to hand you herewith a letter from the Tautai in regard to the Hongkew Creek Bridge. I should strongly deprecate the lowering of the bridge until a satisfactory understanding has been arrived at with the authorities. I shall be glad to lay any information which you may posses before the Tautai.

(Sd.) GEORGE F. SEWARD,
Consul-General.

TAUTAI TO MR. SEWARD, U. S. CONSUL-GENERAL.

4th 12th Moon. 11th January, 1875.

The Paoshan Hien has written me stating that Wong, one of his Councillors, had informed him, that there was a rumour to the effect that the Hongkew bridge was to be lowered three feet, which, if true, would be a source of very great inconvenience to the people of Kung Wan and other large villages in his district, the trade of which, by boats, all passes under that bridge, and urging me to protest against the lowering of this bridge. I write to request Y. E. to direct that if it is necessary to repair or make any alterations in the bridge, that the same space, between the water and the bridge, be allowed, as has hitherto been available. Favor me with an answer, in order that I may be able to reply to the Paoshan Hien.

I have, &c.

January 13th, 1875.

Upper Yuen-ming-yuen Road Encroachment.—The Committee think it advisable to put on record the arrangement under which H.B.M. Government has been permitted to bring out the gate of the British Post Office on to this thoroughfare :—

H. M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Shanghai, 11th January, 1875.

SIR,—A few days ago it was pointed out to me that the piers of a small gate forming the private entrance to the New Post Office on the Upper Yuen-ming-yuen road, projected 2½ inches beyond the line of Government property. I beg to assure you that it was quite without my knowledge that the wall was built so as to necessitate the projection. The encroachment is small, nevertheless its rectification at present would cause considerable inconvenience and trouble, and considering that I have given vastly more than the space encroached upon to the public, I would pray that you would be so good as to allow the said piers to remain as they are.

I therefore trust that my request will be allowed.

Sd. R. H. BOYCE,
Govt.-Surveyor.

To the Secretary,
Municipal Council, Shanghai.

18th January, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11th instant, and in reply have been instructed by the Works' Committee to say that in view of the inconvenience which you represent would arise in consequence, the Committee do not call upon you at present to move back the piers of the small gate forming the entrance in the Yuen-ming-yuen Road to the British Post Office.

But in order to reserve the rights of the Public to the land on which they stand, it is understood that you will rectify the encroachment whenever called upon to do so.

(Sd.) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

R. H. BOYCE, Esq.,
H. B. M.'s Govt. Surveyor, Shanghai.

H. M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

No. 47. Shanghai, 19th Jan., 1875.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, (Works No. 46) of yesterday's date, informing me that under the circumstances mentioned by me in my letter of the 11th instant, the Council would not call upon me to set back the gate piers in question.

In reply, I beg to thank the Council, and to assure them that I will be ready to rectify the encroachment whenever called upon by them to do so.

(Sd.) R. H. BOYCE,
Govt.-Surveyor.

EDWARD B. SOUPER, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Reports from Engineer for December 1874, and January 1875, are appended.

ENGINEER'S REPORTS.

Shanghai, 8th Jan., 1875.

TO THE WORKS COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN—I beg to hand you my monthly report of the proceedings of this department.

Bridges.—The bridge crossing the Soochow creek at the end of the Honan road, and the foot bridge at the Keangse road, are nearly completed.

Tenders have been invited for the lowering of Hongkew Creek Iron bridge. It is proposed to make the headway under this structure the same as that under the bridge crossing the Yang-king-pang creek at the Bund.

Buildings.—A small house is being erected in the Chip Yard near the Gas works, for the protection of the Steam Stone Crusher.

Bundings.—The bunding of the west bank of the Hongkew creek, between the Iron bridge and the Whangpoo, has been completed.

The bunding of the north bank of the Soochow Creek (between the New Honan road bridge and the site of the old Wills' bridge) is still in hand.

Cemeteries, &c.—The Cemeteries and Church compound are in good order.

During the past three months the burials at the New Cemetery, as compared with former years, are as follows :—

Date.	Men.	Women.	Children under 12 years, Male.	Female.	Total for 3 months.	Total for 12 months.
Oct., Nov., Dec.,						
1870..	5	2	0	1	8	30
1871..	8	2	0	2	12	34
1872..	5	1	0	1	7	31
1873..	7	2	2	0	11	39
1874..	10	0	3	1	14	56

Drainage.—A drain has been built in the Tiendong road connecting with the sewer in the Chapoo road, and drain pipes have been laid across the Woosung road near to the Rifle Range, in place of a rotten wooden box drain.

A main drain is being laid in the Boone road Hongkew. The Honan and Keangse sewer are being extended across the foreshore Soochow Creek.

Firewells.—The Firewells have been examined and are in good order.

Landing Accommodation.—The stone jetty on the Soochow Creek, at the end of the Kiangse road, has been removed, as it occupied the site of the new foot bridge.

Public Garden.—The eastern slope bunding of the Public Garden is being strengthened. A design for a cast iron band pavilion has been received from Europe.

Roads.—The following roads have been metalled :—The Hankow road, from the Kiangse to the Honan road ; the Shantung road from the Hankow to the Kiukiang road ; the Canton road from the Szechuen to the Kiangse road ; and the new Hongkew road.

The Yu-sing-ka alleyway has been drained, raised, and paved.

A number of the native alleyways have been paved with Granite chips.

The Canton road, between the Yangtsze and Szechuen roads is being metalled.

The Fuhkien road between the Foochow and Sungkiang roads is being paved with Granite chips.

A road is being formed by mud filling between the Whangpoo and the Canton Garden, on the west side of the Hongkew Creek.

Curbs and Side-channels.—Curbs, etc., have been laid in portions of the Hankow and Canton roads, and are now being laid in the Shanse road.

Outside Roads.—The outside roads have been kept in good order. Trees are being planted to replace the dead ones, one third of the contract price for last year's trees having been retained for this purpose.

(Signed) E. H. Oliver,
Engineer.

Shanghai, 2nd Feb., 1875.

Gentlemen,—I beg to hand you report of the proceedings of this department during the past month.

Bridges.—The bridges crossing the Soochow Creek at the ends of the Honan and Keangse roads have been completed.

Buildings.—A shed has been erected for the protection of the steam stone crusher in the chip yard near to the Gas works.

Bundings.—The bunding of the north bank of the Soochow Creek is still being proceeded with.

Cemeteries, &c.—The Cemeteries and Church compound have been kept in good order.

Drainage.—The Honan and Szechuen road sewers have been extended across the foreshore of the Soochow Creek.

A main drain is being laid in the Boone road between the Seward and Miller roads, the old box drain having become rotten and useless.

Firewells.—The various firewells are in good order.

Public Garden.—The eastern slope bunding of the Public Garden has been reformed, and strengthened with granite slabs. The paths, &c., have been kept in good order.

Roads.—The Canton road from the Yangtsze to the Szechuen road, and the Hoopeh from the Nankin to the Hankow road have been metalled. The approach to the Keangse road bridge has been formed and metalled.

Granite chip pavement has been laid in the Fuhkien road between the Sungkiang and Foochow roads.

A new road has been formed by mud filling between the Iron bridge and the Whangpoo river, on the west side of the Hongkew Creek.

The Hoopeh road between the Hankow and Foochow roads, and the approaches to the Honan road bridge, at the junction of the Soochow and Honan roads, are being metalled.

The pond at the north end of the Chaoufoong road is being filled in, to enable that road to be extended to the new Seward road.

Curbs, &c.—Curbs and side-channels have been laid in the Shanse road from the Pekin to the Nankin roads and are now being laid in portions of Kiukiang, Hoopeh, Hankow and Hongkew roads.

Outside Roads.—The outside roads are in good order. 354 trees have been planted to replace the dead ones.

(Signed) E. H. Oliver,
Engineer.

ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 12 Janvier, 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents : M.M. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, W. Lang, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France par laquelle il répond favorablement aux objections présentées par le Conseil relativement à la nomination du sieur Joachim Gégo comme agent de la Garde Municipale, et annonce la révocation de cet homme pour cause de santé.

Dépot devant le Conseil du Compte-rendu imprimé sur l'affaire des rues de Ningpo et de Saigon. Le Conseil décide que ce Compte rendu, destiné à expliquer aux Electeurs la disparition d'une partie de la propriété commune confiée à sa gestion et à les mettre au courant des efforts faits pour en obtenir la restitution, leur sera remis à la fin du présent exercice.

Le Conseil décide de faire appel, avant l'expiration de son mandat, à la Légation de France et de lui demander son appui pour la revendication des droits de propriété de la communauté sur les rues de Ningpo et de Saigon.

Examen d'un plan de pont en fer pour remplacer le pont No. 1, soumis par le Municipal Council. Le Conseil indépendamment de la largeur de 40 pieds (y compris les trottoirs) qui ne parait pas suffisante pour les besoins du traffic, n'approuve pas la hauteur donnée au tablier, le poids total du pont, et enfin le système de pont avec solives de suspension placées audessus du tablier.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de transmettre au Municipal Council, le plan d'un pont que le Counseil trouve préférable sous tous les rapports, en le priant de bien vouloir prendre des renseignements en Angleterre tant sur la possibilité d'éxécution que sur la dépense qu' entrainerait la construction d'un pont d'aprés ce plan.

L'entreprise des charrois de l' Administration est donnée á M. Charrier, à raison de $19 per mois et par téte de cheval. Dans ces conditions M. Charrier devra fournir à ses risques et périls á l'Administration le travail journalier de 14 chevaux et 14 mafous. Le Secrètaire est chargé de passer un contrat avec M. Charrier et de lui céder les 14 chevaux de l'Administration, dont 7 ont besoin d'etre réformés, au prix moyen de Taëls 15 chaque.

Le Garde Thomasi est nommé aux fonctions d'Inspecteur du service de salubrité. Dans les attributions de cet Inspecteur sera aussi comprise la surveillance du cimetiére.

Examen d'une plainte contre le gardien du cimetiére. Le Secrétaire est chargé d'informer le plaignant que des mesures sont prises pour prévenir le retour de toute plainte contre la conduite de ce gardien.

La question de remplacement des poteaux télégraphiques en bois par des poteaux en fer, est renvoyée à l'examen du Comité des Travaux.

Approbation de l'état financier de la Caisse des Retraites au 31 Decembre 1874, dont le solde créditeur, à cette date, s'éléve à Tls. 3,557.42.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de réclamer le concours de la police placée sous les ordres du Municipal Council, pour prévenir le stationnement des mendiants sur les ponts du Yang-king-pang.

Examen des rapports des chefs de service.

Examen du rapport de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

Séance du 19 Janvier 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents, M.M. W. Lang, E. Millot, H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Adjudication des travaux de reconstruction des murs d'entourage de l'Hotel Municipal à l'entrepreneur Wong Soun-quié, et de confection de grille et portes en fer á l'entrepreneur Euchang.

Adjudication des travaux de construction de drains dans les rues Touranne, de l'Administration et du Consulat, á l'entrepreneur Lin-fo-qui.

Le Conseil tient à la disposition de l'expéditeur, un envoi de verres pour lanternes à gaz qui ne sont pas conformes aux dimensions prescrites.

Décision prescrivant la reconstruction de la muraille du quai du Yang-king-pang, et l'établissement d'un garde-fou en fer et de trottoirs dans la mème partie de ce quai.

Recommandation de pratiquer une ouverture d'une trappe dans la toiture du poste de l'Est pour faciliter le travail des pompiers en cas d'incendie.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Ministre de Belgique en Chine, par laquelle il informe le Conseil qu'il s'empressera d'appuyer prés le Ministre des affaires Etrangères à Bruxelles les démarches dejà faites pour amener la rentreé aux archives des documents déposés au Consulat de Belgique lors de la poursuite exercée contre le sieur Godaert.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul Général de France informant le Conseil que le nommé Louis Gego a été nommé agent dans la Garde Municipale en remplacement du nommé Joachim Gégo congédié pour cause de santé.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de transmettre au Capitaine du Port copie de la lettre par laquelle le Chief Engineer exprime son opinion sur le code de signaux d'alarme en cas d'incendie en rade, et de l'informer que le Conseil est disposé à approuver les signaux qui seront adoptés par le Fire Department et la Direction du port.

Accordé une gratification de 2 mois de solde au Sergent Caré, obligé de quitter son service pour cause de santé après 5 années de bons services.

Le Secrétaire est chargé d'effectuer le paiement des 100 Taëls mis à la disposition de l'Hopital Chinois, pour l'année 1874-75.

Examen des rapports des Chefs de service.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 2nd.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge.*

Reg. *v.* Saliman Morbrook.

Wounding with a Knife.

The prisoner, an Arab, or native of Muscat, was indicted on three counts,—1st, for wounding with a knife, on the 2nd November, 1874, causing grievous bodily harm ; 2nd, for an assault, causing actual bodily harm ; and 3rd, for a common assault.

The prosecutor was a Chinaman, named Hsü Zin-sheng. The case was fixed for trial on the 15th January, but was then obliged to be postponed for want of an interpreter of the Hindostanee language.

Mr. Brougham Miller, who appeared to defend the prisoner, said before the Jury were called he would like to make a statement, which the Court would act upon as it thought fit. Since the prisoner was brought here on the last occasion, he had been taken out of the custody of the Sheriff— out of gaol—and privately cross-examined by an interpreter at Pootung. It was at the same time perfectly well-known that he was represented by Counsel, and he (Mr. Miller) would like to know after that, whether his Lordship would think of trying the case at all ?

His Lordship—What cross-examination was he subjected to ?

Mr. Acting-Superintendent Stripling replied that he not aware there had been any

cross-examination of the prisoner. Nothing of the kind had been communicated to him. The prisoner was taken from gaol under an order, and then to Pootung to see whether a man employed there could understand his language, so as to be able to act as interpreter in Court on the trial. The sergeant who took the prisoner over to Pootung told him (Mr. Stripling) that he was simply asked a question or two with that view.

Mr. MILLER said it was a singular thing that the interpreter was not taken to the prisoner in gaol.

His LORDSHIP suggested that the man could not be made to leave his work at Pootung to go to the gaol.

Mr. MILLER still thought it was something strange that a prisoner in gaol should be taken out of the custody of the Sheriff, and cross-examined by an interpreter. That might be strong language, but it seemed to him to have been the case.

His LORDSHIP said it was strong language. It had been stated that the man was taken to answer a few simple questions, to ascertain the interpreter's knowledge of his language.

Mr. MILLER—And I say he was cross-examined.

Mr. STRIPLING—Prove it,—I repeat he was not cross-examined.

Mr. MILLER—Your books will prove it—they will show where the sergeant was, on that day. It is a strange proceeding to take a man out of the custody of the Sheriff, and afterwards try him.

His LORDSHIP—Call the Jury.

The Interpreter, a man of colour, from the Pootung signal-station, as was understood, was first sworn; Heding, the Consular interpreter, acting for the prosecutor and witnesses, who were all Chinese.

The following were then sworn of the Jury:—Messrs. F. Fabris, F. Gillman, J. McGregor, J. Sharp, and W. H. Short.

The prisoner, on being arraigned pleaded not guilty.

Prosecutor, examined by Mr. Stripling, deposed—I am a carpenter, and live in Hongkew. I remember the evening of the 22nd of November last, I was coming down from Shanghai in a wheelbarrow, and had got to the Garden bridge. I was in the act of paying the wheelbarrowman. It was on the north side of the bridge. While in the act of paying the wheelbarrowman, the prisoner stabbed me between the shoulders. I was in the act of turning round, and saw two coloured men, one was tall and the other short. The prisoner was the short man.

By his LORDSHIP—There was no quarrel going on between me and the prisoner. I do not know if there was between any other persons.

Examination resumed—After I was stabbed, I was placed on a wheelbarrow, and taken to the Police station. I had cried out for help, and the prisoner ran away towards the bridge. I was afterwards taken to the hospital, where I remained thirty-five days. The wound bled a good deal. (Two of three coats worn by the prosecutor on the occasion were produced, the third was said to have been left in hospital.) When I was stabbed, I fell down, and only saw the prisoner for an instant. The tall man was about fifteen feet distant at the time, and there was nobody else near except the wheelbarrowman. The wound is healed, but when the weather changes I feel pain, and also when I am at heavy work.

Cross-examined by Mr. MILLER—It was on a Sunday, and dark in the evening. I did not see two other darker men than the prisoner pass by. The prisoner was just behind me on the right hand side. He made the cut, standing on my right hand side. I only saw the two men I have named. No doctor came to me at the police station.

Mr. MILLER pointed out that, in the prosecutor's deposition before the Magistrate, he swore that a doctor did come, and questioned him upon it.

Cross-examination resumed—I did not say that a doctor came to the police station. I was taken immediately to the hospital.

His LORDSHIP—It does not say so here. It merely says, "I was put in a jinricksha and taken to the station. A doctor came. I was taken to the hospital."

Cross examination resumed—When I was stabbed, I fell down and did not know anything for the pain. I remember what took place at the station. I did not hear the prisoner and the other man making a noise. They were standing upright. I saw a flash as I was stabbed. It was like a knife—I received a blow, fell down, and saw the flash. It was a knife, but I cannot say if it was long or short. It reached the bone, and caused great pain. I do not remember a policeman coming up at the time. When I fell down, I put my hand on the wound, and some one came up, said I was wounded, and called for the police. I did not carry on a conversation with a native policeman.

A Sampanman next deposed—On the night previous to the 22nd November, I was engaged by two men. The prisoner was one of them. They did not pay me. I saw them next day in Hongkew, and asked for payment. They did not then pay me. I insisted on their paying, and the prisoner drew out a knife, stabbed another man and then ran away.

By His LORDSHIP—When I saw the prisoner with the knife, I ran away. It was at the foot of the bridge.

Examination resumed—When I first met the men it was in Bamboo Town. I followed behind them to the bridge. I was still asking for payment. Prisoner drew the knife, came towards me, and I ran away. A man was getting off a wheelbarow and was paying the coolie, and the prisoner stabbed him. I was then standing by, and saw the man struck and fall down. It was moonlight and about half past seven. I saw a knife in the prisoner's hand. I pursued the prisoner, and a native policeman also joined in the pursuit.

By his LORDSHIP— The two men were men of colour, and were a little intoxicated.

Examination resumed—When I saw the prosecutor fall down, I saw blood on his back. The prisoner was the shortest man of the two—the other man was a little distance off, and when the cry was raised, he also ran away.

Cross-examined—The prisoner and the other man had a bottle of wine with them. It might have been water, I live in Hongkew, and had fastened my sampan to the jetty. On the night before, I took the prisoner and the other man to the P. & O. steamer. I am not regularly employed for those ships. When I asked them for payment, they beat me, and pushed me overboard. I fell in the water, and was picked up by another sampan, which had also taken off some seamen. They beat me with their fists. On that night, there was no one on board to whom I could complain about it. I was landed at the jetty. Next day I saw the men in Bamboo Town. The knife used was a claspknife. Prisoner took it out from under his clothes. It was a small clasp-knife, (pointing to about five or six inches in length.) The blow was intended for me. I saw the prisoner coming with the knife, and drew back. I was 20 feet off, when I saw the other man struck. There was only one blow. I did not see two other dark men on the night the prosecutor was stabbed. On the night before, there were two other dark men with them.

A Chinese assistant in the hospital at Hongkew was next called. He dressed the wound, which he described as on the upper part of the back, between the shoulder blades. It was about half an inch deep, and was bleeding. If the wound had been half an inch deeper, it would have penetrated the lungs. The man remained in the hospital a little over five weeks.

Cross-examined—It was inflicted either with a knife or glass. If it was done with a knife, it must have been a blunt one, as it was not a clean cut. The wound bled a great deal. From the appearance of the edges of the wound, I believe it was a blunt instrument. It did not touch the bone.

The Native Constable who took the prisoner to the police station, was questioned by Mr. Miller, and said he searched the prisoner. He was given into custody on a charge of stabbing. The sampan man made the charge. Did not see if the prisoner's hand was stained with blood, nor whether there were any blood marks on prisoner's clothing. Do not know if the prisoner was examined for those things. He arrested two men who were pointed out by the sampan man. Saw nothing of the knife.

This closed the case for the prosecution, and

Mr. MILLER briefly addressed the Jury on behalf of the prisoner. He said the line of defence he should adopt, was that the prisoner knew nothing at all about the matter. It had never been clearly traced that there was a knife in his possession, neither was there any evidence tendered that he had ever been in the habit of carrying a knife. He was a fireman and not a seaman. There was no doubt the prosecutor was stabbed, but there was no proof that the prisoner carried a knife. He was a man not likely to carry a knife, being a fireman employed down in the stoke-hole of a ship. He (Mr. Miller) did not think he could say much more than the jury had already heard. The prisoner was found close to the scene of action, he was arrested not far away, and the sampan man said he saw the blow struck. All the witnesses, it must remembered were unsworn—and that was in their favour. If the Jury or himself were in the witness box, they would have to be sworn, but Chinese witnesses had the advantage of not being sworn. He did not think the evidence had brought the case home to the prisoner, and would remind the Court that the prisoner had been a long time in gaol already, which he hoped would be borne in mind.

His LORDSHIP—Do you want the evidence interpreted to the prisoner?

Mr. MILLER—No, I do not.

His LORDSHIP then summed up the case to the jury very shortly, giving an outline of the principal facts as he proceeded. The prisoner owed the sampan man some money. The sampan man met him, and then followed him, importuning him for payment. The prisoner did not like this, and resented it by drawing his knife, with which he made a blow at the sampan man. He avoided it, and the blow came down upon a third party who happened to be within its range, and was just getting off a barrow at the time. His Lordship had no reason to suppose anybody was telling a story in the matter, it was just such a wound that would be given in that way. The sampan man saw the knife and drew back, the other man receiving the blow instead. The question was, did the prisoner do it? He was met by the sampan man, who asked him for the money, and then the blow was struck. That was very strong evidence that he was there. It was true the knife was not found, but the prisoner ran away; and if he had not done something there would have been no need for him to run away. In a very short time he was captured. The sum of it was that the sampan man asked him for money, he drew out his knife to frighten him, and wounded another man. There was no other theory of the prisoner's innocence. It was very likely the prisoner was a little drunk, and did not like to be importuned for money. That was what the evidence indicated, unless the prisoner was able to explain it in some other way, which had not been done. He simply denied it, and said he knew nothing about it. If the Jury were of opinion that the prisoner was the man who struck the Chinaman, and inflicted the wound, they must find him guilty; and if they thought he was not the man who struck the Chinaman, they would find him not guilty.

The Jury, after some minutes' deliberation, asked whether the prisoner was running away when he was arrested?

His LORDSHIP—The sampan man says so.

The Jury almost immediately returned a verdict of "guilty."

His LORDSHIP—You could come to no other verdict.

The Interpreter, by direction of the Court, asked the prisoner if he had anything to say why he should not receive sentence?

The prisoner said he was not guilty, and knew nothing of it.

His LORDSHIP, taking into consideration the fact that the prisoner had already been in prison for ten weeks, sentenced him to a further imprisonment of six weeks only.

His LORDSHIP directed that $10 should be given to the prosecutor, as some compensation for his injury and consequent loss of work for more than five weeks.

The Court then rose.

February 10th.

Motion.

In the matter of a suit heard in H.B.M.'s Consulate at Foochow, before a Mixed Court, composed of H.M.'s Consul, CHARLES A. SINCLAIR, Esq., *in conjunction with* PAN TAUTAI.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT to move.

The suit arose in consequence of a collision at sea between the steamship *Kwangtung* and the Chinese junk *Kui-tsai-fah*, whereby

the junk and her cargo were lost, the crew being saved by the steamer. The captain and owner of the junk, Kwo-fuh-tih, sued the captain of the steamer, George D. Pitman, as agent for the owners, Messrs. Douglas Lapraik and others, to recover the value of his vessel and cargo, and obtained a judgment.

Mr. Wainewright said he had to move, in the terms of the motion paper which he had filed, on behalf of Mr. John S. Lapraik and others, the owners of the steamer *Kwang-tung*, that this Court would make an order declaring the judgment of the above-mentioned Mixed Court, and the order made thereon, dated the 1st day of December, 1874, to be null and void, and either directing H.B.M.'s Consul at Foochow to rehear the said suit, sitting with Assessors, as a Provincial Court, in accordance with the provisions of the China and Japan Order in Council (1865), or directing that the said suit be removed for hearing into this Court. With regard to the title of the cause, he had of course nothing to do. The suit was stated by the Consul to have been heard in a Mixed Court, and it would be part of his (Mr. Wainewright's) case to show that that was a misnomer in point of fact. The Consul could not create a Mixed Court in a case of this kind, and whatever he might choose to call the Court, he was sitting in a Provincial Court, although not in accordance with the Order in Council. The facts were that the collision between the junk and the steamer occurred on the 26th July, 1874, and on the 1st of August a petition was submitted by the master and owner of the junk. Captain Pitman went down to Hongkong, and there put in a general protest against being made a defendant in the case, on the grounds, amongst others, that the owners were not within the jurisdiction of the Court, and that the suit could not be heard without Assessors. That formal protest was handed to the Consul.

His Lordship—The whole of the protest was directed against his action as a Provincial Court. There was no question, then, as to its being tried in a Mixed Court?

Mr. Wainewright—The 5th and 6th grounds of the protest are against its being heard before a Mixed Court. The 5th says, "That there is no provision under the Order in Council for Chinese acting in Provincial Consular Courts as Assessors;" and the 6th, "That the case cannot be heard without Assessors, and that the Court would not be properly constituted with less than two Assessors, if *then*." The protest produced no result, and the Consul delivered a formal decision upon it, holding that the captain was bound to come in.

His Lordship—Did he give a decision on the protest?

Mr. Wainewright—Yes.

His Lordship—How did he manage that?

Mr. Wainewright—In this way, that in his opinion, the captain had failed to show sufficient cause why he should not accept service of the petition of Kwo-fŭh-tih, as agent for the owners of the steamer; and that by Article No. 17 of the Treaty of Tientsin, between Great Britain and China, H.M. Consul has the power to request the assistance of the Chinese authorities, and to hold a Court in conjunction with them, for the purpose of enquiring into, and adjudicating on matters of dispute which may arise between Chinese and British subjects. His Lordship would of course see that the Consul, for the purposes of the suit, constituted an agent for the owners. The captain of a ship was beyond doubt agent for his owners for a great number of purposes, but not for defending a civil suit. It was more than doubtful that people at a distance could be sued through an agent in an ordinary civil suit, and the proper course for the plaintiff would have been to go to Hongkong and sue the owners there.

His Lordship—But in case of a ship getting into debt, the owner is supposed to reside wherever the ship is.

Mr. Wainewright—This was not a case of debt,—it was an action of tort.

His Lordship—It was to recover damages for collision.

Mr. Wainewright—It was an action of tort, and to drag the captain in as agent for the owners was irregular. The action was brought against the captain as agent for Messrs. Lapraik & Co., and it seemed to him that the plaintiff had no more right to select the captain as agent, than he would have had to select him (Mr. Wainewright) as being their legal adviser. But he thought it was too late now to raise such a point as that, and from the suit having gone the length it had, he could not rely upon it. He was now simply going to rely upon the Order in Council, and the regulations for the action of for Consuls in China under that Order. A decision was given that the plaintiff's petition should be delivered to the captain; the Court was composed of the Tautai and the Consul, the captain of a ship also sitting with them, but in what capacity he (Mr. Wainewright) did not know,—whether as an assessor or as *amicus curiæ* was uncertain; a judgment was delivered on the 20th November, finding the steamer to blame, and awarding $1,871 as damages; an order was made on the 1st December for payment of the money, signed by the Consul alone, and the money was paid by the captain, under protest, on the 4th of December. The Consul was enabled by the Customs' authorities to put the screw on and get the money out of the captain, and there the matter remained until this motion was made. It was not for him to trouble the Court with any remark upon the Acts of Parliament upon which the Order in Council was based, and it was only to certain sections of the Order itself that he wished to call the attention of the Court. Section 4 of the Order provided that "All her Majesty's jurisdiction exerciseable in China or in Japan for the judicial hearing and determination of matters in difference between British subjects, or between foreigners and British subjects,—or for the administration or control of the property or persons of British subjects,—or for the repression or punishment of crimes or offences committed by British subjects,—or for the maintenance of order among British subjects, shall be exercised under and according to the provisions of this Order, and not otherwise." Next came Section 5, which read, "Subject to the other provisions of this Order, the civil and criminal jurisdiction aforesaid shall as far as circumstances admit, be exercised upon the principles of and in conformity with the Common Law, the Rules of Equity, the Statute Law, and other Law for the time being in force in and for England and with the powers vested in and according to the course of procedure and practice observed by and before Courts of Justice and Justices of the Peace in England, according to their respective jurisdictions and authorities." The next he would call attention to was Section 7, which constituted the Supreme Court of China and Japan; and Section 9, under which the Judge was appointed. It was necessary also for him to direct attention to Section 25, which provided for the holding of Provincial Courts, "Each of Her Majesty's Consuls-General, Consuls, and Vice-Consuls (holding a commission as such from Her Majesty) resident in China or in Japan (with the exception of Her Majesty's Consuls at Shanghai, and with other exceptions as one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State at any time thinks fit to make), * * * * —shall for and in his own Consular district, hold and form a Court styled Her Britannic Majesty's Court at [*Canton, or as the case may be*],—hereafter in this Order called a Provincial Court. * * * *" The Consul, his Lordship would observe, was to form and hold a Court in his own district; and bearing upon the holding of Provincial Courts, he would next read Section 36, which ran, "All her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in China, beyond the district of the Consulate of Shanghai and not under this Order vested exclusively in the Supreme Court,—And all Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in Japan and not under this Order vested exclusively in the Supreme Court,—shall, to the extent and in the manner provided by this Order, be vested in the Provincial Courts, each for and within its own district." Next came Section 117, as follows, "Where a foreigner desires to institute or take any suit or proceeding of a civil nature against a British subject, the Supreme or other Court, according to its jurisdiction, may entertain the same, and where any such suit or proceeding is entertained shall hear and determine it according to the provisions of this Order, and of the Rules made under it applicable in the case." By Section 3, the provisions of the Order in Council relating to foreigners, were made to apply to subjects of the Emperor of China and of the Taicoon of Japan respectively, and subjects or citizens of any state other than China or Japan (not being enemies of her Majesty.) Therefore, under the term "foreigners" were to be included natives of China. He would next refer to Section 63, relating to trial by Assessors, "Where a suit instituted in a Provincial Court relates to money, goods, or other property of a less amount or value than 1,500 dollars,—or does not relate to or involve, directly or indirectly, a question respecting any matter at issue of the amount or value of 1,500 dollars or upwards,—or is brought for recovery of damages of a less amount than 1,500 dollars,—the Court may hear and determine the case without Asessors. In all other cases the Court (subject to the provisions of this Order respecting inability to obtain an Assessor) shall hear and determine the case with Assessors." Section 33 provided who those Assessors were to be, their number, qualification and functions. The Section goes on to provide for cases where the Court is able to obtain the presence of one Assessor only, or where it is unable to obtain an Assessor at all, and directs that in every such case, the Court shall record in the minutes of proceedings, its reasons for sitting with one Assessor only, or without an Assessor. With regard to those sections, he was unable to find anything that either contradicted or qualified them. Therefore, the Consul, by hearing the cause in the way he had, without the assistance of a proper number of British Assessors, and sitting judicially with Chinese Authorities on the spot, was clearly violating the Order in Council. His proceedings were bad in point of law from beginning to end. The Consul had referred to Article 17 of the Treaty of Tientsin, the part to which he referred being, "If a Chinese have reason to complain of a British subject, the Consul shall listen to his complaint, and endeavour to settle it in a friendly manner. If disputes take place of such a nature that the Consul cannot arrange them amicably, then he shall request the assistance of the Chinese Authorities that they may together examine into the merits of the case, and decide it equitably." Now, what he (Mr. Wainewright) had to argue, was, that this Article of the Treaty of Tientsin had been interpreted hitherto, so far as he could find out, in a particular way. In cases where Chinese had complaints against foreigners, action had been taken as though they were British subjects, the Court sitting in the ordinary way. That had been the course of procedure for years past. Now, an attempt had been made to change that course of procedure. That what he had stated had been the interpretation put upon the 17th Article of the Treaty of Tientsin, he thought he might quote his Lordship's own opinion to show, as published some years ago in a manual for the guidance of Consuls. He (Mr. Wainewright) did not find anything from beginning to end in that book—there was no hint given—that Consuls were to exercise jurisdiction in any other way but that provided for by the Order in Council and the Rules.

His Lordship—I think you will find nothing in it with regard to Naval Courts.

Mr. Wainewright replied that what he had to argue with reference to the Treaty of Tientsin, was that the Order in Council took away from Consuls in China and Japan every particle of power they had had in judicial matters, and re-conferred it subject to certain regulations. The Order in Council might be bad, but the Judge of the Supreme Court and the Consuls at the outports were simply creatures of the Order, and it was impossible for them to go behind the order and say it was bad or *ultra vires*. It did not lie upon either of those officials, working under the instruction of Parliament and that Order, to say "you have done something in giving us this Order, that we, taking into consideration a certain Treaty that existed before the Order was made, think is inconsistent." If such a question was to be raised, it ought to be raised diplomatically, not by an official who was sitting and acting under the very power he was criticising. The Consul, he submitted, had no choice whatever to deal with this case, except in the mode provided by the Order in Council. The Sections he had referred to, he thought, clearly showed what a Consul's duty was. His powers were those expressed by provisions of the Order in Council. The Queen created a Supreme Court for China and Japan,

and appointed a Judge for that Court. She then provided Consular Courts, which should administer justice in accordance with the provisions of the Order in Council. A Consul was by that Order bound to hear a case with two Assessors, who should be British subjects, the term "foreigner" to include natives of China. It seemed clear that the Consul, in determining this suit in the way he had, was doing something he had no right to do—he was setting himself up as Judge, where he had no power to do so. He (Mr. Wainewright) therefore contended that his action was bad from beginning to end, and that the whole proceedings were null and void. A Court of the kind which the Consul had attempted to set up had really no power to enforce its own decisions, and as showing the difficulty under which it worked, it seemed that all the decisions were made by the Consul himself, and that the Tautai did not sign a single document. If that Court was illegal, as he contended it was, it could not enforce its own decisions, and would be soon found to be impracticable, because it could not enforce them. That was the ground upon which he rested his argument—upon the construction of the Order in Council. With regard to the power of this Court to review the proceedings, it could not be doubted. It might be argued that there was no appeal from a Court unknown to the law; but he submitted that the Consul could not create such a Court, whatever name he might call it by. All his power was derived from the Order in Council, and he could not create for himself a Mixed Court. He (Mr. Wainewright) therefore contended that the judgment he had given was a judgment of a Provincial Court, if it was a judgment at all. It came within the province of this Court to make an order upon it, namely that her Majesty's jurisdiction should be exercised by the Consuls under the provisions of the Order in Council, and subject to that Order. With reference to the case in point, he asked that the Court would direct the suit to be brought before it, or that it should be reheard by the Consul, or to grant a rule calling upon the other side to show cause why such an order should not be made.

His LORDSHIP.—The other side being Chinese.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The other side being Chinese. That is a difficulty, but it has nothing to do with us.

His LORDSHIP—Before you sit down, I should like to know how you distinguish this from the case of a Naval Court? You say that a Consul has no right to exercise any authority whatever, except under the Order in Council. If this Order in Council has taken away all other jurisdiction, it follows that a Consul cannot form a Naval Court.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I apprehend they act as Naval Courts under some special order.

His LORDSHIP—No; they act under the Merchant Shipping Act.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—My acquaintance with Naval Courts is too slight to enable me to deal with the question at the present moment. I am not prepared to defend the action of Consuls with regard to Naval Courts. It seems to me that this case comes within the Order in Council, and that it has nothing to do with Naval Courts.

His LORDSHIP—I should like to ask your opinion upon another point, with reference to the Order in Council as it stands with the Article in the Treaty of Tientsin. No act of domestic legislation can overrule a clause in a Treaty, which is an act between nations.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I submit that the officials who were created by the Order in Council, cannot go behind the Order and say the Order ought not to have been made. The Consul seems to have expressed his private judgment on the terms of the Treaty, and thereupon formed a Court. I submit that was not a proper form on which he should have gone. He had no right to take that Article of the Treaty, and act upon it without respect to the Queen and Privy Council—without respect to the very Order under which he exists;—to say "I will make an Order in Council myself, more in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty." I repeat that Consuls are bound to go by the Order in Council without regard to their own private opinion.

His LORDSHIP—I must refuse this rule. I do not entertain, and never have entertained, the slightest doubt on the subject of the right of Chinese litigants to invoke the 17th clause of the Treaty of Tientsin, and insist on any matters of difference between them and British subjects being decided in accordance with such clause. It is true that Chinese are often—for reasons best known to themselves—willing to abide by the decision of this Court. They come into it voluntarily, but I have often seen them and explained to them that they can go and lay their case before the Consul, who will call on the Tautai to decide it under the Treaty. As I have said, they have often refused, and expressed themselves contented to abide by the decision of this Court; and when, as has generally been the case, they have done so, I have then put them on the footing of other Foreigners under the 3rd Sect. of the Order. But I look on this section as permissive only. If Chinese choose to come into this Court, they may avail themselves of all the advantages of other Foreigners, or by submitting to its jurisdiction rise to the privileges of British subjects. But there I stop. I do not in any way consider that that clause puts them in the same position as Foreigners whether they will or not, simply because the Queen has no power and no authority to put them in that position. It is the Treaty which she has made with China that regulates their position, and in cases of differences arising between them and British subjects it is to the Treaty that they and Consuls must look, and by no act of domestic law can Her Majesty alter or modify an act of public law, which a Treaty undoubtedly is as between the parties to it. She has by the Treaty in question agreed with the Sovereign of China that all questions or matters in difference shall be settled by the Consul and the Chinese authorities. The Treaty has in fact, created a Court or tribunal (although neither appellation is used), by which such differences are to be settled; and if, as is contended by Mr. Wainewright, Her Majesty has by her Order in Council changed this, the Emperor of China being no party to such change, she has exceeded her power—the clause in the Order in Council is *ultra vires* and is simply nugatory. But I do not think Her Majesty has done this. I think the Order in Council does not contemplate any change in the Treaty stipulations. You say that Chinese are to be considered as Foreigners, but that only means, that when they come voluntarily into an English Court the provisions of the Order in Council applicable to Foreigners are to be made applicable to them. In the present case, I think the Consul at Foochow has complied with the Treaty, and therefore his action is right. A Chinaman had a complaint against a British subject; the Consul failed in settling it, and invoked the assistance of the local authorities. That assistance was rendered, and after an examination was made into the merits of the case by the Consul and the Tautai, a decision was come to against the British subject. I hope that decision was an equitable one. I have no reason to doubt it. I cannot review that decision, it was not given under the Order in Council, but under the Treaty, and from the clause in the Treaty there is no appeal to this or any other Court. I conceive I am bound to give an interpretation to the Order in Council which will not conflict with or render nugatory the provisions, quoad the Chinese, of the more authoritative document—namely, the Treaty. To do so would be to deny justice to the Chinese. If I was to look at the defendant's protest, or attach any weight to it, the result would be to send the Chinaman whose junk had been run down, as he reports, in the China Seas, to a British Colony—to a place, the law of which he is ignorant of, and of the language of which he is also ignorant. The accident took place on the coast of China, and he is entitled to go before the British Consul, file his claim, and finally insist upon an adjudication of it under the terms of Treaty. The Consul, it appears to me, is bound to give effect to the Treaty—bound to carry out, so far as he can, its provisions, and in this case he appears to have done so—and having done so, there is no ground or pretence for my interference. The rule must be refused.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 9th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

J. F. PEARSON *v.* R. JOHNSON.

The plaintiff, an American-Chinese, speaking English with great purity, and claiming to be a British subject, sued the defendant to obtain possession of a receipt for $50, for which he alleged he had received no value from the defendant.

Plaintiff, sworn, stated—About two years ago, I was living at Ganking with my mother. Defendant came to the house, and I asked him for the loan of $50. He said he would lend the money. Two or three days afterwards, on the occasion of my mother going away from Ganking, I wrote to defendant, asking him to let her have the $50, at the steamer's landing place. My mother sent me word that he had only given her $25. I at once sent a letter to defendant, asking him to return the receipt for $50, which I had previously given him. I gave him the receipt when I first asked him for the money. He never answered my letter, and, as far as I know, he still has the receipt.

By defendant.—I never received the $50 from you. I did not send the receipt by an old man. I gave it you myself in my own house, when I first asked you for the money. You did not bring $50 to my house, and give half to me and half to my mother. You did not come to my house five or six days afterwards, and abuse me for not giving you a receipt.

Defendant was then sworn, and deposed—I was first engineer of a steamer, and became acquainted with the defendant over two years ago, when the steamer was lying at Ganking. He came on board while our mandarin was away. He had known the captain before. He stated to me that he was sent from Shanghai to join the ship as mandarin. He stopped on board two or three days. He borrowed money of me on several occasions, but I cannot recover those sums because I hold no acknowledgment from him. Plaintiff and his mother were about to set up an opium hong, but were short of money, and I lent them some at different times, without acknowledgment, "because I suppose I was rather soft at the time." The $50 for which I hold the receipt were had from me.

Plaintiff repeated that the only money advanced was $25, for which the defendant also held a receipt. He had not paid the defendant the $25, because he would not give up the receipt for the $50.

Defendant handed a packet of papers to the Court, including the receipts for $50 and $25, and also notes which showed that the plaintiff had borrowed money of him. Defendant further stated that the plaintiff had obtained a case of revolvers from him on pretence of showing them to the Futai, but had never returned or paid for them; and that altogether plaintiff had got from him about $135. An action between the parties, with respect to these matters, is pending in another Court, but has nothing to do with the present case.

His HONOUR said there was a direct conflict of evidence, and as there was nothing to show that the plaintiff's evidence was more reliable than the defendant's, he could not succeed.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, February 3rd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

Reg. (master of str. *Appin*) *v.* JOHN DIXON.

Defendant is second engineer of the *Appin*, and was summoned for being absent without leave. It appeared that he obtained permission from the chief officer to go ashore on the evening of the 28th, and did not return till the evening of the 29th., whereas he should have returned at latest on the morning of that day.

Defendant said he understood he had got permission for a day's leave.

Ordered to pay the cost of summons.

February 4th.

Reg. v. DYAN.

The nature of this case was not mentioned.

Mr. MYBURGH, who appeared for the defence, asked for a postponement, on the ground that the short time that had elapsed since the service of the summons, had rendered it impossible for him to prepare the defence.

The Usher said he was unable to serve the summons at an earlier date, in consequence of the complainants not giving him the defendant's correct address.

The complainants are Chinese, are three in number, and are believed to be *likin* runners, the

case arising out of an alleged illegal seizure of opium a few nights ago.

His Worship adjourned the hearing until Tuesday next.

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Feb. 9th.

Reg. *v.* Joseph Dyan.

The defendant was summoned on the joint complaint of three *likin* runners, named Le Sien Fang, Ku-qua-kue, and Yeh Teah-kuien, for assault and robbery, on the evening of the 28th January.

Mr. Myburgh, for the defendant, who is a native of Aden, and does not understand much English, said that before going into the case, he must take an objection to the summons. There were three distinct offences charged in one summons,—assault, larceny, and robbery, which he submitted was quite irregular. In the second place, there were three prosecutors named in one summons, and that he submitted was also irregular, and asked that his objection might be recorded.

His Worship said as to the first that the charge amounted only to one, robbery—robbery being larceny with violence.

Mr. Myburgh said the fact of there being three prosecutors named in the summons was his chief objection. He thought three different summonses should have been taken out in a case like this, because each of the three men appeared to have a cause of action against the defendant.

His Worship said there was no objection to a defendant being charged with robbing several persons, if it was all one transaction. Moreover, he did not think the defendant would be prejudiced by it. Further, it was by far the more convenient course, for if three summonses had been issued, the testimony of each witness would have had to be taken three times over, whereas the whole case could now be gone into once for all.

Mr. Myburgh then said he would not press the matter.

The Court then proceeded to hear evidence, Heding acting as Chinese interpreter. The first complainant called was.

Yeh Teuh-quien, who deposed—I am a runner in the employ of the Opium Guild. On the 21st day of the 12th moon, (the 28th ultimo), about seven o'clock in the evening, a Chinese was carrying opium in a bag into the Mo-ta-kee opium hong, in the Canton road. I and two other runners seized ten balls of opium from him, and had carried them some distance towards the Police Station, when three foreigners came up, and began to assault us. They took away from us six balls of the opium. One of the runners had a quantity of hair torn from his head, and another was injured on the finger. We then went on to the Police Station with the other four balls, and one of the foreigners accompanied us. The defendant came in afterwards. The Inspector sent a constable with us and the opium to the Mixed Court. The defendant is one of the three foreigners who assaulted us. He had a stick in his hand, which the police saw. We were waiting outside a tea-shop, watching the hong, which was some six houses distant, as we had heard a hint that opium was to be taken there. The man had the bag under his arm. Mo-ta-kee hong was in the habit of taking in opium. A coolie who had been dismissed from the Mo-ta-kee hong, was with us, and told us it was opium that was in the bag. When we saw the man with the bag enter the passage of the Mo-ta-kee hong, we went and seized him. He resisted and cried out that we were robbing him. We said we would go with him to the Police Station. We took the bag from him, and looked into it. There were ten balls of opium in it. We told him we were runners. I took possession of the bag, with the opium in it. The two other runners were bringing the coolie along. No other persons had come up at this time,—nobody from the hong. We had got only three or four Chinese houses distant, when three foreigners came running after us. They did not come from the Mo-ta-kee hong. They did not say anything, but commenced to beat and kick us. In the assault, the bag fell and burst. I picked up three of the balls, another of the runners one. I do not know what became of the other balls. There were many people round. The three foreigners kept the people back, and were picking up the balls. The defendant was taking an active part in this, and was using a stick, beating us with it. Two of the foreigners went away, the third took hold of one of the runners by the hair, and went to the police station.

Cross-examined—We did not go direct to the police station because there are so many dealers in smuggled opium in that locality. I do not know where the opium came from; but the coolie who was carrying it, came from the Yung-tah hong. (A coolie was here called into Court, and witness said he was not the man who was carrying the opium.) The defendant was the man who assaulted me. He kicked me on the back, while I was stooping down to pick up the opium. The others did not assault me. I turned round, and saw the defendant kick me. All three foreigners were together, and there was a crowd of people. When the bag broke, the opium balls rolled about the ground. The defendant picked up two balls. A tall man also picked up some. I did not see any Chinese pick up any. We have a card from the *likin* Guild to show our authority. We all showed them to the foreigners. Our cards are given up at the end of the year. We have not received new ones yet. We could not seize opium without the cards to show our authority. I charged the defendant, because he has assaulted us twice. Did not charge the other man who went to the station, because I did not know his name. The police told us to come here and lay a complaint. I complained to the police of the robbery. The defendant also struck Le Sien Fang's finger. We had not taken the opium to the guild before the foreigners came up. It remained in our possession until it was taken to the Mixed Court.

His Worship asked what the defendants' case was going to be?

Mr. Myburgh—I shall contend that there is not a tittle of evidence to show that the opium is the property of the Guild, and in support of my contention shall cite the case of "Reg. *v.* Rudick"—(Archbold's Criminal Pleadings, page 279)—in which it is decided that where property has not reached the hands of the master it shall be held to be the property of the servant who has it in charge. Then there is the question of intent. I can prove that the opium is the property of the defendant, and that he, seeing his property was being seized by these people, merely went to its protection.

His Worship—But evidence of his ownership cannot come from him. It must come through you.

Mr. Myburgh—Yes, the defendant's mouth is shut; but I can prove that he paid duty upon this opium, and that it was in the possession of one of his coolies at the time it was seized. That will be my defence. I cannot identify the opium in any way, because balls of Patna opium are all of the same appearance; but I can prove he had paid duty on opium.

His Worship said he would consider the last point raised, and if he should be of opinion that it was correct, he would direct a fresh summons to be issued, or amend the present one in that particular, after which the defence must go on to satisfy the Court that the defendant was retaking his own property.

The case was then adjourned.

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Feb. 10th.

Reg. (Master of the *Star of Jamaica*) *v.* Estelle, Westburg, Adams and Carroll.

Refusal of duty.

Defendants, who are seamen of the barque *Star of Jamaica*, were charged by A. W. Stack, the master, with having refused duty on the 8th inst.

In answer to his Worship,

Estelle said: I refused to work because I wanted to see the Consul. The Captain would not give me permission, saying that the Consulate was not open. I came on shore on Monday.

His Worship—That is an offence in itself. The Captain told you quite correct when he said that the Consular office was not open. It was not open yesterday even.

Carroll—The Captain called the hands aft and asked why we refused duty. I said that I was not satisfied with the vessel, and did not get enough to eat; I asked for my discharge. It was refused; I then wanted to see the Consul. The Captain said that the office was closed. I then refused to work until such time as I did see the Consul.

Adams—I asked the Captain on Saturday evening for my discharge; he said that he could not give it to me then, but that I might get it on Monday. When the mate turned us to on Monday morning I refused to work, upon the strength of the Captain's promise to give me my discharge.

Westburg made a similar statement, to which his Worship replied: You have committed the same mistake as the others. The Captain of a vessel is bound under a heavy penalty to allow the men to come and state their grievances to the Consul, but it is for him to appoint a time, and give you permission to leave the ship. I will not go into any other complaint until after this case is decided. It is not as if the Captain had gone or attempted to go to sea without allowing you an opportunity of seeing the Consul.

Captain Stack—The men shipped in Hamburg, and made the voyage to Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, Mauritius, Freemantle, to this Port, we have been three weeks in port, but the first application to see the Consul was made on Monday. I have five A.B.'s and one ordinary seaman on board.

In answer to his Worship.—I do not wish to press the case against them; I would rather have them on board if they will go to work.

His Worship, to defendants — You have been in the ship since May last, and hitherto made no complaints, although you have been three weeks in this port. Now I will hear what your complaint is about your food. You have a scale of provisions on the articles, and I suppose you get all that you signed for.

Defendants—No, Sir.

His Worship—What is it you don't get?

Westbury—Our meat. At sea the scale was 2 lbs. out, and on one occasion, the 10th of January, the pork only weighed 8 lbs. instead of 10 lbs.

His Worship—But this was at sea. I don't suppose you intend to refuse to go to sea now in the ship because on one occasion you had 2 lbs. of meat short between the lot of you. I do not consider that you have any cause of complaint; therefore as the Captain does not press the charge, I shall send you back to your work. You must pay the cost of the summonses.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

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Shanghai, Feb. 5th, 1875.

Before G. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General.*

Charge of Desertion.

William Thomas, quartermaster of the P. M. S. S. *Nevada*, was reported by Capt. Williams on the 18th January as a deserter. He was traced to the U. S. S. *Kearsarge*, on which vessel he had shipped on an honorable discharge from the *Lackawanna*, which allowed him to receive three months' extra wages if he shipped on a U. S. naval vessel within ninety days from the date of such discharge. It appeared that this three months had nearly expired at the date of desertion. On the 5th instant, Thomas was sent to the Consulate-General to be tried on the charge of desertion. He said he had signed articles in Japan for service on the *Nevada*, and that he left that ship here without leave. He had sent his clothes on board the *Kearsarge*, and after the *Nevada* had left port, he went on board the *Kearsarge* and shipped. Captain Williams had stated that Thomas deserted while on duty, and in charge of his watch.

The Consul-General found Thomas guilty of desertion, and sentenced him to thirty days' imprisonment, or a fine of $20.

Clipping.

At a meeting of the Zion R. A. Chapter held on Friday evening, the following officers were elected:—

T. W. Kingsmill	M. E. Z.
W. A. Turnbull	H.
T. W. Eckfeldt	J.
E. Tobin	E.
H. Watson	N.
— Anderson	Treasurer.
J. F. Goodfellow	P. S.
T. Hore	Janitor.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1874-5.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687 24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584 45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	.. 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark .. ... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ... .. ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda .. .. ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong ..... s.s.	.. 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Glenearn ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet ..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Carried forward ...			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	London	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	London	1,049.77	2,730.33	3,780.10
Gwalior ..... ,,	... 28	Bombay	.....	102.47	102.47
Tigre ..... ,,	Feb 4	London	2.78	693.75	696.53
do. ..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	170.55	170.55
Priam ..... ,,	.. 4	L. v. Fchow	20.22	1,055.41	1,075.63
Total.....			491,007.97	85,059.52	576,067.49

TO UNITED STATES.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada .... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N.Y&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo ..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica ..... ,,	... 6	,,	.....	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State... s.v.	... 23	N.Y. v F'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
Sarpedon ..... s.s.	... 27	New York	.....	2,254.67	2,254.67
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	,,	0.54	5,708.48	5,709.02
Priam ..... s.s.	Feb 4	,,	.....	95.48	95.88
Total.....			10,349.00	105,225.55	115,574.55

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam ..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore ..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	...
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	Japan	66.90	.....	66.90
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4		.....	4.37	4.37
Total.....			4,214.71	5,360.92	9,575.63

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 11th, 1875.

There has been no business doing in Piece Goods, so we do not pretend to give our usual report. The Chinese dealers have been intent on their New Year Holidays and New Year Settlements, to the complete exclusion of current business.

FREIGHTS.—*Star of Jamaica*, British barque, 306 tons, Shanghai to New York, no lay days—private terms; *Montgomeryshire*, British steamer, 1,146 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, no lay days—private terms; *J. H. Jessen*, German barque, 276 tons, Nagasaki and back, 12 lay days—$2.65 per ton coal; *Vesta*, American barque, 300 tons, Nagasaki and back, 15 lay days—$2.70 per coal.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 10th February are reported as :—

Stock on 27th January	Malwa,	3,664½	Chests.	Patna,	1,726	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	1,103½	,,	,,	545	,,
Total	,,	4,767½	,,	Total	2,271	,,
Deliveries from 27th January	,,	923½	,,	,,	271	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,844½	,,	,,	2,000	,,

Bargained Opium.....1,700 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New,...	Tls. 420	416	Not open.
Old,	Tls. ...	...	...
Patna—New,...	Tls. 438	435	435
Old,	Tls. ...	...	...

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The export to date, as compared with that of last season, is :—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,363,122 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	1,228,030 ,,
To United States—Black	Excess	819,715 ,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	4,253,757 ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	51,098,087 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,152,588 ,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,109,143 ,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	5,862,476 ,,

Black.—Only one small transaction in Common Hohow at Tls. 17½=11¾ per lb., can be noted during the fortnight. Settlements, 82 chests. Stock (against *none* last year), 360 chests.

Green.—During the early part of the fortnight a fair demand existed, and for the best of the Country Teas an advance of Tl. 1 per picul was obtained; the approach of the Native Holidays, however, caused some holders to show more desire to meet buyers, and the market closed quiet with a downward tendency. Business has not yet been resumed, but Teamen hope to see higher rates when buying re-commences, while Foreigners look for a decline.

		Stock,	Against 1874.
Settlements—Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	10,470 ½-chests.	52,000 ½-chests.	5,171 ½chests.
,, Pingsueys	1,430 ,,	7,000 ,,	1,710 ,,
,, Shanghai packed	... ,,	4,000 ,,	2,500 ,,
	11,900 ½-chests.	63,000 ½-chests.	9,381 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	Freight, £3 10s.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	Tls. 19 *a* 35½	= 1/1¼ *a* 1/11	= 27 *a* 48 cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 23 *a* 24	= 1/3¾ *a* 1/4¼	= 32 *a* 33¼ ,,
Shanghai packed	....	=	= ..... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,002,138 lbs.	58,639,016 lbs.	62,338,471 lbs.
Green	10,248,537 ,,	9,020,507 ,,	10,485,067 ,,
	75,250,675 lbs.	67,659,523 lbs.	72,823,538 lbs.

Export to United States and Canada—

Black	1,612,500 lbs.	792,785 lbs.	1,277,164 lbs.
Green	15,359,119 ,,	19,612,876 ,,	22,192,671 ,,
	16,971,619 lbs.	20,405,661 lbs.	23,469,835 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows :—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	75,250,675 lbs.	67,659,523 lbs.	72,823,538 lbs.
,, Foochow to 23rd Jan.	61,128,010 ,,	54,857,063 ,,	52,231,792 ,,
,, Canton to 1st Feb.	19,638,802 ,,	14,796,041 ,,	19,162,274 ,,
	156,017,487 lbs.	137,312,627 lbs.	144,217,604 lbs.

SILK.—Public telegrams from home report the silk market firm, but less active;—Red Peacocks, 15s. 3d.;—Fair, No. 5 Tsatlees, 13s.; deliveries of Chinas to the 9th inst. 1,100 bales. The French mail which left on the 5th inst. took 787 bales, of which 681 were for the Continent, 41 for London, and 65 for Singapore. The following were some of the prices said to have been paid :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Gold Lion, Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4	Tls. 390, 370, 350, 330	19/3, 18/4, 17/4, 16/4	Frs. 53.9 .51.20,48.50,45.75
Cat and Bee, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 352½ & 332½	17/6 & 16/6	Frs. 48.90 & 46.10
Beauti ul Woman, No. 2	Tls. 330	16/4	Frs. 4 -.75
Yellow Elephant	Tls. 312½	15/6	Frs. 43.40
Market 4 Tsatlee	Tls. 330 *a* 350	16/4 *a* 17/4	Frs. 45 75 *a* 48.50
Common do.	Tls. 260 *a* 280	12/11 *a* 13/11	Frs. 36.40 *a* 39.00
Hangch w Tsatlees	Tls. 260 *a* 300	12/11 *a* 14/11	Fr-. 36.30 *a* 41.70
Marke. Kahings	Tls. 250 *a* 290	12/5 *a* 14/5	Frs. 34.90 *a* 40.40
Coarse Taysaams	Tls. 245 *a* 260	12/3 *a* 12/11	Frs. 34.24 *a* 31.30
Market Skeins	Tls. 235 *a* 250	11/9 *a* 12/5	Frs. 32.88 *a* 34.90

Owing to the intervention of the China New Year holidays, no business has been reported during the past week, excepting the settlement of a parcel of Han-quong-shing's Throwns @ Tls. 350 per picul. But very little silk has arrived from the interior and river ports, and the unsold stock is estimated at 4,800 bales. The steady increase in the importation of raw silk to the Continent is further proof of the preference shown for *direct supplies*, over those received from London after they have undergone the pernicious "working" at the warehouses; and it remains to be seen whether this damaging custom is to be done away with, or English Importers be willing to see London become a second rate market! Another season is drawing to a close, and the experience confirms the previously mentioned advantage of the Lyons over the London market—better prices realized for the silk, better weights, and also no "cuts" for damage, which so often appear in account sales from the latter city.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

FEBRUARY 11, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—February 6th, British barque *Lady Belmore*, from Sydney; 8th, British steamer *State of Virginia*, from London; 11th, British schooner *Empress of China*, from Swan River.

DEPARTURE.—February 5th, British steamer *Priam*, for London.

The English mail steamer *Hydaspes* takes about 95 bales of SILK.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅛d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9⅛d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.35. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 303. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 303½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26¼ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 26⅝ *a* 26. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.90 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.50 per 100. Copper cash, 1,530 per tael.

SHARES.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

Banks.—A small business was done up to yesterday at 7 *a* 10 per cent. discount, and a good business since last night at 12 *a* 13 per cent. discount. The market closes with sellers at latter rate.

S. S. N.'s—Small sales only are reported at Tls. 76, at which shares are obtainable.

Marine Insurance.—Sales reported are *China & Japans* at Tls. 83, *Yangtszes* Tls. 585, and *North Chinas* at Tls. 650; stocks are firm.

Fire Insurance.—*Hongkongs* have advanced to $537½, with buyers. *Chinas* and *Victorias* are firm, with buyers at $129 and $122, respectively.

Hongkew Wharf Co.—Cash holders are firm, but shares are obtainable at corresponding rates for time.

WEATHER.—The long spell of fine weather we had been enjoying broke up on Sunday night; and the last three days have been cold and wet. To-day, the rain has ceased, but it is still cloudy and threatening. The range of the thermometer has not sensibly altered, varying from min. 33 by night to max. 50 by day.

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.*	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	25,323	27,952	3,393	1,517	58,185	..	58,185
Subsequent Shipments	1,104	353	..	92	1,549	..	1,549
Total	26,427	28,305	3,393	1,609	59,734	..	59,734

COTTON.

	Cleared	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report		127,297.52	..	..	205,820.85	..	..	74,152.81	..	..	407,271.18
Subsequent Shipments		3,846.94	..	..	16,738.59	..	..	246.60	..	..	20,832.13
Total		131,144.46	..	..	222,559.44	..	..	74,399.41	..	..	428,103.31

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR FOUR DAYS ENDED 4TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	54	54.00	100	120.00	100	120.00	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	4	4.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	58	58.00	100	120.00	100	120.00	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore	23½	23.50	231	277.20	86	103.20	1	1.00

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa	195	195.00	36	36.00	33	33.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	123	123.00	..	..	..	..	387	387.00
Patna	14	16.80	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	16.80
Benares	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	209	211.80	36	36.00	33	33.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	123	123.00	..	..	..	..	401	403.80

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	13 ¾ disct.
Steamer Cos			
	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	76
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	84
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	$ 1475 Exc. 78½
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	$ 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 83
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 195
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.60 p. sh.	537½
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	122
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	129
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	4 p. c.	87 Feb. nominal
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			73½

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London, Dec. 25th, 1874.

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Th. 200	Deutsche	all	Th. 180
£ 28½	Hongkong & Shanghai...	all	26 to 28
£ 25	Oriental	all	45 to 46
	Telegraph Cos.		
£ 10	Eastern Extension Australia and China	all	7⅝ to 7⅞
£ 8	Reuters	all	11 to 11⅛
	Miscellaneous Cos.		
500 fr.	Mess. Mar. of France ...	all	555 fr.
£ 50	P. & O. S. N. Co.	all	52 to 54
£ 50	Do. do. 1867...	10	¼ dis. to ¼ p.m.
£ 98	Japan Loan, 9 per cent.	all	109 to 111
£ 92½	Do. 7 per cent.	all	98 to 100

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THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 406. SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 18, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 P AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Jan. 1	Hankow,	Feb. 14
San Francisco,	,, 9	Yokohama,	,, 9
Hongkong,	Feb. 13	Nagasaki,	,, 10
Tientsin,	,, 1	Foochow,	,, 11

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Nov. 26 } Received 2nd Jan.
Shanghai, ... ,, 20 }

BIRTHS.

On the 14th inst., Mrs. D. FITZ-HENRY, of a son.

On the 16th instant, the wife of FRANCIS GILMAN, of a son.

At Shanghai, on 17th February, the wife of the Rev. J. THOMAS, of a son.

On the 28th Dec., at Woburn Park, Weybridge, Mrs. WILLIAM J. ALT, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 8th instant, while on the voyage to Europe, GEORGE FARLEY HEARD.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, in his fortieth year, JOSEPH WILLIAM OLIVER, Store-Issuer of H. B. M. Naval Yard, Shanghai, China; a native of Woolwich, England. Kentish papers please copy.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per P.M. str. *Nevada*, for Hiogo—Messrs. E. F. Loomis and L. Pfaff. For Yokohama—Messrs. H. W. Wheeler, R. Whetmore and Ostella. For San Francisco—Capt. W. W. Hardy, wife and infant, and Mr. O. Hübner. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Capt. Law, Messrs. R. H. MacDermott, F. Wheeler and Uyeno. For Yokohama—Messrs. Fred. Hayne, Thos. D. Skelly, H. Reynell, Percy Young, W. Bramsen, J. H. Blair, W. Assiter, F. Grimaldi, W. Peacock, M. Robino, Iwosaki, Yanoske, Ishikawa. For Hiogo—Messrs. T. Scott and Pin Sye.

ARRIVED.—Per M. B. S. S. Co. str. *Tokio Maru*, from Japan—Messrs. Ewosaki Yanosuke, N. Douglas, P. V. Grant, W. Bramson, L. D. Syle, F. Grinaldo, and H. Sylva. Steerage—one Japanese and four Chinese. Per *Empress of China*—Mrs. J. J. Smith, daughter and servant. Per British barque *Serpent*, from Nagasaki—Mr. J. Lambert. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—23 Chinese. Per str. *Ocean*, from Japan—Mr. Simms. Per str. *Hector*—Mrs. Atkinson and three children, Capt. Kirby, and Mr. Cole. Per M.M. str. *Ava*, from Marseilles—Mrs. King, Mrs. Groth's Servant, and Mr. Lefebvre. From Hongkong—Rev. Conreaux, Messrs. Wietem, Seligmann, Beveridge, C. A. de Britto, Telge, A. Flagg, Hyru, and Brunel.

LEAVING.—Per M. M. str. *Amazone*, for Hongkong—Messrs. J. Houstoun, Boswell, and the master of the *Blantyre*. For Marseilles—Messrs. Picard, Delacroix, Arentz, Vacher, Nichot, and Vincent.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Feb.	° ′	°	°	°					
11	30.250	40.5	40.0	34.0	7	b	5	6	N. E.
12	30.250	39.0	40.0	34.0	8	o	..	4	N. E.
13	30 300	38.0	39.0	32.0	8	c	..	5	N. N. E.
14	30.250	36.5	44.0	37.0	7	b	..	0	z
15	30.254	40.0	46.0	32.0	7	b	..	3	N. W.
16	30.300	41.0	44.0	32.0	8	m	..	2	E. S. E.
17	30.200	39.5	41.0	33.0	9	o	13	3	E. S. E.

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

Advertisement.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. SHELLIM EZEKIEL SHELLIM in our Firm in China and Hongkong ceased on the 31st December, 1874. Mr. EDWARD ELIAS SASSOON has been admitted a partner therein from the 1st January, 1875.

E. D. SASSOON & Co.

5fe 52 Shanghai, 11th February, 1875.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, FEB. 18, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Piece Goods. Another year has been numbered with the past, and although in its results to the importers it has been less unsatisfactory than some of its predecessors, it has left behind it traces neither few nor insignificant of the old complaint. It is by no means a pleasant thing for us to have to reiterate the same story year after year; and in the interests of our fellow countrymen engaged in the *Piece Goods* trade with China, we heartily wish that fortune would smile on their endeavours to disseminate the blessings of our Western Civilization throughout this Empire, notwithstanding that those blessings do occasionally contain the germ of mildew and other equally undesirable substances. But, while the causes remain, we fear that the "good time" for our merchants is still remote. However, our duty in the present paper is with the past, not to speculate on the future, although we cannot refrain from stating that so long as the supply exceeds the requirements, and while so much official opposition to the introduction of our wares into the interior is experienced, the results to our trade cannot differ greatly from those obtained in recent times.

Now, in regard to the first of these causes, the stocks of manufactures on hand on 31st December last, as shewn by the Returns published by our Chamber of Commerce, compare favorably with those of 31st December, 1873; which argues either a diminution in the importation as compared with the consumption, or an increase in the quantity taken off by the country at large; and we believe it will be found when the figures are compiled, that there has been an actual increase in the deliveries of many articles during the past year. At the same time, the receipts, in most instances, have been fully equal to the demand, and only in a very few have stocks decreased through a modification in the home shipments. Thus, "short stocks" have been the exception, and it has frequently been provided for long before, in the ordinary course, it could have affected business. Moreover, the natives have taken good care that they should not suffer grievously in this respect. They knew too well in advance what things were likely to be wanted, and when. Besides, as a rule, they are fully aware whether there is a sufficiency in store for them to choose from, and if there appear the slightest probability of

a scarcity, they create a fictitious activity, buy sparingly, and *bull* prices until the bait has been swallowed and their interests thoroughly served, by that desire to be rich which prompts nearly every foreign importer simultaneously to telegraph for the particular article in question, and hence a plethora is always secured. And in reference to the second cause—official obstructiveness. It is now more rampant and defiantly paraded than ever. The *Transit Pass* in many districts has become food for the historian. True, around the Treaty Ports the *Pass* has still some influence, but in the far-distant interior it is useless, and worse than useless, for the authorities ignore it, and some of its possessors have been ruined by their obstinacy in claiming the rights supposed to be covered by it. The Mandarins, and notably those of Chungking and Kwei-foo, on the Upper Yangtsze, either cannot, or they flatly refuse to realise the fact, that foreign manufactures do *not* change their character with a change of ownership, even although they be accompanied by corroborative proof in the shape of a Transit certificate, and in those districts foreign-owned foreign merchandise does not always enjoy immunity from the exactions of the *Likin* farmers. Even now there is some foreign owned cargo detained at one or other of those barriers, and a British firm at Hankow is at the present moment prosecuting a claim at Peking for a sum of about Tls. 18,000, loss by detention, extra freightage, deterioration, and damage, sustained last Spring by and through the action of those in charge of the barriers on the borders of Kwei-chow and Szechuen. Be it remarked that this claim for actual loss occurred on goods costing little more than double that figure, so that the owner suffers to the extent of nearly fifty per cent. on cost price. In all this we have the verification—and far earlier than we looked for—of the utterings in our Retrospect for 1873. We then said: "The native is afraid to "adopt it, and although respect is still "paid to the foreigner's pass the time is "not far distant when that too will be "ignored by the Barrier authorities." It is true that latterly the goods belonging to the firm alluded to have been permitted to pass the barriers, on production of the certificate of ownership, but this permission has, as it were, been wrenched from the collectors of Likin, and only after repeated remonstrances to Peking against the injustice perpetrated, But the evil does not rest here. Foiled in their attempt to detain and squeeze *bona fide* foreign-owned cloths, the mandarins, or their myrmidons, throw every obstacle in the way of the carriers, and ultimately they have adopted a system of espionage that surely demands examining into. Discrediting the terms of the *Transit Pass*, and in order to find out the real owners of the merchandise covered by it, they have stopped mails, overhauled the letters, and where their suspicions have been confirmed, dire have been the consequences to their unfortunate countrymen.

Such is the purport of the news that has from time to time reached us from Hankow; and the state of trade in the Upper Yangtsze districts for many months past has been such as to induce a belief in the truth of our information.

Now all this shows plainly the absurdity of any arrangement for the unmolested transit of our manufactures through the inland provinces of China, to which the district authorities are enforced strangers. They will not be bound by any such. A certain annual tribute is demanded of them by the Central Government. They receive and accept their appointments calculating on an income from foreign trade to enable them, in part, to fulfil their agreements with Peking, and we humbly submit they are not altogether to be condemned if they so jealously, and seemingly too jealously, guard their incomes, more especially since they have seen that the foreign representative can be made to take action in favor of his countrymen only when in a measure he is forced to do so. And in support of the immediate foregoing, we point to the altered state of affairs in this province wherein we dwell. Here the mandarins have taken the management of the transit under their own wings. The *Pass* is no longer required. A more favorable arrangement has been introduced. By the Pass system a bale of *Grey Shirtings* pays Tls. 2 Hae-kwan, or half the import duty to be franked to Soochow. By the new arrangement, whereby a sum of Tls. 20,000 is accepted annually by the local powers from the Guilds, in lieu of all inland squeezes on foreign merchandize passing from hence to Soochow—a bale of *Shirtings* costs not a tithe of that sum—and it finds its way to the cities beyond—Hangchow, Hoochow, &c.,—on a total payment of Tls. 1.20 Shanghai Sycee. Of course there are the Municipal dues of the terminal city still to be paid, but those are legally leviable, Pass or no Pass, and in no way affect the question at issue. Unless, therefore, our own authorities are prepared with a better system than that adopted by the natives, we should advise a passive acquiescence therein, as the dealers have found it the cheapest and most convenient; and under it our district trade has made wonderful strides during the bye-gone twelve months. In all this, let it not be imagined for a moment that we approve of the meddling of the mandarins; but we insist upon it, that until they are consulted, or until they receive their own proper share of the transit dues, they will continue to thwart or obstruct the smooth working of any transit scheme—however good—that may be adopted by the Central Government and the foreigner.

Then the standard of some Cotton fabrics has been lowered, whether intentionally by the manufacturer we are unable to say, but circumstantial evidence points towards wilful adulteration. Undoubtedly low classed and heavily sized goods have paid the importer better, or have lost him less, than genuine cloths have done; and without doubt also, the natives, attracted by the wide differences in the prices of the spurious and honest material, have dealt more liberally in the former. But we do not undertake to determine how far the end is justified by the means, and the future must be left to decide whether the warning thrown out by the Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce at the annual meeting of members held on 5th ultimo, has any foundation in fact. He characterized "the deteriorating quality "of much of the goods now sent to China "from Manchester as being specially a "further source of loss to the importer, "and one which might react in a very "unfavorable way upon the industry of "Lancashire," and he hinted at the probability of the establishment in Shanghai of spinning and weaving machinery after the example of similar institutions in India, the working whereof had been eminently successful. Thus Lancashire had better look to her laurels. In the earlier half of 1873, adulterated Cottons sold for nearly as much as the more comparatively pure articles, but towards the close of that year it was prognosticated that such a state of things was fast approaching a climax, and, taking an 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirting* as the subject of our illustration, it is not too much to say that the past year has witnessed the complete fulfilment of the prophecy. For sometime two mace per piece was considered a great difference in the quoted rates for lowest to best chops, but as the year progressed, and while Dewhurst's *Eagles* and Mendel's best chops were maintaining a value of Tls. 1.87 *a* 1.92 and Tls. 1.95 *a* 2.00 per piece respectively, the lowest grades and shops fell to Tls. 1.60 *a* 1.62, or a drop of 2m. 6c. *a* 2m. 8c. per piece as against one mace to 3 *a* 5c. on the opening rates in January; and mildews of the inferior classes have occasionally been sold at an allowance of one mace to one mace and a half upon these figures. The concerned in such low productions know best whether the trade has been a lucrative one. To the outsider it seems that a prime cost of 7s. 6d. *a* 7s. 9d. per piece requires rather more than Tls. 1.60 (six months sight sterling being only 5s. 9d. per tael) to yield a profit. But perhaps we are mistaken. Enlightenment on this point is courted, and meanwhile here are the figures on which our ideas are based.

Invoice of 50 *Bales* 8¼-*lbs. Grey Shirtings. Manchester to Shanghai.*

2,501 pieces *a* 7*s.* 7½*d.* per piece			£	953 10 2
Nett in 3 months.				
CHARGES (MANCHESTER).				
Making up 1,500 pieces *a* 1d. ea.	£10	8 5		
Packing in good tarpauling 14*s.* per Bale	35	0 0		
1 zinc and wood sample case		6 0		
Fire Insurance		9 0		
Bill Stamp		10 0		
				46 13 5
			£	1,000 3 7
LONDON CHARGES.				
Entry and Bill of Lading	£ 0	7 6		
Freight *a* 45*s.* and 10 % primage	26	5 9		
do. on musters		5 0		
Railway carriage	14	10 5		
Postages, petties, etc	1	1 0		
Marine Insurance on £1,300 *a* 30*s.* and Stamps	20	0 0		
				62 9 8
			£	1,062 13 3
Add for Interest say 8 m/*s. a* 5 % per annum				32 1 9
			£	1,094 15 0
a 5/9 per Tael			Tls.	3,807.82
SHANGHAI CHARGES.				
Import Duty H. Tls. 200 *a* 111.40			Tls.	222.80
Wharfage dues—Municipal				5.00
Landing, Postages and petties, say				4.38
Fire Insurance and Rent	*Nil.*			
				232.18
			Tls.	4,040.00

or nearly Tls. 1.62 per piece.

In the above calculation it will be seen that no account is taken of commissions, and that the charges are confined as closely as possible to actual outlay. Moreover, if whilst *en route*, the goods suffer though sea damage or mildew, the loss thereby sustained fails to be added to the cost. It may be said that

our rate of Exchange is an exceptionally low one, and this to some extent we allow. At the same time it must be borne in mind, that the higher sterling occasionally ruling last summer was more than counterbalanced by the higher original cost in Manchester, and once or twice when remittances had to be made at 5s. 8½d., the results were all the more unsatisfactory. Goods similar to those which form the subject for our calculation cost in May last 8s. 4½d. per piece, and when put on the market here in July they realised only Tls. 1.62 per piece, Exchange at the time being quoted 5/8½ *a* 5/8¾ per Tael for 6 months' sight Bank Bills. This is one example only of the trade in PLAIN COTTONS during 1874, and although we do not say that it should be taken as a representative one, there has been sufficient misfortune attendant on its prosecution to create unbounded delight in the hearts of many importers when they closed their warehouse doors on the last of the "nameless trash."

Furthermore, nature has continued to favor the Chinaman. The Cotton Crop of 1873 was a very abundant one, and that of the past autumn was still larger. Hence, to enable the home manufacture to compete with the native cloth, prices had to be reduced, and the losses on long held cargo, *T-Cloths* more especially, have simply been ruinous.

And, finally, there is a spirit of jealousy rampant amongst foreigners that keeps them aloof from one another in business matters, to their own detriment, and to the Chinaman's well-being. They seem to be under the impression that any information they may interchange means only so much more enlightenment to the native, whose position, as regards knowledge, they consider already too powerful. It was this spirit—at least we cannot imagine any other reason—which prevented the issue of the usual half-yearly Returns of Stocks by the Chamber of Commerce in June last, and this same spirit lays the seller at the mercy of the buyers, for while the former is often acting in utter ignorance of what his neighbours have, and are doing, the Chinaman—in possession of the most accurate details, and possessed also of a lively sense of the use as well as of the abuse of truth, to say nothing of that subservience to his guild which compels him to make an account of his daily doings—generally manages to gain the advantage in any transaction on which he fixes his attention.

Summary of News.

The M. M. str. *Ava*, with the mail of the 1st January, arrived yesterday.

A mail left for America by the P. M. str. *Nevada*, on the 15th.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. str. *Amazone*.

The following telegrams only have been received from Reuter during the week :—

The Committee of Ways and Means of the American Congress has agreed to a draft of the Tariff, taxing Cotton and Woollen manufactures, Iron, Steel, and Sugar, but leaving Tea and Coffee untaxed.

Alfonso has ordered a levy of 70,000 men.

Sir Andrew Clarke has been appointed Director of Public Works in India.

An outbreak has occurred amongst the Chinese prisoners at the criminal gaol at Singapore. Superintendent Dent was killed, and sixteen Warders wounded. Fifteen of the prisoners were killed, and thirty-five wounded. Order has been restored.

The French Ministry tendered resignation. MacMahon consulted the Duc de Broglie, but a new Ministry is impossible until after the final vote on the Constitutional Laws.

The minutes of the meeting of the Museum Committee, held on Tuesday last, promise well, at least for the ornithological section. No less than 59 gentlemen have contributed under this head during the past two months.

We learn from the Minutes of the French Municipal Council, that an iron bridge is ready for erection over the Yang-king-pang, at the end of Honan road.—In regard to the question of encroachment on that creek, the Council adheres to the position it took up in 1872.—Before drawing up its budget for 1875-6, the the Council wishes to ascertain from the Council on the North Yang-king-pang, whether it adheres to its decision to discontinue the equal partition of the revenue from wheelbarrows.

At a meeting of the Municipal Council held on the 2nd February, permission was given to the China Merchants S. N. Co. to erect a line of telegraph between their Office in Hankow Road and their godowns in Hongkew. If the Chinese can appreciate a line of telegraph in the Settlement, why do they object to one elsewhere? We are glad to find that a drill-sergeant for the Volunteers is to be procured from Hongkong.—The Harbour Master suggests certain new Fire Signals in case of fire amongst ships in harbour. The Council fear this would unnecessarily complicate signals, as the Municipal Fire Department is not in a position to render assistance to ships in the stream.—All Municipal officers are to be allowed nine months' leave, after five years' service.

The accounts of the Shanghai Race Club for the year 1874 show a balance in hand of Tls. 2,643, besides some Tls. 230 of dependency.

A fire broke out shortly before 9 p.m. on Saturday, in Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s auction rooms, in Kiangsi Road. These and their contents were completely destroyed. Full particulars of the disaster are given in a detailed account on another page.

An enquiry was held on Friday, into the circumstances of the late riot near Kung-wang, and the affair was satisfactorily settled. The proceedings were quite informal, the object being rather to prevent further annoyance than to give official prominence to what has passed. This object seems to have been attained; the names of the offenders are registered, and they will be held responsible in case of any further disturbance—responsible not only for the past or any future misdeeds of their own, but for the possible misdeeds of others—which they are bound over to prevent. The old lady especially, as the worst culprit—she having got up the disturbance—is held security for the peace of the neigborhood.

A case was tried on the same day before Sir E. Hornby, in which a Chinese named Fan Tsiang-chi sought to recover $3,000 damages for an alleged libel against him published in the *Wui-pao*. The paragraph alleged that the plaintiff had been smoking opium in a certain shop with a friend, and had no money to pay for it; that he offered his trousers in pledge, but the shopman refused to take them, and a row ensued. The paragraph added that Fan had formerly been in the employ of the C. M. S. N. Co., but had been dismissed; and went on to point a moral about the vicious and degrading tendency of opium generally.—His Lordship held that the paragraph was libellous, but that no specific damages had been proved. He gave judgment for $50, to carry costs.

Captain Sack, of the British ship *Star of Jamaica*, has been tried on the unusual charge of concealing and employing two able seamen of H.M. ship [illegible] knowing them to be deserters. The prosecution was [illegible] seaman of the *Star of Jamaica*, named Carroll, who had been summoned by Captain Sack for refusal of duty, for which he was sentenced to imprisonment. The witnesses called had also been summoned and punished for a similar offence. The case was dismissed, because it could not be legally proved that the two men (who were landed at Freemantle) were borne on the books of any ship in the Royal Navy, or were deserters therefrom.

We publish, elsewhere, a letter which Mr. T. T. Cooper has lately written to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, about the trade of Western China. He contends that the natural course of this trade is down the Yangtsze; and that the energy, therefore, which is being expended on opening up a trade route between Burmah and Western China would be better employed in opening up the towns on the Upper Yangtsze to intercourse with Shanghai. The endeavour to open up a trade across Burmah is all right so far as it goes; but more might be done from the opposite direction; and if Home Chambers of Commerce can devote so much energy, and the Indian Government so much money and enterprise, towards opening up this new trade for Rangoon, surely some energy and some money might be made available towards extending the far more capable trade through Shanghai. He urges, therefore, that the Shanghai Chamber should try to persuade the Home Chambers to this effect.—Mr. Cooper also calls attention to the fact that trade in salt is permitted between Burmah and Yunnan, whereas the import of salt is forbidden into Eastern China.

We have received No. 7 of the Valuable Medical Reports which are now issued periodically from the Customs' Press, under the editorship of Dr. Jamieson. The reports are for irregular periods—that is to say, some relate to 1873 and some to 1874. Publication of the earlier ones has no doubt been delayed by the same causes which occasioned delay in the case of the Trade Reports for 1873—namely pressure, on the Statistical Department, of catalogues relating to the Vienna Exhibition. Early publication, however, is not of the same importance in the case of Medical Reports as of Trade Statistics; so the delay is less regrettable.

The N.-China and Japan Desk Hong List appears rather late this year; but only those who have had practical experience of getting up a directory, can appreciate the labour involved, and the difficulty of reconciling accuracy with early publication. Mistakes too will occur, despite all precaution; and so frequent are the changes in Shanghai, that one or two have already occurred since the sheets were in the Press. If errors there are however, they appear to us, on glancing through the book, to be trifling; and we turn with pleasure to the more satisfactory work of praise. The book is carefully compiled, and well-printed, and contains several useful additions to last year's number. Some nine pages, for instance, are filled with a local Navy List; that is to say, a list of the various foreign men-of-war and their officers stationed in Chinese and Japanese waters. The Silk Tables published some time ago in separate form by Mr. A. H. Maeter—— incorporated, and will form a useful addition. An exchange table showing the relative values of Gold and Silver coins in different countries will be useful to people who intend taking the Continent quietly, on their way home via Brindisi, and a table of weights and measures on the following page will also come in for occasional reference. These are the leading alterations, and add to the value of the little volume which the Publishers are making, every year, more complete and useful.

The Pacific Mail and the Mitzu Bishi Steamship Companies seem about to enter on a very profitable career of opposition. The P. M. S. Co. have advertised a considerably reduced schedule of charges to Japan, both for passengers and cargo; and the Japanese Company followed next morning with a scale varying from 20 to 50 per cent below their rivals. If the chief object of steamship companies is to deplete each other's pockets for the benefit of the public, the P. M. S. and the Mitzu Bishi promise to succeed.

The depressed view which we have several times lately expressed, of Chinese finance, is confirmed by the memorial of Censor Hü Ting-Kwei, in the *Gazette* of the 18th Jan. The Censor points out that the ordinary revenue showed a large surplus over expenditure in the reigns of Kienlung and Kiaking, and even left a considerable margin, notwithstanding extraordinary expenses, during the reign of Tao-kwang; whereas the finances are embarrassed now, although the revenue has been largely augmented by extraordinary taxation. The disbandment of the irregular soldiery is pointed to as a remedy, and a roving commission for this purpose is advocated. There can be no doubt these irregular troops are a great drain, less probably in actual cost than in the peculation to which they give rise. There is, however, another side of the question, still more serious; the Government exactions choke trade in its efforts to recover from the effects of the rebellions that these irregular levies have been raised to repress, and kill the revenue which they are intended to augment.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 20th January contains a memorial from the Governor of KIANGSI, curiously illustrating the blind folly with which the Peking Government insists on its rice tribute. The practice has obtained for some time in Kiangsi, of commuting a great part of the tribute into money. The Peking people, however, are dissatisfied apparently with the rate of commutation, and insist that they will have the tribute in kind. The experiment of shipping rice by the C. M. S. N. Co. from Shanghai has been successful, and their steamers can as well take rice from Kiukiang. The Governor says he cannot levy the tribute in kind, and if the Government insists on having rice, all he can do is to raise the commuted tax in money, and buy rice. Can a more wasteful process of raising revenue be conceived? Is it not virtually incurring the loss of a double transmutation, in order to create freight for the C. M. S. N. Co.?

The Peking Gazette of the 18th January contains the remarkable suggestion that the Governor of Fuhkien should be required to reside in FORMOSA for the future. The idea seems so impracticable that we are surprised it should emanate from a man of Shen-pao-chen's position. However valuable a possession Formosa may be, the great province of which it is a dependency must deserve the more immediate presence and attention of the Governor. A more practical idea would be to separate Formosa from Fuhkien, and make it an independent Government; but that would be the signal for exactions which would crush its trade. The proposal is at any rate notable, as showing the attention which has been directed to Formosa by recent events.

Our latest date from PEKING is the 3rd February. All was then quiet, and the 25th February had been appointed for the enthronement of the young Emperor. We print, elsewhere, a further series of edicts relating to the late Emperor's decease and the new succession; but have no other news of interest. Li Hung-chang arrived from the provincial Capital on the 28th January, and was to leave again on the 3rd February (the date of our letter) after having paid his devoirs before the coffin of the deceased Emperor, and had his audience of the Empresses. Of the young Emperor himself, a correspondent writes:—The Chinese say he cries from morn to eve for his mother, from whom he has been separated for ever. He is living amongst entire strangers; not even his former nurse is allowed to accompany him to his palace; the object being that he shall grow up a stranger to his original home, and only regard the Empresses Dowager as his mothers.—It does not appear clearly yet who are likely to be the leading men at the Capital under the new régime. All the old officials appear to retain their posts, the only notable change, so far, being the substitution of Prince Pih (a son of San-ko-lin-sin) for Prince Chun, as commandant of the Peking Manchu garrison. Our correspondent points out what our readers will no doubt remember, that Prince Chun (the father of the new Emperor) is the man with whom Count Rochechouart had a *fracas* some years ago, through a collision betwe their retainers in the streets. Prin Chun apologised, but is believed to ha retained a lively dislike of the Frenc ever since.

It is worth remarking that even i TIENTSIN, so close to the Capital, rumour have been current about the state of affair in Peking, nearly as wild as those we ha noted from time to time in Shanghai. I was reported at Peking when he was quie in his provincial capital of Paouting; an when he did go to the Capital, all sorts o ideas were started as to the motive culminating in the suggestion that h would probably remain near the Throne and be succeeded by either Chung-how or by Tseng Kwo-chuen (a brother of the lat Tseng Kwo-fan), in the Vice-royalty o Chihli. Private letters of the 25th in dicate strong apprehensions that there would be disturbance at Peking. It wa thought Prince Kung could not like the new order of things, and that although matters seemed to be going on smoothly, a storm was very likely brewing under the surface.—Letters of the 1st, however, both from Peking and Tientsin, show that all was still quiet, and we only remark the curious fact that very similar rumours and uncertainty were afloat there and in Shanghai.

We hear that there was a considerable fall of snow on the hills round NINGPO, on Friday.

The *Ava* brings HONGKONG papers to the 13th inst., but they contain little news of interest. H.M.S. *Audacious*, the flagship of Admiral Ryder, who is to assume command of H.M.S. China squadron, anchored in the roads at Singapore on the 1st inst. The *Audacious* is a sister ship of the *Iron Duke*. Admiral Shadwell will, at Singapore, resign the command to Admiral Ryder. —Mr. Lister has been appointed Assistant Colonial Secretary.—The str. *Kiukiang* had been chartered to convey a large number of passengers to Macao to witness a religious procession at that place on Sunday.—The Portuguese Amateurs gave a successful performance at the Lusitano Theatre on Thursday.

A Reuter's telegram informs us that the Straits Settlements are to lose their present Governor, who has been appointed Director of Public Works in India. Sir Andrew Clarke has shown himself an able and energetic Administrator, since he took up office at SINGAPORE, and will undoubtedly be much missed. That he will have ample scope for all his talent and energy in India, no one who has read the constant complaints of mismanagement of the Public Works there, can doubt. Sir Andrew Clarke first came into notice in Australia, where he resigned his appointment as Captain in the Royal Engineers, to take office as Surveyor-General. He subsequently held a special post in the Admiralty under Mr. Childers, and gained credit for some economical reforms in Woolwich dockyard. His previous career, therefore, marks him out as well fitted for the new appointment. In the Straits he has done exactly what the residents were fruitlessly asking before his arrival—taken vigorous measures to suppress piracy and extend English influence and trade on the mainland.

Editorial Selections.

THE RICE TRIBUTE AND THE C. M. S. N. CO.

JOMS remarks we lately made with regard to the Rice tribute and its effects on the finances of the Empire, have failed to meet general acceptance; but this want of acceptance is rather to be attributed to a superficial view of the subject, than to any innate improbability in our statements. We have been taken to task because we incidentally spoke of the abuses of the Rice tribute and, coupled with it, of the enterprise which, under the misnomer of the "China Merchants Steam Navigation Co.," is really dissipating Government money in running an opposition to foreign shipowners. Now we have very good authority as to what this Rice tribute really is, and for this purpose we will quote two documents, both of which are above suspicion. The first is an extract from Mr. Dick's Report on the trade of Tientsin during the year 1867, and dated in April 1868; the second a memorial from Chen Hung-yi, published in the Peking *Gazette* of November 11th, 1872, pointing out from a native point of view the disadvantages of the system. It will be seen that both, without hesitation, condemn the entire system as being useless, cumbrous and extravagant. Mr. Dick's position as Commissioner of Customs at Tientsin afforded him special means of making himself acquainted with the circumstances of the case; and his deliberate opinion, therefore, that the grain transport is "simply a trade in rice carried on by officials at a great cost to the country," is one which it will require much evidence of a contrary description to that adduced, to disprove. Mr. Dick, as will be noticed, divides the abuses into three heads. The first, the transport; the second, the arrangements for reception at Tientsin and conveyance to the Capital; the third, the eventual distribution. The Chinese memorialist, having a further acquantance with the oppressiveness of the system, goes back a step further, and points out the abuses concerning its collection. Both are at one so far as their descriptions coinside; and the Chinese memorial, explaining as it does that the levying of the tax in money would save the heavy outlay now incurred for transport, official salaries, &c., &c. is especially to the point

Again, the *Gazette* of the 31st October, 1872, contained a doleful report from Kien Ting-ming, Footai of Honan which, compared with that from the Footai of the same province, published in the *Gazette* of 12th January, 1875, is curiously instructive. The taxation in Honan has been contiuuously oppressive. No notice has been taken of the numerous complaints which have been sent to the throne, and the evil now seems to have reached a culminating point. Kien Ting-ming reported, "The Spring crops this year were only middling, and the autumn crops were very much injured by wet weather, the country in many places being flooded. It will be impossible therefore to pay the land-tax in kind. The export of 100,000 piculs would raise that article to a ruinous price, and leave people and army without supplies; the tax must therefore be paid in sycee, at the same rate as last year." Now, if we look at the economic position of the matter, we shall be still more surprised. This rice, collected with so much oppression, carried at so great expense, and distributed with so much extravagant waste, is in reality not needed at Peking. It is not the usual food of those for whom it is intended, who in fact will only eat rice when forced to do so. Peking is not dependent on the southern provinces for its supply of food, the northern districts of China supplying in abundance more wholesome and suitable provender. In every respect the levy is to be deprecated. In prosperous years it leans too lightly in proportion on the provinces; in disastrous ones, it becomes an unbearable exaction. It interferes with the course of trade between North and South, as was exemplified during the recent famine in Chihli, where private enterprise was checked by the presence of the Government monopoly. Canton and the South were abundantly supplied with food from Kiangsu, by the operation of a comparatively unfettered trade, (though the Government was not ashamed to levy duties on the carriage of the rice needed); while in Chihli, in face of the exertions made by the Government, the people over large districts were left without food, no one venturing to import from the Yangtsze ports, where rice was actually rotting on the ground for want of a market.

Not content with the wasteful extravagance inherent in the tribute in kind itself, the Government of late years has gone further. When Mr. Dick and Chen Hung-yi made their reports, the new Steam Packet Company, which we were told was to be the regeneration of China, was not yet in existence. We can form for ourselves, now, some idea of how it is likely to mend matters. It has been formed for the expressed purpose of monopolising, against the natural course of trade, the conveyance of the rice of the Southern provinces to Peking. Foreign steamers had run off the coast the native junks which used to convey the tribute rice; so the Chinese concluded they would run steamers themselves, and reserve for them the freight on the tribute cargo, as a subsidy. So far the programme may have a justification. But that justification can only hold good, when the "Company" has proved itself capable of performing that service at as small cost as the Government could otherwise get the service efficiently performed. But it is notorious that the rates paid for the conveyance of rice are far in excess of what it would be conveyed for in private steamers, native or foreign. Were the service put up to public competition, even with the proviso that the contract should be carried out under the national flag, there are scores of merchants who could find means to do it as efficiently as at present, at far less rates. Chinese merchants own steamers in Siam and Singapore, and work them on their own account; and there is no good reason, save and except the jealousy and misconduct of the Government, why they should not do the same in China. The advent of a real native merchant service would not be viewed with ill-will by foreigners, who would willingly hail the development of trade that such a measure would induce. But instead of this, a service too intimately associated with mandarins to gain the confidence of native merchants, is kept going by paying out of the finances of the Empire an extravagant rate of freight. Not only is this the case, but this rate is made the opportunity, professedly in the interest of the Chinese trader, of running a ruinous opposition on the river Yangtsze. We do not know by what principles of economy such a contest, supported by the power of a government, can be fortified. The cheap rates of freight are indirectly kept up, not by legitimate trade, but by means of exactions on every description of traffic. To gain the advantages of low freights, the native merchant has to submit to heavy taxation of the very articles he wishes to ship, in order to support a useless traffic to the North and its concomitant army of officials for collecting, shipping, managing steamers and distributing. In other words, the relief which would come to him naturally in the course of trade, if freights rose above a fairly remunerative rate, has now to be applied through all the wasteful extravagance of the rice tribute and its new ally, the "China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co." As we have said above, the tribute rice, not being required in the North, is only an interference with the course of trade. Well supplied with all the necessities of life, the North yet eagerly seeks to purchase other things from the South of China. Sugar, cotton, cotton goods, and we may add opium, are the products which the North really demands, but for which it has itself little in the way of corresponding commodities to offer in exchange. Still, the presence of the seat of Government at Peking; an internal native trade capable, to judge from experience at Chinkiang, of much development, and perhaps other sources, supply considerable quantities of bullion to be exchanged for these goods. Now the effect of the forced import of rice, as Mr. Dick tells us, is that that article becomes a drug on the market. So much of it as has not been wasted or destroyed *en route* by the various processes described in his report, is put on the market and sold at a merely nominal rate. Not only therefore is the soldier, for whom the rice was intended, deprived of a large portion of the purchasing power which he would have gained had his contribution been handed

to him in money, but a rival to the natural productions of the land is introduced into the market. The agriculturist of Chihli suffers by as much as the difference between the currency which the soldier would have gained, had the contribution from the provinces arrived in the least extravagant manner, and the sum actually received for the modicum of damaged rice sold by him stealthily to the rice dealer. Economically considered, then, no interest can derive benefit from the present system, but all suffer together; a portion of the taxes so hardly wrung go to support an expensive enterprise; the incidence of the grain tribute collected in kind is most oppressive where it ought to be lightest; and when, on the contrary, the people are most prosperous, its effect is equally unfair in the opposite direction.

CHINESE FINANCE.

In a previous article we have shown by what means the Rice tribute and its new ally, the C. M. S. N. Co., are drawing on the resources of the Empire. Lately we have had occasion to refer to more than one memorial in the Peking *Gazette*, to prove into what a serious dilemma the finances of China were gradually, but surely, falling. On the 12th and 18th of last month appeared two memorials, bearing directly on the present condition of affairs, and giving a deplorable but, as we must infer from the general agreement of evidence, a true description of the present position of matters. The first, from the Governor of Honan, showed how Imperial demands had utterly exhausted the resources of that province. The ordinary revenue of Honan is about Taels 2,150,000, but the requisitions made on it amount to so much more, that at the time of writing the memorial the province was actually in arrears Taels 1,955,600. The necessary funds for maintaining the ordinary Civil Government of the province amount to about Taels 700,000; the expense of keeping up the Military to about Taels 1,400,000. In addition, the repairs to the Yellow river on an average absorbed some Taels 200,000 per annum, so that the province was already taxed to the amount of its revenue. In addition, although it had borne the brunt of the Nienfei rebellion, it was called on to contribute heavily towards the expenses of the now useless war against the forces of the Ameer of Turkestan, as well as to subscribe towards garrisons in the Manchurian and Mongolian provinces, from which it derived no benefit directly or indirectly. We alluded, in our article, to the unfair incidence in Honan of the Rice tribute. In an inland province, deprived of the ready means of locomotion afforded by the sea to the maritime districts of China, the incidence of a tribute in kind must needs in the first place be very unequal, and in the second most extravagant and wasteful. The small collection of duties points out the present extremely isolated condition of the province. We said above that the supplies have been demanded for the now useless war in the North-west. So long as it was carried on against bands of Mahommedan rebels, who were devastating the provinces of China and introducing anarchy into her Western dependencies, the war in the North-west was a necessity, if China wished to hold together as an Empire. At the present moment, the state of affairs has assumed a different complexion. Turkestan is no natural dependency of China. Its people have no sympathy in race or religion with those of the Empire, from whom moreover they are separated by a wide arm of the desert of Gobi. The conquest of Turkestan was adventitious, being induced by the disorganized condition of those countries, when one party to gain its own ends called in the assistance of its then powerful neighbour. The occupation by the Chinese has never been quietly acquiesced in, and Turkestan has ever been the hotbed of intrigue and disaffection. The money expended in keeping up garrisons has never been repaid, and little if any incidental advantage accrued to China from the connection. At present, Turkestan is governed by an able ruler, who has turned his attention to developing the resources of the country. In no country in Asia is life or property more secure than in that ruled over by Yakoob Beg; and his military success keeps pace with his home government. He has now apparently, by the conquest of Urumtsi, removed all apprehension of such inroads into Mongolia as we lately chronicled. He has never expressed any desire to interfere with his neighbours North and East, so that his presence affords a fair promise of good order and security to the West of the Empire. Against such a State, and at such a time, it is certainly the height of folly for China to contend.

But we would wish to bring forward the second memorial referred to. If Honan be overtaxed to maintain an extravagant and useless war, it is only on a par with the rest of the Empire. The Censor Hu Ting-kwei gives a description of the general finances of the Empire, in equally deplorable terms. The military establishments of the provinces are conducted on an extravagant system, without regularity or proper supervision; in addition, money is expended on matters of no pressing importance, and in keeping up numbers of useless tax stations. The Censor owns, as have all those Chinese officials who have had the boldness to state their views, that the method of levy is most wasteful and oppressive. The *Likin*, he observes, is an oppressive institution, only continued in force owing to the necessity of providing resources to meet the army expenditure in the North west, and we may add largely drawn on to support a grain trade along the coast. Its evil effects are most conspicuous in the two Kiang, the two Hu, the two Kwang, the Min-Cheh, and Szechuen provinces, in fact, where trade would naturally flourish were it left to itself. The suggestions made are of a practical nature—the removal of useless stations, the incorporation of others, their abolition where possible. Above all, he recommends the introduction of a system of audit. At present there is no check on the vagaries of an officer. He levies what he can get, and often so much that he puts a stop to traffic. Were the officer placed in communication, and regular accounts kept and audited, the worst features of the case would certainly be removed. But what official in China could be trusted to audit? The military operations in the North-west are acknowledged to be the great drag on the resources of the Empire, and to afford the excuse for the continuance of the *Likin*. They are useless, inglorious and unprofitable. It would be far better to make peace with the Ameer, and balance the debit and credit of the exchequer.

CUSTOMS TRADE REPORTS, 1873.

III.

If, leaving the mainland, we examine into the trade of Formosa for the year under review, we shall find but little more cause for congratulation than we have done hitherto. The hopes which were held out of an increment in the trade of this fertile island have certainly as yet borne but little fruit. The Commissioners of Customs at the various ports do not as a general rule care to enquire into native malpractices with regard to the trade of their ports, yet now and then the very necessity of the case demands some allusion. Of the two ports in Formosa, the more northern, Tamsui, with its dependent, Kelung, have the most satisfactory report to offer; the other, Taiwan, and its dependency Takow, showing a marked retrogression. With regard to the former, Governmental exactions on coal and tea seriously fetter trade, and the more so, that they seem to be imposed in the most arbitrary manner. Thus, taxes on tea were raised to such a degree as to seriously interfere with the export. Likin taxes as usual, though low in proportion to the outrageous duty leviable under the tariff, were thus sufficiently high to check the production of an article on which a duty amounting to 50% on the cost was clearly chargeable. To meet the useless expense of building city walls at Banku, the lekin on opium was raised $12 per chest, "while the wealthy of the district were being called on to disgorge large sums towards the same object." These are some of the causes which keep back trade in China, and result in the exchequer being in a virtual state of bankruptcy. The principal export from Tamsui after coal, is tea. Of it 15,600 piculs were exported by foreign vessels during the year. The memorandum included in Mr. Hobson's report does not lead us to form a high opinion of the ability of the foreign buyers at the port. First crop tea was going literally begging at the early part of the season; producers, after paying a likin of $1.50 per picul for the dried leaf, being actually willing to sell at $10 to $15 per picul. So little use was made of this opportunity that it did not pay the producers to cure their tea on to pick the second crops, and the tea would have been left to rot, but that the native speculators at Foochow brought up the decaying leaves, scented them and sold them at Foochow at Tls. 14 to 18 a picul. Stimulated by this action on the part of the natives, the foreign buyers went in in the autumn with a zest, and bought inferior teas at prices ranging for $33 to 45. The report does not say what the natives thought of this strange method of conducting business, admirably adapted

to raise the tea market at Tamsui for the future. The export in foreign cottons dwindled from 19,500 piculs in the previous year to 15,600 in that under review. This latter was, however, supplemented by an export in junks to Foochow of some 3,500 piculs. Much of the crop was, however, lost. The export of coals showed a considerable increase, and the usual talk was current of the Government desiring to import machinery. When will the Chinese Government see that the encouragement of private enterprise is in these matters the best policy? The reduction of the monstrous duties, and the satisfactory settlement of the amounts to be paid as royalty, together with some sort of guarantee that it shall not be in the power of every petty mandarin to exact squeezes at his pleasure, would very soon result in the importation and use of foreign machinery, without the fear that its use is only to be made another engine of governmental oppression. An appendix giving statistics of the number of junks trading with the ports of Tamsui and Keelung, and their respective cargoes and destinations, is of use to us in forming some idea of the native trade. 518 junks entered, and 491 cleared at Keelung; 486 entered and 500 cleared at Tamsui. Salt, cotton, samshu, nankeens, salt fish, and wheat formed the bulk of the inward cargoes; coal, hemp and a little sugar of the upward.

The Report on the trade of Taiwan is preceded by an interesting description of the island by Mr. James H. Hart. It gives a short historical account of the conquest, and proceeds to describe the native tribes now being rapidly dispossessed by the Chinese. A description of the ports of Anp'ing and Takow follows. Th trade of Taiwan may be said to mainly depend on the export of sugar, scarcely any other article appearing in the list of exports. Exporting, as it does on an average, upwards of half a million piculs, we have here the foundation of a prosperous trade. In point of fact, it has been shown that Taiwan can compete successfully in the markets of Japan, California and the Australian ports. It is, therefore, a matter of regret to find that with so favourable an opening the export has actually fallen off. The greater part of this loss was to be attributed to bad weather in 1872, but considering that the trade is a new one, and the island practically undeveloped, it might be expected that energy and enterprise would have led to a more satisfactory result. Energy and enterprise are, however, steadily repressed in China, and Taiwan will probably find itself so unequally weighted in the contest that it will have to retire before less advantageously situated, but better administered, ports. The import trade at Taiwan is not of a very important description. Opium is the principal staple, 2,015 piculs having been imported. The trade in piece goods is unimportant, and that in native goods finds it cheaper to make use of native craft, the foreign customs apparently proving no protection from native squeezes. The lack of enterprise with regard to sugar is as apparent as in the matter of coal mining. The rude methods made use of for centuries, and which result in the loss of a large percentage of the saccharine matter, are still in full swing. To compete successfully in a foreign market, sugar ought to be prepared in foreign manner. It is difficult, from the experience of Hongkong, to decide who are in this matter the more obstructive, the Chinese Government or the Chinese sugar dealers. A rich field in a new country is here open for enterprise, but all those most to be benefitted resolutely set themselves to repress it.

REVIEW.

The *China Review*, or Notes and Queries of the Far East—November and December, 1874.

The number before us opens with a very interesting paper by Mr. Lister, on "Chinese proverbs and their lessons,"—interesting both from the pithiness of the sayings themselves, and from the remarkable coincidence of many with proverbs familiar to us in the West. As, for instance, we say in England that "necessity is the mother of invention," so the Chinese say that "need breeds device." Where we say "like master like man," they say "like mistress like maid;" and as we have discovered that "every dog has his day," they affirm that "every potsherd has a chance of being turned over." More interesting, however, than those instances of similarity, are perhaps the sayings that apply more distinctly to Chinese life. Mr. Lister quotes these by the dozen, and none more pithy than those referring to the administration of justice. At first sight these seem hopelessly and irreconcileably conflicting, but further research shows there are two well-defined classes—those that picture public business as it is supposed to be, and those that treat of it as it is. And these two sets of sayings exactly express the contradiction which is always puzzling us, between Chinese theory and practice. Judged by one, "China is such a Utopia of philanthropic Government and spotless administration as this world has not seen." Judged by the other, it is a sink of official corruption.

Says the Literate, for instance: "The sword of justice is swift, but will not wound the innocent." Say the people, on the other hand, "Thirty blows right or wrong;" and: "Pull in your head or stick it out, off it must come."—Says the Literate: "When Princes walk purely the people are happy;" or, "Before you are your children—the people; above is all-seeing God."—Say the people: "The magistrate is not so dreadful as his man." "The people are a flock of sheep delivered over to the wolf and the tiger." "Perhaps," observes Mr. Lister, somewhat incisively, "something not altogether alien to these two classes of proverbs may be found in our own country. The compliments often passed from the Bench to the Bar, and from the Bar to the Bench may stand for the Utopian maxims on things as they ought to be; the suppressed growls of the public, and the deep curses of suitors, for comments on things as they are. If lawyers, instead of merely hearing what they say "on their scrannel pipes of wretched straw" of each other, as to how society in general and justice in particular cannot get along without them, were to study (without fee or reward) what society in general and litigants in particular say about them—not about individuals of course, but about the system of shameful delays, and shameless costs, of mere sacrificing of justice to the tithing of legal mint, anise, and cummin—we might (if costs were once and forever abolished) have such a Reform of Law as we are not likely to have whilst Law is so paying an iniquity as it is."

Mr. Lister goes on to quote several proverbs exhibiting a belief in an over-ruling Deity, more clearly defined than the Chinese are usually believed to entertain, and a number of others taking a general outlook upon life and manners. But we have already dwelt too long on his interesting essay, and must go on to notice the other contributions.—A deservedly flattering review of Dr. Williams' Syllabic Dictionary follows, and is succeeded by further translations from the Liao Chai Chih-yi, which will be read with the curious interest that tales of magic and wonderland always have, for the most sceptical as for the most credulous. The adventures of the novice who went to learn magic in the Lao mountain, are on a par with the narratives in the Arabian nights. The tale of the "An Family" is flat; it is admitted indeed, in a foot note, that its only point is to illustrate to home readers the profound regard paid to parents by Chinese. A man marries an amiable and hardworking wife, and lets his mother scold her out of the house. Bye-and-bye his brother marries a tartar, who turns the tables on the old lady. The latter then relents, falls ill, invites her first daughter-in-law back, and all is well. What we are to admire, is the filial obedience which sacrifices a good wife to an ill-tempered mother.

"Notes from the Red Book," give a sketch of the kind of information to be found in the Chinese Civil Service list. This is virtually a sort of official Gazetteer. A concise description is supposed to be given, of the geographical position of each department, "its distance from Peking, number of districts, quantity of grain contributable to Government, salaries attached to office, customs of the people and products of the prefecture." The writer takes as an instance the province of Kiangsi, and gives some translations from the official record. But he points out that the information is often very antiquated, and that the people are painted in colours altogether too favourable for belief. For instance:—

"In the southernmost department of Managan *the disposition of the people is honest like those of old, their customs plain and simple.* But our Kiukiang friends speak of them as if they were little better than the untutored Indian, whom they seem to resemble in their spirit of lawlessness and independence. It is said that they generally go about armed, are very revengeful, and frequently kill one another to satisfy their honor. The offenders are rarely punished, as few care to bring them to justice."

"Meng-Cheng's journey to the Great Wall," continued from the last number, concludes a pathetic tale of oppression under Tsin Chi Hwang-ti. The hero is dragged off to aid in building the Wall; escapes; marries; is rediscovered on the very day of the event, dragged off again, and dies on reaching the scene of his labour. The heroine, Meng-Cheng, follows her husband on foot; curses the emperor

aloud when she reaches the spot where he is buried; is arrested for the sacrilege; taken before the emperor, who falls in love with her beauty; and accomplishes a revenge which we leave our readers to gather from pages of the Review.

Mr. Giles concludes the second book of the "Instructions to Coroners," which he has been lately translating. The Instructions are undeniably dry reading, but their very quaintness gives them an interest which will induce many to wade through them. Here and there, too, a pithy anecdote relieves the dullness. We quote one:—

"One shrewd coroner, who had identified the wounds on a murdered man as inflicted by a sickle, and had found out that a certain man had quarrelled with deceased about a loan of money, went to the village where the suspected man lived, and caused every man to produce his sickle, laying them on the ground before him. In a little while he turned to the suspected man and accused him of the murder. He denied his guilt with many protestations, but the coroner pointed to the *flies* which had singled out his sickle among seventy others, *attracted by the smell of blood*. The murderer confessed."

Mr. Herbert Allen translates a Chinese notice of the Shiogoon Taikosama, which has interest with reference to the late Formosan affair. The paper in question was written in support of a warlike policy, about the year 1594, and displays much the same bombast which characterises references to barbarians in the present day, though mixed up with some good advice. The cost of invading Japan, it is argued, would be less than that of prolonged preparation for invasion—the prospect of which was then weighing on the Chinese mind.

Mr. Steere adds another to the many interesting sketches we have lately had, of the aborigines of Formosa. He found among the more civilised of these, some old manuscripts in Roman letters, showing better than any other evidence how great was the impression made by the Dutch during their occupation of the island. The documents are in the ancient Pepo-whan language spelled out in Roman letters. They are apparently deeds and contracts, and the earliest of them was dated 80 years after the Dutch were driven out. One of them is dated 70 years later; showing that, for at least 150 years, the natives kept enough of the knowledge gained from the Dutch, to write their own language in foreign characters. It is fair to infer that much other teaching must have also retained a lingering hold, far into the eighteenth century.

The research displayed in the Chinese Readers' Manual, and the value of the boon Mr. Mayers has confered on all Students of Chinese, are fittingly acknowledged by Dr. Eitel in an able review. —Short notices of one or two other books, and a few Notes and Queries conclude an interesting volume.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

I have no news to send you from hence. The Port is quiet and peaceful. The Customs' Corps, numbering 50 men and officers, have daily drill, the big gun sent up by the British Admiral having been handed over to Capt. Man. It is a great pleasure to witness the evolutions of this miniature army, the training of which reflects the greatest credit on the General and his Captains. The Chinese, judging from the wonderfully quick manner in which they acquire the duties of a soldier, have no doubt a natural aptitude which is not met with in Europe; for it must be remembered that the commands are in English, and they have to learn the meanning of the words without the knowledge of the language. The community have reason to be grateful for the liberality of the Customs in keeping up a body of efficient men who are certainly a protection to the Port, and we are very fortunate in having the wishes of the Inspector-General so well carried out by Capt. Man, Lieut. de St. Croix and other officers. In a case of emergency we feel that, led as they would be, by foreigners of undoubted courage, our Tartar soldiers would prove that they are as good as they look.

15th January.

TIENTSIN.

On the 10th instant we received at Tientsin the *Peking Gazette* of the 16th January, from which we learnt that the Chief Ministers of the Privy Council (Keu-ke-ta-chin) had received an Imperial Decree, informing them that the two characters 光緒 (Kwang-seu) had been fixed upon for the name of the New Emperor's reign. In the Gazette of the 17th January, there is a memorial requesting the promotion of Le Yuë-kwei, a native of Tientsin, and a subordinate official in the Keun-ke-choo, or Privy Council, from E-siu (the name of Prince Kung), Wăn-seang, Paou-keun, Shin Kwei-fun, and Le Hung-tsaou, all of whom during the reign of Tung-che formed the Cabinet of the Privy Council. From this memorial we know, then, that Prince Kung belongs to the Cabinet under the new régime; a matter of interest to the foreign world, as he is considered friendly disposed to foreign nations. With the exception of Le Hung-tsaou, teacher to the late Emperor, the other four members of the Cabinet are all chiefs of the Tsungle Yamun.

In the Gazette of the 18th January, mention is made of Tsung Kwo-tseuen, a brother of the celebrated statesman Tsung Kwo-fan, and formerly Governor of Hoopih province, having arrived at the Capital and presented his respects to the Throne. In the same Gazette, we read an Edict respecting a memorial from Shin Paou-chin, lately Commissioner to Formosa, in regard to the Japanese occupation, advising that hereafter the Governor of Fukhien shall reside at Formosa instead of at Foochow, and be held responsible for matters in the island. The Regents—the Empresses Dowager—command the Boards to deliberate on the proposition, and report later to the Throne on its practicability and advisability. I think there cannot be a doubt of its being a very sensible scheme; and one which, if carried out, will greatly contribute to bringing the island into closer connection with the mainland. As the Governor-General of the provinces of Fuhkien and Chékiang resides at Fuhchow, there is one high provincial authority always on the spot at that important port, to preserve order, and command the military in doing so should disturbances arise.

In the Gazette of the 19th January, there is a decree appointing Lew Kwăn-yih 劉坤一 acting Governor-General of the Two Kiang (provinces of Kiangsoo, Kiangse and Anhwuy) and acting superintendent of the Foreign affairs of the Southern Department of China.

On the 23rd instant his Excellency Sun-sze-ta, the acting Customs' Taoutai, acquainted the Consuls that he had received a dispatch from the Governor-General, at Paouting-foo, informing him officially of the death of his late Majesty Tung-che; and directing him to commence mourning on the 24th instant and continue to do so for twenty-seven days (till the 20th February). The Taoutai further intimated that the transaction of business personally would, till the expiration of that period, be postponed; but should any affairs arise requiring immediate attention, then it could be transacted either by despatches or by notes. His Excellency, his subordinate officials, and all his official and private servants, went accordingly into mourning on the date fixed. Proclamations were also, during the afternoon of the 23rd instant, posted up in different public places by Jin-urh-hway, the district magistrate, making known officially to the Chinese population the death of the late Emperor, commanding them to go into mourning for 100 days from the 24th instant, prohibiting them during that period from shaving their heads, play actors from performing, the people from marrying, &c., &c., as is customary on the death of the Sovereigns of China. On the 24th instant the Consular flags at Tientsin were hoisted half-mast high, and I understand that they will continue to be so during ten days. The Legation flags at Peking, we have just learnt, were likewise hoisted half-mast high for ten days, from the 15th instant, as a mark of respect to the memory of the Emperor. The Chinese despatches and other official communications have been put into mourning by the seals being changed from red to blue. The red official cards have been exchanged for cards of a yellow ochre or saffron color. At the approaching Chinese new year's day there will be no personal intercourse between the Consular officials and the Chinese authorities, owing to the latter being in mourning and having their yamuns in mourning; the only courtesies will be an exchange of mourning cards on the occasion.

At daylight on the 24th instant, all the Chinese officials and military officers of Tientsin repaired to the Lung-ting Temple, to wail for the demise of the Emperor.

The population of Tientsin appear quite reconciled to the new order of political affairs. Food and fuel are cheap, and the lower classes, having had full employment during the past year, are at present in comfortable circumstances, and consequently contented. We are at Tientsin enjoying complete tranquillity. His Excellency Li Hung-chang continues to reside at the capital of the province, Paoutingfoo; and will no doubt do so till this river is open for navigation, when he will return here. There have been as usual a great many rumours afloat regarding political affairs; but I know them to be void of foundation. People have actually come here from Peking, and letters have come from Peking, saying Li was at the metropolis; but we here know him to be at Paouting-foo. One rumor was to the effect that he had been called to the capital (Peking) to remain near the Emperor; and that the regents had appointed another official as Governor-General, but we know here that no such appointment has, at least yet, been made.

During the afternoon of the 23rd instant a paper hunt came off. I was unavoidably absent, but I later learnt that there was a large field—over twenty horsemen being present at the meet; and the weather being fine the affair was heartily enjoyed. Mr. Too, a Hibernian cross-country rider, got the brush.

Ice continues to be harvested every night, so we shall have plenty of it and cheap, next summer. The river ice this forenoon was 12⅔ inches thick. The thermometer at daylight to-day stood at 14° Fahrenheit. During the past week we

have had remarkably fine weather. Snow fell yesterday morning for half an hour, but in a couple of hours it had disappeared.

PURITAN.

January 25th, 1875.

FOOCHOW.

The Foochow market report of the 5th February says, 400 chests of Congou have been bought at Tls. 8 *a* Tls. 12½, reducing the unsold stock to 2,100 chests. The stock of Oolongs has been cleared at Tls. 13 to Tls. 17. The following is the comparative export to Europe, to date :—

	Total.
Season 1874-75	61,980,995
1873-74	54,864,663
1872-72	52,638,892

The O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Priam* is expected to call about the 7th, and has freight engaged at £3 per 40 cubic feet. The ship *Golden State* arrived on the 30th ultimo, and is full for New York at £3 per 40 cubic feet. The *Northampton* and the *Tamesa*, both loading for New York, the former in Shanghai and the latter in Hongkong, are taking teas hence at a through rate of £3 per 40 cubic feet. The barque *William Turner* has completed her lading for Melbourne.—No sales of piece goods reported.

HONGKONG.

By the str. *Hector* we have Hongkong papers to the 9th February. They contain very little news. The *Ava-Rona* case had come again before the Court, but had been adjourned at the suggestion of the Judge, to allow some attempt at settlement to be made outside the Court. His Lordship suggested that the parties should consult on the terms on which the case should be referred back to the Registrar and merchants.—New-year's day seems to have been much more noisily observed in Hongkong than it was in Shanghai; and Chinamen appear to have been brought up by scores on the following day, and fined $1 each for letting off crackers out of hours.—A slashing yacht race for a "Jinkee Cup" has been won by the *Naiad*.—Another race, for a cup presented by Mr. W. H. Forbes, is to be run for this week.—The French Cathedral at Canton requires but little now to complete it; had it not been for the Chinese New-year holidays, it might have been ready for occupation within a few days.—H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, Capt. Arthur, the flagship of Vice-Admiral Shadwell, anchored in the Singapore roads, January 24th, and was saluted by H.M. ships in harbour.—The *Albay*, about which we have lately heard so much, has been at last raised. The *China Mail* says she was floated on Friday evening sufficiently to be towed up the harbour, and beached in the same position which was lately occupied by the *Leonor*. A junk loaded with stone was discovered to have been sunk with her during the typhoon, and lay just at her stern off the Praya, impeding a little the first attempts to tow her out of the position she had so long occupied.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Jan. 16th.—The Court Circular records the presentation of a memorial from the Board of Astromony, naming the day fixed upon for the issue of the manifesto announcing to the people the decease of the late Emperor.

The Grand Council received a Decree in the Vermilion pencil, selecting from among the characters submitted, the designation Kwang Sü 光緒 as the style to be adopted from the first of the coming year as the style of the reign.

Jan. 17th.—A Decree, in reply to a memorial from the princes and nobles, urging that the announced determination of His Majesty to observe three years of mourning for his deceased predecessor may be revoked. The grief which His Majesty feels is so profound, and the gratitude he owes so immense, that life-long mourning would itself be insufficient to discharge his obligation. He cannot bring himself to abate any portion of the three years of mourning which are, indeed, imposed by the ancient Ritual. The official body and the people will observe the regulations heretofore in force; but his Majesty will continue to wear the mourning garb for three years. (N.B.—The declaration repeated above is but a part of the routine observed on all occasions of the kind. After two further entreaties on the part of his ministers, the sovereign will declare that he yields to their persuasion, and will reduce the term of mourning to twenty-seven days, in lieu of the like number of months, which constitute the nominal three years of mourning).

Jan. 18th—(1)—A Decree. Shên Paochêng and his colleagues memorialize requesting that the Governor of Fuhkien be removed to reside in Foochow, for the more effectual discharge of his duty.—Let the proper Departments consider and report hereupon.

(2)—The Censor Hü T'ing-kwei 許庭桂 memorializes requesting that in view of the deficiencies in the funds supplied to the Imperial treasury, a Decree be issued appointing a commission of high officials to visit the Provinces, for the purpose of examining stringently the accounts of income and expenditure, so that wasteful outlay may be checked and provision be made for financial requirements. He begs leave to observe,—premising that established rules are in existence regulating the proper amount of the national revenue and of expenditure in all departments of the State, an annual surplus being in fact provided for after meeting the requirements of each year out of the revenue collected, — that during the reigns K'ien-Lung and Kia K'ing (A.D. 1736—1820), the treasury was abundantly supplied; and that notwithstanding the drain entailed in the reign Tao Kwang by the wars successively carried on in Turkestan and on the coast, which necessitated an expenditure of several tens of millions of taels, beside a still heavier expenditure on the annual requirements of the grain transport and the Yellow River works, there remained nevertheless, on a scrutiny being held in 1846 of the contents of the treasury of the Board of Revenue, a balance of the reserve fund amounting to twelve or fifteen millions of taels. During the reign Hien Fêng, excuse might be alleged on account of the prevalence of rebellion; but by the third year of T'ung Che (1864) the most productive regions of the South-east had been reduced to tranquillity, and all taxes and dues were collected as usual, whilst the revenue from sales of office, *li-kin*, and foreign Customs' duties, &c., well nigh doubled in amount the total derived from the regular sources of revenue (*i.e.*, land, rice, and salt tax). Whilst, however, the regular army had become, to all appearance a mere useless institution, irregular forces seemed to have been adopted as part of the established system, so that the maintenance of these levies has had to be provided for over and above the pay of the regular troops, which, alone, the Imperial taxation is designed to furnish. Insolvency is the inevitable consequence of this state of affairs. In the Censor's humble opinion, the finances can never be brought into order until the irregular levies are disbanded; but, if the provincial Governments are left to take this action as seems fit to themselves, the consequence will be that, as it appears, after repeated Decrees, the provinces will simply continue in their old routine, and treat the orders they receive as an empty form. With a view to provide a remedy, therefore, the Censor would, if permitted, suggest that a commission be selected by His Majesty from among high officers of ability and experience, who should severally visit the different Provinces, and take action in concert with the high authorities, in the same way as in the conduct of military inspections, to examine into the organization of the irregular levies and proceed to reduce their numbers with a vigorous hand. This should be done in such a manner as to bring the provincial forces, by disbandment or incorporation, down to the numbers allotted by regulation for the army of each province. This would be one of the means the Censor would suggest toward restoring financial efficiency.—The second branch of his subject, relating to revenue, is introduced by the remark that, as regards income from "contributions" (*i.e.*, purchase of office), the accounts can be checked by the certificates issued, but that as regards the war-tax on merchandize, or *li-kin*, no proper accounts are rendered, and the Board of Revenue has no means of exercising a supervision or audit over it. Taking, however, as a basis of comparison, the *li-kin* on salt, in appears that in the Liang Hwai (or North China) division of the gabelle, the quantity of salt which by regulation should be passed into consumption annually is 500,000 and odd *yin* 引 (364 catties each), upon which a tax is levied of Tls. 8.4. odd per *yin*, making several millions of taels from this source. Beside the Liang Hwai, there are the administrative divisions of Chehkiang, Fuhkien, Kwangtung, and Szech'wan, affording a total collection, under the head of this extraordinary impost, of several tens of millions of taels. When to this is added the war tax, the amount is more than doubled. The reason why, out of so vast a revenue, the amounts remitted to the Peking treasury are so insignificant, is, in great measure, the outlay allotted to the pay of the troops, but also, in no slight degree, the unnecessary expenditure on objects of no pressing consequence and on useless tax-stations. The Censor begs to observe that the *likin* is in its nature an oppressive institution, only continued in force owing to the necessity of providing resources to meet the army expenditure in the north-west. In order that revenue may be adequate, however, to the requirements it is intended to meet, useless expense must be done away with; and the Censor would therefore urge that the commissioners whose appointment he recommends should, in visiting the Two Kiang, the Two Hu, the Two Kwang, Fuhkien, Chêkiang and Szech'wan, the provinces where the *likin* taxation is heaviest, take action with the provincial governments in investigating the accounts of revenue and expenditure; and having established an average based on the accounts of three successive years, should draw up regulations thereupon to be submitted for Imperial sanction. Steps should at once be taken, with reference to all manufacturing enterprises of no pressing consequence, and useless and oppressive tax-stations, to effect reductions either by incorporation, or, where feasible, by abolition. (For rescript, referring this Memorial for consideration, see *Gazette* of 3rd inst.)

Jan. 19th.—(1)—A Decree, based upon a memorial by Kin-shun, commanding the army of Kansuh beyond the Wall, who has requested that rewards be bestowed upon the provincial authorities of Shensi, for their activity in maintaining the continual despatch of funds and military supplies.

The Board is directed to decide upon the proper mark of approbation to be bestowed upon the Governor of Shensi, and his subordinates are awarded additional steps of rank.

(2)—Decrees substituting appointments of certain princes for others made before the decease of his late Majesty, for the performance of the sacrifices at the State temples at the close of the year.

(3)—A Decree. Let the acting Governor-General of the Two Kiang, Liu Kwên-yih, act likewise as Superintendent of Foreign Trade.

(4)—Liu Kwên-yih, Governor of Kiangsi, memorializes with reference to the prayer of the Censor Têng K'ing-lin, who memorialized in 1873 proposing that the right of summary execution be withdrawn from the hands of local authorities. The Governor represents hereupon that, although many years have elapsed since the Province was the scene of warfare, crimes of violence are nevertheless frequently committed by disbanded braves, local budmashes, and the like; and he refers to the two plots for the levying of insurrection which were detected and crushed in the course of the last two years, as already narrated in the *Gazette*. For this reason, he urges that the time has not yet arrived when summary execution can be dispensed with in cases of brigandage.

(5) The same Governor memorializes requesting sanction to a congé of one month, on the ground of ill-health. During his campaigns in different Provinces he has suffered greatly from malarious influences, and he has been subject for years past to a troublesome and weakening chronic complaint, which has affected him seriously of late. Perfect rest for a time is enjoined upon him by the faculty.

Jan. 20th.—The Grand Secretariat (Nui Koh) handed in the Testamentary Edict. (The formal copy of the manifesto published on the 13th inst. in the name of the deceased Emperor. It will now be printed for issue throughout the Empire.)

The Princes and Ministers conducting the Imperial obsequies report that on the 28th inst., the coffin containing the remains of his late Majesty will be removed to the Kwan Têh Tien (a building at the northern extremity of the King Shan Park, behind the palace, devoted to the reception of Imperial remains.)

Jan. 20th.—The Governor of Kiangsi memorializes with reference to orders received from Peking, directing that for the winter collection of the rice-levy in that Province, endeavours be made to provide supplies for Peking in kind, or by purchase of rice for shipment out of the commutation-tax collected. The Board of Revenue had represented that the cost of rice per picul as purchased, freight included, is Tls. 2.3 to Tls. 2.6 per picul, and that as the *sêh* rice, which is the staple product of Kiangsi, is very inferior in quality to the *kêng* rice produced elsewhere, the price ought likewise to be lower; and further that as the experiment of shipping the Peking rice from Shanghai by the C. M. S. N. Co's steamers has proved successful, the same system might be pursued in Kiangsi, making Kiu-kiang the central point of delivery for shipment. The Governor represents, hereupon, that, commutation having been for so many years the rule in Kiangsi, it would be next to impossible to revert to the practice of collecting the tax in kind, or to collect part in kind and part in money. If rice must be had, however, the only course that seems open is to purchase grain out of the product of the tax levied under this head. At the same time, although the selling value of Kiangsi *sêh* rice is somewhat less than that of the *kêng* quality, yet the distance of 2,000 *li* which intervenes between the producing districts and the seaboard must be taken into consideration, as it involves additional expenditure for transhipment and freight. The difference, therefore, is not worth mentioning. It would also be impossible to commission the district Magistrates to buy up rice each in his several jurisdiction, since no granaries exist where the rice could be deposited, and it would be no easy matter, moreover, to obtain transport by hired boats to the central depôt. When rice was purchased and shipped last year by the Province of Chêhkiang, the transaction was effected at Shanghai by an official deputed for the purpose; and the provinces of Hunan and Hupeh have adopted the same plan, the C. M. S. N. Company contracting for the transportation to Tientsin and delivery at T'ung-chow. Kiangsi would now follow a like system; and as the expectant Taotai Shêng Süan-hwai, one of the managers of the Steamship Company, was passing through Kiangsi on his way back to Shanghai from Hupeh, the opportunity has been taken of consulting him. The limit prescribed by the Board of Revenue for the rice shipped from Kiangsu and Chêhkiang was that, for prime cost and freight combined, the maximum outlay should not exceed Tls. 2.7, treasury weight, per picul; but, under the new regulations imposed since last year for the rice-levy in Kiangsi, the amount of commutation is far from being adequate to this rate. The amount of levy sanctioned is 3,420 *cash* as the equivalent of one picul of rice; whilst in Kiangsu, which lies so much nearer the coast, 4,500 cash is the sum allowed to be levied; and in Honan, much nearer to Peking, the fixed equivalent is 3 taels. The total amount collected annually in Kiangsi for the supply of rice-money to the troops, and for the grain-tribute to Peking, should be Tls. 390,000 and odd; but the actual collection, owing to remissions and payments in arrear, has been no more than about Tls. 200,000 and odd. Of late years there has been due from this source an annual contingent of Tls. 240,000 to the troops in Kansuh, and Tls. 20,000 to the Ts'ing-chow and Hwai-ngan local governments, the requirements being thus in excess of the revenue accruing. If now 80,000 piculs of rice are to be purchased and shipped, the cost, at the rate mentioned above, will be Tls. 216,000; and it is proposed that, against this, the province be allowed to keep back the money contingent due for year 1874 to the amount of piculs 80,000, at the fixed equivalent of Tl. 1.3.0, equal to Tls. 104,000, beside Tls. 40,000 which would be payable for inland transport, at the fixed rate of 5 *mace* per picul. There would then still be a deficiency of Tls. 70,000 and odd to be made good from other sources. If the proposition he approved, the Governor will appoint officials to make the necessary purchases and superintend the shipment at Shanghai.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.

Jan. 21st.—(1) A Decree of the Empresses, referring to the prayer presented by the Prince of Ch'un for permission to retire from all his offices. This having been referred for consideration on the part of the princes, nobles, and ministers, they have now reported that His Highness's request should be granted, and that he be allowed to resign his various duties, but that his name be still submitted by the Imperial Clan Court, in regular course, for the performance of annual sacrifices at the Eastern and Western mausolea. He should likewise take it in turn to attend the religious ceremonials at the various ancestral temples, &c., but should be excused from taking his place in the ranks of attendance to offer homage on His Majesty's enthronement and on the Imperial birthday. In reward for his manifold and distinguished past services, it is recommended that he be raised to the rank of an Imperial prince of the first order, with perpetual hereditary succession in the same degree; and it is further suggested that, in view of the great magnitude of the works now in progress at P'u-t'o Yü 菩陀峪 (the site selected for the construction of mausolea for the two Empresses), His Highness be commanded to continue his superintendence in that quarter. The Empresses confirm the recommendations herein proposed, and, having by a separate Decree bestowed the command of the Imperial Musketeers, lately held by the Prince, on Prince Peh-yen-na-mo-hu and the Duke King-show, they enjoin upon His Highness, whose long and successful tenure of his command they warmly appreciate, that for the future he should advise in all things with his successors in the command.

(2) Their Majesties the two Empresses decree that a gratuity of two Taels of silver each be bestowed from the Household treasury upon the guards of the Equipage department, who reverently escorted His Majesty to the palace on the 12th inst., on his succession.

(3) A Degree appointing Peh-yen-na-mo-hu and King-show to the command of the Imperial Musketeers.

(4) A decree, based on a renewed memorial from the princes and ministers, urging His Majesty to reconsider the determination of observing three years of mourning for his deceased predecessor. It appears that on the decease of the Emperors Kia K'ing, Tao Kwang, and Hien Fêng, the entreaty of the ministers of the day prevailed over similar resolutions on the part of the successors to the Throne, and His Majesty, profound as is the grief he feels, does not feel justified in disregarding the ancestral precedent. He will, therefore, wear the full mourning garb of white for one hundred days, and plain robes for 27 months. Let not the princes and ministers obtrude further solicitations on this subject.

(5).—A succession of decrees, conferring a number of court and military appointments or transfers.

(6).—The Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh memorializes on the decease of the ex-comptroller of the Salt Revenue of Kwangtung, Chun K'ien-kün, whose virtues and unselfish patriotism he warmly eulogizes. In the course of last year, as reported at the time, he contributed Tls. 40,000, the accumulations of his salary, to the relief of the distressed poor in Kansuh and Chihli; and having now departed this life, at an advanced age, it is requested that his biography be included in the State chronicles, and that materials be supplied for this purpose by the Governments of the provinces in which he has served.

Jan. 22nd.—(1)—A Decree. The Board of Ceremonies has memorialized Us respecting the day for Our enthronement and the ceremonial attending the announcement of Our accession. On perusal of this, Our grief has been revived anew with added poignancy; but, considering how His Majesty now departed hath given over to Our keeping the glorious ancestral heritage, We have been moved to consent to the request. Let the coming year be the first of the reign Kwang Sü, and let the great ceremonial of the enthronement and proclamation be proceeded with at 5 a.m. on the 20th day of the 1st Moon (25th February), the auspicious day selected by the Astronomical Board. Let all preparations be reverently made in conformity with former usage by the proper departments.

(2) A Decree, renewing the privilege granted in 1861, on the accession of the late Emperor, to His Majesty's uncles the Princes of Tun, Kung, and Fu, of exemption from doing homage by the act of kneeling and knocking the head on the ground on ordinary occasions.

(3) A Decree of the two Empresses appointing a commission of high dignitaries, presided over by the Prince of Kung, to select a fitting spot at either the Eastern

or the Western Hills for the mausoleum of His late Majesty. The Prince of Kung is exempted from the duty of inspecting the site in person. The remainder of the commission, headed by the Prince of Ch'un, are to inspect the locality and prepare drawings.

(4) A Decree of the two Empresses insisting upon the retention by the Prince of Ch'un of the patent of Imperial Prince of the first order, with perpetual succession in the same degree, which His Highness has begged permission to decline. An additional month's congè is granted him for the care of his health.

(5)—Memorial (presented on the 13th instant) by the Princes, Nobles, and Ministers, headed by the Prince of Li, the senior of the hereditary Princes of the Empire, in which the two Empresses are besought to assume the functions of a Regency. See Gazette of 15th instant.

(6)—A memorial by the Grand Council with reference to the guards to be appointed to do duty in attendance on the coffin of His late Majesty, in conformity with former precedent.

(7)—A memorial by the Prince of Ch'un (presented on the 13th inst.), in which, after expatiating on the devoted loyalty which inspired him toward His late Majesty, he proceeds to state that on gazing upon the Imperial features after decease, his vitals were rent with the agony of grief, and his strength failed him utterly. He nevertheless strove to bear up for the more effectual discharge of his duty, when he was suddenly overwhelmed by the news that their Majesties, by their benign mandate, had chosen his son to be successor to the Throne. Stupefied by this intelligence, he became entirely helpless, and when carried to his home he remained trembling and agitated as though bereft of reason or as one in a dream. The complaints under which he has heretofore laboured have been revived in consequence, and he is compelled to throw himself on the merciful consideration of Their Majesties the Empresses, whom he entreats to grant him the indulgence which can alone permit him to prolong his days, and allow him, wasted and useless in his rank though be be, to continue in existence on the face of the earth. He entreats at the same time that his double allowance as an Imperial Prince may be withdrawn. (For rescript see *Gazette* of Jan. 14th.)

(8)—The Prince of Tun and his colleagues memorialize requesting the abrogation of the honours conferred in celebration of His late Majesty's apparent convalescence.

Official Papers.

MR. T. T. COOPER ON TRADE WITH WESTERN CHINA.

To the CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, *Shanghai*

SIR,—As one not altogether a stranger to your Chamber, especially in connexion with the trade and trade routes of China, I feel that I need no excuse to enable me to enter upon the discussion of several important facts bearing especially upon the extension of the already established trade of China.

While this trade is of paramount importance to the commercial community of Shanghai, and those European Manufacturers who supply the goods for your market, so little is generally known in Europe by the commercial and manufacturing body at large, of the economical principles on which the trade now and for the future must exist, that it is not to be wondered at if grave mistakes are made in the advocacy which has been used to induce Her Majesty's Government to interfere in one of its departments, for the extension of our commercial relations with China.

I allude directly to the misdirection of the pressure brought to bear on Her Majesty's Indian Government by the Chambers of Commerce of England, for the purpose of opening up the so-called Western China trade, a project which, though it appears calculated to increase our commerce, is, I beg leave to observe, highly prejudicial to the legitimate extension of our trade with China.

In order that this may be made clear, it is necessary that I should go somewhat into the details of the Western China trade, premising, however, that your Chamber is as well informed on that subject as myself.

It is a well known fact that the supply of Piece Goods which now go to Western China *viâ* the Yang-tsze River, is purchased out of the proceeds of the Exports from the Western provinces, which Exports are chiefly for native consumption in the Central, Eastern and Northern Provinces, and do not, except perhaps in the minutest degree, influence the export of produce shipped from the China ports to Europe.

Seeing that the bulk of Western produce finds a natural and easily accessible market in the Eastern provinces, and that this produce is not suited to the European market, this fact should not be lost sight of by those interested in the China trade.

So far from this fact being taken into consideration by the home Chambers, when pressing the question of Government aid in extending our commercial intercourse with China, it is entirely lost sight of, and the most strenuous efforts are made to draw this so-called Western China trade to the port of Rangoon, in Burmah.

I would, with the most profound respect for that commercial body to which your Chamber belongs, submit that, in thus striving to divert the natural course of the Western China trade, the united Chambers of England have placed themselves in the position of the dog in the fable; having dropped the substance, they are striving to lay hold of the shadow, and so long as they strive for an impossibility in the West of China, so long will their powerful influence be diverted from the important question of the extension of our already established China trade.

Your Chamber is not perhaps aware of the arguments put forth by ill-informed enthusiasts, in favor of diverting the Western China trade to the seaport of Rangoon, and in order that your Chamber may be better able to take steps to re-direct the influence of the various European Chambers to the important object of extending the trade of the seaports of China, I will state concisely the arguments which have gained for his visionary project an unfounded and dangerous importance.

First, it is said that if by a railway the produce of Western China could be brought to Rangoon, the difference in the rate of freight and time between the ports of Europe and the ports of Rangoon and Shanghai would be greatly in favor of Rangoon.

The answer to this statement is not a difficult one; it is a law in the practical economy of Commerce that the rate of freights to and from those ports which have the greatest Export and Import are, on an average, lower than to and from those which have a lesser Export and Import, while the enormous preponderance of trade which your ports would have over Rangoon (even in spite of the division of the Western China trade) disposes of the question of freight. The difference in time is of no consequence on the face of those economic conditions which draw the produce of the western provinces to the North and East of the Empire.

Second, it is urged that Western China could produce much that is suitable for European markets, and this Export would go to form a large trade in European Piece Goods.

In answer to this arrangement, I have only to recall to the recollection of your Chamber the fact that a twenty-four years' constant internecine warfare has only just been brought to a close in Yunnan; and then to ask, is there a population whose wants are to form this large trade? especially in a province which is amongst those less densely populated, in a very great degree, than those of the East of China.

In disposing of the allegations in favor of diverting the Western China trade, I would submit that the keen observation which the European commercial body undoubtedly possesses, would, were it rightly directed, shew that it is not so easy to divert the course of a long established and flourishing trade; and in the case under consideration I am fully persuaded that it would be an easier task to divert the course of the great river Yang-tsze.

I now turn from considering the misdirection of the influence of our home Chambers, to the consideration of those events which may be termed its active and prejudicial results on the already established trade.

In the year 1868-69 the Indian Government, influenced by the laudable desire to increase the commercial prosperity of its dominions, and acting immediately under pressure brought to bear upon it by the Chambers of Commerce of England, started an expedition from Burmah to Yunnan. Fortunately, the Indian Government was better informed of the condition of things in China than the Chambers, otherwise that expedition might have been the cause of as great a political blunder as it was a great commercial farce.

The greater portion of Western China was in the hands of Rebels to the Imperial Government, and but for the care taken not to let the Expedition enter into any negotiations of a political nature with the then Rebel Government, complications might have arisen which would have seriously affected our friendly relations with China and the trade already existing there.

Surely this misdirection of the commercial influence, based on the Chambers' want of knowledge of the state of affairs in China, is greatly to be regretted, and the more so when we consider that this influence has from that time been solely interested and active in pressing the the question of further Government interference in the same direction.

At this present moment, the Indian Government, acting under the same pressure, has despatched another expedition to Western China, the interest in which entirely shuts out of the mind of the home Chambers the important question of the extension of our trade in Eastern China—a fact which cannot be too much regretted, seeing that if the same steps were taken by the home Government to extend that trade, an incalculable benefit, both politically and commercially, would follow.

The only thing that the home Chambers can congratulate themselves on is the fact that the present Expedition will bring back with it reliable information, and will, if successful, add to our friendly intercourse with the Mandarins of Yunnan.

Viewing the liberal and energetic conduct of the Indian Government in its proper light, I cannot understand why, if that Government can take active measures for the opening up of the Western provinces to our trade through Burmah, the home Government cannot take some steps to open up the towns of the upper Yang-tsze; for clearly no more complications can arise out of the action of the one department of our Government than the other.

As an instance of the complete indifference existing in the minds of the home Chambers with reference to the already established trade, I would bring to your notice the fact that a statement in the trade report of Burmah for last year, to the effect that a trade in European salt between that country and Western China

was growing up, was made the subject of congratulatory notices in the papers of some of our manufacturing towns, while the fact that you in Eastern China are not allowed to trade in salt is viewed with complete indifference.

With such facts under contemplation, may we not ask why the Chinese Government, which prohibits the importation of salt through the Eastern ports, permits the import of that article from Burmah into Western China.

A fair answer to such enquiry would be found in the statement that official and commercial energy and influence is solely directed towards an impossible achievement in the West, while the already established trade in the East of China is left to take care of itself, and is totally void of interest to those who should leave no stone unturned to increase it.

Finally, Sir, I would not wish to be understood as opposed in any way to efforts being made to increase the commercial relations between Burmah and Western China; on the contrary, I watch with interest all progress in that direction, feeling sure that in years to come both countries will be benefited by it. But I would urge upon your Chamber the necessity of taking such steps as shall rescue your trade from a neglect which it at present suffers from. As an enlightened and well-informed body on the spot, it should by dint of constant communication with the principal Chambers of Europe, so remove the indifference and ill-founded ideas prevalent among those bodies as would in a short time re-direct their attention and powerful influence to the more rational object of increasing the trade already established.

By these means only will China trade receive proper attention, and be increased to such proportions as shall make it not only a greater source of wealth to all the countries participating in it, but a powerful agency in the regeneration of the giant Empire of China.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
T. T. Cooper.

London, 18th October, 1874.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI MUSEUM.

Minutes of Meeting No. 3 of the Museum Committee, held at the Asiatic Society's Rooms, 9th February, 1875.

Present—Messrs. Cordier and Stronach, and Pryer, Hon. Secy.

Minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Secretary stated that, as requested, he had communicated with Mr. Quekitt who had kindly consented to join the committee, and with Dr. Burge, who declined.

The Secretary then read a list of contributions, principally ornithological, from the following gentlemen:—Messrs. H. Miller, W. L. Clarke, W. J. Herdman, J Bonabeau, H. F. Ramsay, W. W. Russell, J. P. Bisset, Dr. Carmichael, A. J. Little, A. W. Maitland. A. Broom, P. C. Boysen, G. G. Hopkins, J. F. Seaman, W. M. Bradley, G. Bovet A. Thurburn, J. B. Manson, F. Reid, R. J. Forrest, A. S. Triggs, Rev. J. Thomas, W. Hamilton, E. Starkey, J. Dent, J. Bois, J. H. Vail, E. Tobin, E. Ward, F. A. Groom, E. J. Smith, M. Hawtrey, W. Bean, B. Dallas, J. M. Taylor, C. G. Frith, Capt. Barton, E W. Rice, J. Swinhoe, P. Dumaresq, J. Vaughan, J. F. Rodewald, Rev. Churchill, D. Encarnacao, H. B. Endicott, H. E. Amoore, J. Crofts, A. A. Campbell, W. St. Croix, H. Reynell, Capt. Deslandes, W. F. Lay, A. Davenport, H. Pryer, J. J. Cann, E. P. Hague, J. J. Tucker, F. Wheeler, and S. Campbell

All since the 2nd Dec.; many of these gentlemen have contributed several times.

Attention was drawn to the present mode of lighting the Museum; the windows are so placed that any large case standing in the middle of the room would obstruct the light from those behind it. It was suggested that a large skylight would remedy this defect. Left over for future discussion.

Mr. Cordier handed in a list of books on Natural History of Mr. Holdsworth's, which would be suitable for the Museum Library. The Committee admitted their value, but some of them being very expensive works, and the funds at their disposal being limited, it was decided to offer for part of them only.

Mr. Voelkel having very kindly offered to make a collection of plants for the Museum, the Secretary was instructed to convey the thanks of the Committee to him.

MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. F. W. Lemarchand (in the chair), G. J. W. Cowie, W. Kidner, R. Mackenzie, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The *Summons* calling the meeting was taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

Volunteers—Drill Sergeant—Read letter from the Military Secretary at Hongkong, stating "that there will be no objection to a non-commissioned officer being temporarily detached for the instruction of the Volunteers at Shanghai in the Martini-Henri Exercise."

Referred to the Defence Committee.

Shanghai Mounted Rangers.—The election of Mr. H. Savage as Captain of the Shanghai Mounted Rangers was confirmed.

The Cash State for the week ending 30th January was laid on the table for inspection.

"Tunsin" Property—The agreement for the sale and purchase of the property being now ready for execution, a formal resolution was passed authorizing the Secretary to sign it on behalf of the Council.

Telegraph.—Application by the Chinese Merchants S. N. Co. for permission to erect a line of telegraph from their office in Hankow road to their godowns in Hongkew, was considered and granted.

Bridges.—Yang-king pang No. 1.—The following letter from the French Municipal Council was read, and referred to Works Committee:—

Shanghaï, 23 Janvier, 1875.

Monsieur,—Répondant à votre lettre du 19 Décembre dernier j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil n'approuve pas le plan du pont en fer que la Fairbairn Engineering Company de Londres vous propose d'exécuter pour remplacer le pont No. 1.

Indépendamment de la largeur de 40 pieds qui ne parait pas suffisante pour les besoins du trafic, le Conseil trouve que la hauteur de 29 pouces donnée au tablier et le poids total du pont de 65 tonneaux, ne sont pas nécessaires et peuvent étre modifiées de manière à donner plus de hauteur au passage des bateaux et à procurer une économie très sensible dans le prix de revient en donnant moins de poids au pont.

Le système de suspension par des solives massives au dessus du tablier n'a pas rencontré l'approbation du Conseil. Ces solives, ainsi placées, ont non seulement l'inconvénient d'augmenter le poids, mais encore celui d'être d'un aspect disgracieux.

Un système de pont que le Conseil trouve en tous points préférable, et qu'il serait d'avis d'adopter, est représenté par un plan que lui a soumis l'Agent Voyer. Dans ce plan, la hauteur du tablier étant réduite à 24 pouces, et le poids total du pont à 40 tonneaux; il résulterait de son adoption, les avantages d'une plus grande hauteur pour le passage des bateaux et d'une diminution dans le prix de revient produite par l'économie de 25 tonneaux de matiére.

Pour vous édifier d'avantage, le Conseil m'a chargé de vous transmettre une copie de ce plan, et de vous prier de bien vouloir prendre des renseignments en Angleterre, tant sur la possibilité d'exécution que sur la dépense qu'entrainerait la construction d'un pont de ce genre.

Par la même occasion le Conseil me charge de vous aire remarquer qu'en vous proposant l'adoption du plan qui lui parait le meilleur, l'Administration Française ne devant participer que pour un tiers dans la dépense, ne prétend en aucune façon s'ingérer dans l'exécution des travaux à effectuer pour le pont No. 1.

Elle s'en tiendra, comme contrôle des intérêts qu'elle représente, à envoyer le plan en question en France, afin de se rendre compte des meilleures conditions d'exécution.

Je vous retourne d'autre part le plan de la Fairbairn Engineering Company.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée,

Le Secrétaire,
H. Sayn.

Monsieur E. B. Souper,
Secretary Municipal Council.

Translation.

Shanghai, the 23rd January, 1875.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 19th December last, I have the honor to inform you that the Council do not approve the Fairbairn Engineering Company's plan of an iron bridge which you propose to replace bridge No. 1.

Independently of the width of 40 feet appearing to be insufficient for the requirements of traffic, the Council consider that the height of 29 inches given to the roadway, and the total weight of the bridge—65 tons—are not necessary and might be modified, so as to allow a greater height for the passage of boats, and to effect a very considerable reduction in the cost by giving less weight to the bridge.

The plan of suspension by massive girders above the roadway does not meet with the approval of the Council.

These girders in such a position not only add inconveniently to the weight, but they would be unsightly.

A style of bridge that the Council consider in all respects preferable, and which it will be advisable to adopt, is represented in a plan which has been submitted to them by the Surveyor.

In this plan the height of the roadway is reduced to 24 inches, and the total weight of the bridge to 40 tons.

The advantages resulting from its adoption would be a greater headway for the passage of boats and a saving in the cost by using 25 tons less material.

For your information, the Council direct me to forward a copy of this plan, and to beg you to be good enough to obtain opinions in England as to the feasibility of its execution, and the expense which would be entailed in the construction of a bridge of this kind. At the same time, the Council direct me to remark that in proposing the adoption of the plan which to them appears the best, the French administration bearing only one-third of the expense, they do not claim to interfere in any way with the execution of the work for bridge No 1.

They feel called upon, however, in the interests they represent, to send the plan to France for the purpose of ascertaining the most favorable terms on which it can be manufactured.

I return the plan of the Fairbairn Engineering Company.

&c., &c.

Before proceding any further in the matter, the Council wished it understood that the cost of whatever style of bridge may be ultimately decided upon, shall be borne equally by the two Municipalities.

Fire Signals, on occasion of fire amongst the Shipping in Harbour.—The following letter from the Harbour Master, and Report from the Chief Engineer of the Shanghai Fire Department, with reference to Mr. Viguier's suggestions, considered.

Harbour Master's Office,
Shanghai, 10th Dec., 1874.

Sir,—The late fires on board shipping in the Harbour having proved the necessity of giving the earliest possible notice to the Fire Department, I propose, in case of fire in the Harbour, to make the following signals at the Pootung Signal Station, should they meet with the approval of the Municipal authorities and Fire Department.

Day Time.

Fire in Lower Reach—One gun will be fired, and 1st pendant over green flag with yellow cross, will be hoisted at the mast head.

Ditto Upper Reach—One gun; 2nd pendant over same flag.

Ditto Junks—One gun; 3rd pendant over same flag.

Night Time.

Fire in Lower Reach—One gun; white and red lamp.

Fire in Upper Reach—One gun; white and green lamps.

Ditto Junks—One gun; white, green and red lamps.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
S. A. Viguier,
Divisional Inspector and Harbour Master.

To the Chairman of the
Anglo-American Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 22nd Dec., 1874.

Sir,—With reference to the Special Fire Alarm proposed by the Harbour Master in case of a fire amongst the Shipping in Harbour, I think it would be well, whilst thanking Mr. Viguier for his suggestions—which the management of the Fire Department are always glad to receive and consider—to point out to him that the department is not in a position to render assistance in case of fire on board a ship lying out in the stream. It therefore appears to me unnecessary that any extra signals should be adopted.

In my opinion, it is advisable to keep the Fire Signals as simple as possible, in order to avoid all possibility of confusion.

The present system of alarm has undoubtedly worked very satisfactorily hitherto, and the only additions that I think can be made effectively to those at present in use, are:—

For a fire on board ship lying *alongside a wharf.*

In the Lower Reach.—5 strokes of the Bell with 10 seconds interval; and in the Upper Reach, 6 strokes.

But even then it is a question whether the present signals would not serve the purpose equally well.

However, if Mr. Viguier thinks this suggestion would be an improvement, it can be adopted.

I would point out that the only Fire Engine at present in Shanghai that can render assistance in case of fire amongst the shipping *in the stream*, is the floating Engine belonging to the S. S. N. Co.

This Engine is not connected with the Fire Department, although it is always courteously placed at the disposal of the Chief Engineer S. F. D., when its services can be of use.

It might be suggested to Mr. Viguier that a similar Engine connected with the Harbour Master's Department would doubtless prove very effective in checking fires occurring amongst the shipping.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Robt. Mackenzie,
Chief Engineer S.F.D.

Edward B. Souper, Esq.,
Secretary, Shanghai Municipal Council.

The Council coincided with the views put forward by Mr. Mackenzie.

Firing of salutes in Harbour.—Read letter from the Russian Vice-Consul stating "that in compliance with the wish of the public of Shanghai, Admiral Brummer, chief of the Russian Naval Force in the Pacific, acting in accord with the Naval Authorities of other nations, has issued orders to the vessels of his squadron not to fire salutes while stationed off this port."

Staff.—Periodical leave to Officers.—Draft clause to be inserted in all officers' agreements entitling them to nine months leave after each term of five years service in Shanghai, was considered and approved.

Holidays—China New Year.—It was decided to close the Municipal offices on Friday, Saturday, and Monday, the 5th, 6th, and 8th instant.

Reports from various Committees for Dec., 1874, and January, 1875.—Approved and passed for publication.

Reports from Heads of Departments read and considered.

Minutes of previous Meeting approved and passed for publication.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Séance du 22 Janvier, 1874, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents: M.M. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, W. Lang, H. Maiguan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général, demandant la copie du rôle de la contribution Foncière pour le 2ème semestre de 1874. Des instructions sont données au Secrétaire pour que la dite copie soit remise à M. le Consul-Général.

Prescription au Chef de la Garde relativement à l'obligation de ne procéder qu'après autorisation à la vente des objets saisis ou autres.

Le Conseil avisera aux mesures à prendre pour l'organisation d'une fourrière publique.

Approbation des instructions réglant le service de l'Inspecteur de la Salubrité.

Pour compléter sur tous les points la rectification d'alignement des murs d'entourage de l'Hotel municipal, le Conseil prescrit de transporter le hangar sous lequel sont remises les tombereaux à l'ex-cimetière de la marine; dépense estimée à Taëls 31.00 pour la reconstruction du mur, et à Taëls 25.00 pour le déplacement du hangar.

Le Conseil ordonne la mise en place du pont en fer No. 4 Yang-king-pang, et prescrit au Secrétaire de prier l'Administration au Nord du Yang-king-pang de lui faire remettre un chèque pour la moitié des débours résultant de la commande de ce pont, faite pour le compte des deux Administrations.

Quant à la question du soi-disant empiètement sur le Yang-king-pang, le Conseil déclare s'en tenir à la position que l'Administration Française a prise en 1872, vis-à-vis de la réclamation faite à cette époque.

Avant la formation du nouveau budget pour l'Exercice 1875-76, le Conseil charge le Secrétaire de demander à l'Administration voisine si elle est disposée à maintenir la décision qu'elle a prise de discontinuer le partage égal de la taxe sur les brouettes.

Examen des rapports des chefs de Service.

Amusement.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

The day being fine and the meet at Trefancha a favourite one, drew a number of both hunters and spectators to the start, which was over the big ditch at the back of the farm. Here the honorary members got a good deal of their subscription's worth in the grief which they witnessed (evidently with intense relish) on the part of some of the riders. At last, every one got over or round the obstacle, and dashed off on the trail. The paper led, with several checks—much wanted owing to the extreme heaviness of the ground after the late rain—over several well-known jumps to the Jessfield road, and across it to the finish, which was a little off the Sicawei road, just beyond the Bubbling Well. The Hunt was a well selected one, and appeared to give universal satisfaction. Mr. E. H. Gore-Booth was, we believe, the winner among the light weights, and Mr. Nickels among the heavies. The attendance at the finish was very large, including a goodly number of ladies on foot and horseback.

Correspondence.

THE MITZU BISHI S. N. CO.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly give place in your paper to a few facts as to the Mitzu Bishi Steamship Company of Japan, so that the public may be apprised as to why the steamers were placed upon the route between Yokohama, Hiogo, Shimonaseki, Nagasaki and Shanghai, and the object in running them weekly between the above named ports

The Government of Japan is anxious that the friendly feeling at present existing between their people and the Chinese should be fostered, and at the instigation of the Japanese Authorities this weekly line of steamers has been established to ply between the two countries—in the hope that thereby the trade of both may be developed, and the interests of Chinese and Japanese merchants be promoted by the mutual exchange of their products: and that Europeans and others trading in both countries, should also participate in the advantages of the line.

The purpose, therefore, is not purely mercantile; the Company, having started the line, will continue to run their steamers regularly and promptly, and do not intend to be intimidated by the losses likely to accrue while getting it into active operation.

I remain, my dear sir,
Yours Respectfully,
R. S. CORNING,
for *Agent*,
Mitzu Bishi Steamship Co.

Shanghai, 13th Feb., 1875.

Miscellaneous.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF MESSRS. LANE CRAWFORD AND CO.'S AUCTION ROOMS.

At about twenty minutes to nine o'clock on Saturday night, an alarm of fire rang through the Settlement, and in almost as little time as it takes to write it, great clouds of smoke, sheets of flame, and a perfect rain of burning cinders shot up into the sky, plainly indicating that the calamity was one of more than ordinary magnitude. It was soon known that the scene of the disaster was Messrs. Lane Crawford Co.'s Auction Rooms and Godowns in Kiangse Road, and this knowledge added much to the excitement, the premises being stored with large quantities of valuable property of nearly all kinds. It being just about the dinner hour, very few foreigners were in the streets, and the first alarm was raised by some Chinamen, who ran along the Tientsin, Kiangse, and Ningpo Roads, shouting "T'a-hsing Foh! T'a-hsing Foh!" Captain Tough, who was sitting with some friends in a room of his hong, facing the now burning building, hastened on to the verandah, and saw the flames just bursting through the roof at the north-west corner, the interior of that portion of the building being even then lit up with an intense glare, showing that the fire had obtained firm hold and was raging furiously. Crash after crash followed in alarmingly quick succession, and before a score of foreigners had arrived, a large portion of the roof had fallen in, and, as above described, flame and smoke, with myriads of glowing cinders, in a moment filled the sky, casting a lurid light all around. Somebody, with praiseworthy forethought, ran to the bell in Trinity Church compound, and rang out its note loud and long. This was soon followed by the alarms at the different fire-stations, and the streets were speedily alive with members of the various Volunteer Fire Brigades in uniform, hurrying to their respective rendezvous. Many spectators were also now assembling, and presently was heard the rapid approach of engines and hose-reels. The quickness with which these arrived and got to work was beyond all praise, showing as it did the excellent management of the Department, and the zeal of the members. The Hook and Ladder Company and the Mih-ho-loongs were also conspicuously in force, and as will be seen below, did good service with their destructive but useful appliances.

But during this time, which seemed long, though in reality only a few minutes, the flames were licking their way from room to room, from basement to roof, with fearful rapidity, accompanied by that strange, saddening sound peculiar to large bodies of fire when little or no wind is stirring, as was fortunately the case on Saturday night. It was at once apparent that no efforts could save either the building or its contents, except so much of the latter as were stored in the spaces fronting the Kiangse Road; but so rapidly did the fire make its way from rear to front, that but little of these even were saved. The efforts of the firemen were consequently directed to the preservation of the surrounding buildings; Messrs. Camajee's hong at the opposite corner of the Kiangse road, and Mr. Hopkins' establishment, exactly behind the fire, and in dangerous proximity to it, requiring constant attention. So fierce was the heat, that despite large quantities of water thrown upon them, the walls of Messrs. Camajee's hong became greatly heated, and threw off clouds of steam. Fortunately the efforts of the firemen were successful in preventing the spread of the fire. The first engine to get water was the "Victoria," followed by the "No. 2," both these being stationed at the large well in the Ningpo road, and alternately directing their attention to the north godown, in which it was reported that large quantities of oils, tar, and some gunpowder are stored. The "Deluge" was also stationed in the same road, but higher up, while the French engine, "No. 5," was posted in the Kiangse Road, and did good service in preserving Mr. Camajee's hong and adjoining buildings. But, unluckily, the water in the large well was soon exhausted, and the Chief Engineer directed the hose of the "Victoria" and "No. 2" to be laid to the Church compound pond, which again proved a useful reservoir. By half-past ten the whole building was gutted, but the large quantities of oil, and other inflammable material which had been stored therein, continued to burn with great fury, lighting up the shell with peculiarly grand effect.

Detachments from the different men-of-war in harbour, and also from the Messageries Maritimes steamer, with their hand-engines and hose, were landed, together with parties from the merchant vessels, and all worked with a zeal and energy praiseworthy in the extreme. Some of the men, indeed, exposed themselves to danger somewhat recklessly, but Jack's divinity, the "sweet little cherub," seemed to attend them, and they came off scatheless.

The flames having destroyed the building, continued to work gradually through the *débris*, until they reached the coolies' quarters. These, a low range of shed-like buildings, lay between Mr. Hopkins' *boucherie* and the fire, and formed its sole protection. They had already caught fire in several places, when Mr. Rice, doubtless seeing that unless the fire could be stopped in this direction, another calamity, and probably more, would have been added to the one in progress, gave the order to put in practice the famous motto

hands, but the practice is one which is unfortunately an unavoidable concomitant of the necessary evil of Chinese collectors; and as it cannot be altogether done away with, although some risks attending it may be reduced by first sending out unreceipted bills for approval, the creditor might reasonably expect some assistance from the debtor in endeavouring to avert the frauds to which he is exposed. The remedy seems to us to lie in paying by compradore order or bank cheque to the order of the creditor; and though the practice of simply endorsing bills probably occupies a little less time, the saving is scarcely appreciable, and is certainly not to be balanced against the loss both of time and money which it may ultimately involve. The creditor is reluctant to seem to press the debtor, and therefore goes on regarding the bill as unpaid until the lapse of time has become so unreasonable that, in self-defence, he makes a personal enquiry, only to find that he has wronged his constituent by his surmises, and that a servant who, as in this case, has been with him for a long period, has been carrying on a system of fraud it may take him much valuable time to unravel, and which may even have already done serious and permanent injury to his business interests. There are some other points about the collecting system the discussion of which might be productive of useful results, but at present we can only refer to them very briefly. Cases occur in which the shroff goes day after day, and week after week, until months age and even years elapse, only to have his applications rudely rebuffed; and though this of course cannot palliate the retention of his employer's money, it suggests to him the excuse which, in the absence of any direct and immediate check, has to be accepted. He has, besides, the plea that not unfrequently the receipted bill is retained on the ground that reference is necessary, and thus he accounts for its absence when he is called on to produce the document itself or its proceeds. If people would establish regular pay days, and pay by bank cheques or similar orders, much annoyance would be saved and many frauds defeated. It is not unknown to us, however, that compradore orders are given when no compradore exists—when he is practically a lay character, so far as his ability to make payments is concerned; and in such cases, if the debtor has no effects and no understanding as to the honouring of his drafts, the granting of the order should be reprobated equally with the granting of a cheque on a bogus bank account. The time which is lost, the annoyance which is too often caused, the numerous frauds which are disclosed, and the still more numerous ones which remain unrevealed, make it quite clear that some change in the present system of collection is not only desirable, but very necessary. [Since the foregoing was written, we have learnt that the defaulting collector has pleaded guilty, and been sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labour.]

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

For some days, rumours had been in circulation that the illness from small-pox of His Imperial Majesty Tsai Chun, who reigned under the title Tung-che, had terminated fatally. The previous reports, however, which ascribed slight importance to the attack, and indicated that his Majesty was already convalescent, although the nature of the disease required that he should pass one hundred days in retirement, added to the reassuring tenor of the Imperial decrees lately published in the Peking Gazette, caused these rumours to be gravely doubted. On Saturday they were revived, and were supported by a statement that the seals on official despatches from the capital had been changed from red to blue, which is only done on the death of an Emperor. The confirmatory intelligence received on Monday shows that some of the Chinese officials, with that dispatch in the matter of important news from the capital which characterises their courier service to the provincial governments, had been made acquainted with the fatal termination of His Majesty's illness several days before it was known to the residents here. It should be said, however, that the Chinese generally were also extremely sceptical about the truth of the report.

The arrival of the Peking Mail of 13th January has now placed the melancholy fact beyond all doubt. After the attack which manifested itself on the 9th ult., his Majesty seems to have progressed favourably, and it was hoped that the disease had run its course. On the 5th instant, however, the Imperial patient suffered a relapse, and after lingering for a week in a hopeless condition, died on the evening of Tuesday the 12th instant, at four o'clock as one correspondent informs us. To adopt the Chinese phraseology on the death of his Majesty's predecessor: "He sped upward upon the Dragon, to be a guest on high."

The late Emperor was the eighth of his line, and was born on 27th April 1856, his age being thus eighteen years and nine months. The death of his father, which took place at Jehol on 17th August 1861, after his flight from Peking in the autumn of the previous year, when the allied forces menaced the capital, left the guardianship of the young heir apparent a prize to be disputed for by the powers at Court. The dispute which was naturally to be expected in an Oriental palace took place. The Princes Su-shun, Ts'ai-yuen and Twan-hwa, members of the Blood Royal, strongly opposed to the peace policy of which Prince Kung was the foremost representative, having proclaimed the Emperor, endeavoured to seize the reins of government and form a Regency in which their own party should have unlimited sway. The Empress-Dowager, ("Mother of the State,") and the Mother of the Sovereign, were admitted to the Council of Regency, nominally as guardians of the Boy-Emperor. Prince Kung was excluded; and the Empresses being dissatisfied with Su-shun's conduct and policy, arranged a *coup d'état* with the former Prince. The three conspiring Princes were arrested, tried, and condemned to be cut to pieces; but this sentence was commuted to self-strangulation in the case of two of them, and to decapitation in that of Su-shun. Minor punishments were meted out to other nobles and officials.

Nominally ascending the throne in the year 1862 (the year in which one Emperor dies is not counted as part of the reign of his successor), the child Emperor then had the affairs of his vast dominions administered for him by the Empresses-Dowager as regents, with his uncle Prince Kung for their chief adviser. On 15th October 1872, he was married; and on 23rd February following he assumed the reins of government, which he has so soon again had to surrender to the hands that guided the chariot of state during his minority, and which apparently had scarcely relaxed their hold. We have but meagre data at present upon which to form an estimate of the character and the capacity of the deceased Emperor, and must therefore postpone any remarks of this nature. In the last decree or testament of his father, Hien Fêng, by which the young Prince was appointed successor, he was said to be "humane" (a term which is probably used here in a wide sense) "dutiful, quick, and intelligent." These qualities were no doubt carefully cultivated by his tutors according to the best Chinese standard; and judging by certain of his public acts, there appears to be ground for believing that to them was added a will by no means weak. It was hoped the bent of that will would eventually declare itself in a direction which would rouse China from her lethargic and backward condition, and give *eclat* to his reign. Apart from the sympathy which will be felt for the youthful Potentate cut off at the threshold of his active career, the sad event which we record to-day will be regarded with no small regret by foreigners from another point of view. The death of his Majesty without issue, and without having personally nominated or adopted a successor, will most probably result in the re-establishing of a Regency, and form a plea for returning to the unsatisfactory position of diplomatic relations with foreign representatives which was maintained during its former period of power.

Our correspondent states that up to noon of the 13th, no announcement as to the succession had been made. The latest report was to the effect that a grandson of Prince Tun, (elder brother of Prince Kung and fifth son of the Empêror Tao-kwang), had been designated by the Empress. If this be correct—and Chinese ideas of inheritance and adoption give it every probability—the accession of the new Emperor, who is a child of six years of age, named Chih, will much resemble that of his predecessor, and will necessitate another long Regency. Prince Tun is said to have eight sons, the eldest of whom is the father of the child selected to sit on

the Dragon throne. Failing the recognition of this boy, there would be some possibility of the eldest son of the Prince of Kung, *beileh* Tsai-chêng, who it may be remembered recently shared his father's brief degradation, being named successor. An objection to his candidature is that he is about the same age as the late Emperor, whose companion he was in study and in sport; and it is usual for an adopted successor to be junior to the person, royal or subject, whose place he takes, on account of the high importance the Chinese attach to keeping up ancestral sacrifices. For this reason, and it may be assumed, for the further one that it would be desired to place the candidate under tutelage for his new position, one of the younger connections of the reigning family is more likely to be selected to stand in the relation of son and heir to the deceased Emperor. The *Beileh* Tsai-Chêng, we should notice, was married last year, and has a son two months old, whose chances are in some quarters believed to be equal if not superior to those of the Prince of Tun's grandson. Another article in these pages points out that Prince Tun, although senior to Prince Kung, being the fifth son of Taokwang, has by adoption been to some extent alienated from the family. Prince Kung, on the contrary, since the death of his brother, Hien Fêng, has been, and is likely to continue, the mainstay of the dynasty; and his pre-eminent services give his family a strong claim on the succession under such circumstances as the present. A possible candidate has also been mentioned in the person of the youthful son of Prince Ch'un, younger brother of Prince Kung, and who is a great favorite at Court; and before the late Emperor was born, his father, Hien Fêng, being then childless, adopted a son whose offspring might be supposed to have a collateral claim.

So far as our information goes, then, it seems improbable that the Emperor's death will create complications at Court; the Empresses-Dowager still holding practically the power which has hitherto enabled them, in conjunction with Prince Kung and other members of the Imperial family, to rule the country—while it is doubtful if any individual or faction is strong enough, or desirous, to alter the succession decided on, or bring about a change of dynasty. As we have suggested, however, it will be unfortunate if this return to the old order of government should result in the old state of foreign relations. A correspondent, referring recently to the arrival of the Danish Minister, observed that the Emperor's illness and the delegation of the state functions to the Empresses-Dowager, would prevent General Raasloff from having audience for several months to come. Is it to follow that the representative of Denmark, and with him those of other Powers, will have to wait, not a few months, but another ten years, before getting access to the Imperial Presence?

It is interesting to notice under existing circumstances that by a decree in the *Gazette* of 9th Jan., three days before the Emperor's death, the titles of three out of the four *Ta Hio Sze* or Grand Secretaries have been rearranged—Li Hung-chang, a Chinese, becoming senior, although the distinction is one that precedence has almost invariably assigned to a Manchu. The positions do not necessarily give any increase of influence or voice in the affairs of the Government, but the departure from precedent may not be the less intended to propitiate the powerful Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province.

THE CHINESE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

The following particulars respecting the Imperial family of China, in connection with the order of succession to the throne, may be found not without interest.

As is well known, the reigning Sovereign is eighth in direct line of descent from his ancestor the emperor She Tsu Chang Hwang Ti (Shun Che), who ascended the throne at the age of five in 1643, his reign being reckoned, however, according to the invariable Chinese usage, from the beginning of the following year, or Feb. 8th, 1644. The legendary progenitor of the Manchu chieftains who advanced, by successive steps, to the assumption of the imperial crown of China, bore, according to tradition, the surname Aisin Gioro, represented by the Chinese characters 愛新覺羅. The signification of the word *Aisin* is the same as that of the Chinese *Kin* 金, gold (or metal), and an identification is thus suggested with the dynastic title of the reputed ancestors of the Manchus, the Nü-chih Tartars, who reigned in northern China during the 12th and 13th centuries. The surname of their Imperial house was, however, Wan-yen 完顏. The word *Gioro* is said to be equivalent to the Chinese 氏 or family-stem. It is borne as a distinctive surname by every descendant of the founder of the present Imperial line, and it serves in particular as an appellation, prefixed to the personal name, for the more remote scions of the original stock. Actual descendants of Hien Tsu, the acknowledged founder of the family, (1583-1615), are designated *Tsung-shih* 宗室, in conformity with the usage adopted by earlier Chinese dynasties. In order to make the observations which are to follow, with reference to the various branches of the imperial lineage, more easily understood, it is necessary here to explain the further system of family nomenclature which has been adopted by the existing line. The foundations of this system were laid in the reign of the second emperor of the dynasty, Shêng Tsu Jên, (K'ang Hi), who gave to each of his twenty-four sons a personal name consisting of two characters, the first of which was Yin 胤—subsequently exchanged in writing, as a token of respect, for Yün 允—and the second compounded with the radical *she* 示 throughout, as 禔, 祺, and so on. His grandson, K'ien Lung, extended this practice into a system for perpetual application, ordaining that future generations deriving their descent from K'ang Hi should be successively designated by the following four characters, viz:

1. 永 Yung.
2. 綿 Mien.
3. 奕 Yih.
4. 載 Tsai.

Minute regulations were drawn up, and incorporated with the fundamental institutes of the dynasty, setting forth the manner in which both these characters and those employed for the second or individual half of each name, should be bestowed. In the 49th year of his reign (A.D. 1784), on the birth of a great-great-grandson, to whom the character Tsai consequently appertained, K'ien Lung decreed the addition of the character Fêng 奉 as the next in succession; but this character was dismissed from use by order of the emperor Tao Kwang. In the sixth year of the reign of this sovereign (1826), an addition to the number of characters appears to have been thought advisable (probably in order to avoid repetition as the list became exhausted), and ten characters were proposed for his Majesty's selection, out of which the following four were approved for future use, viz:—

5. 溥 P'u.
6. 毓 Yü.
7. 恒 Hêng.
8. 啟 K'i.

The Emperor Hien Fêng, again, saw fit to increase the list by the addition of four more characters. The *Peking Gazette* of the 9th June, 1857, contains a copy of a decree directing the chief [illegible] of Government to draw up a list of four characters, to be submitted, together with the six remaining on record since 1826, when they were put on one side after the four above enumerated were chosen, for approval by his Majesty. A short time afterwards a further decree announced the fact that the following additional characters had been adopted from the list drawn up:

9. 壽 Tao.
10. 闓 K'ai.
11. 增 Tsêng.
12. 祺 K'i.

So much for the first of the two characters forming the compound name. The complementary part of the system of nomenclature is well illustrated by Dr. S. W. Williams, in his "Middle Kingdom" (vol. I., p. 310), in the following terms: "The members [of the imperial family] most nearly allied in blood, as sons, nephews, etc., are still further distinguished by having the second syllables of their names written in compound Chinese characters, whose radicals are alike; thus Kia K'ing and his brothers wrote their names with Yung (the fourth syllable in the above list) and under the radical *gem*; Tau Kwang and his brothers and cousins with Mien, and under the radical *heart*. This peculiarity is easily represented in the Chinese characters, but a comparison can be made in English with the supposed names of a family of sons, as

Louis *Ed*ward, Louis *Ed*win, Louis *Ed*wy, Louis *Ed*gar, and so on."

The personal names, thus compounded, will be traced in the following list of the Sovereigns who have successively occupied the throne, whose historical or posthumous titles (廟號) and the titles of whose reigns (年號) are likewise given :--

Historical Title.	Title of Reign.	Period of Reign.	Personal Name.
1.—She Tsu Chang.	Shun Che.	1644-1661.	Fuh Lin.
世祖章	順治		福臨
2.—Shên Tsu Jên.	K'ang Hi.	1666-1722.	Hüan Yeh.
聖祖仁	康熙		玄燁
3.—She Tsung Hien.	Yung Chêng.	1723-1735.	Yin Chên.
世宗憲	雍正		胤禛
4.—Kao Tsung Ch'un.	K'ien Lung.	1736-1795.	Hung Li.
高宗純	乾隆		弘曆
5. Jên Tsung Jui.	Kia K'ing.	1796-1820.	Yung Yen.
仁宗睿	嘉慶		永琰
6. Süan Tsung Ch'êng.	Tao Kwang.	1821-1850.	Mien Ning.
宣宗成	道光		綿寧
7. Wên Tsung Hien.	Hien Fêng.	1851-1861.	Yih Chu.
文宗顯	咸豐		奕詝
8. (The reigning Emperor)	T'ung Che.	1862.	Tsai Ch'un.
	同治		載淳

The characters *Hwang Ti* 皇帝 (commonly rendered Emperor) follow, in practice, the three characters constituting the historical title, and a deceased sovereign, when not spoken of, colloquially though incorrectly, by the title of his reign, is designated by the *last* of the three characters in combination with the words *Hwang Ti*—*e.g.* Ch'êng Hwang Ti for the Emperor who reigned with the designation Tao Kwang.

Upon the period of the late Emperor (Hien Hwang Ti or Hien Fêng), no difficulty in regard to the succession presented itself in the Imperial line. Shun Che was the ninth son of his father, K'ang Hi the third of Shun Che ; Yung Chêng the fourth of K'ang Hi ; K'ien Lung the fourth of Yung Chêng ; Kia K'ing the fifteenth of K'ien Lung ; Tao Kwang the second of Kia K'ing ; and Hien Fêng the fourth of the nine sons who were, in all, born to the Emperor Tao Kwang. The Emperor Hien Fêng, however, was without male issue for some years after he succeeded to the throne ; and it was probably with a view to securing the dynastic succession that, about five years after his accession an adoptive heir was provided, in conformity with the national usage, to the eldest son of the emperor, a prince who had died at an early age many years before. On the 21st January 1855 it was decreed that Tsai Chung 載中, a *tsung-shih* or member of the imperial clan, be adopted (過繼) as son to the Prince above-mentioned, whose personal name was Yih Wei, and whose title was that of Prince of Yin Che (undeveloped wisdom.") The adopted heir was a son of the *tsung-shih* Yih Ki, a great grandson of the emperor K'ien Lung. By a subsequent decree, the second name of the youth thus adopted was changed from Chung to Che 治, bringing it into accord, as regards its radical (*water*) with that prescribed for the line which, by adoption, he had entered. As, however, the birth of a son (the present Emperor) to Hien Fêng, on the 27th April 1856, apparently assured the succession in the direct line, any prospects that may have been connected with Tsai Che were for the time being at an end. The heir apparent received, by decree dated the 13th June 1856, the name Tsai Ch'un 載淳 ; and by his father's decease on the 17th Aug. 1861, he became successor to the throne. His marriage on the 15th October 1872 and his assumption of the reins of government on the 23rd February 1873, are events fresh within the recollection of the public.

In view of the fact that, up to the present time, no issue has been vouchsafed to the young sovereign, attention has naturally been turned toward the condition of the imperial lineage ; and the state of affairs in this respect can best be made clear by means of a genealogical table such as the following, commencing with the Emperor Kia K'ing. (The table will be found on [illegible])

The point of first importance to be noted in the above Table is the fact that, in default of issue to the reigning sovereign, the direct line of Imperial devolution terminates with his person. His father, Hien Fêng, was one of nine brothers, however, of whom four are still living ; and to a mind accustomed to the European order of succession, it might seem natural that in the event of the nephew's decease without issue, the uncles would inherit in the order of their seniority. This is inadmissible according to Chinese ideas. The especial attribute of a son and heir being that of keeping up the ancestral sacrifices, the maintenance of which are essential to the well-being of the spirits of the departed (who repay the benefit by assuring temporal rewards in return for the assiduity of their descendants), it is held essential that the heir be of a generation posterior to that of the individual deceased. Hence, in the Imperial family, following the succession of the eight characters used in their nomenclature, a Mien should have a Yih as adoptive heir, whenever necessary, a Yih a Tsai, and so forth. This rule is exemplified in the adoption, already mentioned, of Tsai Che as heir to the deceased elder-born of the emperor Tao Kwang, the prince Yih Wei.

Adoption is, in fact, observed on an extensive scale among the members of the Imperial clan, whose family relationships are thus made not a little intricate. The fifth son of Tao Kwang, next brother to the emperor Hien Fêng, commonly known by his title of Prince of Tun, has been in this wise alienated from the closest to a collateral degree of kinship with the young emperor. He was given in adoption many years ago (in 1845) to his deceased uncle, the prince of Tun K'io, third son of Kia K'ing ; and one of his sons, again, the prince (*beileh*) Tsai I, has been made into his nephew through adoption as grandson to another of the sons of K'ia K'ing (see Table). The alienation of Tsai I from the paternal stock is alleged to have been decreed as a punishment meted out to the Prince of Tun for a violation of self-restraint, prescribed by the ritual of mourning, at a period antecedent to the entry of the young prince into the world.

As the Table shews, the offspring of Tsai Che, who was himself by the decree of 1855 indicated as a possible heir to Hien Fêng, should be now the most direct claimants to the privilege of furnishing an heir by adoption to the reigning and childless emperor. Four sons have been born to this prince, of whom it is believed that only one, an infant, still survives. It seems possible, however, that in the deliberations of the Imperial Clan Court, the fact of Tsai Che being himself an adoptive son may militate, the case arising, against the eligibility of his children, and under such circumstances (provided also that the alienation of the Prince of Tun should bar the claim of his descendants) it appears probable that the offspring of the two uncles of his Majesty, next in order of seniority, would be the most available candidates. In any case, it is alleged by those who are versed in the principles of Chinese genealogy, the adoption of an heir not junior in the line of descent to the reigning Emperor could only be feasible by his being made heir to one of the earlier sovereigns (Hien Fêng or Tao Kwang). The Prince of Tun has several sons (eight in all have been born to him), of whom the eldest is married, but the probability of their alienation from the direct line of inheritance is, as has been remarked above, at least matter for consideration. If this be the case, the possible candidate next in order would be the elder son of the Prince of Kung, the *beileh* Tsai Ch'êng. This young prince is of about the same age with the emperor, and was married in the course of last year. The "seventh Prince," younger brother of the Prince of Kung, has likewise a son, a mere lad. The favour with which the "seventh Prince" has been looked upon by the Emperor might cause the choice to be directed here. The degradation of the *beilêh* Tsai Ch'êng, together with his father, by the decrees of the 10th and 11th September last, have been matters of public notoriety.

It may be useful to note, in conclusion, that the titles conferred on members of the present imperial house are of twelve degrees. The sons of an emperor, before receiving a special title by patent, are known simply by the designation *Ako* (in Manchu *a-gê*), with the numeral indicating their seniority by birth prefixed. The twelve degrees of rank are as follows:

1.—和碩親王 *Ho-shêh Ts'in Wang*—Prince of the 1st order. 2.—多羅郡王 *To-lo Kün Wang*—Prince of the 2nd order. 3.—多羅貝勒 *To-lo Beileh*—Prince of the 3rd order. 4.—固山貝子 *Ku-shan Bei-tsze*—Prince of the 4th order. 5 to 8.—公 *Kung* (with distinctive qualifications). 9 to 12—將軍. *Tsiang Kün* (with distinctive qualifications).

Imperial princes usually receive patents of the first or second order on reaching the age of manhood, and their sons are invested with the title *beilêh*. A *beilêh's* son becomes a *beitsze*, and rank is thus transmitted in a *diminuendo* scale,

嘉慶永琰 — KIA K'ING. (Yung Yen). 1796-1820.

- I. Mien ?
- II. 道光綿寧 — TAO KWANG. (Mien Ning). 1821–1850.
  - 隱智郡王奕緯 — dead.
    - 貝勒載治 (改名載中)
      - I. P'u ? — dead.
      - II. P'u ? — dead.
      - III. P'u ? — dead.
      - IV. 溥倫 — P'u Lun, (born Nov. 1874.)
  - I. Yih Wei, Prince of Yin Che. — dead.
  - II. Yih ? — dead.
  - III. Yih ? 咸豐奕詝 — dead.
    - 同治載淳 — T'UNG CHE. (Tsai Ch'un). 1862—
  - IV. (a) 惇親王奕誴 — HIEN FÊNG. (Yih Chu). 1851–1861.
    - Tsai Che, son of Yih Ki, adopted by decree of Hien Fêng in 1854 as posthumous heir.
  - V. Yih Tsung. Prince of Tun, (adopted as heir to the 3rd son of Kia K'ing). — *Has issue. See under 3rd son of Kia K'ing.*
    - 貝勒載澂
  - VI. Yih Sin, Prince of Kung, 恭親王奕訢
    - I. Tsai Ch'êng (born about 1856).
    - II. Tsai Ying (adopted as heir to his deceased uncle, the Prince of Chung). (c)
  - VII. Yih Hwan, Prince of Ch'un. 醇親王奕譞
    - 載湉
    - Tsai Tien. (c)
  - VIII. Yih Ho, Prince of Chung. 鍾郡王奕詥 — dead.
    - 載澄
    - Tsai Ying, (son of the Prince of Kung).
  - IX. Yih Hwei, Prince f Fu. 孚郡王奕譓
    - 載濂 — Tsai Lien
- III. Mien K'ai, Prince of Tun K'io. 惇恪親王綿愷
  - (a) 惇親王奕誴
  - Yih Tsung, Prince of Tun, 5th son of Tao Kwang
    - 載瀾 — Tsai Lan
    - 載瀛 — Tsai Ying
    - 載猗 — Tsai I, (adopted as heir to the 4th son of Kia K'ing).
- IV. Mien Hien, Prince of Hwai. 懷親王綿忻
  - 瑞慤郡王奕誌
  - 貝勒載漪
  - Tsai I, (2nd son of the Prince of Tun). (b)
  - Yih Che, Prince of Jui Min. 奕詳
- V. Mien Yü, Prince of Hwei. 惠親王綿愉
  - I. Yih Siang. 奕詢
  - II. Yih Sün. 奕謨
  - III. Yih Mu.

N.B.—The fact of adoption *into* one of the bnches in the above Table is indicated by a *triangle* substituted for a circle. Adoption *from* a branch is indicated bthe addition of the lozenge below the circle.

of the Hook and Ladder Company—"Say the word, and down comes your house." Hooks and ropes were speedily attached to the buildings in question, and large portions of them pulled down so as to form a barrier impassable to the flames, and there can be little doubt that by this piece of timely service, both Mr. Hopkins' and Captain Tough's premises were saved from destruction.

The alarm amongst the Chinese resident in the neighbourhood, especially those in the Ningpo Road, was very great. They at once set to work to clear out their goods and chattels from their houses and workshops, and in a little while the roadway presented all the appearance of a Welsh fair; while, gravely pacing to and fro through the crowd, as though keeping watch and ward, were a number of the employés of the "Tea Guild," each with the inevitable lantern carried aloft at the end of a long bamboo.

It was not to be expected that so destructive a fire would pass without accident to person, and by the sudden falling outwards of three of the lofty columns, dividing the arches of the building at the Tientsin road end, two persons were injured. One of them was a Chinese fireman, and he was completely buried under the mass of bricks and mortar. He was quickly dragged out by some of the bystanders, and conveyed to the Shantung Hospital, where it was found that, although no bones were broken, he was otherwise seriously injured. The other was Mr. Pemberton, of the Tug and Lighter Company, who was also knocked down by the falling mass and much bruised about the head and body. Other cases of injury occurred at the front of the building. Mr. Yeo, manager of the Gas Works, with Mr. Rogerson, one of the employés, entered the building to save the gas meter, when Mr. Rogerson received some severe bruises from falling bricks, his coat being also much torn. While inside, these gentlemen also managed to save a number of articles, as well as the books of the firm. Later in the evening, Mr. Yeo ventured in a second time, calling upon Mr. Kent, another employé, to follow him, when they were both struck down, Mr. Kent receiving a deep cut on the left temple, causing so great a loss of blood that he fainted, Mr. Yeo being also so much hurt that he was obliged to be taken home. Mr. Kent was attended by Dr. Hopkins, and was afterwards conveyed to the Temperance Hall and put to bed. Narrow escapes also were numerous. By 11.30 all cause of apprehension of the further spread of the fire was removed, but the flames continued to feed on the wreck in the basement, and it was not until four o'clock yesterday morning that the Fire Brigade was fully withdrawn. All day yesterday, the fire was aglow, and at intervals sent up flames and smoke. Large crowds of Chinese hung round the ruins, many intent on pilfering and some four or five of them are now in the Central Station, charged with this form of robbery.

As to the origin of the fire, it is, as the phrase goes, shrouded in mystery. We are informed that the building was an old one; that is, old for Shanghai, and that some time ago one of the floors in that part of it where the fire broke out, gave way. A number of Chinese carpenters were employed to repair it, and some twenty of these were at work on Saturday until five o'clock, when the building was closed, no one remaining in it. The gas had been cut off during the repairs, so there was no chance of damage from that source. Several of Messrs. Lane and Crawford's employés occupied rooms in the hong, and have of course lost all they possessed. A valuable retriever dog, belonging to Mr. Fairbairn, was burnt to death. Mr. Triggs' loss is especially severe, and includes some rare curios from the West Coast of Africa (the accumulations of a three years' residence there).

The total loss cannot yet be ascertained, but it is estimated to be considerably over the amount of insurance, and that will not prove to be less than from Tls. 50,000 to Tls. 60.000. The loss will, we believe, fall chiefly upon the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company. The building itself belonged to Messrs. Lane and Crawford, the old partners in Lane, Crawford & Co., and was insured for Tls. 6,500.

It would be an omission not to mention the excellent services rendered by the heads of the Fire Department, Messrs. Mackenzie, Ashley, Rice, Charrier, and Clarke; also the way in which Lieut. Pipon, of the *Modeste*, and Lieut. Wentworth Bayley, of the *Ringdove*, handled their men; while last, but not least, on such an occasion, the steps taken by Messrs. Stripling, Fowler, and Wilson, to keep order and prevent the crowd pressing on the firemen, were worthy of commendation, as was also the firm but respectful manner in which the constables carried out their orders.

Some complaints were heard respecting what was considered to be the short supply of water in the wells, and it was also asserted that they were in a foul and dirty condition, containing much mud. It is true that the water was speedily exhausted in some of them, and that the engines were at times standing idle for want of it; but we are assured that the wells were clean and in good order, and that the speedy exhaustion of the water resulted from so many more than the usual number of engines being brought into play together.

All day on Sunday the ruins gave out intense heat, and at intervals tongues of flame shot up from the *débris*, showing there was still a mass of fire beneath the surface. Towards 8 p.m. there was a considerable increase of these appearances, and it became necessary to send for an engine to play upon the ruins. The "Deluge" was accordingly sent there, and threw a large quantity of water over the area of the late building, until all chance of further danger was obviated. On Monday, a number of workmen were set to work to clear away the remaining walls and ruins.

TRIBUTE RICE.

Extract from Mr. Dick's Report on the Trade of Tientsin (1867).

Concerning the Tribute Rice, there is reason to think that the transport of it, as at present performed by junks, is a very expensive business. The loss by leakage and wreck on the sea voyage is considerable; and the junks, coming here early in the year, because they are dependent on the monsoons, all arrive at about the same time, crowding the river and causing collisions in which they are generally the sufferers. A portion of the freight is paid by allowing the junks to carry certain goods free of duty, so that it is impossible to ascertain exactly what the service costs. It seems, however, that the quantity of goods carried under the exemption referred to is not great, as Chinese merchants prefer the safety and speed of Foreign vessels, for the carriage of their property. The Government is beginning to take the same view in regard to the Rice, and about a tenth of this year's tribute is to be carried in Foreign vessels. As there are no granaries at Tientsin for the reception of the Rice, it has to be sent to Tung Chow as soon as it is taken from the junks, and the officials therefore press into the service all the lighters in the neighborhood, thus seriously interfering for a time with all other traffic. This evil might be mitigated if the transport were distributed throughout the year. It is not only however the expensiveness of the whole transport—by sea as well as by river—as at present conducted, which is open to criticism. The necessity of bringing such a large quantity of Rice for the Government is, in the first place, very doubtful. Most of it is intended ostensibly for the Peking garrison, and is issued to the officers and men, by orders on the granaries for so much Rice to each. A soldier never obtains the quantity named in his order. It is said that he does not get more than seven-tenths, and that what he gets has been damaged by the watering to which much of the Rice is subjected to make it appear up to the right quantity when placed in the granaries. The discount on the soldier's allowance represents the charge which the officials and lightermen engaged in carrying the Rice from Tientsin to Peking, and the officials who manage the granaries, think proper to extract from the business. The soldiers are in the habit (liable only to occasional check) of selling their orders on the granaries to Rice shops, the proceeds being more than sufficient to buy a quantity of the coarser grain equal to the Rice they have sold. The Peking Rice shops are almost entirely supplied in this way, as the soldier, provided he gets something more than the price of coarse grain, can exclude the mercantile importer by selling the Rice for less than has been expended on its purchase in the South and its transport to Peking. The tribute becomes thus to some extent simply a trade in Rice carried on by officials at a great cost to the country. It would be better for the Government to draw from the Central provinces only so much Rice as is really required for the Peking garrison, and, by commuting the remainder of the tribute into money, to obtain the benefit of the difference between the price of Rice and that of the coarser grains (produced abundantly in Manchuria) which might be issued instead of the Rice commuted. If the entrance to the port were deepened, and the tax on the coast carriage of grain—lately suspended—were entirely abolished, so that the services of Foreign vessels of all sizes could be brought freely into play, the Government might rely upon obtaining its supplies through Native merchants and Foreign carriers, at a smaller cost to the country than is incurred under the present system, and the food supply of the province generally would find itself on a better footing.

Memorial by Chen Hung-yi, translated from Peking Gazette 11th November, 1872.

Chen Hung-yi, memorializes the Throne complaining of the abuses connected with the system of levying the land-tax in kind rather than in money, and prays that the system may be changed in a portion at least of the Fungtien (Moukden) prefecture. The evils complained of may be briefly enumerated as follows:—

1.—The district magistrates collect only a part of the tax in kind and the rest in money, charging the people, however, double the value of the grain.

2.—The magistrates, instead of at once purchasing the grain required, and storing it in the granaries ready for transhipment to Tungchow at the proper time, wait till they can get it cheap and thereby delay the junks.

3.—Junks employed in the transport service, have to leave for Fengtien in the 4th Moon, and do not get away from there till the 10th Moon. The cost of such a long delay is enormous. The magistrates excuse themselves by saying that all the junks not having arrived, the loading cannot commence. Thus time is wasted, winter arrives, and the junks have sometimes to go away unloaded after all.

4.—The grain having arrived at Tientsin, it has to be transhipped &c., and during this process it is stolen right and left; this cannot well be prevented.

5.—In the granaries the grain is so adulterated with chaff and rubbish, that it is unfit, or nearly so, for human food. This was keenly felt last year by all the charities in the capital.

To this proposal, however, it will probably be objected that the price of grain being very low in Fengtien, the sum received by the Government would be a very paltry one. This may be true; but it must be remembered that the Government, by levying the tax in money, would save the heavy outlay now incurred for transport, official salaries, &c., &c., and this would go far to make up the difference between the price of grain in Fengtien and at Tungchow. In some of the provinces, as Shantung, this plan has been already adopted, and the memorialist hopes the Throne will be pleased to look favourably on the present proposal.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 12.

Before SIR EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge*.

FAN TSIANG CHI *v.* H. SCOTT GILL.

Action for Libel in the "Wui-pau," a native newspaper.

Mr. H. BROUGHAM MILLER for the plaintiff.
DEFENDANT conducted his own case.

Plaintiff sought to recover damages $3,000 for an alleged libel, contained in an article in the *Wui-pau*, on the 4th of January last, in accordance with the complaint set forth in his

Petition:—

"The petition of Fan-tsiang-chi of Shanghai, the above named plaintiff, shows as follows :—

1.—The plaintiff is a subject of the Emperor of China, and now residing at Shanghai, occupying the position of a Chinese gentleman, and, until the publication of the libel hereinafter set forth, of good repute amongst his fellow subjects and others. The plaintiff was formerly in the years 1868 to 1871 in the employ of the firm of Shaw Brothers, at Hankow, as Compradore, and was until recently in the service of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, at Shanghai, where he was in the receipt of a salary of 90 dollars ($90) per month. The plaintiff left the said service owing to material changes in the management of the affairs of the said Company, and has since been endeavouring to obtain employment suitable to his rank and position.

2.—The plaintiff, while in Hankow as a Compradore as aforesaid, having great knowledge of mercantile affairs, was in the habit of transacting on his own account and for his own behalf, business amounting to Taels 800,000 or thereabouts per annum.

3.—The defendant, a resident in Shanghai, is the manager of a certain Chinese paper called the *Wui-pau* newspaper, issued daily, with the exception of Sundays. The defendant is thoroughly acquainted with the Chinese language, and the publication of the said newspaper is subject to his sole and entire control.

4.—In the said *Wui-pau* newspaper published and issued on Monday, the 4th day of January, 1875, there appeared an article of which the plaintiff complains as hereinafter appears. A newspaper of that date is attached to this petition, and a translation into English of the article.

5.—The plaintiff charges that the defendant falsely and maliciously printed and published in the said newspaper the words following: that is to say, translated into English, "We learn that this man (Fan) was formerly employed as a coolie in the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, and was dismissed for certain reasons by the manager." The defendant meaning thereby that the plaintiff is a low bad fellow, not of the position of a gentleman, and that the plaintiff had been guilty of improper conduct while in the employ of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, and that he was sent away in disgrace; and that the defendant falsely and maliciously printed and published the following other words: that is to say, translated into English, "The vicious and demoralizing tendency of opium to mankind may be gathered from this example; and here we have a repetition of the horse Siang Heang (a noted horse) being sold for cup of wine," the defendant meaning thereby that the plaintiff was addicted to the excessive use of opium and had become a degraded character.

6.—The plaintiff further charges that the whole of the matter contained in such article was used in a defamatory sense, meaning that the plaintiff is connected with a gang of ruffians, and that they and he were in the habit of going into opium shops, smoking opium and refusing payment.

7.—That the plaintiff in consequence of such libel is unable to obtain suitable employment, and such as he has hitherto enjoyed, and by reason of the premisses the plaintiff has suffered loss and damage to a great extent, to wit to the sum of $3,000. The plaintiff therefore prays that the defendant may be decreed to pay to the plaintiff the sum of $3,000 or such other sum as the Court may think fit, together with the costs of this suit."

The Defendant filed the following

Answer:—

"1.—That on the date hereof, January the eighteenth, 1875, Henry Scott Gill received a copy of a petition *in re* a supposed libel case, in which he is asked to give answer as being defendant in this case.

That for reasons hereinafter set forward, he prays that the Chief Judge will rule that this case does not come within the jurisdiction of the British Supreme Court, but shall be referred back to the man Fan, on the ground that the said Henry Scott Gill is not the true defendant in the supposed libel case, and that a Chinaman named Yu is the true defendant, and that therefore the man Fan must apply to his own Magistrate.

The present defendant therefore prays that the Chief Judge will consider the following reasons :—

1—In May, 1874, a Chinaman named Kwong came to defendant and asked him to be the *Foreign* Editor of a Chinese newspaper afterwards to be established in Shanghai.

2.—The defendant asked that his duties should be distinctly enumerated. The duties required were that defendant should manage the foreign department of the paper, making translations of all foreign news of importance, and supplying articles on foreign matters of interest. Also keeping all foreign accounts, and receiving and translating foreign advertisements.

3.—The man Kwong said that he had engaged an Editor for the paper, a Chinaman named Kwan. This man would have the power of inserting or rejecting "copy."

4.—That the Chinese Editor, Kwan, did reject certain articles and also alter others written and translated by the foreign Editor. This proves that the Chinese Editor was the Editor in chief.

5.—The Chinese Eidtor "makes up" the paper, and reads the proof copy. He has therefore the power to insert or reject, and is most certainly the responsible party.

6.—When the man Kwan resigned, he inserted a notice in the *Shun-pau* that he was no longer responsible for what might appear in the *Wui-pau*.

7.—The Proprietors of the *Wui-pau* appointed "Yu" as the successor to Kwan, as responsible Editor of the *Wui-pau*.

8.—This man Yu is well known as the editor of the Chinese department of the *Wui-pau*.

9.—The said Yu inserted the whole of the articles, paragraphs, &c., in the paper of the 4th inst., without a single reference to the foreign Editor.

10.—The foreign Editor knew absolutely nothing of the supposed libel, until the receipt of a letter from G. Jamieson, Esq., of H. B. M. Consulate.

11.—That the statements made in the petition of the plaintiff Fan are false, particularly where he represents himself to be a "gentleman," to have been in receipt of a salary of $90 per month in the service of the C. M. S. N. Co., and where he states that he was "in good repute with his fellow countrymen" until the publication of the supposed libel, proof is offered in the following letter, which is a true copy of one written by Mr. Tong King-sing, the manager of the C. M. Co., in reply to one sent by the defendant. This shows clearly the position of the plaintiff Fan, and the estimation in which he was (and is) held by his fellow countrymen; and which the supposed libel had nothing to do with."

Mr. MILLER, in introducing the case, said it was one of libel, and he thought rather a bad one. The plaintiff was a Chinaman, as described in his petition, and defendant was manager, editor, and publisher of a certain Chinese newspaper called the *Wui-pau*. On the 4th of January, there was a libel published in that paper which was the cause of the petition. He had filed a paper of the date that contained the original article, and which had been translated for the benefit of the Court. Mr. Miller then read the petition as given above, calling the particular attention of the Court to the Chinese word, or character, used to describe the plaintiff, whom it represented to be a coolie.

His LORDSHIP—But it is not libellous to say a man is a coolie, in the employ of some one.

Mr. MILLER thought it was libellous when applied as in this case. The Chinese character by which it was expressed in the newspaper was one of great meaning, and it was of deep importance to the plaintiff, because amongst the Chinese it showed that he was in a much lower position in life than he really occupied.

Defendant said the true meaning of the character was "labourer."

Mr. MILLER went on to say that he would now come to the translation, and asked whether his Lordship would take the one that had been supplied to him, or would he hear another read?

Defendant said he had no objection to the translation already made, except as to the meaning attached to the word, "this man was engaged as coolie;" it ought to read, "this man was in the employ," or "was a labourer in the employ."

His LORDSHIP,—It is then a fair translation, with that exception? That is your only objection?

Defendant.—Yes, I have no other. I might say it was used as a Cantonese phrase.

Mr. MILLER asked Heding, the Consular Interpreter, the meaning of the character?

HEDING said it did not mention coolie at all; it meant "formerly working in the employ."

Mr. MILLER.—Does it say in what capacity?

HEDING.—No,—only in the employ.

His LORDSHIP—If they had wanted to use the word coolie, they would have used another expression altogether?

HEDING—Yes.

Mr. MILLER—The petition charges that the whole of the article is used in a defamatory sense.

His LORDSHIP—That is a question for the Court.

Mr. MILLER then read the translation, which was checked by Heding in the original. It contained allusions to the plaintiff's visiting opium houses, and not being able to pay his bill.

Mr. MILLER (reading)—He offered to pledge his outer trousers in payment of the bill. (Laughter.)

His LORDSHIP—That showed his honesty.

Mr. MILLER (continuing)—He caused a great uproar; lots of people were dragged into the shop to smoke opium, and did not leave till the day was ended.

His LORDSHIP—What does that mean?

Mr. MILLER—It means that a concourse of rowdies are dragged in to smoke opium at the expense of the shopkeeper who supplies it.

His LORDSHIP—What had the plaintiff to do with that?

Mr. MILLER—The article seeks to show that he was connected with those rowdies—that he was one of them. It was defamatory. He went on reading other portions of the document, which he contended were calculated to hold the plaintiff up to obloquy. One part referred to a celebrated horse, which had ultimately become so worthless as to be sold for a cup of wine, the meaning being that the plaintiff had been brought down to a low ebb, and was degraded by frequenting opium shops. He (Mr. Miller) would now put in a copy of the *North-China Daily News*, which contained an advertisement from the *Wui-pau* office.

His LORDSHIP—That is not evidence, you must call some one from the office to testify.

Mr. MILLER said he was prepared to do that. He then called.

Mr. D. WARES SMITH, who deposed—I am accountant, and have charge of the advertisement department of the *North-China Daily News*. Nearly all the advertisements pass through my hands. The advertisement produced did so, and I produce the original copy. (Copy handed to the Court.)

His LORDSHIP—Do you know whose handwriting it is in?

Witness—I do not know the handwriting.

His LORDSHIP (to Mr. Miller)—You must carry it a step further.

Mr. MILLER—In consequence of this copy being sent to the office, the advertisement was inserted?

Witness—Yes. I can produce other documents in the same handwriting, with Mr. Gill's signature.

Defendant—I'll admit it is our advertisement.

(The advertisement in question was published on the 31st August, and authorised the defendant to assume the entire mangement of the *Wui-pau*, from the 1st September last.)

Mr. MILLER next called—

The PLAINTIFF, who deposed—My name is Fan-tsiang-chi. I am doing nothing now. I

until the son of a titular *tsiang-kün* of the lowest degree would be no longer the inheritor of a title.

(*Note.*—An apparent departure from the symmetry of the rule of nomenclature may be observed in the case of the Prince Yih Wei, the eldest of the sons of Tao Kwang. His name of Wei is written 緯 with the radical 糸 *(Silk)*, whereas Hien Fêng and his brothers are distinguished by the radical 言 *(word)*. The discrepancy arose, it is explained, after Yih Wei's decease, when the Emperor Tao Kwang ordained the abandonment of the radical 糸 *silk* and chose 言 *word* as its substitute. It is unnecessary here to dilate upon the changes which, according to Chinese ideas of reverential duty, have been made in the form of the characters employed successively for the personal name of each emperor. An instance may, however, be given in that of the present sovereign, since whose accession the character Ch'un 淳 has been altered into the form 湻.

The titles given to the princes of imperial descent are largely compounded of Manchu words. Thus *ho shêh* (originally *banner*) signifies one of the four divisions of the army or State ; and *beileh* has the meaning of *commander* or *leader*. The military origin of the dynasty is commemorated in these appellations.

N. B.—The above was written before the death of his late Majesty, the Emperor T'ung Che, who died on the night of Jan. 12th, 1875.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

An accident occurred on the 6th instant [illegible] the soldiers were practising; four men were killed and six others wounded. The cannon were of a lot said to have been made in China lately, after foreign models. The powder, made at the Tientsin works, is equal to the best manufactured English ; and owing to its great strength, it requires cannon to be well made, and of the best quality of metal, to withstand its explosive power.

During the evening of the 5th instant, a fire broke out in the cookhouse of the Lung-shun hong—a Russian house within the Settlement ; but by the prompt aid of the officers and seamen of the Russian gunboat, it was speedily got under, before it had done much damage. The men of the British gunboat reached the scene of the conflagration soon after the alarm had been given, but their aid was not required.

The Temperance men of H. M. gun-vessel *Midge* and the U. S. gun-vessel *Palos* give a tea and miscellaneous entertainment this evening, in the Union Church, to which the public have been invited. The other men of the gun-vessels give a theatrical entertainment at the Club on the evening of the 13th, and have also invited the public.—Mrs. Waeber gives a ball at the Russian Consulate-General on the evening of the 15th instant. It will be seen therefore that at present the foreign residents are having many amusements and are enjoying themselves. To-morrow is the first day of the Russian New-year, when it will be our duty to return the compliments of the season to our Russian friends.

During the past seven days our weather has been very pleasant, not having been extremely cold or windy. Within that period the thermometer, in the shade, has risen beyond freezing point ; and during the night it has ranged from 26° to 16°. This morning at daylight it shewed 22°. At noon to-day I had the river ice measured, when it shewed a thickness of ten inches, having increased two inches within the week. There is of course a considerable traffic on it.

Up to noon to-day, the Customs' courier with the French mail had not arrived, so we have no letters to reply to. The non-arrival of the courier is something unusual, as the mails hitherto have been extraordinarily regular in their appearance during the winter seasons. On the 7th, the heavy mail with our newspapers, &c., by the Chinese post-office, reached here. It is the second mail by this channel we have received this winter.

11th January, 1875.

HONGKONG.

The number of Bonds of the Chinese Imperial Government Loan to be allotted was 3,000, while the number applied for was 20,171.—Mr. Ad. André has taken Mr. Rowett's place as deputy chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr. F. D. Sassoon takes his brother's (Mr. S. D. Sassoon's) seat as director. —The *Daily Press* states that the American schooner *Scotland*, which cleared for Vladivostock, has left for the wreck of the *Japan*, taking on board with her Captains Robertson (? Roberts) and Lefavour, and 4 European and 10 Chinese divers, to attempt to recover the treasure. The *Scotland* will proceed to her destination should she be unsuccessful, leaving her passengers at one of the coast ports. The *Press* also reports that on the 8th instant, the top work of the forehouse of the *Japan* drifted down to near Reef Island, where it was picked up by a Chinese junk, taken on shore there and broken up. It took several small junks to carry away the wood. The wreck has been found, and measures have been taken to secure and recover the treasure and other valuables.—The Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company declare a dividend of 6 per cent. on the working of the past half-year. The sum of $19,601.64 is carried to new account. The net loss on the *White Cloud* is estimated at $31,000.—The *China Mail* learns that Captain Roper has assumed temporary charge of the S. S. *Ly-ee-moon*, Captain Stevens having been taken ill and compelled to remain at Nagasaki.—The same paper records with much regret the death of Mr. Leonardo d'Almada e Castro, late chief clerk of the Councils. Mr. d'Almada e Castro was appointed chief clerk in 1843, and entered the public service in the office of the Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China in 1837.—The *Press* reports another "knocking down" case in the Colony. Some short time ago, the chief officer of one of the steamers in the harbour was returning to his vessel, about half-past two in the morning, when he received a heavy blow on the head, which knocked him down and rendered him insensible. A valuable watch was taken from him, and also some money, and before he regained consciousness the robbers had made off. He managed to get to his vessel, when it was discovered that he had received a very severe wound above the ear, and medical assistance had to be procured. He still remains in a very precarious condition. —A deputation of the former pupils of St. Paul's College has waited on the Right Rev. the Bishop of Victoria by invitation, to discuss with him a plan for the re-establishment of the college. His lordship stated that he wished to start with six theological students. The pupils offered to devote the surplus money from the Bishop Smith's Memorial Fund to the promotion of this design. It was hoped the college would be opened on 22nd February.—A man named Philip Davis, who ran a short but eventful career in Shanghai as a quack conjurer and general loafer, has been up at the Police Court, charged with breaking the conditional pardon of a former sentence by returning from deportation. On the 15th he was again brought up, to answer a charge of obtaining goods to the value of $62 from a Chinese tailor, and was committed for trial. He represented to a Chinawoman, one of whose sons by a foreign father lives in Shanghai, that he was her son, but though he puzzled the old lady by displaying some knowledge of family matters *à la* Orton-Tichborne, she was not to be deceived. The same representations, however, judiciously made, deceived the tailor.—The raised str. *Leonor*, having been partly pumped out, has been taken to Kowloon Dock.

At the Criminal Sessions, Kong Ling Woo, compradore at the *Daily Press*, pleaded guilty to the embezzlement of $695.70, and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour. His employer, Mr. Bell, recommended him to the mercy of the Court on account of his long service and previous good character ; and to that recommendation, Justice Snowdon, in passing sentence, said great weight had been given. —Hongkong has been invited to contribute to an Intercolonial Exhibition to be held in Melbourne in August next, to prepare for the International Exhibition which it is proposed to hold in Philadelphia in 1876.—Mr. James Collins, late chief clerk at the Magistracy, has died at Calcutta.—The *China Mail* has reliable information from Siam via Singapore, which enables it to state that the difficulty at Bangkok is not of a serious nature. The second King had taken refuge at the British Consulate, on *suspecting* that the first King meant to do him mischief. But no blows had been struck, and there was nothing to show that the matter would not easily be settled.

H. M. S. *Iron Duke* left for home on the 12th inst. The *Hongkong Times* remarks on the occasion, that for some twenty minutes it seemed as if a naval engagement was taking place in the harbour. The *Princess Charlotte* first saluted, then the French, Russian, Austrian and German corvettes took up the firing, the *Duke* running up the various national flags and returning the compliment, the shore battery following suit. As the *Duke* slowly steamed out and turned, the Jacks manned the yards, two intrepid tars mounting the fore and main trucks waving a flag. As the other men-of-war were passed, cheer after cheer was given and reciprocated. The band of the *Duke* played the "National Authem," "Auld Lang Syne," "Home, Home, Sweet Home," &c., the other vessels rousing to the occasion, and also giving nationalairs. In the midst we noticed signals from the French corvette "Wish you a pleasant voyage," to which the *Duke* responded "Thank you." —The *Mail* states that a gentleman who represents the Calcutta Opera Troupe has come to Hongkong to see if arrangements could be made for a series of performances in this Colony. As, however, he wants a *guarantee of* $19,000, and the secretary of the City Hall expressed serious doubts of his obtaining it—while the agent refused to consult any of the leading houses on the matter—he has given up the idea. It was supposed in Calcutta that 310 persons to guarantee $64 apiece could be found in Hongkong without difficulty. —The survivors of the *Japan* had passage given them in the *Alaska*, for Yokohama and San Francisco. Captain Warsaw replies as follows to the public address which was presented to him :—

"I cannot fully express to you the great consolation your cordial, friendly, and I must say, flattering address has proved to me. The terrible destruction of my vessel has been a trial of no ordinary kind, and the subsequent proceedings have, of course, been very painful

to me, recalling, as they did, and keeping perpetually before me, the scenes of that fearful night. I cannot, however, avoid feeling a kind of sorrowful pride when I find my fellow men coming forward with such an unqualified expression of their admiration of my conduct under the difficult circumstances in which I was placed on the occasion you allude to. But, gentlemen, I did nothing but my duty as a man, a Christian, and commander. I could not have left the doomed vessel while one soul remained to be rescued. I am satisfied all was done that could be to avert the disaster as soon as the fire was discovered. On behalf of the officers and crew of the *Japan*, I thank you most heartily for the just and kindly appreciation of their conduct you have been good enough to express. I will only say they fully deserve it. For my own part, gentlemen, I offer you my warmest thanks for this expression of your goodwill and esteem. I shall keep it all my life, and hand it down to my children. Once more I thank you, and hoping soon to return, bid you a regretful farewell."

CANTON.

The *Daily Press* hears that a school in connection with one of the American Missionary Society's Chapels at Canton has been burned down. The fire is supposed to have been the work of incendiaries.—The ceremony of transporting the remains of the late Viceroy, which took place on the 11th instant, appears to have been of a very imposing nature. The foreign consuls, and all the provincial officials, numbering several thousands, were present, while the spectators were innumerable, so that the throng was like a "big wall." The streets were lined with soldiers, and at the corners soldiers were specially deputed to keep the road clear.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* reports the occurrence of a fire at the Government Arsenal early on the night of the 12th instant. The origin is unknown, but seamen from the different men-of war in harbour were quickly landed with appliances, and soon extinguished the flames. One house was totally destroyed, however, and others narrowly escaped. There are a number of fire-engines at the Arsenal, but not one fit for use.—At H. B. M.'s Consular Court on the 11th inst., before Marcus Flowers, Esq., W. L. Malcolmson was charged by Mr. J. C. Clark on the part of the Japanese Government, with having on the evening of the 4th of January, unlawfully and maliciously damaged certain letter boxes and other articles in the Japanese Post Office, the property of the Japanese Government. Defendant acknowledged the charge, but said he did not do it maliciously. It was further stated that he had written a letter of apology to Mr. Clark, and that gentleman on being examined, said he thought it was done through a lark, and not maliciously. The Consul in deciding the case, said such larks must not be permitted, and ordered defendant to pay a fine of $20 and costs; and also bound him over to keep the peace for twelve months, himself in $200 and one surety in a like amount.

HIOGO.

The *News* speaks in high terms of the mustering of the foreign and native Fire Brigades on the afternoon of the 12th instant upon the Bund.—The new postal arrangements at this place, as made by the Japanese authorities, do not appear to be working well as yet, but doubtless the novelty of the thing to them is wholly accountable for the lapses that occur. The *News* is, however, surprised at the number of missent letters, and mentions in addition that several times letters which have been addressed Per P.M.S.S. *Nevada* or *Golden Age*, as the case may be, have been sent overland between Yokohama and Kobe and Nagasaki, or *vice versa*. In other cases, letters fully addressed in English have been insufficiently re-addressed in Japanese at the Local Post-office, and were consequently delivered at the wrong houses. Steps are already being taken to remedy these deficiencies, and in future one of the foreign employés of the Post Office will accompany each foreign mail to Osaka, in order to superintend the distribution of the letters there.—Three slight shocks of earthquake were felt here on the 14th instant, doing no damage, however.—The annual general meeting of the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce was held on the 16th instant. The Chamber does not appear to be flourishing, as a considerable falling off in the receipts was reported, and the question of the advisability of reducing the subscriptions was referred to the Committee. —In discussing the appointment of Trading Consuls, the *News* says it has always held such appointments to be a great mistake, and hopes the Japanese Government will, at the revision of the Treaties, protest against its continuance.—Mr. R. B. Lewis, the Consular representative of Hawaii, took his seat at the Municipal Council for the first time on the 8th instant; and concerning him the *News* says: we can only say that, judging by his lengthened connection with the Consulate of the United States at Shanghai, he promises to prove a useful acquisition to the Consular Board. —Acting under instruction from Sir Edmund Hornby, Mr. Acting-Consul Annesley has written to Messrs. Heimann and Valantine returning the fine and fees levied in the recent case of contempt of court brought against them, and apologizing for his mistaken views of the law in the case.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* complains of lack of news, in consequence of the New Year's rejoicings not having fairly terminated.—A Japanese is about to start an English newspaper in Yedo.—Small-pox is still rife in Yedo and Yokohama. Mr. Johnson, one of the teachers in the School of Foreign Languages, has died from it; and twenty other cases among foreigners are reported, seven of which have proved fatal, Mr. Francis, an employé on board a steamer, being one of the number.—A review of about four thousand men has been held by the Mikado on the Parade before the Gaimusho, the manœuvres, which were of the simplest character, being directed by H.I.H. Prince Fushimi. His Majesty arrived in an open carriage which he continued to occupy throughout the spectacle. His suite occupied five other vehicles.—The *Herald* reports an entertainment given on the night of the 12th inst., in the lecture-room of the British Camp, by the Good Templars of Yokohama. The room was well filled by the men of the battalion of Royal Marines. The chair was occupied by Colonel F. J. Richards, commanding the battalion, who said he was glad to see so many of the men under his command there; that although he was not a member of the society himself, he heartily approved of the movement, and noticed that the men of the battalion who were members were seldom or never brought before him charged with offences against military discipline; he hoped many more would join. The Rev. Mr. Correll spoke on the objects and aims of Templarism, and a pleasant evening was spent.—The annual meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association of Yokohama was held on the 8th instant, when the report of the committee showed that a successful year, both financially and otherwise, had been passed. The following were elected on the new committee: Lieut. Hungerford, and Messrs. Reid, Tripp, Longford, and Hamilton.—The Yokohama Rifle Association held its annual meeting on the 7th, and a new committee, consisting of Captain Hill, R.M., and Messrs. Tripp, Benson, Townley and Dalliston, were elected to serve during the ensuing year. The Hon. Sec., Mr. A. Barnard, tendered his resignation consequent on his approaching departure from Yokohama. A warm vote of thanks to Mr. Barnard for his long and valuable services as Hon. Sec. was passed.—The *Gazette* says that three men were killed by an explosion of steam on board the *Funjin Maru* while leaving the harbour.—On the night of the 10th instant, several Japanese, armed with swords, entered a native dairy on the Race Course Road, seized, gagged, and bound the inmates, and decamped with all the moveable property on which they could lay hands.—The same paper says that a cuttle-fish of enormous size is on exhibition in the vicinity of Yokohama. It is from 10 to 12 feet in length, its arms or suckers being 6 feet long, and in some parts as thick as a man's thigh. Stories of the existence of such monsters are common enough amongst the Japanese, but as anything of the kind larger than a plate is seldom to be seen exposed in the market, the accounts which from time to time have been circulated respecting such leviathans of the deep have generally been treated as fabulous.

Peking Gazette.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Dec. 24.—(5)—The acting Governor-General of Yunnan and Kweichow memorializes observing that, in consequence of the obstruction to intercourse with Burmah during the late rebellion, no tribute has been sent forward for years past; and six Imperial decrees addressed at various intervals to the King of Burmah have lain in the provincial treasury for some time awaiting transmission. Last year, after the overthrow of the Mahommedan rebels, a Burmese official found his way to Yunnan Fu, bringing a letter which, on being translated, was found to be to the effect that the King of Burmah, having heard of the restoration of order, had sent him to ask what arrangements should be made about tribute and other matters. The officer was hereupon instructed that action should be taken according to existing rules, and the Governor-General at the same time commissioned the Prefect of Yung-ch'ang Fu to send the six Imperial decrees to Burmah, which was done by the hand of Major Yang-Ting-jui and others with him. Yang Ting-jui has now returned, bringing with him four boxes containing despatches in Burmese [from the King], addressed respectively to the Prefect of Yung-ch'ang, the Financial Commissioner, the Governor, and the General. On being translated, it is found that the despatch is to the effect that the king has received the Imperial decrees with the utmost reverence; and it further states that he is preparing a road and selecting elephants, with a view to sending tribute without delay. He requested that a memorial be addressed to the Throne on his behalf communicating this intelligence. Upon this the Governor-General dilates upon the glorious influence exerted by the Sovereigns of the present dynasty, in securing the tributary allegiance of Burmah, after an interruption of two centuries; but he thinks it incumbent upon him to observe that, although the language used in the despatch received from Burmah is respectful and submissive in the fullest degree, without a word of self-assertion or arrogance, still, the King has not described himself by name and surname, and has made use of much that is improper in the enumeration of his titles. It is to be feared, consequently, that the rules of propriety might be transgressed in the address to the Throne, which is hereafter to be presented with the tribute

was compradore in the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's service. I received $90 per month, and $30 allowance. I had to pay the $30 away in wages. I was in the employ of the Company half-a-year, and left with the old manager. I left because of the change of managership. I came out by my own wish,—I was not dismissed. I was at Hankow as compradore for Shaw Brothers for four years and a half. I had Tls. 30 per month as salary, and commission besides, of 10 per cent. on all business in foreign goods, and 20 per cent. on sundry other goods. It was on foreign goods sold to Chinese, and sundry Chinese goods sold to foreigners. I got in one year Tls. 8,000; the average was Tls. 3,000. I left Shaw Brothers because it was suspected that I had taken some money.

Mr. Miller.—Did you take the money?

Heding said the plaintiff now corrected himself, and said it was because it was thought he would become indebted to the firm, and through insinuations from other people, especially the compradore at Shanghai, who was indebted to him Tls. 3,000.

Examination resumed—I was afterwards for half-a-year with Mr. Mackey, leaving him in June, 1874. Somebody was going to start a shipping business between this and Hankow, in which I was to have been engaged, but in consequence of what appeared in the *Wui-pau* it fell through. The whole income of the new hong was thought likely to be Tls. 3,000 per annum. and I think my share would have been Tls. 1,000. I know the *Wui-pau* office, and saw the paper of the 4th January. I bought a copy of it on the 29th of the 11th moon. Another person was with me. I produce a copy of the paper, which contains an advertisement that defendant has sole management and control of the *Wui-pau*.

By Defendant—I was at Shaw Brothers, and in one year made Tls. 8,000. My salary was Tls. 30 per month. I made a great deal by commissions. It was afterwards arranged that Shaw Brothers should not pay me Tls. 30 per month, but allow me to store goods in their godowns. I bought some property with some of the money, and lost the rest. The reason I left Shaw Brothers through my own countrymen's insinuation was because they saw I was doing a large business, and were jealous, and wanted my situation. I left the service of the C. M. S. N. Company voluntarily, because I did not want to serve with the Cantonese. After Mr. Tong-king-sing took the management, I never was at his office. He did not get me removed. When I was on board the *Aden*, I received extra salary for writing and doing other things for Chu, the manager. It is not on the books of the *Aden*. The Chehsien did not want me some time ago and could not find me. I am willing to go with Mr. Gill to the Chehsien and ask him. I never applied to Mr. Tong-king-sing for employment. Whether Chu sent Tong-king-sing any letter, I cannot say. I only saw Tong-king-sing once, about taking some passengers going to Tientsin. That was after I left the C. M. S. N. Company. I did not ask Tong-king-sing to take me in the Company's service again. If I had wanted to go into their service I could have done so. It is not true that I left the wrappers of my trousers in payment for opium. I have been to the opium shop, but do not owe them a *cash*. I was in the shop on the day I was said to have left my trousers. I was there only a short time and came out. Somebody from the *Wui-pau* office was there on that day, but I did not speak to him. Somebody told me he was from the *Wui-pau*.

By Mr. Miller—Tong-king-sing is a Cantonese, Chu is a Pootung man. Northern men employ both northerners and Cantonese; but Cantonese always employ Cantonese. I used to engage five men when on board the *Aden*, and paid them from the $30 allowed me. When I and the *Wui-pau* man were in the opium shop, I was sitting on the opium couch, smoking tobacco. The *Wui-pau* man was smoking opium. There was no uproar or noise. I left about four in the afternoon.

Hing Sung-kee, a godown keeper formerly in the employ of Shaw Brothers, was called by Mr. Miller to prove the plaintiff's position and character at Hankow.

His Lordship said it was no use calling a witness in the same position as the plaintiff to speak to those matters. If it was necessary to call anybody, his master should be called.

Mr. Miller said he thought Mr. King would have been here.

His Lordship—Well, go on.

Examination resumed—I remember the 2nd January. I went to an opium shop in Paoshan street on that day. I only went in to have a look round. Plaintiff came in about three o'clock, and left before five. I remember no disturbance there. We were all talking together. I paid for the opium we smoked. I saw no one from the *Wui-pau* there. I paid for all the opium that was smoked. There was no disturbance made about payment.

Defendant declined to cross-examine this witness.

Seh Yuen-sung, brother of Chu, the former manager of the C. M. S. N. Company, was next called, but his evidence was very brief, and carried the case no further than as to his knowledge of the connection of the plaintiff with his brother.

Mr. Ernest Major, editor of the *Shunpao*, was next called by Mr. Miller.

His Lordship—This is the secret of the whole thing; it is the case between the two papers, of the *Eatanswill Gazette* and the *Independent*, immortalised by the late Charles Dickens, over again.

Witness, examined by Mr. Miller, said he received the *Wui-pau* every morning. In the article in question there is used the word "Yoon-kung," which is never applied to a Chinese gentleman or even a shroff. It is used as meaning labour—bodily labour. That is the meaning which, from my knowledge of Chinese, would be applied by anybody to the word. It would bear a very strong inference against the man. There is a class among the Chinese who make a raid by fifteen or sixteen of their number going to a tea or opium shop and drinking or smoking without intending to pay. That is a Chinese custom, and the class who practice it are called "Lu-muens." The inference would be that the plaintiff was one of that class, which would tell very much against him. (The witness was questioned upon the inference that would be attached, in the Chinese mind, to the allusion to the horse, and other matters, and said that the inference would be that he was a degraded man.)

By defendant—The plaintiff was never in the employ of the *Shunpao*. My brother knew plaintiff in Hankow, and he has been at the *Shunpao* office. I have asked him to use his influence to obtain advertisements for the *Shunpao*, and it was understood that I was to make him a present, but he was never regularly employed in the office.

His Lordship—Well, we have got out of that happily.

Mr. Miller—That is all the evidence I shall call for the plaintiff, Mr. King is not here.

Defendant then, in the terms of his answer, questioned the jurisdiction of the Court in the case, and said he thought it ought to have been heard in a Chinese Court. He was proceeding to mention matters in connection with the management of the *Wui-pau* and a Chinaman named Kwong, who was absent, when

His Lordship said it did not matter whether Kwong was here or not here. The Court had nothing to do with the management of a newspaper. Anyone holding himself out as the editor was responsible, if an article was defamatory.

Defendant said there had been an action for libel brought against the City editor of the *Times*, and not against either of the other editors.

His Lordship—That might be, but it did not alter the law of the case.

Defendant—I am only one of the editors of the *Wui-pau*, and there are four or five others.

His Lordship called defendant's attention to the advertisement in the *North-China Daily News*, and said whoever assumed the management of a newspaper was liable for its contents.

Defendant said he would call witnesses to show that he could not help the article appearing. He knew nothing of it.

His Lordship—Your proving that will not help you.

Defendant—Oh, yes; it will perhaps influence the question of damages.

His Lordship—No, it will not; it has nothing to do with the case whatever—whether you knew of it or not, or whether you could or could not prevent its insertion, has nothing to do with your liability in a civil action of this kind.

Defendant—But if I had said they must not put it in, they would have put it in. I have no control over the Chinese editors. A few weeks ago, there was an article written against foreigners, and I said, "Do not put that in," but it was put in. I have nothing to do with the Chinese part of the paper. I am only editor of the foreign part, and to transact business matters with foreigners.

His Lordship.—Then do not call yourself *the* editor, or manager; say you do not know anything about Chinese articles. Let me suggest to you, that before you enter upon the position of editor of a newspaper, you should look a little more into the law of newspapers. The position of an editor is a very responsible one, and should not be undertaken lightly.

Defendant—I must ask for an adjournment, to enable me to call Tong-king-sing, who is now at Hangkow.

(A letter of Tong-king-sing's was appended to the defendant's answer, but it was not read in Court, and as the writer could not be called, any allusion to the letter could not be received as evidence. Considerable discussion followed the mention of Tong-king-sing's name, but for the reasons given, it cannot be reported.)

Mr. Miller said the case was aggravated by the fact that no notice was taken of a letter that was written by Mr. Jamieson on the subject.

Defendant repeated that he was editor for the foreign part of the paper only, and if the question of publishing this article had been left to him, he would not have published it. He wanted them to publish an apology, but they refused to do so—they said the article was true, that it belonged to the Chinese part of the paper, and he (defendant) had nothing to do with it.

His Lordship—That does not answer this complaint. Unless you clearly demonstrate upon the face of the paper that you are not responsible for whatever is inserted, you will be held responsible; and even if you were to put in such a notice, I do not know that it would help you, if you are a proprietor. If a proprietor will not exercise his authority to keep out defamatory articles, he must suffer the consequences. If Tong-king-sing was to come here and swear to everything that is in his letter, it would not alter the case one bit. The article ought not to have been put in.

Defendant—Decidedly not, and if it had related to a foreigner it would not have gone in. I do not defend the article in the slightest.

His Lordship—Of course not, but that is no answer to the man whose character has been defamed. There is no doubt the article is libellous.

Defendant—The Chinese editor who wrote it says he can prove the thing to be true, and that it was not inserted with a libellous or malicious intent. That is the defence of the Chinese editor, and now the thing is fathered upon me.

His Lordship—It is quite clear that you have no defence. If the article be in a certain sense true, yet to state a fact that is true in such a way as to twist the truth to work an injury, is actionable. You ought not to have printed it. If I had been picked up drunk in the streets, you would have been justified in publishing that, because such a thing would show that I was not fit for the position I hold. But there is no necessity for a newspaper editor to go out of his way to pry into the conduct of private individuals whose acts are of no interest to any one; and it is certainly not his business to publish what he may so learn to the world as an article of news. You had better make some change in your position with the paper, and let the world know it—make it perfectly clear that you are nothing more than a servant, and not a responsible editor. But then comes the question of proprietorship—you might be made liable all the same in that character.

Defendant.—The only defence that I can possibly make is that which the Chinese editor told me. The plaintiff has not lost anything by the libel, but I cannot defend the insertion of a thing that I have said is wrong from the beginning. It would be against my own judgment to do so—I most decidedly object to the insertion of such an article.

Mr. Miller—As to the amount of damages?

His Lordship—You have not proved any special damage of any kind.

Mr. Miller said he thought he could prove some special damage, and called attention to

the loss by plaintiff of one situation in connection with the starting of the shipping firm to Hankow. He lost that through this libel.

His LORDSHIP—That was only a statement of the plaintiff himself, and is not sufficient. You should have called some one to prove that they had read the article, and that, in consequence of it, they would not and did not employ the plaintiff.

Mr. MILLER.—The whole character of the article is libellous in a great degree. There was no noise in the opium shop while plaintiff was there. He would admit it was not a respectable place, but there was no uproar. The defence had not proved and could not show, that the plaintiff caused any disturbance, nor that lots of people were dragged in to smoke opium. Then, there was the assertion that this man was formerly employed as a coolie, and was dismissed for certain reasons by his master. No reasons were, however, given by defendant. They next had the evidence of Mr. Major, who said he would not have used that particular Chinese character towards the meanest shroff in his house. To say the man was dismisssd for certain reasons, and not to attempt to prove them, rendered the matter worse than it was before. Chu was a northern man—a Cantonese manager came in, and the northern men were dismissed, amongst them being the plaintiff. Then they had Mr. Major's further evidence, that he knew the plaintiff, that his brother in Hankow knew him well, and that while he was out of work, he was to receive something from the *Shunpao* for getting advertisements. Then with regard to the last paragraph in the article, if they held a man up to contempt in the way that last paragraph did, they must expect to be held liable. The meaning of the last paragraph was that the plaintiff had become addicted to the excessive use of opium, and was a degraded character. The plaintiff had held a respectable position, and the very fact of publishing such a thing in a newspaper about him, was likely to cut the ground from under his feet for the future. The Chinese were a reading people, and the fact of the libel going around was likely to do him very great injury. They did not pay attention to Mr. Jamieson's letter, but went on publishing, and that did not improve the matter. Mr. Miller quoted some cases bearing upon the points he had raised, in which it was laid down that loss of character through libel exceeded loss of property. In the present case the plaintiff stood a very good chance of losing his means of livelihood altogether, for the libel might stick to him through life. The damages asked for could not be considered a very excessive sum. The plaintiff's occupation was not a mean one, and that and the circumstances of the libel would justify his Lordship in giving sufficient damages to stamp it as a bad case of libel.

His LORDSHIP said it was clear the article was an improper one to write and publish, but he was not at all clear that the plaintiff had taken the proper step, if he was so anxious as he pretended, in coming to this Court. If he was anxious to clear his character in the face of his Chinese friends, he would have taken the Chinese editor into a Chinese Court; his position in Chinese society would not be materially mended by any verdict in this Court. The damages would be merely nominal, $50, to carry costs.

The Court then rose.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 9th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

REG. *v.* JOSEPH DYAN.

Summons for Assault, Larceny and Robbery.

This case was again proceeded with.

Mr. MYBURGH, who appeared for the defendant, asked whether his Worship had decided about amending the summons?

His WORSHIP—I understand that your first objection is that there are three offences on one summons.

Mr. MYBURGH—My principal objection is that there are three distinct offences charged on the same count, when they should be on three counts.

His WORSHIP—In an indictment for robbery an assault is always charged. With regard to the three prosecutors, if it was all one transaction I do not see how a man could not be charged in one charge with robbing three men. As to the property, the summons must be amended, and the property laid as the property of the first prosecutor.

Mr. MYBURGH—With regard to the question of property, I am quite agreeable to have the summons amended. But will the evidence adduced previously bear upon the case according to the amended summons? I consider that the Treaty allows foreigners to deal in opium in this port, and that the *onus probandi* was upon him to prove his right to the property. I can shew that my client had been in the habit of passing opium through the Customs, and I have also the evidence of two Europeans who were implicated.

His WORSHIP—How can I take their evidence?

Mr. MYBURGH—They are not charged.

His WORSHIP—I am afraid I cannot take their evidence. Only a short time ago a case occurred of a similar nature, where a Chinese charged two Englishmen with assault, and the defendants proposed to call a witness who proved to be an American, and who was implicated in the assault with the others; and upon my asking the complainant if he intended to proceed against him in his own Court, and his replying that he did, I held that I could not hear his evidence.

Mr. MYBURGH suggested that the prosecutors be asked if they intended proceeding against the other two Europeans.

His WORSHIP—I think I should ask them that when they are produced as witnesses.

Mr. MYBURGH—Then I certainly shall not produce them. He then called,

LING-YUEN-CHIO, cautioned, stated—I am defendant's servant. On the 28th January my master went to the Canton Road in a jin-rik-sha. I followed behind. In the jin-rik-sha there was a bag. The jin-rik-sha stopped at an eating house near there. We had started from the Yuen-tah Hong in Smith's Market. There was my master in the jin-rik-sha, a coolie in front and myself behind. The coolie had brought from the Hong a bag of opium which he put into the carriage. My master got out of the carriage and told the coolie to take the opium. I didn't hear where he said to. The coolie took the opium and went towards the west, my master following about 2 or 3 houses distance. I was following behind by my master's directions. I saw Chinese snatching opium from the coolie, and my master went up, but before he got up the bag was broken. A great number of people were about. I was about 2 houses behind my master. I ran away after the struggle commenced. I am quite sure it was my master's coolie that the men were taking the opium from, and that it was the opium that my master had had in the jin-rik-sha and given to the coolie. (The coolie has run away). My master came back to the Hong shortly afterwards with one ball of opium.

Mr. MYBURGH produced the Customs returns for the 28th Jan., wherein it was stated that his client, J. M. Dyan, had passed 1.20 piculs opium on that day (the day of the alleged assault.)

His WORSHIP said that after the evidence of that witness the charge of robbery must fall to the ground. The opium seemed to be the property of the defendant, and in turn dispossessing of it those who had just dispossessed his servant of it, he was only exercising a right that the English law allowed him. He (His Worship) wished to add that if this case had been put forward by the Opium Guild with the view of raising the question of the legality or otherwise of these seizures, it was to be regretted that they had not taken advice in the matter. He doubted if any one would have counselled a criminal prosecution under the circumstances; neither was it a convenient form of trying the broader question; that should be done, if at all, in a civil action.

Charge dismissed.

Shanghai, Feb. 15th.

R. (PATRICK CARROLL) *v.* A. W. A. SACK.

Charge of concealing and employing two able seamen, being deserters from H.B.M.'s Navy.

Mr. DRUMMOND for the prosecution.

Mr. HANNEN for the defence.

This case was peculiar and important. The defendant was Captain Sack, of the British ship *Star of Jamaica*, and he was charged by Patrick Carroll, a seaman on board that vessel, with the serious offence above-named, under circumstances fully detailed in the subjoined evidence.

Captain U. E. Singleton, of H.M.S. *Ringdove*, as being senior officer at Shanghai, was present in Court; and W. H. Medhurst, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, occupied a seat on the Bench. The Court was crowded with captains, mates, and seamen of merchant vessels.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in opening the case, said the defendant was charged with concealing and employing on board his ship, the *Star of Jamaica*, two able seamen, knowing them to be deserters from H.B.M.'s Navy, belonging to the *Shearwater*, that being an offence, under the 29th and 30th Vic., c. 109. He did not think it necessary to bring anything more to the notice of the Court now, and would at once proceed to call evidence.

At the request of the learned Counsel on each side, the witnesses to be called, or who it was thought likely would have to be called, were directed to leave the Court.

PATRICK FRANCIS CARROLL was the first witness called, and deposed.—I am an able seaman of the *Star of Jamaica*. The defendant is captain of that vessel. I shipped on board her at Hamburg, about nine months and a half ago. I was on board when the ship was lying at the Mauritius. We lay there about ten days, and sailed about the 18th of September. We had not got a full crew on board. We were shorthanded one ordinary seaman. We went aft to the captain, and told him that he had better fill up his complement before the anchor was got up, otherwise we would not get it up. I was present when that was said. We sailed about the middle of the day. I saw the captain come on board from the shore, about three-quarters of an hour before we sailed. I saw two men-of-war's men come on board just as we were about to sail. I was on the fore-topsail yard at the time. Most of the crew were engaged making sail. The men-of-war's men went up and spoke to the captain, as he was standing by the mainmast. They spoke to nobody before going to the captain. They were dressed in a jumper, blue cloth pants, blue cloth cap, with a white cover to it, and a knife lanyard round their neck. I recognised it as a Naval uniform. I did not hear what passed between the captain and the men. They stood together about five minutes. The pilot was standing alongside them. No one else was by. The men afterwards went into the forecastle. The ship sailed in about a quarter of an hour. I came down from aloft about ten minutes afterwards, and continued on deck till she sailed. The ship was not underweigh when the men came on board, the anchor was up, and the ship was hanging on to a slip rope. No one left the ship in a boat after she started. H.M.S. *Shearwater* was then lying in the harbour, about two miles and a half from where we were. She is a man-of-war and a surveying ship. In going out of the harbour we passed about a quarter of a mile from the *Shearwater*—within hailing distance. We could have passed without any difficulty close by her. The *Star of Jamaica* could have stopped close to her, and communicated with her without any difficulty by boat. No communication was made with her to my knowlege. I was on deck when we passed the *Shearwater*. I saw no boats pass. If a boat had been sent, or the *Shearwater* hailed, I should have seen and heard. I went into the forecastle in about half an hour after we were underweigh, and saw the two men-of-war's men there. They were still dressed in the same way. I did not notice the ribbon on their caps. They were wearing their caps. They came out of the forecastle in about three-quarters or an hour after we sailed. They lent a hand to fish the anchor. They remained on board during the voyage to Freemantle, and worked all the way. I saw some of their clothes more closely during the voyage. I saw a jumper with the name of "F. Bass" on it. There were also some white flannel singlets, braided withblue. I saw a ribbon also, with "H.M.S. *Shearwater*" on it. I have got some of these goods. They were left behind in the forecastle at Freemantle. I put them in my chest, thinking that if I brought this case on, I should have them for proof. I gave one of the men a shirt of mine about two weeks after we got to sea, as he complained of cold; and told him he might use it until he got to Freemantle. They received no pay on the passage, but took rations the same as the rest of the crew. We stopped in Freemantle five weeks.

The two men-of-war's men remained on board about a fortnight. They assisted in discharging cargo. I heard one of the two men ask the captain for money, saying he was not going to work for nothing, so that he might have some money to start him ashore. The captain asked one of the clerks what were the wages ashore. The clerk said 5s. or 6s. per day, I am not sure which, but the captain turned round to the men and said he would give them that. That was about a week, or a little over, after arriving at Freemantle. They remained a week or ten days afterwards. I did not see them paid. They went ashore with two other men, as a boat's crew, and the other two men returned by themselves. There were no men-of-war when we got to Freemantle, but H.M.S. *Barracouta* came in while we were lying there. I went on shore for about eight hours on duty at Freemantle. I was not on shore on leave at all. I produce the clothes I referred to just now, including the jumper, cap, ribbon, and two singlets, with a knife lanyard. They were all left behind. I do not remember the date we arrived at Shanghai from Freemantle. It is about four weeks ago. I reported this charge against the captain to the shipping master at the Consulate.

By Mr. Hannen—I belive it was last Wednesday I made that report. Freemantle was the first place we touched at after leaving Mauritius. I do not know what entry was made in the log-book about these men. I went into the forecastle by myself, after the men came on board. When the men came out of the forecastle, they had their jumpers off, but had their pants and singlets on. They looked like men-of-war's men then. We had a fair wind right abaft when we left Mauritius. It is usual to run about 20 miles before the wind when leaving that harbour, and then put the ship on the wind for her passage. I think we had got seven or eight miles when the men came out. The pilot saw the two men. I do not know if he was a Government pilot. I can swear that the men did not go over the side of the ship again, shortly after speaking to the captain. When we went aft and told the captain we would not get the anchor up until he filled up the crew, he said we had better get it up, as we should have fine weather all the way, and he would divide the missing man's money between us. This man was apprehended and brought on board the day we sailed, but he was drove off the ship again by the mate and second mate. I never reported to the captain that these men wore men-of-war's clothes or that they were men-of-war's men. I never heard any one else tell him. One of the men was called "Ned," and the other "Dick," or "Richard." It was not my intention to make the charge against the captain until the ship got home. I was going to be imprisoned here, and did not know whether I should see the captain or ship again, and thought it my duty to bring the charge forward. I did not intend to turn to work on board the ship again, and knew I should be sent to prison.

His Worship explained that the witness and three others of the crew of the *Star of Jamaica* had been brought before him on Wednesday, charged with refusal of duty. They were then ordered to pay the cost of the summonses, and return on board, being also told that, if they were still refused duty, they would be sent to prison. They were again brought up on Thursday, and sentenced to two days' imprisonment, the ship being intended to sail on Saturday. The charge appeared to have been made after the examination on Wednesday.

Cross-examination resumed—The *Barracouta* only lay three days at Freemantle, and the reason why I did not go to her was that the weather was rough, and would not permit anybody to go to her. I am sure it was the captain, and not the second mate, the men spoke to when they came on board.

Re-examined—When the *Barracouta* came into Freemantle, the two men had left the ship about a week. I did not intend to report the matter until I got home. I expected to be put in prison here, and thought this would be my last opportunity to report it.

By his Worship—My only reason for keeping it back until I got home, was that I should have then have had more time to look after it. I had no time to do it before, and did not know where to go to make the complaint at Freemantle. I enquired where to go here. It did not take me long to make the charge when I knew where to go.

Adam Taub, a Hungarian, deposed—I am an able seaman on board the *Star of Jamaica*. I was on board when she was at Mauritius. We left there on the 18th September. (The witness then gave similar evidence to the preceding witness, as to the arrival of the two men-of-war's men on board, and their dress.) I was on the topsail yard, loosing sails. I saw they had ribbons on their caps, with writing on. I cannot read English. The ribbon produced looks the same.

His Worship—Do you mean that you saw that from the topsail yard?

Witness—Yes.

Examination resumed.—I saw no one leave the ship except the pilot. The men came on board about five or ten minutes before the ship started, as near as I can remember. The *Shearwater* was lying in the harbour. We passed her within hailing distance on going out of harbour. I heard no hail, nor saw any boat leave the ship, on passing her. I think I should have both seen and heard if there had been either. The two men I saw come on board, remained and worked on board the ship all the way to Freemantle, and stayed on board ten or twelve days afterwards. I saw them come on deck, at the mouth of Mauritius harbour. They were wearing blue shirts, blue trousers, and caps without white covers, I did not see them go away at Freemantle. They had taken the ribbons off their caps when they came out of the forecastle.

By Mr. Hannen—When the men came on board they went and spoke to the captain, and not to the second mate. They were speaking to the captain for five minutes. They took their jumpers off after coming out of the forecastle. The pilot at the Mauritius is a Government pilot. He saw them. The men could not have left the ship without my seeing them go. When I was aloft loosing sails, I looked down on deck. I was ashore once at Freemantle, after six o'clock on a Saturday; and Carroll was once ashore also.

Re-examined—I think the pilot was a Government pilot because of his uniform and brass buttons. I heard the second pilot talking to the mate, and came to the conclusion he was a Government pilot.

The Court then adjourned, and resumed at three o'clock.

Charles Westerberg deposed—I am a Swede, and am an able seaman on board the *Star of Jamaica*. At the Mauritius, two men-of-war's men came on board in a native boat. I did not see it go away. I saw the men go up to the captain and speak to him. I am sure it was to the captain, and not to either of the mates. The captain then pointed with his hand, and the two men went forward. I did not see the men go into the forecastle. The ship sailed in an hour or an hour and a half afterwards. We were ready to start, and the anchor was up. The *Shearwater* was lying in the harbour. No boat or communication passed between the two vessels. The pilot left us at the light-vessel. I saw him go away. A man, who came on board with him, left with him. No one else went with him. (The remainder of the witness's evidence was simply corroborative of the preceding witnesses, with the addition that he was one of the two men who rowed the men-of-war's men ashore at Freemantle, and that while they were on board he saw them wearing the Naval clothing produced.)

Cross-examined—There were five men in the forecastle. There should have been six, but one had deserted. The two men-of-war's men were there besides. I cannot remember what time in the day it was when we left the Mauritius. I was one of the men who went aft to speak to the captain about shipping another hand. He said he could not ship another man then, as he was just leaving, but he would divide £3, the man's pay, if we would work the ship, amongst us. I think it was about 4 o'clock in the afternoon when we left Mauritius. I did not tell the captain either between Mauritius or Freemantle, or between Freemantle and Shanghai, that the two men were men-of-war's men. I am certain it was an hour or an hour and a half after the men came on board that the ship sailed. It was not so short a time as ten minutes. I do not know if the pilot at Mauritius is a Government pilot. One of my watchmates, Estelle, was at the wheel when we left the Mauritius.

Alex. Estelle, also an able seaman of the *Star of Jamaica*, gave precisely similar testimony. Witness gave the time the men remained on board the ship after her arrival at Freemantle as only about a week. He at first said he could not read English, but afterwards that he knew they belonged to the *Shearwater*, because that name was on their cap ribbon, and he could read that much.

Cross-examined—The pilot must have seen the men when they came on board. We sailed in the afternoon from Mauritius, not at twelve o'clock. The men did not wear all the men-of-war clothes after they first came on board. I did not tell the captain that I thought they were deserters.

This closed the case for the prosecution, and

Mr. Hannen said he would at once proceed to call witnesses, reminding the Court that the captain's mouth was closed, or he could explain the whole thing in a very few words. It therefore remained for him (Mr. Hannen) to explain the somewhat slight basis of truth there was in the case, but of which the whole gist had been supplied by the witnesses who had been examined.

His Worship said he would not, unless Mr. Drummond could remove the difficulty that he was about to mention, require the case for the defence to be gone into at all. That difficulty was this: The offence charged is one under the 25th section of the Act, and consists in any person concealing or employing "any person *subject to this Act*, who is a deserter." What persons are subject to the Act are stated, in the 87th section, to be "Every person in or belonging to Her Majesty's Navy, *and* borne on the books of any one of Her Majesty's Ships in Commission." Now what evidence had been given that the two men received on board the defendant's ship answered *that* description? Simply none.

Mr. Drummond said it was impossible to give such evidence in this case. He submitted that the evidence he had given was ample to prove that the men were deserters from their ship.

His Worship said not so, necessarily. A man might wear a ribbon with the name of a ship on it, and not belong to the Navy at all. Moreover, that was not what the Act said: it did not say that every person wearing such a ribbon should be subject to the Act.

Mr. Drummond said he still thought the evidence already given ample to show that fact. The men were wearing the Naval uniform and their ship was close by.

His Worship asked if, on the evidence given, the men, if here, could be convicted of desertion?

Mr. Drummond admitted that it would not be enough for that purpose.

His Worship—Then, as the foundation of the whole charge is the desertion of the men, if there is not sufficient evidence of that, it is clear that the captain can't be convicted of concealing "deserters."

Mr. Drummond observed that the Act pointed out that the case might be taken before any justice in Her Majesty's dominions; but if it was necessary to procure evidence that the men were deserters, it was impossible to sustain the case.

His Worship—That is the result of the man holding the case over so long.

Mr. Hannen said there was something more than a mere technical objection in what had been said. The men might have been discharged from their ship.

His Worship—To convict in this case, would be like convicting a man of receiving stolen property, without proof that there had been any property stolen at all.

Mr. Drummond said if the Court called for such evidence, it would be, as he had said, impossible to sustain the case. The effect of that would be to render nugatory the Act of Parliament. The fact that those men came on board the ship, the *Shearwater* lying close by, was, he considered, *prima facie* evidence upon which to ask that the defendant should be convicted for having them on board. If the men had not gone on board in Navy clothing, of course it would have had to be proved that they were Navy seamen.

His Worship—That is not the language of the Act of Parliament. You could not convict those men for desertion, unless you could prove they were borne on the books of one of H.M. ships. And you cannot convict the captain of concealing them without the same evidence. As to the Act being rendered nugatory, that I cannot help: the defendant is not on that account to be convicted on insufficient evidence.

Mr. DRUMMOND repeated that he thought there was ample evidence to prove the case, but if the Court thought it was a necessary ingredient that evidence that the men belonged to the *Shearwater* and were deserters from her, must be brought, of course it must fall to the ground for want of it. But it certainly rendered nugatory the Act of Parliament, and would deter officers from bringing such cases forward, because to do so would be useless. The officer bringing this case forward acted upon his own discretion, and believed the case to be well-supported; but if the Court thought what it had mentioned was a preliminary difficulty, of course there was an end to it. He must now leave the case in the hands of the Court.

Mr. HANNEN said there was a great deal more than that in the case. With regard to the Naval clothing produced, it had belonged to some man named "F. Bass," whereas it had been proved that the two men in question were named Richard and Edward. The defendant had been charged with an offence, and some explanation was due to him. It was a nice case, got up by four people who had arranged a very similar story between themselves, but who had nevertheless contradicted each other in some parts.

His WORSHIP said he had sufficiently intimated the reasons that he had for coming to the conclusion he had come to, and he would now content himself with simply dismissing the case.

Shanghai, Feb. 12th.

Reg. (JOHN WILLIAMS) *v.* ALFRED ROSE.

Assault, and using threatening language.

JOHN WILLIAMS stated:—I am cook and steward of the *Star of Jamaica*. On Monday evening, at 8.20, I was going to my bed; it was raining and my bed was wet. I took my pillow and went into the galley to sleep. The defendant knocked at the door and asked for the oil feeder. I said, "All right, I'll give it to you." He was very impatient, and said "Now, then, are you going to give it to me?" I said, "What are you in such a hurry for?" He then struck me with the oil feeder, and abused me in very violent language. On Tuesday he went on shore, and when he returned, I can't say at what time it was, he said that he would kill me, and took up a knife. The second mate told me to come aft. I did so. Defendant came after me, but the mate interfered. Shortly after this I was called to assist in pumping ship. The defendant then took hold of my throat, and choked me. The mate and second mate took him away.

By defendant—I did not say that you were not to come growling there, or I would put a knife into you. You said I had no business to sleep in the galley.

His WORSHIP—What business was that of yours?

Defendant—None, sir. I admit telling him I would break every bone in his body. But I had provocation. I did not strike him with the oil feeder. But he struck me; I have the marks to prove that.

His WORSHIP—Whereabouts were you struck?

Defendant—At the galley door, sir.

GEORGE HEPBURN, stated:—I am second officer of the *Star of Jamaica*. I know nothing of the occurrence on Monday. On Tuesday afternoon defendant came on board intoxicated. I told him to go forward. A few minutes afterwards the steward came to me and said that defendant was threatening to cut his heart out with a knife. I told the steward to go aft out of the way. Afterwards the steward was called to assist in pumping out the ship. Defendant then took him by throat, and both fell upon the deck. They were separated, and the steward went into the cabin, where defendant wanted to follow, but he was prevented by the mate.

Defendant—The steward struck me, and then ran aft for protection.

Witness continued—After defendant was persuaded to go forward, he went into the forecastle, and began to pull the boy Chipperton about, and took hold of him by the throat. The boy called to me for help, and I saw the boy strike the defendant in the face.

CHIPPERTON corroborated this statement, and said:—Defendant threatened to kill the cook with a knife. I went into the galley to get the tea ready. He came there and took hold of my comforter and nearly choked me. I struck him in the face in self defence.

Defendant denied that the boy had struck him, and insisted that it was the steward.

His WORSHIP—It is quite evident that you really don't know who struck you. It has been proved that the boy struck you, and you know nothing of it. Therefore, I don't believe a word you say, as you evidently were drunk at the time. Fined $5, or 14 days' imprisonment.

Defendant—I can't pay. I'll do the 14 days.

His WORSHIP—How long have you been in the ship?

Defendant—Two months.

His WORSHIP—Well, if the Captain likes to pay your fine, well and good; if not, you must go to prison.

Shanghai, Feb. 16th.

R. *v.* PATRICK CARROLL, ADAMS, A. ESTELLE, and WESTERBURY.

Continued Refusal of Duty.

The defendants are seamen of the *Star of Jamaica*, and were for the third time brought before the Court on the above charge. They had been put on board after a few days' imprisonment, but persisted in their refusal to do duty. The ship is otherwise ready for sea.

Captain SACK said he considered Carroll and Estelle were the ringleaders.

His WORSHIP sentenced those two to twelve weeks' hard labour each, and to pay the cost of their imprisonment. Westerbury and Adams to be put on board the ship in the afternoon, and all to pay the cost of the summonses.

HONGKONG SUPREME COURT.

Hongkong, Feb. 4th.

Before SIR JOHN SMALE.

Ava v. *Rona*.

This was a motion made by the owners of the *Ava*, the Messageries Maritimes Co., to the Court to reconsider the report in the second cause of this suit by the Registrar and merchants.

The Attorney-General, and Mr. T. C. Hayllar, Q.C., instructed by Messrs. Caldwell and Brereton, appeared for the M. M. Company.

Mr. Kingsmill, instructed by Messrs. Stephens and Holmes, appeared for the *Rona*.

Mr. Bramston contended that some of the items he objected to were too high, some had been charged twice over, and that in some items they were allowed on insufficient evidence, and others given on wrong principles. With reference to items 13 and 19, claims by officers and crews, he had no evidence to cut them down, therefore although they were too high, he could not object to them. It was, however, curious that there should be so many gold watches at 13 guineas each. He would also pass items 6, 8, 9 and 10. He would object to No. 7, being interest at 10 per cent. Other items for interest were likewise objected to. Neither would he object to item 3, that for freight. But he would question the amount charged for cargo. As regards the charge for the coal, he contended that should not have been charged, because if the coal were not used, they could not have earned the freight. Consequently they were charged twice over. The amount of $109,000 charged for the ship was too much, the principle being that in total losses, the market price of the vessel should have been charged only. The *Rona* cost £32,000, but the builder said after ten years she should be worth only about $65,000. It was the opinion of experts that a new vessel like the *Rona* could have been built for £35,000, while the new vessel would have carried 200 tons more cargo, and consumed only one-third the coal the *Rona* was consuming. From the affidavit of Mr. Groom, chairman of the Union Steam Navigation Co., to which the *Rona* belonged, the steamer was placed in the Company's books as worth 80,000 taels, but was worth only about 75,000 taels. In the newspaper report of the Company's meeting, the *Rona* was said to be working at a loss of $9,310. If a vessel was working at a loss her market price could not be valued by what she originally cost. Then again, Mr. Lang put the value of the *Rona* at 65,000 taels. The *Rona*, moreover, was only insured for 63,000 taels. Mr. Grant, senior partner in Messrs. Boyd & Co., a firm of ship engineers and builders, was also of opinion that the outside value of the *Rona* was 60,000 taels.

In the end the hearing was adjourned till the following Monday.—*China Mail.*

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Bank			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	17 % disct. Exc. 73—[Cash.
Steamer Co's	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	75 Cash.
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Footung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	84
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 86 Cash.
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 195
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 58.60 p. sh.	537½
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	123
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	130
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	4 p. c.	95 Cash nominal
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7
Exchange			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			73⅜

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

London, Jan. 1st, 1875.

Bank and Miscellaneous Shares.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing prices.
£ 20	Chartered of India, Australia and China	all	14 to 15
£ 25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	all	24⅛ to 25⅛
500 fr.	Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris	all	552½ fr.
Th. 200	Deutsche	all	Th. 180
£ 28⅛	Hongkong & Shanghai...	all	26 to 28
£ 25	Oriental	all	45 to 46
	Telegraph Cos.		
£ 10	Eastern Extension Australia and China	all	7⅛ to 7⅞
£ 8	Reuters	all	11 to 11½
	Miscellaneous Cos.		
500 fr.	Mess. Mar. of France ...	all	557½ fr.
£ 50	P. & O. S. N. Co.	all	57 to 58
£ 50	Do. do. 1867...	10	¼ dis. to ¼ p.m.
£ 98	Japan Loan, 9 per cent.	all	109 to 111
£ 92½	Do. 7 per cent.	all	99 to 101

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1874-5.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687 24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	.. 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	... ..	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ... .. ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda .. .. ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong ..... s.s.	.. 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Glenearn ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet ..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Carried forward ...			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	London	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	London	1,049.77	2,730.33	3,780.10
Gwalior ..... ,,	... 28	Bombay	.....	102.47	102.47
Tigre ..... ,,	Feb 4	London	2.78	693.75	696.53
do. ..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	170.55	170.55
Priam ..... ,,	.. 4	L. v. Fchow	20.22	1,055.41	1,075.63
Total.....			491,007.97	85,059.52	576,067.49

TO UNITED STATES.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada .... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N.Y.&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo ..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica ..... ,,	... 6	,,	.. ...	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State ... s.v.	... 23	N.Y.vF'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
Sarpedon ... .. s.s.	... 27	New York	.....	2,254.67	2,254.67
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	,,	0.54	5,708.48	5,709.02
Priam ..... s.s.	Feb 4	,,	.....	95.48	95.88
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 1	,,	.....	1,696.29	1,696.29
do. ..... s.s.	... 1	San F'cisco	.....	96.81	96.81
Nevada ..... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	37.79	37.79
Star of Jamaica s.v.	... 16	,,	.....	2,541.63	2,541.63
Total.....			10,349.00	109,618.07	119,967.07

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam ..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ... .. ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector .. .. ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore ..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	Japan	66.90	.....	66.90
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4		.....	4.37	4.37
Total.....			4,214.71	5,360.92	9,575.63

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS from Europe since 3rd instant, the date of last Report, have been the mails of the 19th and 26th December, per M.M. str. *Amazone* and P. & O. str. *Kashgar*; the *Ava*, with mail of 1st ultimo, from London, arrived last night; the s.s. *State of Virginia* from London, and the s.s. *Hector* from Liverpool.

TELEGRAMS.—The latest from London, 12th inst., quotes *Mid. Orleans Cotton* 7⅞d.; *Grey Shirtings*, 8¼-lbs., 9/9; *Iron* £10.10s.; and W.B. *Lead*, £24.10s.

PIECE GOODS.—The natives kept holiday from 3rd to 10th instant, and the stoppage of trade consequent thereon accounts for the non-publication of the report last week.

"Settling time" here has passed over very quietly, only one *Piece Goods Hong*, so far as we have heard, having proved unable to meet its liabilities.

Business, stimulated by a demand from JAPAN, where the Western Calendar is now observed, commenced rather earlier this season than usual. The enquiry embraced 15-lb. *English Drills*, *Turkey Red Shirtings*, *Velvets*, *Chintzes*, *Plain black Lustres*, *black Lastings*, and Common 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings*, and transactions in each article, saving assorted *Chintzes*, have been entered into by the Japanese dealers, principally for the Nagasaki and Kobe markets. Buying has been confined to low priced qualities, such as *Drills*, Dragon chop, costing under Tls. 2.40 per piece, of which the stock appears to be very light; 2¼ a 2⅓ lb. *Turkey Reds* from Tls. 1.70 a 1.77 per piece; 22 in. black *Velvets* at Tls. 0.18 a 0.18½ per yard; Plain black *Lustres* at Tls. 3.90 per piece; Black *Lastings* at Tls. 10 a 10½ per piece; and 8¼ lb. *Grey Shirtings* at from Tls. 1.60 a 1.64 per piece.

For Chinese consumption, English *Jeans* have been bought to a very large extent at Tls. 1.84 *a* 1.86 per piece, and buyers are not yet satisfied. The unsold stock of *Jeans* is now much reduced, and the market wears a strengthening aspect. Heavy *Grey Shirtings* likewise have been fairly settled "to arrive" on the basis of Tls. 2.60 per piece for *Dewhurst's Eagle* and *Ta-wo Stag* chops; and 8-lb. *T-Cloths* have also been extensively taken. The *Jeans* are destined for TIENTSIN, and, in all probability, the bulk of them will be shipped in the first steamer clearing for the north—about the end of this month—as will also most of the *Drills* and common *Grey Shirtings* that were booked before China New Year. The *Heavy Shirtings* are bought in anticipation of the usual spring business in them, and the *T-Cloths* will be distributed party locally and partly throughout the districts of the upper Yangtsze.

Grey Shirtings.—8¼-lbs.—Beyond those taken for *Japan*, barely 6,000 pieces, and those principally *Dewhurst's Eagles* have been sold. It is satisfactory, however, to note that these goods still maintain their position, and command full rates, the prices lately realised being Tls. 1.90 *a* 1.92 per piece. Only one small sale of common 7-lbs. at Tls. 1.38 is reported, and about 4,000 pieces badly mildewed at Tls. 1.24 per piece is the sum of the business in 6-lbs.

T-Cloths.—For 6-lbs. Mexicans a good enquiry has prevailed, but there are scarcely any on hand. The prices named, however, are rather too low to induce further importations. Common 7-lbs., owing to their scarcity, show a stronger market, and a fairly clean 14×15 count now commands Tls. 1.20 per piece.

White Shirtings.—The interest in fine reeds continues, and best qualities and chops find ready buyers at full rates as they arrive. For 64 Reeds there have been frequent enquiries, but thus far little business in them has been reported. Some 2,000 pieces of *Ta-Wo Stag* No. 80—or 60 Reed—have changed hands at Tls. 1.65 per piece.

Drills.—In addition to the *Japanese* purchases, there have been nearly 7,000 pieces of 15-lbs. *Dragon* and other chops settled by the NEWCHWANG traders at Tls. 2.35 *a* 2.40 per piece.

Sheetings.—Enquiries for *English*, but scarcely any here.

Fancy Cottons.—Under this heading JAPAN has been the chief customer, but her wants as above stated have comprehended only:—*Chintzes* assorted, *Velvets* and *Turkey Reds*, and of the first there is none on the market to be had at the prices offered, viz., Tls. 1.25 *a* 1.30. In addition to these, a small business has been done in *Handkerchiefs*, *White* and *Gentian Brocades*, *White Spotted Shirtings*, *Gentian Shirtings* and *Blue Chintzes*. Particulars are given below.

Woollens.—*Scarlet* colors of *Camlets*, and of *Long Ells* more especially, have fully recovered their late decline; C.P.H. of the later fabric having been sold within the week at Tls. 7.30 per piece. *Gentian Spanish Stripes* have likewise been in better favor; H.H. and C.P.H. qualities having realised respectively Tls. 0.67 and 0.60 per yard. The only other transaction in Woollens has been a few *Black Lastings*, very good, at Tls. 11.70 per piece.

From TIENTSIN, advices dated 3rd instant have been received. Commercially and politically quietness prevailed. Business had closed for the holidays. At HANKOW, on 12th instant, trade had not been resumed, but a correspondent writing from KIUKIANG says:—"Our market is improving, and we expect a large trade during the week." The Japan news may be gathered from the business referred to above.

Estimated sales on this market from 3rd to 16th instant, both inclusive—

6-lbs. Grey Shirtings	4,000	pieces	Mildewed	at Tls.	1.24	per piece.	
7-lbs. Do.	1,000	,,		,,	1.38	,,	
8¼-lbs. Do.	25,000	,,		,,	1.60	@ 1.92	per piece.*
9¾-lbs. Do.	17,500	,,		,,	2.55	,, 2.60	,,
60 Reed White Shirtings	2,000	,,		,,	1.65	,, —	,,
64 ,, Do.	3,000	,,		,,	1.92	,, 2.02	,,
60 ,, Do.	1,230	,,		,,	2.65	,, —	,,
6-lb. T-Cloths—Common	4,000	,,		,,	1.06½	,, 1.07	,,
7-lbs. Do. do.	5,000	,,		,,	1.19	,, 1.20	,,
8-lbs. Do.	15,000	,,		,,	1.58	,. 1.75	,,
15-lbs. English Drills	11,500	,,		,,	2.35	,, 2.41	,,
14-lbs. Do.	2,700	,,		,,	2.30	,, 2.32	,,
8-lbs. English Jeans	16,000	,,		,,	1.84	,, 1.86½	,,
Brocades—White	1,000	,,		,,	2.22½	,, —	,,
Do. Gentian	500	,,		,,	2.65	,, —	,,
Spotted Shirtings—White	1,000	,,		,,	2.15	,, —	,,
Gentian Shirtings	500	,,		,,	2.50	,, —	,,
Blue Chintzes	2,000	,,		,,	1.35	,, 1.37¾	,,
Turkey Reds	2,700	,,		,,	1.70	,, 1.77	,,
Velvets	1,080	,,		,,	0.18	,, 0.19	,,
Long Ells—C.P.H. Scarlet	500	,,		,,	7.30	,, —	,,
Do. other chops	740	,,		,,	7.12½	,, 7.28	,,
Do. Black	260	,,		,,	6.65	,, —	,,
Camlets—At auction on 4th inst.	540	,,	S.S.G. & H.H.	,,	13.35	& 13.30	,,
Spanish Stripes— do.	200	,,	T.T. B.	,,	0.59¾	@ 0.60	per yard.
Do. other chops Gentian	132	,,		,,	0.60	,, 0.62	,,
Lustres—Plain Black	500	,,		,,	3.90	,, —	per piece.
Lastings—Black	700	,,		,,	10.00	,, 11.70	,,

* Auction Sales of 4th instant included.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	13.0.0	14.2.5	13.2.0	13.7.0	...	...	12.3.0	13.5.0	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.3.0	6.8.0	6.8.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.1.0	6.7.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.6.0	0.5.8	0.6.0	0.5.8	0.5.8	0.6.0	0.6.1	0.6.5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.47½/13.50	12.87½/12.90	13.85	13.10	13.45	...	.....	12.00	13.02½	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.40/13.45	12.82½	13.80	13.00	13.45	...	.....	.....	13.15	12.55
H.H. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.32½/13.35	12.60	13.55	.....	13.40	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.58¾/0.59	0.56½	0.60¼/0.60½	0.58¾	.....	0.59	0.59	0.61¼	0.60¾/0.61	.....

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.37; S.S.G., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.35; H.H., 160 pcs., av. Tls. 13.22 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs. av. Tls. 0.59 per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 8,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.60 per piece.

	T.m.c. *T.m.c.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—	
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₱ pc.	1.3.5 to 1.5.0
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,, 1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.1.5 ,, 2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs..... ,,	2.4.5 ,, 2.6.5
Tun Sin ..... ,,	2.7.5 ,, ...
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—	
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₱ pc.	1.6.0 ,, 1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,, 1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,, 2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,, 2.2.0
68 @ 72 reed ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,, 2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,, 3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,, 3.5.0
English, ,, ... ,, ...	2.3.2 ,, 2.4.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,, 2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.5 ,, 2.3.4
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0 ,, 2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.3 ,, 1.9.2
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,, ...
SHEETINGS—	
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,, 3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,, 3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—	
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.5 ,, 1.1.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.8 ,, 1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.1.5 ,, 1.2.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0 ,, 1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.5 ,, 1.7.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0 ,, 2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₱ dz.	0.4.5 ,, 0.5.2
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,, 0.4.2
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₱ pc.	2.1.0 ,, 2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,, 2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,, 2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0 ,, 2.9.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0 ,, 4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.0 ,, 2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,, 1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.0 ,, 1.3.8
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,, ...
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,, 4.0.0
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,, 2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,, 2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₱ yd.	0.1.6½ ,, 0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,, 0.1.5
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,, 0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,	0.0.3½ ,, 0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....₱ pc.	1.2.0 ,, 1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0 ,, 0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0 ,, 13.7.5
G G ,, ,,	13.4.0 ,, ...
S S G ,, ,,	13.3.5 ,, ...
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₱ yd.	0.7.5 ,, 1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,	0.5.7 ,, 0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.9 ,, ...
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.2 ,, ...
LONG ELLS—	
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₱ pc.	7.2.5 ,, ...
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.3.0 ,, ...
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,, ...
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.0 ,, ...
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,, ...
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,	9.5.0 ,, 11.5.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,, 8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,, 3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5 ,, 3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.8.0 ,, 3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—Although two weeks have elapsed since last report there is little or no change to record. Business has been entirely suspended during the native holidays, and the Chinamen anticipate a further decline in ordinary and common iron, which is in large supply compared with "best cargo." *Lead.*—The return to £24 10s. per ton telegraphed from home has given speculation a fresh impetus, and settlements "on time" are again reported. About 150 Tons of L.B. have been settled at Tls. 6.05 *a* 6.10 per picul, according to the time allowed for clearance. The natives have lately been making enquiry for the article, but they expect to get it at Tls. 6.00, and under. At this, however, there is no holder willing to sell. The market for JAPAN *Copper* is firmer, and prices are slightly higher, but other Metals have not been wanted, and quotations are nominally the same as those current before the New Year.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

	Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER .....per Pcl.	155.0.0 *a* 160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....per Box	6.4.0 *a* .....
Small ,, ... ,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
13 ... } no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23 } ,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.... ,,	20.7.0 *a* .....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ... ,,	19.9.0 *a* .....
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,	13.5.0 *a* .....
STEEL .....per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ..... ,,	18.5.0 *a* ... ..
Ore..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 17.0.0
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton	30.0.0 *a* 31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—	
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.0.5 *a* 3.1.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.7.0
M. M. Crown..... ,, ... ,,	2.8.5 *a* 2.9.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.1.0
Round..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.0.5 *a* 6.1.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,	... .. *a* .....
COTTON—Common New .....per Pic.	7.8.0 *a* 8.2.0
,, Medium ..... ,,	8.6.0 *a* 9.2.0
,, Best..... ,,	9.6.0 *a* 10.2.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	9.7.0 *a* .....
—White ..... ,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine .... ,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best..... ,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.7.0 *a* 3.8.0
Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK..... ,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.0

COTTON.—Business, as yet, has not been fairly resumed, but prices for common staple, for which a better demand seems springing up, are likely to open higher. At present the hongs are demanding an advance of 2 mace per picul on the closing rates of last year. Tls. 7.80 per picul for the lowest quality of Shanghai cotton.

EXCHANGE.—Rates shew but little alteration. Banks quote 5s. 8⅞d. *a* 5s. 9d., but the enquiry is very limited. In private papers also there is next to nothing doing, the supply being very meagre. Credits can be placed at 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9¼d., and documents at 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d. Rupee quotations are 303 on Bombay, and 304½ on Calcutta. On Hongkong the rate has declined to 26⅛.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7½d. ₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 8⅛d. *a* 5s. 9d. ,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. ,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅜d. ,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.22½ ,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.32½ ,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.31½ ,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 303 ₱ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 304½ ₱ 100 ,,
ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 26½ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 26¾ per cent. disc.
INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—74.05 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.40 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,530 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—A very small business has been transacted since last mail. The demand for Green Tea has not yet been renewed, and holders cannot make up their minds to accept lower rates.

Settlements—*Black*—156 chests shipped off. Stock—350 chests.
Green—Fychow and Moyune... 3,815 ½-chests, at Tls. 17 *a* 37. Stock of all kinds—62,300 ½-chests.

Export to Great Britain (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—

	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black	65,003,602 lbs.	against	58,639,016 lbs.
Green	10,481,759 ,,	,,	9,020,506 ,,
Total	75,485,361 ,,	,,	67,659,622 ,,
To America and Canada—			
Black	1,612,500 lbs.	against	792,785 lbs.
Green	15,957,571 ,,	,,	19,651,779 ,,
	17,570,071 ,,	,,	20,444,564

SILK.—The home market by last public telegrams is reported as steady, but not active. Ordinary No. 3 Kahing Taysaams 12s. 6d. By the P. & O. str. *Hydaspes*, which left on the 12th inst., there were only 95 Bales of silk shipped; 10 of which were for London, 23 for the Coast, and the balance for the Continent. Settlements for this week amount to barely 350 Bales, at prices showing little or no change. The following purchases are reported:—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Dragon Chop, No. 3 Tsatlee	Tls. 395	19/6	Frs. 54.60
Donkey ,, ,,	Tls. 395	19/6	Frs. 54.60
Pang-e-tai "Ting-how"	Tls. 337½	16/9	Fcs. 46.80
,, "Tay-how"	Tls. 317½	15/9	Frs. 44.10
Blue Elephant	Tls. 335	16/7	Frs. 46.60
Red Peacock	Tls. 320	15/10	Frs. 44.45
Common	Tls. 260	12/11	Frs. 36.28

Arrivals having been very small, the unsold stock is slightly reduced and can be estimated at 4,500. The outgoing mail steamer has 100 bales engaged.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods from 2nd to 15th Feb., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 26 @ 33, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	9,750	7,550	5,300	26,899	9,200	...	...	700	...	1,250	16,050	...	...	2,250
T-Cloths ..... ,,	4,550	370	3,470	5,460	4,125	...	...	1,600	...	500	125	500	...	950
White Shirtings ..... ,,	150	50	250	2,700	949	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	600
Drills ..... ,,	210	...	...	670	...	...	...	...	...	720	300	420	...	240
Jeans ..... ,,	240	...	...	660	360	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	750	...	...	...	...	...	658	100	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	299	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	150	...	650	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Chintzes ..... ,,	...	50	170	100	...	...	...	135	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	150	200	...	...	...	...	1,140	1,050	240	...	650
Velvets ..... ,,	76	...	120	210	30	...	...	...	...	...	570	150	...	...
Velveteens ..... ,,	20	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	350	650	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muslins .....Pcs.	100	...	...	...	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	108	48	108	60	24	...	...	30	...	...	36	...	...	126
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	48	...	12	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Camlets ..... ,,	70	50	300	300	20	...	...	120	130	...	10	...	...	60
Long Ells ..... ,,	20	40	440	320	...	...	...	120	...	60	100	...	...	20
Lastings ..... ,,	40	...	20	140	...	...	...	60	...	...	100	...	...	...
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	20	...	...	100	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	20
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	850	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	890	...	120	120	330	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	250
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	336	1,029	...	336	...	...	...	...	...	420	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	132	77	653	918	...	...	...	2,415	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries. For Fortnight.	Deliveries. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Imports. For Fortnight.	Imports. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Stocks. Estimated at date *	Stocks. Against. 11/2/75
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	78,949	245,504	78,288	236,134	1,213,500	548,200
T-Cloths ..... ,,	22,010	98,058	23,850	60,564	568,100	1,163,300
White Shirtings..... ,,	4,799	19,949	9,963	40,793	96,600	60,100
Drills ..... ,,	2,560	9,719	22,859	31,328	265,600	421,500
Jeans ..... ,,	1,300	9,780	4,629	19,407	50,900	92,200
Sheetings..... ,,	.....	80	10,000	10,000	11,600	53,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	1,508	3,192	798	3,556	3,200	2,200
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	.....	350	2,500
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800
Brocades, White ..... ,,	399	1,445	299	299	1,100	200
,, Dyed ..... ,,	850	2,950	1,229	4,079	30,400	20,600
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	40	679	1,279	8,300	4,100
Chintzes ..... ,,	1,105	4,850	3,070	5,124	88,900	110,200
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,780	5,791	800	10,242	31,300	36,700
Velvets..... ,,	1,246	4,154	1,430	3,872	7,400	10,100
Velveteens ..... ,,	68	392	.....	380	1,200	7,300
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	2,000	11,530	50	1,560	62,800	134,700
Muslins ..... Pcs.	310	506	.....	400	11,000	18,800
Dimities ..... ,,	.....	550	.....	.....	14,200	9,900
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	540	3,170	1,128	2,300	9,900	35,300
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	162	1,310	199	1,077	10,200	18,600
Camlets ..... ,,	1,140	5,030	1,670	4,390	22,200	21,200
Long Ells..... ,,	1,120	5,780	1,500	3,240	6,500	13,400
Lastings ..... ,,	360	1,350	600	1,960	13,000	8,400
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	160	620	200	1,100	9,700	3,800
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	850	2,300	850	1,350	3,100	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	1,890	7,210	1,080	1,387	122,700	126,500
,, Crape ..... ,,	.....	790	.....	1,000	22,500	11,800
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	4,195	8,257	2,853	6,111	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,121	6,466	9,030	11,553	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Amoy-Cassandra, Nankin, Scotland, Priam, Amazone, Kashgar, State of Virginia, Hector, Ava,* and several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

February 18, 1875.

Arrivals.—February 11th, Norwegian barque *Uranus*; 17th, British barque *Formosa*, both from Newcastle, N.S.W.

Departures.—None.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8⅞d. *a* 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9d. First-class to Priv buyers, 5s. 9d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.31½. On India—Bombay Bank, deman Rs. 304 *a* 304½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 306. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26¼ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sigh 26⅜. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.975 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tl 80.40 per 100. Copper cash, 1,530 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

S. S. Ns.—The market continues quiet, with shares on offer at Tls. 75.

H. & S. Banking Corporation.—A very large business has been done at 13 *a* 17 per cent. discount, cash, and similar rates for March, a shares are on offer at the latter rate.

Fire Ins. Shares.—Sales of *Victorias* have been made at $ 123, and in *Chinas* at $130 per share, and both are wanted at quotations.

Marine Insurance.—*Japans* have advanced to Tls. 86 per share, at which rate they are in demand. *Yangtszes* and *Chinese* are both offer at quotations.

Hongkew Wharf Company.—Shares are in demand at closing quotations, but there are no sellers.

The fine weather has given way, and rain has been falling for the last two days. The extreme range of the therm. has been from 2 46; but the lowest point was only reached on one night, it has usually marked above 30.

Phœnix Fire Insurance Company.

THE Undersigned Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire, on the usual terms and conditions, to the extent of £10,000 on any one building with its contents.

WESTALL, BRAND & Co.
Shanghai, 1st July, 1872.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE.

ON and after this date, the above Office will allow a discount of 20 per cent. on all Premia contributed.

WESTALL, BRAND & CO.,
Z *Agents.*
30ju-75 5 Shanghai, 1st July, 1872.

SWISS LLOYDS.

RISKS secured by a collective Capital of Fcs. 18,000,000. Claims settled according to London Lloyds' Rules.

VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.,
Agents.
2oc-75 1329 Shanghai, 29th Oct., 1874.

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1825.

THE undersigned begs to notify that the Board of Directors at this place have power to pass proposals for Assurance, on the Lives of Persons residing at any Port of China or Japan.

ED. HOLDSWORTH,
Agent & Secretary to the Local Board.
2080 Z Shanghai, 6th Oct., 1874.
n o-a-f (c.a.) 31de-75.

London and Provincial Marine Insurance Compan

THE undersigned having been appoint Agents in Shanghai for the ab Company, are prepared to grant Mar Risks at current rates.

(s.a.) AUGUSTINE HEARD & C
tf 2058 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 187

NOTICE.

ON and after this date, the discount 33⅓ % on Premia will be allowed this Office for Local Risks only.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co
Agents—China Traders' Insurance (Limited.)
tf 2062 Shanghai, 27th May, 18

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Jan. 8	Hankow,	Feb. 21
San Francisco,	,, 9	Yokohama,	,, 16
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Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Dec. 3 } Received 7th Jan.
Shanghai, ... Nov. 27 }

BIRTHS.

At Peking, on the 5th February, the wife of T. F. WADE, Esq., C.B., of a daughter.

On the 27th Dec., at the Shrublands, Sydenham-park, the wife of JOHN CHARLES SILLAR, of a son.

DEATHS.

On the 6th Jan., at 10, St. John's-villas, Upper Holloway, PRISCILLA JANE, wife of George Gwyther, in the 75th year of her age.

On the 1st Jan., at the Shrublands, Sydenham-park, JANE ELLEN, the beloved wife of John Charles Sillar, aged 25.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. J. H. Stevenson and servt., and R. Johnson. For Hiogo—Messrs. Goldsmith, S. J. Prior and J. C. Budd, For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Evans, child and two servts., Miss McPherson, Messrs. L. Andrews and E. Forrester. Per str. *Hector*, for London—Mrs. Spence and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Sheard and four children. For Amoy—Mr. W. S. Spinney. For Hongkong—Mr. P. R. Smith. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Niigata Maru*, for Nagasaki—Capt. H. Derrick, Messrs. Wm. Lucas and J. F. Mitchell; and three Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. W. A. Wood; and four Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Messrs. L. Dupont Syle, W. Power and W. Lowe; and one Chinese and one Japanese in steerage.

ARRIVED.—Per P.M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Japan—Mrs. Colby, Messrs. Twombly, Tokoyama, Boswell, B. Brenan, J. H. Stevenson and servt., Von Vleit, Huot; the Master of Blantyre and servt., and Kee Fouang. Eleven in the Steerage. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Niigata Maru*, from Japan—Mr. Henry Sheard, Mrs. Sheard and four children, Messrs. Thos. C. Russell and J. F. Mitchell. Steerage—Four Chinese. Per str. *Benledi*, from Hongkong—Mr. Petersen. Per str. *Tungting*, from Hankow—Capt. Dalton, Capt. Pike, and Mr. Tong Kin-sing. From Kiukiang—One European. From Chinkiang—Dr. and Mrs. Douthwaite. Per s.s. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Mrs. Hember and child, and 22 Chinese. Per str. *Montgomeryshire*, from Nagasaki—Mr. M. C. Adams, and two Japanese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Dr. and Mrs. Somerville, Capt. Hoskide, Messrs. John Foster and Robinson, and 30 Chinese. Per P. & O. str. *Sunda*, from Southampton—Mr. J. Tucker. From Bombay—Mr. Clifford. From Hongkong—Capt. Buller, R.N., Mr. Newbigging, Sister Ravioli, and 29 Chinese. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong for Swatow—F. Sheppard, Esq., U.S. Consul. From Hongkong for Shanghai—Mr. G. H. Woolatt, and 24 Chinese. Per str. *Nanking*, from Hankow—W. S. Fitz, Esq. From Chinkiang—Rev. J. McCartee. Per str. *Shanghai*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Tate and child, Messrs. Ramsay and Coates. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Walker and Wolff. Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, from Yokohama—His Excellency Von Brandt, German Minister; Messrs. O. B. O'Malley and G. Ritter; five Chinese. From Hiogo—Messrs. H. Vinay, Mark Jupiter, T. Wilson; four Chinese in cabin and three in steerage. From Nagasaki—Messrs W. Kolegin, F. Saltanoff, M. Scheveloff, M. Zotoff, P. Robertson, J. P. Hyver, C. R. Thatcher, and 15 in steerage.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. str. *Kashgar*, for Sydney viâ Point de Galle—Mr. Hooper, three children and European female nurse.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Feb.	° ′	°	°	°					
18	30.240	39.0	40.1	33.0	9	r	19	4	N. E.
19	30.200	41.5	41.0	34.0	9	r	14	8	N. N. E.
20	30.230	43.0	41.0	37.0	9	r	22	0	Z
21	30.300	37.0	40.0	31.0	8	o	5	3	N. N. W.
22	30.252	38.0	45.0	31.0	8	b	..	0	Z
23	30.150	45.0	50.0	38.0	8	o	..	2	S. S. W.
24	30.252	46.5	49.0	39.0	8	o	..	3	N. E.

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.

tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Foreign Relations.

We pass naturally from discussion of the Peruvian Treaty, to remark on the extinction of the coolie trade of Macao. Early in January, the Viscount de San Januario ordered that the so-called emigration of Chinese from that island, should cease with the following March; and we had the greatest gratification, three months later, in recording that the order had been enforced. The trade ceased absolutely on the day fixed, and one of the greatest blots on foreign relations with China was then extinguished. The Hongkong Government had previously passed an ordinance forbidding even the fitting out of emigrant ships in colonial waters, so that the ships hitherto engaged in the trade had no refuge. It was greatly owing to the influence of Great Britain that this result was attained, and it supplies at least one credit entry in the record of our political intercourse with China.

The Peruvian Treaty was one of the first consequences of the changed situation; the old easy trade being interrupted, Peru sought to legalise an emigration on which her prosperity so much depends; and we repeat our hope that both contracting parties will endeavour loyally to improve the condition of the emigrant. Emigration goes on to the British West Indies without trouble or aspersion, and there is no reason why emigration to South America should not be placed on a similar footing.

In other respects, the year has been very uneventful. Several foreign Ministers have had audience of the Emperor, on their first arrival at Peking; but the privilege has gone no further; and the Ministers appear to have

acquiesced tacitly in the restriction. Even at the New Year, when, if ever, a ceremonial visit to a Sovereign should be paid, no such idea seems to have arisen. Visits were exchanged, as in former years, with the members of the Tsung Li-yamen, and the Emperor was left alone in his dignity.

Neither has this concession to the prejudices of the Court advanced our interests with the Government. Likin duties are exacted with an energy only known to Chinese officials when squeezing is in case. Transit passes are ignored with an indifference which the complaisance of our Ministers goes far to justify. In fact, there can be no doubt that, as pointed out by Mr. Seward in a recent able despatch to the Secretary of State at Washington, foreign prestige is suffering and foreign interests are languishing for want of vigour in our political relations. However little flattering may be the comment to our national pride, we cannot but endorse his verdict that "our representatives, failing to perceive how firmness may be mingled with moderation, and judgment with urgency, have drawn back from due responsibility, until the policy of England, for instance, has been emasculated to a pitiable degree." Hardly a voice in China fails to condemn the present conduct of this policy, and to yearn for a change from the deadly monotony by which it has been marked. And what has China done to justify this consideration? Let us again quote Mr. Seward's despatch:—

"I know of no highway in the empire "which is in tolerable order. I know of "few canals which are not utterly "abandoned for any purposes of con- "servation or improvement. I know "of no mines, of all those immensely "rich ones possessed by the empire, "that are worked to any appreciable "extent. I know of no manufacturing "establishments in which more than "the members of a family are engaged. "I see no disposition to introduce "railroads and telegraphs. I find no "adequate grappling with popular "superstitions, such as those that "precipitated the Tientsin massacre. "and from time to time threaten the "safety of foreigners at that and other "points. I find petty officials here and "there allowed to impose all kinds of "extortions upon trade. I find the "people debarred from opportunities "for legitimate enterprise, and actively "betaking themselves to opium as a "means of dissipating the tedium of "existence. I find the directions in "which only progress has been made, "for instance, the establishment of "arsenals and navy-yards, the employ- "ment of foreigners in the Customs, "and the education of a few youths in "western ways, subject to the criticism "that a lack of confidence in themselves "and a fear of foreign arms have been "the considerations which have led to "these steps."

The sketch is graphically true, and we cannot avoid the conclusion that we are throwing away our opportunities, and that the time has come when Foreigners should take up a more positive attitude in the Empire. If China were in political difficulties, if she showed any inclination to progress of her own accord, if her rulers showed a desire to compel observance of the treaties by their subordinates—they would be entitled to consideration, and there would be reason for forbearance. But the case is diametrically opposite; and our policy correspondingly mistaken.

Piece Goods. Having briefly alluded to some of the more prominent obstacles to the prosperity of the imports of British textiles, we now proceed to notice in detail their general effects upon the trade. We have already given a calculation of the laying down cost of an 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirting* of low quality, and hinted at the comparatively higher rates obtaining for Dewhurst's and Mendel's productions. But we cannot see that the dealers in these classes even have had much cause for rejoicing, for, taking Dewhurst's own price of 9s. 9d. per piece delivered in London, with 6 per cent. for Freight, Insurance, and Shipping, and adding only 3 per cent. for Interest, together with the Shanghai Import Duty and a small nominal sum for landing charges, Rent, Fire Insurance, &c., but nothing for commissions on either side, the cost appears to be Tls. 1.92 per piece, sterling, exchange being taken at 5s. 10d. per Tael. Now the averages of Dewhurst's best chop throughout the year have been as follows:—

Cost f.o.b. in London.	Selling price in Shanghai.	6 m/s. Bank Bills.
Per piece 9s. 8½d.	Tls. 1.93¼	Per Tael 5s. 10d.

These averages are made up from the weekly circulars, and cover 50 quotations; and we think they fairly indicate the course of the trade, and fully prove that the results have not been favorable to the importers. The highest selling rate, Tls. 2.05 per piece, was touched in January, and the lowest, Tls. 1.88, in September. The highest home cost, 10s. 3d., was registered in May and June; and the lowest, 9s. 6d., in July, oscillating between that figure and 9s. 9d. right on to the end of Dec.; whilst the highest and lowest exchanges, 6s. 1d. and 5s. 8d., were quoted, the former in June, and the latter in January and October. Space does not admit of our noticing the countless other chops which come to this place, and which, on account of their low price or high quality, bespeak the attention of our dealers. Nor is it necessary that we should do so in the present paper, for although nearly every owner considers his own particular chop better than that of his neighbour, and although occasionally he may have made a better sale by reason of his chop's renown, or by sacrificing some other article to his hobby, scarcely one of them, if a constant and regular importer, can say that his 8¼-lb. *Shirtings* has contributed materially towards his sustenance since 31st December, 1873, or that the results have differed much from those of the two examples we have selected. The business in the lighter weights has been equally unprofitable. At the beginning of the year, 7-lbs. common to best were saleable, in small lots only, at a range of Tls. 1.50 *a* 1.68 per piece, and these rates, by the aid of an incipient speculation, in anticipation of the customary spring trade, were maintained for about six weeks or two months after the season opened. But the demand either would not or could not come. At all events, it never appeared; and hence the early settlements had to be filtered, as it were, out to the consumers, at a heavy loss to the speculators. Further, once fairly started, quotations rapidly fell until, on the 5th of June, we find the lower qualities selling for Japan "at very low prices," say Tls. 1.35 *a* 1.36 per piece. From that date onward there was little change, either in the current rates or in the amount of business going on. Fortunately, however, stocks were not very excessive at any period of the year, and when anything beyond the ordinary "hand to month" sort of enquiry prevailed, or when a "special" chop was wanted, the effects were at once perceptible in a stronger market and stiffer rates. Towards the close of the year, for instance, the Japanese sent over considerable indents for Dewhurst's *Red Peacocks*, the supply of which was speedily exhausted at the enhanced value of Tls. 1.45 *a* 1.46 per piece. Collie's *Spread Eagle* chop likewise received a fair share of attention from our Japanese friends, but the finest descriptions of 7-lbs.—Dewhurst's *Eagle*—have been in rather a woful plight all through the season, being barely quotable at Tls. 1.52 per piece at its close. Some mildews of the last make were sold about the beginning of winter at Tls. 1.46½ per piece. In pleasing contrast to the foregoing, it has to be mentioned that *Heavy Shirtings* have done well for the importer. For the first quarter of the year there was nothing noticeable about them or their position, other than what is usual in spring. The supply was moderate, but the demand was freely met by holders, who did not anticipate the prolongation of business till over the summer and autumn. At the end of May, however, an enquiry suddenly sprung up, and all the available goods on the spot were eagerly settled by native speculators, on the basis of Tls. 2.48 *a* 2.50 per piece for Dewhurst's *Eagle* chop; and, before the end of June, these same speculators had the entire control of the market, being able eventually to resell their Dewhurst's *Tunsin* chop at Tls. 3.03 per piece. Later on, the arrivals of floating cargo, sold at the first burst of the enquiry, and of additional unsold parcels, telegraphed for at the same time, began to influence the position, and the price in the Chinese quarters dropped to Tls. 2.85 per piece for best

cloth. Moreover, as the ruling rates to the foreigner, being a good mace per piece below the selling rates of the speculative settlements, still showed a very fair profit, expectants thrust their expectations upon the dealers, and so brought about a further decline of 1 *a* 1½ mace per piece, the reduced figure of Tls. 2.60 *a* 2.62 per piece for *Eagles* being the closing quotation of 1874. A good many of these *Heavy Shirtings* have been used by our local consumers, but their destinations *par excellence* have been the districts fed though Ningpo, Hankow and Kiukiang. A large portion also went to Newchwang, whence the most glowing accounts in regard to the Corean requirements, reached us on the 6th of July. Messrs. Knight & Co. at that time wrote that their "hopes of a border trade with Corea are to be realised," and other merchants predicted great things. Moreover, the reported sale of *Tunsin* chop, at Tls. 4.80 per piece, at the Corean fair held either late in October or in early November, looks confirmatory certainly of the high expectations formed, and is worth noting here in connection with this fabric and the Corean trade. The wants of Japan, which again have been very large—the exports hence to that country being ——— pieces, against 556,000 pieces in 1873—have been supplied out of 7 and 8¼-lbs. weights, chiefly the commoner qualities of the latter; and the trade in them has been carried on mostly by the Chinese, who, as a general rule, have been the gainers.

The following is a comparative statement of the *Grey Shirtings* passing through Shanghai during the past three seasons, and of the stocks remaining on hand at the close of each year:—

	Imports.	Deliveries Local and Re-export.	Stocks.*
1874...Pieces	5,750,000	5,147,000	1,195,910
1873...	4,420,000	5,145,000	540,170
1872...	4,425,000	5,345,000	1,284,580

* As per the Returns published by the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.—*White Shirtings.*

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 8th January arrived on Tuesday by the P. & O. str. *Sunda.*

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. str. *Kashgar.*

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

John Mitchell has been elected Member for Tipperary, without opposition. The Government moved for a certificate of felony, and the motion being adopted, a new writ will be applied for on Thursday.

Dr. Kenealy has been elected a member of Parliament for Stoke-on-Trent.

Mitchell landed at Queenstown to-day.

The refusal of England to attend a Conference, has produced an unpleasant impression in Russia.

Dr. Kenealy entered Parliament, and was introduced to the Speaker, who intimated that two Sponsors were required, to which Dr. Kenealy objected, and on a motion in the House of Commons, Mr. Disraeli waived the rule.

The motion declaring Mitchell disqualified to take his seat as Member for Tipperary, was adopted, and a new writ ordered.

In consequence of the tardiness of Spain to afford satisfaction in the "Gustav" affair, Germany is preparing a Naval Expedition to act against the Carlists

The Senate Bill has been voted by 422 to 261.

The Pope has issued a Bull to German Bishops, forbidding the acceptance of benefices from the State, under pain of excommunication.

The Prince Imperial has assumed the direction of the Imperialists.

Sir William Gervois will probably succeed Sir Andrew Clarke.

The minutes which we publish elsewhere, of a meeting of Treaty Consuls held on the 12th instant, cover a variety of subjects. The action which had been taken in regard to the interference of Tepaos with Municipal Contractors has already become known, though the Reports of the Council.—The misgivings of the Taotai at the proposed erection of a Slaughter House near Sinza, have been similarly made known.—A letter from certain members of the Pilotage service, asking that the number of pilots for the port be reduced to 25, was held over for discussion with the Harbour Master.—A letter from the Taotai representing that accidents had occurred to native boats through running against buoys and ship's booms, &c., in the dark, and suggesting that these should be lighted, was similarly referred.—Residents on the Bund will congratulate themselves that the several Admirals commanding on this station have agreed to discontinue firing salutes in the River.—The Taotai has thanked the Consuls and Commanders of vessels-of-war in Harbour, for half-masting their flags in respect to the memory of the late Emperor.—The Municipal Council having complained of the inadequacy of the system of punishments at the Mixed Court, and the lack of power of the Court, it was decided to ask Messrs. Yates, Haas, and Davenport to report on the question. We are told that the Mixed Court and Police Station jails between them will not hold more than 20 to 30 prisoners at one time; so that, when the Police one morning brought in a batch of 20 thieves charged with loitering to commit a felony, there was no means of imprisoning them, and they had to be beaten and let go. Would not the re-establishment of the chain-gang be advisable?

It would seem from the correspondence we publish elsewhere, that some danger of misunderstanding has arisen between the French and English Municipal Councils, on the subject of Yang-king-pang bridges. We must say that the tone of the French Council's letter of the 1st Feb. seems to us uncalled for by anything that is before us. It may be hoped, however, that Mr. Purdon's very temperate and conciliatory reply will remove any misapprehension, and revive the good feeling which has always prevailed between the two bodies.—The Council adhere to their decision not to halve the wheelbarrow licence fees with the French Council; so it appears likely that these vehicles will have to pay twice. — It is gratifying to learn that the project of defining the river boundaries has not been forgotten. We hope a line will be decided on before any new wharf is conceived.—A letter has been addressed to the Treaty Consuls about the increase of crime in the Settlement, and the re-establishment of the chain-gang is advocated. We were always in favour of that punishment, and strongly deprecated its abandonment. It is no doubt also very desirable, as pointed out by the Council, that the Mixed Court should be given fuller powers. The subject is an important one, and we shall look with interest for the Consuls' reply.—It is proposed to alter the financial year, making it end on the 31st December. This will be convenient, if only because the present arrangement always causes the Ratepayers' meeting to clash with the Races.

The fifth of the series of winter lectures under the arrangement of the Shanghai Temperance Society, was given last night by Dr. Macgowan, in the banquet room of the Masonic Hall. Under the title of "Recent researches in physical sciences and the arts," the lecturer discursively mentioned a variety of subjects, ranging from astronomy to the use of the spade in war, illustrating two of them with little experiments. There was but a limited audience.

The text of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank report confirms the unfavourable rumours which had got abroad respecting it. The Reserve Fund has been reduced by $675,000, in addition to the $225,000 which the directors announced at the meeting in August, and stands now at $100,000 only. The amount of notes in circulation has increased by $800,000, and that of deposits by $2,800,000.—We hear by telegram that the Report was passed by the meeting of Shareholders after discussion, but that the Directors' fees were somewhat warmly objected to.—"Swallowing the coo and worrying on the tail," as a Shanghai shareholder was heard to observe when the news came up.

We hear that negociations are going on for transferring the Hongkew Wharf to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., on terms which commend themselves as advantageous for shareholders. The bases of negociation are said to be roughly as follow. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson are willing to take the Wharf premises on lease, guaranteeing 10 per cent on the paid up capital; a Reserve Fund to be formed out of any surplus profits of working, after this dividend has been paid and all charges and commissions have been met; a consulting committee to be formed on behalf of the shareholders, somewhat on the same principle as in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company.—The majority of shareholders seem to view the arrangement favourably. There can be no doubt the Wharf property is very valuable; and the Company was, before the unfortunate rivalry arose between it and its neighbors, one of the best local investments. The proposed amalgamation would overcome this weakness and restore its earning power, so that there would be a good prospect of the anticipated Reserve fund accruing; while Messrs. Jardine, Matheson's guarantee cannot fail, in the meantime, to be satisfactory to shareholders.

The Paper Hunt Handicap with which the season is always wound up, is announced to be contested on the 6th prox.

We hear that there is some idea in the Paper Hunt Club of getting out a few couple of drag hounds, as likely to give a more exciting run than a paper trail.

The ruins of Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co.'s auction room have been sketched for transmission to the *Graphic*. The sketch represents the last stage of the fire, and shows several firemen with hose in the foreground, a steam fire engine in the distance, and Chinese spectators restrained by a policeman. The sketch has we believe been photographed for local sale.

We notice that a Chinese Post Office, for the Yangtsze ports, has been opened in Tientsin Road. At least, so says a sign hung out in the neighborhood of the Chinese "Exchange" in that street.

The Mixed Court was closed on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, consequent upon mourning ceremonials in connection with the late Emperor's demise. A large number of Mandarins were present at the City Temple on Monday and Tuesday. To-day, the Court will be again closed, this time in consequence of its being the day appointed for the ascension of the throne by the new Emperor. It is to be observed as a day of festivity among the native officials.

Monday, the 22nd February, was the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, and the American ships in harbour were gaily dressed with bunting in commemoration of it.

Captain Alexander Buller, R.N., appointed to succeed Captain Thomson in the command of H. M. S. *Modeste*, arrived by the *Sunda* on Tuesday, and at once assumed the command.

By the barque *Eaglet*, Captain Nicol, from Keelung, we learn that a gentleman named Tyzak had arrived at that port to inspect the coal mines in the vicinity, on behalf of the Chinese Government, with a view to the introduction of steam and machinery as used in foreign mines.

Captain J. J. Smith, of the brigantine *Empress of China*, reports that during the passage from Swan River to this port, while he was becalmed off the Island of Lord North, about thirty large sailing outrigger canoes, containing from eight to twelve men each, made towards the ship. A breeze sprang up, and Captain Smith deemed it advisable to run to leeward, in order to get clear of the boats, which chased him until dark. The nearest boat was within two miles of of the ship, and with a telescope it could be discerned that the occupants were armed with bows and arrows.

A serious accident occurred on Monday afternoon on board the steamer *Benledi*, while discharging cargo at Hunt's Wharf. A fireman named William Gemmel overbalanced himself, and fell head first into the main hold from the deck, striking his head upon the tunnel casing. When picked up he was insensible, and was at once placed upon a chair and conveyed to the Hospital.

A strange story as to an alleged illegal seizure of opium and assault by likin runners, has been told to the police by a foreigner residing in the neighbourhood of Smith's Market. He stated that on Monday night, about half-past ten o'clock, he was riding in a jin-rick-sha, having four balls of opium in a bag, upon which he had paid duty, and which he was conveying to the house of the Chinese purchaser. He had arrived at the Canton road, when he was stopped by several men who said they were *likin* runners. They demanded possession of the opium, and because he would not give it up, they dragged both him and it out of the vehicle, and, after beating him severely, ran off with the drug. They also took a volunteer's sword-bayonet he was wearing at the time. A number of people congregated at the spot, but did not render him any assistance. The foreigner added that he was so beaten as to be scarcely able to walk home. The opium was not taken to the police station, as is customary in these seizures; and yesterday, Mr. Stripling made enquiries at the offices of the Opium Guild and also of the Mandarin, and was informed that if such a seizure and assault had occurred, the lekin runners were not concerned, neither had any seized opium been taken to the Guild. We give the statement for what it is worth; up to the present time there is no corroboration of it.

A few days since, a Chinese thief made a clever attempt at robbery at the store of Messrs. Watson & Co., drapers, Nanking road. He was observed waiting about, with a chit-book in his hand, from which the end of a chit apparently protruded, and his presence therefore excited no suspicion. Being however, afterwards seen carrying a roll of flannel from the tailoring department, worth about $9, and to deposit it behind a screen on the premises, he was of course followed, and in the same place was found a roll of cloth, value $50, both being conveniently placed for removal either by himself or a confederate outside. He was taken to the Central Police Station, where on examination it was discovered that the chit-book was one which had been missing from a foreign hong for exactly twelve months, the last entry being dated Feb. 1874. How the thief became possessed of it is not known. The case was proved against him at the Mixed Court, on Friday, and a sentence of 200 blows and a month's cangue passed upon him.

A few days ago, a Chinese dealer in jade stone ornaments, rings, and bangles, went into a lodging-house at Soochow, for a night's rest. During the night his box was stolen, and inquiry led to the discovery that it had been placed on board a boat and sent down the creek to Shanghai. A native constable was detached on the look out, and succeeded in capturing the thief and recovering the box, which was worth $150. He was afterwards brought up at the Mixed Court, sentenced to 200 blows with the bamboo, and to be remitted to the Chehsien of Soochow for further punishment.

A great improvement on the building formerly used for the British Post Office, is the new one recently erected in the Peking Road by the Colonial Government of Hongkong. The new erection is at once convenient and a creditable ornament to the Peking Road. Below, is a large and convenient sorting room with a private office for the Postmaster; while above, the building is divided into two, for the accommodation of the Postmaster and his assistants. A wide and ample verandah facing the Peking Road, with boldly rusticated arches, affords considerable accommodation for the public, while the different windows are plainly labelled so as to save the time both of the public and of those engaged within. The upper story has also a deep verandah, divided by pilasters standing on a stone plinth, above which a bold cornice crowns the edifice. The work has been carried out from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr. Boyce of H.M. Office of Works.

The remains of Mr. J. W. Oliver, late store issuer at the Naval Yard, Pootung, were interred on the 16th inst., at the New Cemetery, with military honours. The corpse was conveyed from the General Hospital to the Cemetery on a gun-carriage, covered with the Union Jack, and drawn by seamen from H.M.S. *Modeste*, a strong party from H.M.S. *Ringdove* following, and a number of officers closing the rear. There was, however, no band. The funeral service was read by the Rev. J. Llewellyn, chaplain of the *Modeste*, and a firing party of marines from the same ship paid the final tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased, by firing three volleys over the grave.

We have the fourth and last report of the Director of the Japanese Mint. Major Kinder reports that 30,745,493 coins, of the total value of $1,402,879, were passed for issue during the half-year. There had been a decided falling off in gold coinage: and the coinage of silver had been almost entirely confined to the smaller subsidiary pieces, the quantity of yen turned out being very nominal. The latter coin has been declared a legal tender at Singapore, Canton, and Foochow, and now passes at those ports on a par with the Mexican dollar. Copper coins of all denominations have been produced in large quantities, the daily out-turn being now about two tons! In conclusion, Major Kinder takes the opportunity of thanking all who have been associated with him in the Mint, for their able and valuable assistance, and adds that every detail in the Mint is now in the most perfect order. He had received instructions, through the Oriental Bank, to transfer all matters connected with his office on or about the 31st January, and held himself prepared to do so.—We shall look, now, with interest to see whether the Japanese can run the Mint without foreign aid.

We have a letter from Captain George Bain, enclosing a verbatim copy of a speech delivered by him at the meeting of shareholders in the P. & O. Co. held last December. Captain Bain complains of the manner in which his statement was alluded to in the *L. & C. Express*, and wishes the full text published. We doubt, however, whether people are much interested out here, in questions affecting only the Company's management of its finances. They would be very much interested to know that the practice of

making passengers change three times between Brindisi and Shanghai was to be abandoned, or that the Company purposed sending steamers to Hankow every year at the commencement of the season. But we doubt whether many P. & O. shares are held in China; and non-shareholders hardly care whether the proper amount is or is not written off for depreciation, in the Company's accounts. Captain Bain says it is not. Those interested may like to turn up the *Times* of the 8th or the *Railway Times* of the 12th December, in both of which the more important portions of his speech are given.

We have received for review a book entitled "A systematic digest of the doctrines of Confucius, according to the Analects, &c., &c." Originally published in German by the Rev. Ernst Faber, it has been translated into its present form by M. von Moellendorff.

We have a prospectus of a Company which is being formed in San Francisco to buy a tract of 4,000 acres in Alameda county, and to create on it a town of Newark, distant 24 miles from San Francisco. There are to be 2,500 shares of $300 each, which are expected to increase greatly in value. We notice Mr. J. Barr Robertson's name on the list of Directors.

We have received a copy of the "Japan Gazette Desk Hong List and Directory" for 1875. It contains lists of hongs at the several open ports, together with alphabetical lists of residents, and a Ladies' Directory; the latter comprising some 300 names.

Two recent numbers of the *Gardener's Chronicle* contain woodcuts of Mr. T. Hanbury's seat and grounds, near Mentone. The writer says the Palazzo Orengo stands in a situation very similar in character to that of Monaco, and "that the garden is one of the most interesting, from the richness and variety of its contents, that can be seen in any country." The amount of dressed ground "in the garden is not large; the main entrance to the house even being left in a condition which would shock some of our more precise gardeners, but which is, nevertheless, quite in keeping with the general nature of the situation, and which, moreover, secures at every step a novel combination and a fresh source of interest. Instead of casting a glance and then hurrying on to the house to avoid the monotony and formalism that characterise many such approaches, as happens so often when the ordinary system is pursued, the visitor is here led on from point to point, the interest increasing as he goes, till at length he finds himself at the central point of attraction—the hospitable mansion. One piece of dressed ground there is on the marble terrace facing the sea, and on which are judiciously arranged beds of succulents, flowering Aloes and Agaves, which are marvellously 'at home' here, both in regard to climatal requirements and with reference to the architectural features with which they are in proximity. At one end of this terrace is a little summer house, or temple, of white marble, which, backed up as it is by Date Palms and looking over the clear blue sea, is at once effective and appropriate. In another direction is a 'pergola,' or as it is locally called 'topia'—an arcade, partly architectural but wholly embowered with climbing Roses and creepers, Mesembryanthemums, and Pelargoniums, and which furnishes a charming sheltered walk. Elsewhere is a glorious bank of succulents rooted in sand, and forming one of the most remarkable features of the garden. Here, too, is a 'cool grot,' hollowed out in a sand bank and lined by Ferns, among which the native Maidenhair, Adiantum Capillus-veneris, is by no means the least beautiful." The writer goes on to enumerate a great number of the plants "which impressed him most;" adding that a complete record of those to be found in the garden would alone fill a bulky catalogue; and leaving altogether an impression on the reader's mind, that Mr. Hanbury has a most charming residence, laid out and cared for with excellent taste.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 27th January, the Governor of KIRIN reports the extirpation of a band of "gold-hunters," who had been troubling the region between Ninguta and Sansing. The district in question lies to the north-west of the Siao-peh mountains; Ninguta being situated in the hills at the head of the Houriha river, and Sansing in the plains near the junction of that river with the Soongari. Little or nothing can be gathered as to the merits of the case, from the present document. Reference is made to a previous (apparently unpublished) memorial, reporting the tranquilisation of Ninguta, which would perhaps have thrown some light on the matter. Gold-hunting seems hardly a very serious offence in itself; but the remarkable antipathy of Chinese officials to mining may extend even to gold washing. The real motive in either case would be the same—a dread of any gathering of men, from a sense of their own weakness to control them. Whether the gold-hunters of Kirin had committed a more serious offence than trying to collect the mineral wealth their streams bear down, we are left to guess. Whatever their doings, Brigadier Shêng-an's career of massacre seems to have effectually stopped them, by exterminating the doers.

We have TIENTSIN letters to the 8th instant, when everything was perfectly quiet.—The river was still hard frozen.—Li Hung-chang had gone back to his provincial capital.—A party of sportsmen have gone into Mongolia, and promise to bear in mind the Shanghai Museum.—Wild geese had been seeing flying north, but the thermometer still stood at 9 Fahrenheit. It would seem therefore that the C. M. S. N. steamer *Leehong* which left this for the North on Tuesday, is starting full early.—The account given in our correspondent's letter, of the sleigh traffic on the Peiho, is rather startling at first; but not at all incredible if we reflect on the wheelbarrow, jinricksha, and boat traffic at Shanghai. Of course, a great deal of the traffic is local, but a great deal also seems to consist in the conveyance of produce to and from the country; and the idea suggests itself:—if so much goes on with such very imperfect means, how great would be the convenience and how great must be the opportunity for railways. Could not Li be induced to make a line from Taku to Tientsin and Peking, as an experiment—to convey tribute rice?

A memorial in the Peking *Gazette* of the 29th January throws some more light on the TAICHOW outbreak. The memorialist is one of the licensed salt merchants who sometimes make fortunes, and are sometimes ruined, by farming the Monopoly in certain districts. In the present case, he seems to have come considerably to grief, and he attributes the whole affair to a conspiracy to oust him from his post. It is somewhat remarkable, in that case, that the conspirators should have thought it worth while, and have had sufficient influence, to excite a whole district for so small an end. What the petitioner's object may be in putting the case in this light, and abusing the whole body of officials, does not readily appear. The riot seems to have really been one of the uprisings that occur not infrequently in Chekeang, against the extravagant exactions of the salt monopoly. We have described more than one such in former years, and have pointed out more than once, in former articles, how extravagantly the price of salt is enhanced by these imposts on its passage inland. It is all right so long as the people will submit; but the mandarins are sufficiently aware of the real state of things not to care, probably, about pushing matters too hard if they rise. Some such explanation may account for the slowness in taking his part, which the memorialist complains of.

A NINGPO correspondent writes that this riot is still not settled. The people, it will be remembered, rose in protest againt the excessive taxation they were subjected to; and our correspondent says they are still encamped in large numbers on the hills, setting the authorities at defiance.

The HANKOW Chamber of Commerce report says the usual lull occurred at New Year time. For ten days, business was entirely suspended; it was resumed on the 15th, and there has since been some little enquiry for 8¼-lbs. Shirtings at previous prices. Of Raw Cotton, Messrs. Gordon Bros. write:—Local staple has slightly advanced in value, closing quotations being Tls. 9.20 *a* Tls. 10.10 per picul. Stock is estimated at about 30,000 piculs.

Full summaries of JAPAN and HONG-KONG news will be found on the usual page.

MANILA advices of the 22nd ultimo state that the Philippine Islands have been visited by strong typhoons, which have caused serious loss of life and damage to property. In Negros the half of this year's sugar has been lost; and in Iloilo about 200,000 piculs of the same article has undergone the same fate. In Cagayan the rivers have risen and flooded the tobacco fields. Many craft of the coasting trade have been lost. The loss of lives in Iloilo and Negros is said to be upwards of a thousand.

Indian papers, brought by the present mail, show that the Gaekwar of BARODA was arrested on suspicion that he was implicated in the attempt to poison Colonel Phayre, the late British Representative at his Court. The Gaekwar is enormously wealthy, and it was expected that he would engage a brilliant array of legal talent for his defence. As a commencement, he is said to have retained Sergeant Ballantine for 10,000 guineas.

Editorial Selections.

SALT.

For a long time, the question of importing foreign salt into China has dropped out of discussion. It was urged on Sir Rutherford Alcock while the revision of the treaty was under discussion, and he pressed it upon the attention of the Chinese; but they steadily declined the experiment. The direct revenue derived from the tax on Chinese salt was too great, and the process too congenial to the mandarin taste, to permit any innovation. Even the proposal for a limited import had no success. "I believe," wrote Sir Rutherford, in transmitting the text of the new treaty to Lord Clarendon, "that the objection might "not have proved so insurmountable had "the Yamên felt they had to deal "with Great Britain only; but to grant "to England a right to import one ship-"load every month, was to concede the "same right to every Treaty Power, and "twelve times twelve ships a year would "not have left much monopoly in the "hands of the Salt Commission." The Northwich Chamber of Commerce made an effort to enlist Mr. Burlingame's sympathy in favour of salt, during his European progress, but approached the subject from an extreme "blessing of civilisation" point of view, which was more likely to cause laughter than conviction. Salt had, in fact, according to the Northwich Chamber, been the great forerunner of civilisation and commerce throughout the world; and Salt would be the inevitable means of inaugurating a new era of commerce with China, if only permission to import it could be obtained from the Government of Peking. Ships bringing salt to China would "need a "return cargo, to furnish which the grass "of China, required in Europe for paper-"making and spinning, and the oil from "seeds grown and pressed in China, "would be purchased by the British to "an unlimited extent. In this way, both "a vast amount of employment would "be offered to the Chinese people, and "the salt which they need would be paid "for in grass and oil, for which they have "at present no sufficient market for want "of the means of cheap transport to "Europe. For instance, the British "merchant might bring a cargo of salt "which he could afford to sell at Shang-"hai at £3 per ton, and might take in "return a cargo of oil or seeds worth "from £20 to £30 per ton. Thus a "single ship-load of the average size "would furnish a gain equal to about "£40,000, available for the employ-"ment of Chinese labour." We can hardly blame Mr. Burlingame if he was not impressed by this effusive address. But, salt being a great necessary of life, it needs no rhetoric to establish the fact that China would be benefitted by the importation of cheap and good salt, as much as European merchants and ship-owners could be benefitted by its carriage and sale; and the argument hinted at by Mr. Cooper might well be availed of, to renew negociations for removing or modifying the existing prohibition.

That English salt should find its way across Burmah into the markets of Yunnan, is a curious feature of the new trade with Western China which the Indian Government is trying to foster. And that it does so, to a very considerable extent, the Reports on the administration of British Burmah clearly show. The trade seems only to have begun in 1871-72; at any rate it finds place then, for the first time, in the Customs Reports. The value of foreign salt exported in that year across the British Indian frontier into Upper Burmah, was £11,728; and the amount rose in 1872-73 to £27,769. Large quantities of this salt, says the Report, "were taken into Western China *viâ* Bhamo; and on the whole, the development of the salt trade between England and China by this route, is one of the most interesting features of the year's Report. The salt of Liverpool is fast displacing the salt of the salt-mines of Upper Burmah, and is being carried from Rangoon to Bhamo as fast as it can be conveyed. To show that the trade in salt during the year under review was not a mere spasmodic and uncertain movement, it may be mentioned that since the close of the year, viz., between the 1st April and the 1st Sept., the steamer companies have carried up-country no less than 7,050 tons, whilst two years ago there was no trade whatever in salt. The greater part of the salt finds its way into China and the Shan States from Bhamo. It is a trade which is of very great importance to Bhamo, as it gives some freight, though not a valuable one at present, to the ships coming to Rangoon for rice, which up till now have nearly all come in ballast. If, however, as there seems every reason to anticipate, the overthrow of the Panthays and the pacification of the country between Bhamo and Talifoo, leads to active trade by this route, the supply of salt to the neighbouring provinces of China will become a very important branch of trade." There was a falling off in 1873-4. The value of the salt which crossed the frontier in that year having fallen to £18,971, a decrease which the Administrative Report for that year attributes to the overstocking of the Bhamo market in the previous year. It would not be the first time such a contingency had happened to a budding trade, but we shall probably find a renewed improvement when the Report for 1874-5 comes in turn before us. What interests us, in the meantime, is the existence of a considerable salt trade across the Chinese frontier, and the figures we have quoted sufficiently establish that fact.

MANDARINS AND THEIR FOREIGN INSTRUCTORS.

If we were anxious to trumpet forth progress in China, we might find a better theme than even Mr. Burlingame or the *Pall Mall Gazette* have done, in the undoubted change which has taken place in public, or rather official, opinion, as regards the status of those engaged in mechanical arts. It is not many years since, when an arsenal was proposed to the Chinese Government, no civil mandarin or literary student could be found to condescend to connection with it, and the post of director had to be conferred on the despised class known as military mandarins. By degrees, this feeling of degradation seems to have given way; and now the position of mandarin-superintendent of an arsenal has become a high civil appointment, and in many cases a stepping stone to the highest and most lucrative posts in the empire. It is never held by an officer under the rank of Taotai, and it seems now to be looked upon as the precursor to the Taotaiship of one of the treaty ports. The present Taotai at Kiukiang owes his appointment to his having previously been mandarin-superintendent of the Tientsin Arsenal; a short time ago Wu Tajen was taken from the same establishment to be made Taotai at Tientsin; and but the other day Fêng was promoted from the Arsenal here to fill the position of Taotai of Shanghai, an appointment against which the most enterprising scholars of the Empire put a red mark, and which they keep constantly in view as an object to be aimed at, and, if possible, secured.

Though it is gratifying to see the Chinese recognising the importance, nay the necessity, of having men of culture and position in such situations, and sensible enough to break down the absurd prejudices which led them to depreciate the useful class of the artizan, it is to be regretted that they cannot find some means of rewarding mandarins who have distinguished themselves in charge of Arsenals, without removing them to other stations for which they may have no official aptitude. It is an easy task to find a mandarin capable of discharging the duties of Taotai at Shanghai. It is a difficult one, amongst the unpractical literati of China, to discover one with an aptitude for the post from which Fêng Tajen has just been removed. So many years in the life of an able and energetic man like Fêng, cannot have been passed without his accumulating a stock of experience valuable to the Government, in its endeavours to place the country in a state of defence sufficient to prevent another such humiliation as it lately received at the hands of Japan. While, therefore, congratulating the present Taotai on his promotion, those friends of China who would like to see her becoming a strong power, cannot but regret that the Government has had to throw away the experience gained by him during his connection with the Arsenal, for lack of means of rewarding him in the field in which he acquired his honours. Another loss which we regret to hear the Arsenals are likely to suffer, is the retirement of Dr. Macartney, now superintending the Arsenal at Nanking. Mr. Seward, in a dispatch addressed to Mr. Fish, Minister for Foreign Affairs at Washington, a short time ago, declared it to be a fact within his own knowledge that Li Hung-chang was beginning to sink under the worry which opposition to his measures and ameliorations had created. Some such feeling is said to influence his protégé at Nanking, in wishing to retire from the Imperial service. It is well known that, for some time past, but more especially since the discharge of the foreign staff serving under M. Giquel at Foochow, there has been a growing disposition amongst the mandarin class to show themselves, as they imagine, independent of Foreign assistance. When dictated

by proper motives, and kept within due bounds, the desire is not only natural, but commendable. It is different when, as is too often the case, it arises from corrupt motives, such as a desire on the part of the superior officials to escape the surveillance which the foreigner must exercise on their actions, or from a false idea of humiliation in having to learn under the direction of a man whom they would wish, could they do it, to despise. The Chinese are adepts in the arts of intrigue; and whether in camp or arsenal there are sure to be numbers of men anxious to improve their position at the expense of that of the foreigners engaged. Nanking has been no exception to the rule. Dr. Macartney, we learn, discovered on his return from Europe last year, that advantage had been taken of his absence to turn everything upside down, and that arrangements had been made for the discharge of his foreign employés. Annoyed at this, and unwilling to incur the responsibility of carrying on the works without foreign assistance, he has requested permission to retire. It is well known that to Dr. Macartney's representations to Li, was due the first foundation of Arsenals in China; and that, from small beginnings, under his own immediate supervision, the Arsenal, now at Nanking, has grown to its present state of efficiency, and has served as a model for similar institutions elsewhere. Dr. Macartney was peculiarly fitted for the work, and his retirement cannot fail to be severely felt. The scientific studies which, as a medical man, had formed part of his education, added to a natural inclination towards mechanical pursuits, rendered him peculiarly fitted for carrying on the multiform processes of which arsenal work consists, and which cannot in China, as in Europe, be parcelled out to the number of different overseers there rendered necessary by the subdivision of labour.

Turning from arsenals to camps, it is but seldom now that we find a foreigner attached to any of the camps, though a few years ago foreign drill instructors were to be met with in every military station. One after another they seem to have died, retired, or been supplanted by the intrigues of those whose promotion they obstructed. The result of this is in every case apparent. No one can now return from a week's shooting in the country, without having become familiar with the parody of military exercises which is perpetuated, under the denomination of foreign drill, by the Chinese on whom the mantle of the instructor has fallen. Each one teaches his men those parts of the manual exercise which he has retained in his memory, and makes up for what he has forgotten by cribbing from the Chinese drill book. The result of this is a heterogeneous mixture, the uselessness of which it seems strange that the generals in command do not observe. Possibly they do observe it, but as it is named "foreign drill," they dare not object to it, lest their objections might raise suspicions as to their apprehension of it. The European military system is at present in favour with the authorities, but this has not arisen from any intelligent comprehension of its principles. No Chinese has yet attained to this. They judge it by its effects; and, it having proved more powerful than their own, Europeans were engaged to teach it; but the mandarins, being too proud to be themselves instructed in its principles, retained, when the European instructors were withdrawn, such an imperfect knowledge of it, that it is not too much to say China would, if called on to meet an European enemy to-morrow, hardly make so good a resistance as she often did under her own erroneous and inefficient system. A bad system vigourously executed, and thoroughly understood by every one from the general to the soldier, will produce a better result than a much superior one, imperfectly understood by the one and looked down on by the other. The present drill of the Chinese army is neither one thing nor the other, but a hybrid compound of the systems of the East and the West;—two systems perfectly incompatible, and as difficult to be welded together as wood and iron. Besides this, the drill is not the same in two camps, one element or the other being found to prevail according as the instructor has gained a greater or less insight into foreign methods. The two systems being understood and relied on in different proportions by officers and men, there does not exist any of that confidence which is the result of harmony of action; and it will be well for China if she have no occasion for her army till this radical defect has been remedied. This, however, is not to be accomplished in a day, or in the hurried manner in which it was attempted to be rectified when war with Japan seemed imminent. Chinese officers ran hither and thither asking foreigners to drill their troops, and offering them large pay to enter their service, when the first and immediate result of their instructions would have been to make matters worse; to loosen the confidence of the troops in their own system, without having had time to restore it by an effective knowledge of the other. A similar furore affected the mandarins on the Yangtsze, which, without understanding the rudiments of foreign fortification, they sought to fortify in foreign manner. The market was cleared of everything in the shape of boiler plate and sheet iron; and this, it was afterwards ascertained, was in order to render the forts impenetrable to the shot of the Japanese ironclads. It is true that this was mainly done by civil, not military mandarins, but the fact only shows the innate unsoundness of the system. A military mandarin accustomed to the old Chinese system would probably have been more successful; for had he merely attempted constructing an ordinary Chinese camp, he might have produced something fairly suited to the circumstances. In former times, Chinese troops have succeeded in constructing forts which made no mean resistance to foreign arms, and there is no reason why they should not do so again. At any rate, they could not have done worse than the mandarins alluded to, whose forts most resembled children's card houses, since they fell down at the sound of their own guns.

If such be the case with the camps, we can imagine what it must be in the arsenals, which require for their management an amount of scientific information which no mandarin who has simply passed through the curriculum of the best Chinese education can possibly possess; and yet, without it, he cannot escape being made the dupe of the workmen he is supposed to direct. We have heard of many costly and absurd experiments, which mandarins lacking the first rudiments of scientific knowledge, have been induced to make; but one bearing on an unfortunate occurence recorded by our Tientsin correspondent in our issue of the 28th ultimo, is particularly apposite. Two guns, said to have been manufactured on foreign models at the Nanking Arsenal, burst somewhat curiously at the same moment, while being tried at the Taku forts, killing and wounding several persons. No system of gun manufacture yet invented is absolutely free from such dangers; but there seems no reason to attribute the failure of the guns in question to any such unavoidable cause, particularly if they resembled those which some of our naval officers encountered in going over the Nanking Arsenal a short time ago—cast-iron guns, having the same calibre and weight of metal, and all the characteristics peculiar to guns of steel or wrought-iron constructed on the compound principle. It appeared that this was one of the attempts of a would-be mandarin Krupp, in order, we presume, to show his ability to do without foreign assistance. Some one had given him a drawing of a Blakely or some other kind of built-up gun, and, ignorant of its compound nature, he thought that to imitate it he had only to turn out of cast-iron the rings and other peculiarities so conspicuous in guns of modern manufacture. We have heard, almost *ad nauseam*, of the progress which the Chinese have made, more particularly in the manufacturing arts, within the last ten or twelve years. The arsenals, the drilled troops, and more recently the successful attempt to lay the foundation of a National Debt, have been pointed out as proofs. But facts, such as the above, show that progress has been less real than apparent. There is really little difference between the Nanking attempt at gun-making in 1874, and the ludicrous attempt to convert a junk into a steamer, during our first war, by furnishing her with a pair of side-wheels, and a funnel to carry off the smoke from straw lighted beneath it. In both cases, was exhibited the same superficial character of the Chinese mind. The mandarin artillerist saw nothing in modern artillery excepting the difference in form; while his Cantonese predecessor, overlooking the real power which propels our naval giants, saw nothing but the smoke and wheels. As it was in the past, so will it be in the next ten years, unless some such thing as a war occurs to open Chinese eyes to the fact that, in the field as well as in the arsenal,—and we may add in all the branches of manufacturing industry,—China as yet knows nothing, and can know nothing so long as her people are ignorant of the highly scientific branches of education on which now depend the arts of war and peace.

OPIUM GUILD RUNNERS.

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"Sometimes when the animal was sitting quietly, a long dark fleshy body would come out of the nostril, but the movements of the monkey on our making any attempt at a close inspection immediately caused the protruded object to retract. There can be little doubt that this parasite is derived from drinking water, probably creeping round the velum into the posterior nares or by the anterior nares, especially when stooping down to drink from a pool."

We must defer notice of Dr. Jamieson's report on Shanghai, till another occasion. It deals with matters of sufficient interest and importance to claim a separate article.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 21st Jan., we find a Decree from the Imperial Regents—the Empresses Dowager—with reference to the prayer of the Prince of Chun (the father of the new Emperor), to be allowed to retire from public life. It has been decided, after due deliberation on the subject by the other Imperial Princes, the Dukes, the Ministers of State, the six Boards, and the nine King, that the Prince shall be allowed to do so, and that he shall, in consideration of his past able services to the State, receive yearly a double monetary allowance. We learn from later decrees that the posts he held had been given to other high officials. The Prince of Pih—Pih-wang or Pih-yen-no-mo-koo—(the son of the famous Mongol General Săng-ko-lin-săng)—had received the appointment of the command-in-chief of the foreign drilled and armed Manchow Legion (known to the Chinese by the name of the Shin-ke-ying) stationed at and near the metropolis. The Prince of Chun was formerly the commander-in-chief of this corps. Prince Pih stood in high favor with the late Emperor; and when His Majesty went to the Western Tombs last spring, rode by his side both on going and on coming back. In the *Gazette* of the 22nd January, it is announced that the Princes of Tun, Kung, and Foo, all uncles of the late and also of the present Emperor, are exempted from performing the kow-tow on certain occasions at Court. Also, in the same *Gazette*, there is an edict making known and publishing that His Majesty, (whose name is Tsae-tien, but whom we will in future, as has been the custom in China when designating the sovereigns, speak of by the name of his reign, namely, Kwang-seu,) will ascend the Throne early in the morning of the 25th day of February, the Chinese 20th day of the 1st Moon of the 1st year of Kwang-seu.

On the 26th ultimo, we learnt that his Excellency Li Hung-chang, would, immediately after the closing of the seals of the Paouting yamêns for the New Year holidays on the forenoon of the 27th instant, leave Paouting for Peking. It has been surmised amongst the Chinese here, that Li has been called to the capital by the Imperial Regents, to remain at Court as one of the advisers to the Throne; by which is meant, I suppose, that his Excellency will become one of the members of the Cabinet at Court. We have received at Tientsin copies of the Peking *Gazettes* up to the 25th ultimo, but in none of them do we find mention of any change having been made in the post of Governor-General of this province. If Li Hung-chang becomes stationed at Peking, as a member of the Privy Council, he will cease to be Governor-General of Chihli.

In the *Gazette* of the 18th January, it is announced that Tseng-kwo-tseuen, brother of the celebrated statesman Tseng-kwo-fan, and formerly Governor of Hoopeh province, had reached Peking, and presented his respects to the Throne. The Chinese people here have a rumour that he is to succeed Li Hung-chang as Governor-General of this province. I have heard nothing from reliable sources on the subject, and myself do not credit the report. On the 27th instant, early, all the yamêns here were closed for public business during the New Year holidays, namely, till the 24th February. Only urgent business will be attended to during this period.

During the winter months at Tientsin, and after the ice on this river will bear weight, one of the chief vehicles for the conveyance of passengers, supplies of goods for the humans and animals of the city, and of produce and manufactures, is the hand-sleigh, which is moved along the ice by one man standing at the back of the sleigh with a foot on each runner, by a pole having a sharp iron point, which he uses between his legs. In calm weather, and carrying four passengers, the sleigh can be poled along the ice at the rate of about ten miles an hour; and with a favorable, strong wind it can move along at the rate of fifteen miles an hour; but then, of course, it can only be poled against the wind slower, at about three or four miles an hour.

When the British army was at Tientsin, during the winter of 1860, there were many officers and men in the regiments who had been formerly stationed in North America, Canada, Nova Scotia, &c., where the Red Indians use a hand-sleigh for the conveyance of baggage, game, &c., &c., on sporting excursions, which they call a tabogau; and the name has thus been adopted in Tientsin. The Tientsin Chinese call a tabogau, Pai-tsze 擺子 and the Pekingese, To-chueang 脫床 or 冰床 Pingchwang. These sleighs have two runners, about eight feet long, six inches deep, and a couple of inches thick; and the bottom parts are shod with iron; the runners are about two feet separate, and are held apart by two wood cross binders. A thick millet stalk matting is placed on the upper part of this frame, on which the passengers sit and the goods are placed. The men who pole the tabogaus, when not at work, wear a loose long fur coat; but when poling, this coat is placed on the tobagau, and the passengers use it as a cushion on which to sit. The implement used for poling is made of wood, has a sharp iron point, and is about seven feet long. The day

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"Through a speculum we could see a dark shining body far up in the nose, and just as the speculum was being withdrawn the head of a leech was protruded between the blades of the instrument and quickly retracted. An artery forceps was introduced into the nostril, and, after one or two attemps, was fastened on the head of the animal as it was protruded. Allowing the forceps thus attached to dangle from the nose while some salt and water was injected, the leech, after a short time, relaxed its hold and fell into the hands of the astonished naturalist."

The presence of the intruder is accounted for by the traveller having drunk on one occasion from a pool in which he noticed a number of small leeches, and afterwards picked two or three from the roof of his mouth. Some six or eight days afterwards he was troubled with bleeding from the nostril—caused of course by the little brute which had taken the occasion to quarter himself there. The patient had suffered much from pain in the head, vertigo and loss of appetite, before the successful discovery of the leech. The Drs. Manson have heard of another case of the same kind, in Tamsui, and add that they have on two occasions seen, in Takow, what they now know must had been this parasite in the nostrils of monkeys :—

"Sometimes when the animal was sitting quietly, a long dark fleshy body would come out of the nostril, but the movements of the monkey on our making any attempt at a close inspection immediately caused the protruded object to retract. There can be little doubt that this parasite is derived from drinking water, probably creeping round the velum into the posterior nares or by the anterior nares, especially when stooping down to drink from a pool."

We must defer notice of Dr. Jamieson's report on Shanghai, till another occasion. It deals with matters of sufficient interest and importance to claim a separate article.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 21st Jan., we find a Decree from the Imperial Regents—the Empresses Dowager—with reference to the prayer of the Prince of Chun (the father of the new Emperor), to be allowed to retire from public life. It has been decided, after due deliberation on the subject by the other Imperial Princes, the Dukes, the Ministers of State, the six Boards, and the nine King, that the Prince shall be allowed to do so, and that he shall, in consideration of his past able services to the State, receive yearly a double monetary allowance. We learn from later decrees that the posts he held had been given to other high officials. The Prince of Pih—Pih-wang or Pih-yen-no-mo-koo—(the son of the famous Mongol General Săng-ko-lin-săng)—had received the appointment of the command-in-chief of the foreign drilled and armed Manchow Legion (known to the Chinese by the name of the Shin-ke-ying) stationed at and near the metropolis. The Prince of Chun was formerly the commander-in-chief of this corps. Prince Pih stood in high favor with the late Emperor; and when His Majesty went to the Western Tombs last spring, rode by his side both on going and on coming back. In the *Gazette* of the 22nd January, it is announced that the Princes of Tun, Kung, and Foo, all uncles of the late and also of the present Emperor, are exempted from performing the kow-tow on certain occasions at Court. Also, in the same *Gazette*, there is an edict making known and publishing that His Majesty, (whose name is Tsae-tien, but whom we will in future, as has been the custom in China when designating the sovereigns, speak of by the name of his reign, namely, Kwang-seu,) will ascend the Throne early in the morning of the 25th day of February, the Chinese 20th day of the 1st Moon of the 1st year of Kwang-seu.

On the 26th ultimo, we learnt that his Excellency Li Hung-chang, would, immediately after the closing of the seals of the Paouting yamêns for the New Year holidays on the forenoon of the 27th instant, leave Paouting for Peking. It has been surmised amongst the Chinese here, that Li has been called to the capital by the Imperial Regents, to remain at Court as one of the advisers to the Throne; by which is meant, I suppose, that his Excellency will become one of the members of the Cabinet at Court. We have received at Tientsin copies of the Peking *Gazettes* up to the 25th ultimo, but in none of them do we find mention of any change having been made in the post of Governor-General of this province. If Li Hung-chang becomes stationed at Peking, as a member of the Privy Council, he will cease to be Governor-General of Chihli.

In the *Gazette* of the 18th January, it is announced that Tseng-kwo-tseuen, brother of the celebrated statesman Tseng-kwo-fan, and formerly Governor of Hoopeh province, had reached Peking, and presented his respects to the Throne. The Chinese people here have a rumour that he is to succeed Li Hung-chang as Governor-General of this province. I have heard nothing from reliable sources on the subject, and myself do not credit the report. On the 27th instant, early, all the yamêns here were closed for public business during the New Year holidays, namely, till the 24th February. Only urgent business will be attended to during this period.

During the winter months at Tientsin, and after the ice on this river will bear weight, one of the chief vehicles for the conveyance of passengers, supplies of goods for the humans and animals of the city, and of produce and manufactures, is the hand-sleigh, which is moved along the ice by one man standing at the back of the sleigh with a foot on each runner, by a pole having a sharp iron point, which he uses between his legs. In calm weather, and carrying four passengers, the sleigh can be poled along the ice at the rate of about ten miles an hour; and with a favorable, strong wind it can move along at the rate of fifteen miles an hour; but then, of course, it can only be poled against the wind slower, at about three or four miles an hour.

When the British army was at Tientsin, during the winter of 1860, there were many officers and men in the regiments who had been formerly stationed in North America, Canada, Nova Scotia, &c., where the Red Indians use a hand-sleigh for the conveyance of baggage, game, &c., &c., on sporting excursions, which they call a tabogau; and the name has thus been adopted in Tientsin. The Tientsin Chinese call a tabogau, Pai-tsze 擺子 and the Pekingese, To-chueang 脫床 or 冰床 Pingchwang. These sleighs have two runners, about eight feet long, six inches deep, and a couple of inches thick; and the bottom parts are shod with iron; the runners are about two feet separate, and are held apart by two wood cross binders. A thick millet stalk matting is placed on the upper part of this frame, on which the passengers sit and the goods are placed. The men who pole the tabogaus, when not at work, wear a loose long fur coat; but when poling, this coat is placed on the tobagau, and the passengers use it as a cushion on which to sit. The implement used for poling is made of wood, has a sharp iron point, and is about seven feet long. The day

before yesterday, about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, I stood on the verandah looking on the river; and during five minutes by my watch, 55 tabogaus passed my house up and down the river. This was at the rate of 660 in an hour. If we reckon that during 10 hours this rate of traffic goes on, we have during that period 6,600 tabogaus passing the British Settlement up and down the river. If we calculate that during four other hours, namely two in the morning and two in the evening (from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m., and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.), half the above number pass the Settlement to and from the city, we have to add 1320 more tabogaus to the above number, making 7,920. We may set down for the remaining 10 hours of the 24, that 20 tabogaus pass up and down the river hourly before the Settlement, making an additional number of 200 to be placed to the above total. Thus we have a grand total for the twenty-four hours of 8,120 tabogaus passing up and down the river off the British Settlement. By the other branches of the river, above Tientsin, coming from the North, West, and South, we may put down a traffic of double that existing on the river before us. We shall consequently have something like 24,000 tabogaus passing to and from the city of Tientsin, from and to the surrounding region, during the twenty-four hours of each day in winter (weather permitting, of course), engaged in carrying supplies of food for the inhabitants of Tientsin, and the animals in it, and in transporting produce, manufactures and passengers, to and from the city. The millet stalks, which are used by the inhabitants of Tientsin for cooking purposes, and for heating their sleeping and sitting stoves, appear to be always transported to the city from the surrounding districts on long carts, which are dragged by horses, mules, or oxen; arising mainly I fancy from the stalks being too long and bulky to be conveniently conveyed on the tabogaus. Every day we see a number of long carts passing the Settlement on the Taku road, loaded with millet stalks going up to the city.

Since writing the above, I am now told by natives that the daily tabogau traffic on the upper river branches, including the canal branch which comes to the city from the interior, considerably exceeds the traffic on the river branch off this Settlement. This, on reflection, I can readily credit. Thus then my computation, as above given, is rather below than above the actual state of things.

Owing to a lack of any interesting political news to write to you about by to-day's Customs' post from this quarter, I have taken the liberty to jot down the above brief account regarding our tabogau traffic; and I trust your readers, who have never witnessed such a traffic, may deem my short account worth reading.

The ice harvest still continues going on; last night, opposite this Settlement on the river, Chinese were at work all night gathering in and housing ice. We ought, during all next summer, to have plenty of ice of good quality, and at a moderate price.

On the 30th ultimo, another paper hunt came off; but this time on the opposite side of the river. I understand that the field was again large, and that the sport was excellent. Mr. Random came in first on this occasion.

Since the departure of last week's Customs' mail, we have had two Northerly dust storms—one on the 28th ultimo, commencing at 1 a.m., and continuing till dark; and the other all yesterday. The weather otherwise has been really delightful. Last night's temperature caused the Fahrenheit thermometer to fall to 10°. The river ice this morning was 14½ in. thick.

On the 4th instant, according to the Chinese reckoning, Spring begins. The Chinese weather-wise folks are of opinion that the river from Taku to this will be free of ice by the 1st March, and quite free for steamer navigation after that time.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 29th January has just come to hand. From it we learn that His Excellency Li Hung-chang had arrived at Peking, and that on that day he had had an audience of the Throne to present his respects; that Ying Han, the newly-appointed Governor-General of the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangse, had requested an audience to receive the commands of the Throne on leaving for his post at Canton; that Li Hung-chang and Ying Han had later been asked to appear at the Council Room of the Cabinet on special business; that Ching Lin (formerly Customs' Taoutai at the port of Newchwang) had been promoted to be Vice-President of the Board of Works; and that Tih Chun (formerly Superintendent of the Imperial Arsenal at Tientsin) had been promoted to be Vice-President of the Colonial Office, *vice* Ching Lin, promoted as above.

PURITAN.

February 1st, 1875.

AMOY.

The Chinese at Amoy either had not the news, or showed less respect to the memory of the Emperor than their countrymen in Shanghai. A correspondent of the *China Mail* says:—"The New Year festivities are taking place with their usual accompaniment of fire-crackers and noises of all kinds. The Chinese war vessels in port were decorated with flags on New Year's day, and Europeans largely availed themselves of the holiday to indulge in picnics and excursions up country."—The Amateur Dramatic Corps gave a successful performance on the 6th inst. A concert is to take place shortly in aid of the funds for building a Sailors' Home. Another theatrical performance is promised by the German community, so that we may fairly presume that the Amoy Season has commenced.

FOOCHOW.

A very destructive fire broke out on the night of the 1st instant in the south-west suburb of the city, near the bridge. It was discovered between 10 and 11 o'clock, and spread with such rapidity that before 3 a.m. more than 400 houses were destroyed. At one time it was feared that the hongs recently occupied by Messrs. Ivanoff & Co. and Ruttonjee & Co. would become a prey to the flames, in which case the premises of Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons & Co., and Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. would have been seriously jeopardized; fortunately the fire was arrested at about 3 a.m. without having caused any injury to foreign property.—Rather a good story is told of a house-boy in the Settlement, who having the spirit of commercial adventure in him started a lottery, and advertised the same by a notice over the gateway of his master's private residence.—A meeting of the Foochow Club was held on the 29th Jan. It had gone on prosperously during the year, the library had been considerably enlarged, and a new bar-room and lavatories erected. Arrangements have been made with the Shanghai and Hongkong Clubs for reciprocating privileges to members of the three Clubs. Messrs. Tatham, Dermer, Haslam, Pim, Fairhurst, Masfen and Harton were elected to the Committee for the ensuing year.—H. M. S. *Kestrel* arrived from Tamsui on the 9th instant.—The *Herald* hears that H. B. M.'s Consul, Mr. Sinclair, is about to leave for Europe, and that he will be succeeded by Mr. Pedder—the present representative of British interests at Amoy.—It is reported that the Chinese authorities have ordered a survey of the river below Pagoda Island, with a view to selecting a suitable site for the construction of a Dry Dock. The floating dock at the Arsenal does not fully meet existing requirements, nor is the channel leading to it so deep as it was formerly.—Rumours very similar to those which were current in Shanghai during our interval of no news from Peking, were current also in Foochow.—The *Herald* says, a mob have pulled down several houses belonging to the Great Northern Telegraph Company:

"The object of attack was a watch-house belonging to the Great Northern Telegraph Company, built on ground purchased by them in conformity, not only with the terms of the concession granted to them, but also with a special clause in the Danish treaty. Three of these houses were built on ground purchased by the Company—at intervals of 10 miles. All these houses contained property belonging to the Company; they were looted, the European and Native *employés* driven therefrom; and finally the buildings were demolished. The portion of the line already constructed was pulled down, and the wire, poles &c., stolen by the mob, who declared, we are informed, that the Authorities had given permission to them to take whatever they could lay hands on. Fortunately there was no loss of life on either side, but this is entirely owing, we think, to the praiseworthy forbearance displayed by the Europeans—all of whom were well armed."

Forbearance is no doubt praiseworthy within certain limits; but a point may be reached when resistance is justifiable, and we should think that point was nearly reached in the case of the Telegraph Company at Foochow. A judicious application of Penang lawyers would go a long way to convince the mob that their action was mistaken. We always think, in such cases, of Lord Palmerston's memorable letters to Sir John Davis about the Canton riots: "The true way to encourage the mob to acts of violence is to leave unprotected the persons and the property that might be the objects of their violence." And again, "There is no greater incentive to outrage on the part of the turbulent and lawless, than a belief that the persons whom they would like to insult or plunder may be assailed with success and plundered with impunity." The maxim is equally true whether the mob be acting of its own accord or at official instigation.

The Market Report of the 12th February says, no transactions in tea had been reported during the week. The s. s. *Priam* arrived on the 7th instant, and left on the (12th) for London, *viâ* Hongkong, &c. The *Wm. Turner* sailed for Melbourne on the 7th; and the *Golden State* was to take her departure for New York on the 13th.

HONGKONG.

Hongkong papers are full of reports of the various public companies. A meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company was held on the 15th. The report (published on another page) was passed. The business of the Company was stated to be in every way satisfactory. Remuneration to Directors, $1,000 each, was passed. Messrs. A. F. H. Heard, Lapraik and André were elected to the Consulting Committee. The Committee were recommended to give a bonus to Mr. Chambers, for his services as Secretary.

The Report of the Victoria Fire Insurance Co. shows that $76,562 remained at credit of 1873 Working Account, which has been distributed according to the Deed of Settlement. The Reserve Fund stands at $179,821, exclusive of the Working account of 1874.—$50,278 stand at credit of Working account for 1874, after making all requisite provision for losses, interest, charges, &c.

The Report of the China Fire Insurance Co. shows a net profit in 1873 of $81,269. The Reserve Fund stands at $248,614.

The balance at credit of working account for 1874 is $69,870.

The Report of the China Traders' Insurance Co. shows that the total premia collected during the year ended 31st October last amounted to $347,381. The mode in which this sum will be apportioned is explained in the Report.

The Hongkong Bank Report gives details of the losses which have nearly extinguished the Reserve Fund. The Sugar Company of course stands prominent. We are told that this Company's estate now stands in the Bank's books at half the value the Bank's Special Agent has placed upon it. The Directors purpose to realize the property with all despatch, and steps have been already taken to that end.—Losses in London, losses on the Pier Company property, depreciation of securities, &c., help out the total. Mr. Vacher, the London manager, has left the Company's service. A Committee of management is to be appointed in London. The poor result of the half-year's working is attributed to the bad state of trade in the East; business generally has yielded but little profit, and that in Exchange has proved no exception. The demand for advances has been small and the interest obtainable on them consequently low, while the interest paid by the Bank on deposits has been heavy. The Directors affirm however that the general business and position of the Bank continue sound.

A horticultural show is to be held on the 19th and 20th instant.—The P. M. str. *Great Republic* is to be docked and re-coppered. She has experienced so rough weather on the voyage over, that her copper is torn off in places.—The U. S. frigate *Hartford* arrived on the 14th, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral A. M. Pennock. She saluted the different vessels in port and was saluted in return.—In the *Ava* and *Rona* case it has been agreed that the report should go back to the Registrar and merchants to be reconsidered, and that each party with the approval of the other appoint an additional assessor. The Hon. Mr. Lowcock was named for the *Ava*. The agents of the *Rona* asked time to select theirs.—The fund for the widows and orphans of those who lost their lives on board the *Mongol*, reached over $2,000.—Admiral Shadwell left Singapore for England on the 4th inst., in the *Iron Duke*.

The *Daily Press* learns that it is intended before long to establish a line of steamers to run between Saigon and Tonquin.—The assault on Mr. Hill is made the text for a rather exaggerated picture of affairs at Shanghai. The *Press* assures us that, if foreigners do not carry arms, or the authorities are not compelled to restrain their subjects, or "something" is not done, "unprotected foot passengers" will have to expect continual grief. Hongkong, on the other hand, is remarkably free from such assaults. "The large and efficient Police Force maintained in the Colony renders the perpetration of such offences a very hazardous job, and hence Europeans go about freely without the slightest fear of insult or danger." But we invite perusal of the whole article, which will be found in another column; premising only that we have heard the Hongkong Police less favourably described. It is pleasant to note such a complete revulsion of feeling.—A yacht race for the Wave Cup was won by the *Naiad*, which seems to farm these events; it must be getting almost monotonous. The *China Mail* concludes its account of the race with a graceful tribute to the memory of Mr. G. F. Heard, the late Commodore of the Club. "Always ready to join in promoting the sport of yachting and yacht racing, his hearty geniality and good fellowship were unbounded, and by no section of the community will his loss be more deeply regretted than by yachting men. We understand that the yachts belonging to the Club will fly their ensigns at half-mast to-morrow, as a slight token of the respect in which he was held by their owners and his many friends interested in yachting."

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* reports rough weather lately on the coast, north-westerly gales and some squalls. Even in the Inland Sea three junks and eight persons were lost. The *Adventure* arrived from Hongkong on the 6th, and left on the 9th for Yokohama; she experienced a heavy gale the day before arrival.—The apprehension which we noted last week, that the small-pox would travel westward, is being verified. It appears to have broken out in Hiroshima, and one or two cases are reported in Nagasaki.—The *H. C. Oersted* arrived from the coast of Corea on the 11th, after picking up the broken cable between Nagasaki and Vladivostock. She experienced heavy north-westerly gales, icebergs, and snow.—H. M. S. *Curlew* arrived from Chefoo the same day.—The Municipal elections have become slightly entangled, through the rejection by the Consuls of all ballot papers which were not signed by the voters. The Consuls have acted on the principle which rules in Shanghai, but appear to have made the mistake of not explaining their intention beforehand. Of course the gentlemen declared elected under such conditions have declined to serve, and the process has to be repeated.—The Captain of the *Condor* lately went out shooting with one or two other gentlemen, and while practising with pistols received a shot in the fleshy part of the thigh. The wound is not dangerous, but still sufficient to prevent him from taking command of the vessel, which left for Shanghai on the 8th instant.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* announces that Her Majesty the Empress, having been informed that an institution was to be established in Yedo for intructing young women as teachers, expressed her deep sense of the importance of improving the education of the women of this country, and gave further effect to her words by a munificent donation of 5,000 *yen* to the institution.—Major Murater, a well-known native marksman, has been detached on special service to visit France and Prussia, to make himself familiar with the rifle drill of those countries.—Mr. Ernest Satow, Japanese Secretary to H. B. M. Legation, has gone to England on a year's leave, partly on private affairs, partly with the view of publishing a work which promises, says the *Mail*, to be of vast utility to students of the Japanese language.—Destructive fires have recently occurred in the neighbourhood of Yokohama, Osaka, Yedo, &c., in one of which several thousand houses were destroyed.—Two successful amateur dramatic performances have been recently given in Yokohama, the pieces played being the Falstaff scenes from *Henry IV.*, and the farce *Little Toddlekins*.—Moriyama, Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who is to be despatched on a mission to Corea, took leave of His Majesty the Mikado on the 2nd instant, and was presented with a gold watch by the Emperor.—Mr. Von Brandt having been appointed to Peking, the members of the German Asiatic Society gave him a farewell banquet at Bonnat's Hotel, on Saturday evening, the 6th instant.—The return football match between the Fire Brigades and the Settlement, on the 28th ultimo, was won by the former.—The *Tokei Journal* says the Imperial Gardens, both at Hamago-ten and the Castle, have been opened to the public, under certain restrictions.—The same paper states that Prince Fushimi, the younger, has passed an excellent examination in French and Chinese, and has entered the army as *sous-lieutenant*.—The *Gazette* says, on the 2nd inst. some thieves broke into a house near Yokohama, and one of the inmates, an old man, took up a spear to oppose them. One of them attacked him, and cut off his head with a sword. The murderer has been apprehended.—According to the Tokio native papers, small-pox continues to rage with unmitigated virulence in the Capital, and the mortality in some *Dai-ku* equals seventh-tenths of the whole population.—A farmer, while lodging at an hotel in Tokio, during a visit to that town, found all his money had been stolen, and thereupon committed *harikaru*. He died before assistance could be procured.—The action brought by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation against Mr. E. Wallace, to recover $8,700, balance of account, was resumed in H.B.M. Bankruptcy Court, on the 2nd and 5th instant, by adjournment from a hearing in January. The case was further adjourned.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Jan. 23rd.—(Court Circular.)—The Grand Secretariat presented their Memorial with decision as to the posthumous appellation and canonical designation of His late Majesty.

(1)—The Governor-General of Fuhkien and Chêhkiang, in a postscript memorial, refers to a report by the Imperial Commissioner, Shên Pao-chêng, on the loss of two steam gunboats in the gales of September last off the coast of Formosa; and gives an account of destructive storms and floods on the coast of Fuhkien, in which much damage was done at the same time to life and property.

(2)—The same authority reports the arrival at Foochow of the Liu-ch'iuan junk which was reported (see *Gazette* of Oct. 24th, 1874) as having been drifted, with ten men on board, to the coast of Chêhkiang. After having been repaired at Yü Hwan T'ing, the junk was sent on to Foochow, where she arrived, after an eleven days' voyage, on the 10th Sept., and she was in due course to be allowed to return with those on board to Liu-ch'iu.

Jan. 24th.—(1) A Decree of the two Empresses, in reply to a memorial from the Board of Ceremonies, dispensing with the customary levée of congratulation on the coming New Year's Day.

(2) A Decree in the name of the Emperor, referring to the decree issued last month, in which the bestowal of additional titles of honour on the two Empresses was ordained. His Majesty considers it his duty to fulfil the intentions of his predecessor, although the two Empresses, in their grief on His late Majesty's decease, had issued orders countermanding the step; and he now decrees that the selection of appropriate additional titles be proceeded with, as the great Council of State may find to be most proper.

(3) Memorial of the Prince of Li and his colleagues, entreating His Majesty to reconsider his determination with reference to the three years of mourning.—Rescript already published.

(4) The Censor Yü Shang-hwa memorializes representing that the penalty inflicted on the two Imperial physicians has been disproportionately slight, and asking for their immediate degradation. Rewarded as they already were beyond their deserts, they should have strained every nerve in devotion to their task, instead of which, in less than twenty days afterwards, owing to their mistaken treatment, His Majesty was suddenly removed to another world. Universal indignation is felt against the two physicians, whose offence is likened to that of the Prince of Hü, branded for his misdeed by Confucius in the Spring

and Autumn Chronicles. (The Chronicle records that "She, heir-son of Heu, murdered his ruler, Mae,"—Legge's Classics, Vol. V., P. 674. The commentators explain that the act entitled murder, in reprobation of its gravity, consisted in failure to taste the remedies supplied to his father by the offending prince, before he gave them to the sufferer). In their erroneous diagnosis and ineffectual prescription of remedies, the offence of the two physicians has been more heinous even than that of failure to taste a mixture supplied, and complete degradation from official rank is called for as the only fitting punishment.—Rescript confirming this proposed sentence has already appeared.

(5) The Military Governor of Shêng-king (Manchuria) memorializes with reference to certain exchanges which he deems advisable between the commandants of different districts within his jurisdiction. Although the region is at present comparatively free from the brigandage which has until lately afflicted it, a recurrence of the evil is nevertheless to be apprehended should the garrison posts be withdrawn; and this liability to disturbance is traceable to the unsuitability of officials to the posts they have to fill. The commandantship at Fêng-hwang Ch'êng is particularly important, owing to its proximity to the Corean frontier, and the frequent occurrence of international transactions. On each occasion when Corean officials enter Chinese territory, it is the commandant's duty to institute examination in person, and maintain order; and he has likewise to supervise the squatters on the waste lands beyond the border. An exchange between the present commandant, and a more active and energetic officer, at present stationed at Fuh-chow, is thought advisable. At Kai-chow, again, this city having under its jurisdiction the port of Muh-kow Ying (Newchwang), with its foreign trade, an officer of superior intelligence is required, and an exchange is to be effected here, as well as at two other points.

Jan. 25th—(Court Circular.)—The Grand Secretariat memorialized reporting the decision arrived at with regard to the rules for the conduct of the Regency.

(1) The Governor of Honan reports the completion of measures he has instituted for encouraging the formation of village granaries in his province, as a provision against times of scarcity; his object being to make the system entirely unofficial, so that the country people may not be pillaged by dishonest underlings or harassed by the empty form of handing in elaborate returns. The contributions collected during the past two years have enabled a stock of grain to be assembled in the different districts, amounting at present to 930,000 piculs. In the event of bad harvests, advances or sales will be made under the management of the local notables and elders.

(2).—The same Governor reports the establishment of a system of distribution and pay for the corps of specially drilled troops lately set on foot for the preservation of order in the province. The force consists of four battalions, of 500 men each, of infantry; and three battalions, of 250 men each, of cavalry; who have been selected from the established force of the province to constitute this special drilled corps. The greatest care is exercised to maintain their efficiency and the good condition of the horses. The rules adopted with regard to service and pay are essentially the same with those drawn up by Tsêng Kwoh-fan while Governor-General of Chihli.

(*N. B.*—From the 26th January to the 24th February, being the period of the New Year's holidays, the *Gazette* will only appear every other day)

Jan. 26th 27th (1).—A Decree, approving the selection made by the assembled Ministers of State, of the posthumous titles to be attributed to the deceased Emperor. The canonization 尊謚 adopted is I Hwang-ti,毅皇帝, and the title to be enrolled in the list for worship in the ancestral temple is Muh Tsung 穆宗. (The above titles may be rendered as Noble Resolve and Moral Grandeur).

(2) A Decree of the two Empresses, calling, in conformity with precedent, for advice in the shape of memorials from officials throughout the Empire on the occasion of His Majesty's accession. In representing whatever may have a practical bearing upon the conduct of affairs, all idle forms of words are to be discarded. An example will be set in the Palace of the regard for simplicity and economy which the Sovereign has constantly inculcated. For the future, it shall be forbidden to make offerings of articles of luxury and elegance, and of objects ministering only to the delight of the eye or ear. In all apparel and other surroundings, simplicity will be the first consideration. The official class is called upon to respond to these intentions, and thus to contribute to a reform of morals and to the predominance of the highest form of order. Officials generally are farther reminded of the exhortations repeatedly addressed to them of late years, urging genuine earnestness of action, which nevertheless have remained unheeded. They are now again besought to rouse themselves into activity, and to aim vigorously at the worthy discharge of their duty.

(3).—A Decree of the two Empresses, conferring the honorary title of Kia Shun 嘉順 on the Empress-consort of his Majesty now deceased, and the honorary title of Tun-I 敦宜 on the chief of his Majesty's subsidiary consorts (lately raised to the rank of Hwang Kwei Fei), in recognition of the devotion they manifested toward their Imperial lord.

(4).—A further Decree of the two Empresses, appealing to the high provincial authorities, who have enjoyed to so great an extent the favours of the State, that, in these present troublous times, they should exert themselves in all loyal devotion to discharge their duty to the uttermost.

(5).—Li Hung-tsao and his colleagues Sü T'ung, Ung T'ung-sheh, and Kwang-show, are relieved by decree, at their own request, of their duties in connexion with the Hung-têh Tien (the late Emperor's study).

(6).— A Decree appointing Chih-kang (one of the two Burlingame "co-Envoys") to the post of Resident at Urga.

(7).—Yih-jung, Military Governor of the province of Kirin, memorializes reporting the complete extirpation of the bands of rebellious gold-hunters who have lately troubled the region of Ninguta and Sansing, between the rivers Usuri and Sungari. Having already heretofore reported the measures taken in quelling the disturbances at Ninguta (memorial not published), he had been instructed by a Decree to despatch the Brigadier-General Shêng-an in person, at the head of a military force, to attack the insurgents in their mountain retreats; and in pursuance of these commands, military measures were forthwith instituted. The Brigadier-General Shêng-an has now reported, in different despatches, the various expeditions he has undertaken, resulting in the capture and execution of numbers of the refractory miners. On the 11th October, having ascertained that upwards of 100 of the gold-hunters were assembled in a valley of the Wu-hri-t'a-pan range, he proceeded to the spot, where his force was met with an attack on the part of the insurgents. The troops replied vigorously, and upwards of 50 of the enemy were slain, the remainder taking to flight. They were pursued, and many of them killed, three prisoners being taken alive, one of whom confessed that he and another of the band, named Wang Loh-wu, had been the ringleaders. The prisoners were forthwith executed on the spot. The troops having resumed their advance without delay, intelligence was brought in by the scouts that 300 or 400 of the gold-hunters were assembled in the T'ai-p'ing and Hwa-p'i valleys, and measures were at once concerted for an attack in separate divisions on these localities. On the troops advancing to the scene of action, they were encountered by 80 or 90 of the insurgents drawn up in array to resist attack, but the fire which was opened upon them inflicted a loss of upwards of 40 of their number, whilst at the same time upwards of 20 were killed or taken and beheaded in another direction. A third division of the troops killed between 30 and 40 more, and on searching the valleys upwards of 100 who had sought safety in hiding were discovered and slaughtered. On the following day upwards of 50 more were killed in an engagement, and after this had taken place another band, 200 to 300 strong, was discovered and attacked. The result of an engagement which lasted for two hours was the slaughter of upwards of 200 of the insurgents, and the remnans of them, having taken to flight, were pursued for 40 or 50 *li*, many being either taken and put to death or drowned in the rivers. The loss to the troops was only one man wounded. The result of the next day's work was the capture of some 40 odd prisoners, from whom it was ascertained that the leader, Wang Loh-wu, had perished in the previous fighting. In consequence of these victories, the entire region has been cleared of the bands by which it was infested. Commenting upon the reports received, the Military Governor refers to the disturbance caused in the region in question by the gold-hunters, whom, in despite of instructions, the local commanders had failed to exert themselves to put down; and he adds that when, on a recent occasion, the town of Ninguta was captured, bands of malefactors immediately issued from the mountains to commit depredations. Although Ninguta was subsequently recovered, and the disturbers of the peace driven back to the mountains, local authorities shewed themselves incapable of following them up to their retreats. This task has now been performed, and, in order to secure the maintenance of order in the country lying eastward of Ninguta and Sansing, a force will be detailed to occupy the region and to maintain regular patrols. A list of officers who have distinguished themselves in the late actions is submitted for the bestowal of rewards.

Jan. 28th, 29th.—(Court Circular). The Grand Secretary Li paid his respects on arrival at Peking.—Ying-han, Governor General of the two Kwang, presented himself for instructions.—Fêng-siu 鳳秀 returned thanks for the title of honour conferred upon (his daughter) the Hwang Kwei Fei (see yesterday's *Gazette*). His Majesty will proceed to-morrow to the Kwan Teh Tien (the temporary resting place in the Imperial Park to which the remains of the late Emperor were conveyed on the 28th inst), to perform a religious ceremony. Let preparations be made at 7 a.m.

(1) A Decree. Let Ch'êng-lin 成林 be transferred to the post of Vice-president of the Board of Works; and let his place as Vice-president of the Colonial office be filled by Téh-ch'un. (N. B. Ch'êng-lin is one of the members of the Yamên of Foreign Affairs, and assistant Captain-General of the Gendarmerie).

(2) A Decree expressing the Imperial regrets on the death of Ming-shan, a Vice-president of the Board of Works and Comptroller of the Household.

(3) The Court of Censorate forwards an appeal presented by Lo Lin-chêng, a licensed salt merchant from the Lin-hai district in Chêhkiang, complaining of robbery, oppression, and denial of justice. The petitioner states that in 1864, in conformity with the official regulations, he purchased for Taels 1,400 a license appointing him monopolist of the salt supply to the two districts of T'en-t'ai and Ning-hai, in which, according to law, an annual issue of 800 *yin* and 1,016 *yin* respectively should be consumed (the *yin* in Chêhkiang contains 335 to 400 catties), although, owing to the neglect with which the operations of contraband dealers had long been allowed to flourish, the area of consumption had for years been abandoned to disorder. The monopolist, having establish his central and branch agencies at different points, has carried on his business for the last ten years on good terms with the salt-producers, and has paid to Government 200,000 strings of cash during that time by way of duty and *likin*. In 1873, however, a plot was organized against him by a certain professional stirrer-up of litigation, in concert with a villanous clerk of the district magistracy, who, with the design of getting the salt business out of his hands, instigated three contraband dealers to lodge a complaint against him, stating that he used false weights and owed them money. On the case being brought to trial, the late Magistrate, named Sun, verified the scales and found them correct, and it was moreover established that salt was paid for as delivered to petitioner, who was not in debt as stated. The complainants were punished for bringing a false charge, and the case was dismissed. In revenge for their defeat, the conspirators organized an attack upon petitioner's establishment, after previous acts of forcible interference with his trade, which, on being complained of to the Prefects of T'ai-chow Fu, had been allowed to remain unnoticed. On the 19th September last, the ringleaders of the plot, having got together a band numbering upwards of a thousand armed men, attacked and plundered the central agency, where they killed nine soldiers belonging to the local regulars and militia, and wounded some 20 or 30 more of their number. On the following day they attacked and plundered the branch agency at Hüan-chu. On complaints being lodged with the Prefect and District Magistrate, no steps whatever were taken to arrest the offenders, and the relatives of the soldiers who were killed were allowed to persecute the petitioner at his dwelling, clamouring for compensation to such an extent that he was compelled to pay them 820 strings of cash as indemnity for the loss of life, beside 2,800 strings as compensation to the men who were wounded, for their medical expenses, &c. Not only did the authorities pay no attention to petitioner's complaints, but they winked at the subsequent forcible seizure of his hongs by a party of braves, headed by an official acting in collusion with the hostile faction. The monopolist and his employés were driven forth empty-handed, entire possession of everything being taken by the invaders. The Prefect of T'ai-chow Fu has done all he could to screen the offender, and instead of taking steps to apprehend the really guilty parties he has sought to stifle the affair by simply applying for permission to execute summarily six prisoners, who, although not concerned in the case, have been purchased as substitutes. When, on petitioner's appeal to the Governor of Chêhkiang, a delegate was sent to investigate matters in concert with the Prefect, in lieu of having the case brought up to the provincial capital for trial, the *wei-yüan*, following the rule of "one mandarin stands by another," simply gave his adhesion to the Prefect's report of the proceedings. Petitioner has consequently no resource but to bring his complaint to Peking.—Referred by rescript for further investigation by the provincial authorities, in the usual manner.

Public Meetings.

MEETING OF TREATY CONSULS.

MINUTES of a Meeting of Consuls held at Shanghai, on the 12th day of February, 1875.

Present:—The Consular representatives of Austro-Hungary, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States.

Letters from the Consuls-General of France and Japan, stating their inability to attend the meeting, were placed before the meeting.

The following correspondence was laid upon the table.

A letter from Mr. Medhurst, reporting his action in regard to the interference of Tepaous, etc., with the Contractors of the Municipal Council, while engaged upon Municipal work, and enclosing the Che-Hsien's proclamation against such interference.

A correspondence between Mr. Seward and the Taotai in regard to Bye-Law XXXIV, and the Slaughter House proposal.

A correspondence between Mr. Medhurst and the Taotai in regard to the interchange of presents at New-Years.

A letter from ten members of the Pilotage service, asking that the number of pilots for the Port be reduced to twenty-five.

A letter from Mr. Medhurst, covering one from Admiral Shadwell, reporting an agreement between Admirals commanding on this station, to discontinue the firing of salutes in the river at Shanghai.

A letter from the Mixed Court Magistrate, transmitting the Petition of the Councillors of a benevolent institution, that they be allowed to collect a contribution of one *cash* for each cup of tea taken in the various tea shops within and without the Settlements.

A correspondence with the Municipal Council in regard to the above communication, in which the Council take an adverse view of the proposal.

A letter from the Taotai, transmitting the petition of the Councillors of the Koo Yok-tang, reporting a case in which lives have been lost by the striking of a native boat against the boom of a man-of-war at night, and by the striking of a boat against a buoy at night, and asking that the commanders of vessels of war, and the owners of buoys, be required to put lights out upon these dangers.

A letter from the Harbour Master, recommending an amendment of the Harbour Regulations, to provide for the danger occurring by reason of the presence of kerosene oil and sulphuric acid upon vessels in harbour, and for fire signals for such vessels.

A letter from the Chehsien and the Mixed Court Magistrate, stating the observances required on account of the death of the Emperor of China.

A letter from the Taotai, conveying his thanks to the Consuls and Commanders of vessels of war, for their recognition of the death of the Emperor, as shown by the half-masting of their flags.

A letter from the Municipal Council, setting forth the inadequacy of the system of punishments at the Mixed Court, and the lack of power in the Court.

The letter of the Pilots was left for discussion with the Harbour Master, at a future meeting.

The Senior Consul was asked to respond to the Magistrate of the Mixed Court in regard to the petition forwarded by him, in the sense of the answer by the Council.

The Senior Consul was also asked to place the Taotai's letter forwarding the Petition of the Koo Yok Tang before the Harbour Master, with a request to be informed whether it is not desirable that vessels of war should swing in their booms at night, and whether they may not be required to do so by a Harbour Regulation, and whether it is usual elsewhere, and practicable here, to secure the lighting of buoys.

The Senior Consul was also asked to write to the Harbour Master in reference to the proposed amendment of the Harbour Regulations, inquiring whether it is desirable to include sulphuric acid in the list of articles the presence of which should be considered a sufficient danger to require the vessel bearing it to anchor below the shipping, and whether it would not be well to specify what is meant by "explosive or inflammable material," and expressing with this exception a general approval of the rules proposed by him.

The questions raised by the Council in regard to punishments at the Mixed Court, and the powers of the Court, were referred to Messrs. Davenport, Haas, and Yates for a report.

The Senior Consul was asked to request the Consuls to send in to him, in sealed envelopes, nominations for the Court of Consuls for the year 1875.

JOSEPH HAAS,
Acting Consul for Austria.

E. MOREL,
Consul for Belgium.

W. KESWICK,
Acting Consul for Denmark.

E. GODEAUX,
Consul-Général for France.

W. H. MEDHURST,
Consul for Great Britain.

W. ANNECKE,
Consul for Germany.

L. VIGNALE,
Consul-General for Italy.

E. SHINAGAWA,
Consul for Japan.

F. E. HEYDEN,
Consul for Netherlands.

A. H. DE CARVALHO,
Consul in charge for Portugal.

J. E. REDING,
Vice-Consul for Russia.

A. DE GARAY,
Consul for Spain.

J. D. THORBURN,
Consul-General for Sweden & Norway.

GEORGE F. SEWARD,
Consul-General for United States.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING OF 15TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. John G. Purdon (Chairman), A. G. Wood, Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, Robt. Mackenzie, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The Cash State for the week ending 13th February was laid on the table for inspection.

Appropriations were voted as under:—

Widening west side Szechuen Road, between Hankow and Foochow Road, compensation to Trustees of Mrs. R. R. Westall, for portion measuring 365 square feet, of lot 816, T. D., 809, surrendered to the public, ... Tls. 500

Honan Road Bridge—Yangking-pang Creek, half cost of iron bridge, laid down in Shanghai.....Tls. 1,215.06

Wheelbarrow Fees.—Letter read from French Municipal Council, wishing to know before making up their Budget for the ensuing Municipal year if the Council on North side of the Yang-king-pang were disposed to reconsider their decision as to the division of Wheelbarrow fees.

The Council decided to reply that they must adhere to their existing arrangement, and would shortly address them as to Jinrik-sha Licenses and fees derived therefrom.

Tunsin property.—Agreement for purchase and sale of Tunsin property, duly completed, was laid on the table.

French Municipal Council.—The Secretary was directed to publish the following correspondence which has recently passed with the French Council :—

Shanghaï, le 9 Novembre, 1874.

Monsieur,—Ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous en informer par ma lettre du 1er Octobre, le pont en fer destiné à remplacer le pont No. 4 est arrivé par l'*Iraouaddy*.

L'Agent Voyer, qui depuis a examiné les dispositions à prendre pour le montage de ce pont, vient d'exprimer l'opinion, qu'en raison du poids qui doit peser sur les culées, celle du côté Nord du Yang-King-Pang ne présente pas les garanties de solidité nécessaire, et doit être reconstruite sur des bases plus fermes, tout aussi bien que celle du côté sud.

L'établissement de ces culées, devant même produire une augmentation sensible dans le prix qui avait été prévu en principe pour le montage, le Conseil me charge de vous remettre ci-inclus un nouveau devis des frais reconnus indispensables, en vous priant de bien voulour me faire connaître le résultat de l'examen dont il aura été l'objet de la part du Municipal Council.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

Le Secrétaire,

H. Sayn.

Monsieur E. B. Souper,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council.

[*Translation.*]

9th November, 1874.

Sir,—As I had the honor to inform you in my letter of 1st October, the Iron Bridge No. 4 has arrived by the *Iraouaddy*.

The Overseer who has since inspected the site expresses his opinion that the abutment on the North side of the Creek is not strong enough to support the Bridge, and should be reconstructed on a stronger foundation, as also the abutment on the South side.

The making of these abutments will entail a marked increase in the cost which had been estimated at first; the Council direct me therefore to hand you an amended estimate of the expenses which they consider absolutely necessary, and beg to be informed of the decision of your Council.

27th November, 1874.

Bridge No. 4—Yang-king-pang.

Sir,—Your letter of 9th instant, with enclosure has been laid before the Council and carefully considered.

The Council notice with regret that the weight of the Bridge will necessitate the strengthening of the abutment on this side of the creek, and therefore an additional outlay; they would call your attention to the suggestions made by them in their letter of 15th September 1873, and they are of opinion that had these been carried out, particularly with regard to a flooring of corrugated iron plate, there would have been no need to alter the abutment.

In the Bridge ordered by your Council, the roadway is to be on arches of bricks, thus materially increasing the weight beyond what it could have been, had an iron flooring been substituted, or the original intention of a wooden one been adhered to (which were the only two plans this Council had any knowledge of); but in the opinion of the Municipal Engineer even this extra weight, were it properly distributed, the abutment is sufficiently strong to bear.

Under these circumstances the Council believe that you must agree with them that they cannot be fairly called upon to bear an extra expense for which they were not prepared, and which would not have been necessary had their suggestions, or the original plan to which they gave their assent, been carried out.

In this connexion the Council would remark that as the length of the Bridge is considerably more than the distance from the abutment on this side to the line of bunding lately made on your side, they are led to hope that it is the intention of your Council to move back that Bund line. It will be in the recollection of your Board that the question of the Bund line referred to was under discussion in January last year, when it was agreed by the representatives at the meeting of the Consular Body that they should recommend their several Councils to submit the point at issue to two members of the Consular Body. This for some reason has been delayed, and it will afford the Council much satisfaction to learn that the matter will be settled by moving back your line at the time of erecting this Bridge, instead of having to proceed to arbitration.

(Sd.) Edward B. Souper,
Secretary.

H. Sayn, Esq.,
Secretary, French Municipal Council.

19th December, 1874.

Sir,—The Works Committee direct me to hand you plan and estimate received from the Fairbairn Engineering Company, Limited, for an iron bridge to cross the mouth of the Yang-king-pang Creek.

The Fairbairn Engineering Company have been most successful in the construction of Girder Bridges, and take a very high place in their profession at home. A most favourable opinion is entertained of them and of their plan by the professional gentleman who has been attending to the matter in England for the Council, and the Committee are therefore strongly in favor of employing them in this instance.

Of the two plans, the one now enclosed will be about £500 cheaper than that obtained by your Board. It is 40ft. wide, the roadway will be of iron flooring, the sidepaths of timber.

It is calculated to bear a weight of 130-lbs. per square foot. The gross weight of the bridge will be about 65 tons.

New granite abutments will have to be constructed in any case to support either bridge.

The Council estimate then that the cost of the bridge will be :—

Cost—delivered free on board ship at Liverpool	£ 1,160
Shipping Charges.—Liverpool to Shanghai, at 45s. per ton	146
Fee to be paid Engineer in England for inspecting the putting together of the bridge prior to Shipment, 5% on £1,160	58
	£ 1,364
say at 5s. 8d. per tael	Tls. 4,814
Constructions of abutments, say	3,300
Landing charges and erecting in Shanghai	200
	Tls. 8,314

On the bridge designed in Paris, the Engineer reports :—

From the cost in Paris say frs. 35,000	£ 1,368
Must be deducted 1/5 so as to reduce the width to 40 feet, the same as the other design	273
	£ 1,095
The bridge has not an iron floor, and is calculated to bear with safety only 82 lbs. per foot on the roadway, and 41 lbs. on the footpath, and in order to give it the same strength as the bridge by the Fairbairn Engineering Company, and to put an iron flooring, he considers 50 per cent would have to be added, say	547
	£ 1,642
Shipping charges, say	146
Fee to Engineer for inspection prior to shipment 5 per cent on £1642, say	82
	£ 1,870
Say @ 5s. 8d., say	Tls. 6,600
Cost of abutments and putting together in Shanghai &c. say	3,500
	Tls. 10,100

Of the two plans therefore the Council prefer that submitted by the Fairbairn Engineering Company, and will be glad to know if you are of the same mind, the expenses attended upon putting it up being borne equally by the two Municipalities as usual.

(Sd.) Edward B. Souper,
Secretary.

H. Sayn, Esq.,
Secretary, French Municipal Council.

P. S.—The plans enclosed in your letter of 23rd November are returned herewith.

Shanghaï, 23 Janvier, 1875.

Monsieur,—Répondant à votre lettre du 19 Décembre dernier, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil n'approuve pas le plan du pont en fer que la Fairbairn Engineering Company de Londres vous propose d'exécuter pour remplacer le pont No. 1.

Indépendamment de la largeur de 40 pieds qui ne parait pas suffisante pour les besoins du trafic, le Conseil trouve que la hauteur de 29 pouces donnée au tablier et le poids total du pont de 65 tonneaux, ne sont pas nécessaires et peuvent être modifiées de manière à donner plus de hauteur au passage des bateaux et à procurer une économie très sensible dans le prix de revient en donnant moins de poids au pont.

Le système de suspension par des solives massives au dessus du tablier n'a pas rencontré l'approbation du Conseil. Ces solives ainsi placées ont, non seulement l'inconvénient d'augmenter le poids, mais encore celui d'être d'un aspect disgracieux.

Un système de pont que le Conseil trouve en tous points préférable, et qu'il serait d'avis d'adopter, est représenté par un plan que lui a soumis l'Agent-voyer. Dans ce plan, la hauteur du tablier étant réduite à 24 pouces et le poids total du pont à 40 tonneaux, il résulterait de son adoption, les avantages d'une plus grande hauteur pour le passage des bateaux, et d'une diminution dans le prix de revient produite par l'économie de 25 tonneaux de matiére.

Pour vous édifier d'avantage, le Conseil m'a chargé de vous transmettre une copie de ce plan et de vous prier de bien vouloir prendre des renseignements en Angleterre, tant sur la possibilité d'exécution que sur la dépense qu'entrainerait la construction d'un pont de ce genre.

Par la même occasion le Conseil me charge de vous faire remarquer qu'en vous proposant l'adoption du plan qui lui parait le meilleur, l'Administration Française ne devant participer que pour un tiers dans la dépense, ne prétend en aucune façon s'ingérer dans l'éxécution des travaux à effectuer pour le pont No. 1.

Elle s'en tiendra, comme contrôle des intérêts qu'elle représente, à envoyer le plan en question en France, afin de se rendre compte des meilleures conditions d'éxécution.

Je vous retourne d'autre part le plan de la Fairbairn Engineering Company.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Le Secrétaire,

H. Sayn.

Monsieur E. B. Souper,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council.

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai 23rd January, 1875.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 19th December last, I have the honor to inform you that the Council do not approve the Fairbairn Engineering Company's plan of an iron bridge which you propose to replace bridge No. 1.

Independently of the width of 40 feet appearing to be insufficient for the requirements of traffic, the Council consider that the height of 29 inches given to the roadway and the total weight of the bridge, 65 tons, are not necessary, and might be modified so as to allow a greater height for the passage of boats and to effect a very considerable reduction in the cost by giving less weight to the bridge.

The plan of suspension by massive girders above the roadway does not meet with the approval of the Council.

These girders in such a position not only add inconveniently to the weight but they would be unsightly.

A style of bridge that the Council consider in all respects preferable and which it would wish to adopt, is represented in a plan which has been submitted to them by the Surveyor.

In this plan the height of the roadway is reduced to 24 inches and the total weight of the bridge to 40 tons.

The advantages resulting from its adoption would be a greater headway for the passage of boats and a saving in the cost by using 25 tons less material.

For your information the Council direct me to forward a copy of this plan, and to beg you to be good enough to obtain opinions in England, as to the feasibility of its execution and the expense which would be entailed in the construction of a bridge of this kind. At the same time the Council direct me to remark that in proposing the adoption of the plan which to them appears the best, the French Administration bearing only one-third of the expense do not claim to interfere in any way with the execution of the work for bridge No. 1.

They will confine themselves, in the interests they represent, to send the plan to France for the purpose of ascertaining the most favorable terms on which it can be manufactured.

I return the plan of the Fairbairn Engineering Company.

Sd. &c., &c.

15th February, 1875.

Bridge No. 1 Yang-king-pang.

SIR,—Your letter of 23rd ult. having been laid before the Board and carefully considered by the Public Works Committee to whom it was referred, I am directed to inform you of the decision arrived at.

They agree with you that a greater width than 40 feet is desirable, and that as great a headway as possible should be allowed. The plan enclosed in your letter under notice has therefore been submitted to the Engineer.

But before proceeding further in the matter, the Council wish it understood that the cost of whatever style of bridge may be ultimately decided upon, shall be borne equally by the two Municipalities.

(Sd.) EDWARD B. SOUPER.
Secretary.

The Secretary,
French Municipal Council.

Shanghaï, le 1er Février, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—Avant de répondre à votre lettre du 27 Novembre 1874 ayant trait au pont No. 4 sur le Yang-king-pang, je suis chargé de vous exprimer les regrets du Conseil pour le délai mis à cette réponse et de vous présenter quelques observations à ce sujet.

Dans le double but d'obvier aux lenteurs résultant de toute discussion par correspondance, et aussi de faciliter l'entente entre les deux Administrations, le Conseil avait proposé à la vôtre de faire régler par une délégation de deux membres de chacun des Conseils, les questions qui auraient amené une divergence d'opinion.

Cette proposition fut acceptée, mais le double but que se proposait le Conseil ne semble pas avoir été atteint, car non seulement votre Administration ne montre aucun empressement à entrer dans la voie de réglement par délégués, mais elle a par une mesure en dehors des usages, rendu impossible à l'avenir la réunion des délégués.

Il est à remarquer à l'appui de la première assertion que c'est toujours le Conseil Français, qui, dans les différents cas qui se sont présentés, a proposé de recourir à la délégation, et que tout dernièrement une réunion des délégués fixée et acceptée officiellement pour le 13 Janvier a été ajournée par suite d'une communication officieuse de votre Président, sans qu'un autre jour de réunion ait été fixée par lui. Il semble donc que le but d'une prompte expédition des affaires n'a par été atteint.

Quant à l'assertion relative à l'impossibilité d'une solution pratique par une discussion à l'amiable des différentes vues des deux Administrations, elle résulte de la publication intempestive d'une plainte d'empiètement, faite par ordre du Municipal Council, sans qu'elle ait été communiquée au préalable au Conseil Français, à qui le Municipal Council avait cependant déjà soumis le fond de la question. Le but de conciliation et de facilité de rapports parait donc aussi avoir été manqué. Aussi comme aucun avantage de temps ou de convenance ne semble devoir être gagné par la réunion de deux délégués de chaque Administration, le Conseil me charge de vous communiquer par écrit ses vues en réponse à votre lettre du 27 Novembre.

Le refus de participer aux dépenses de la construction des nouvelles culées que doivent supporter le pont en fer No. 4 Yang-king-pang, lui parait, en partie, justifié. En effet, afin de doter le public aussi promptement que possible d'un pont à une seule arche, dont l'utilité avait été reconnue, le Conseil, en présence d'une objection faite relativement à la dépense de reconstruction de la culée sud, a pris l'engagement d'en supporter à lui seul la dépense.

Quant à la culée du côté Nord, il est à remarquer que les suggestions que vous soumettiez dans vos lettres 15 Septembre et 3 Décembre 1873, devaient nécessairement augmenter le poids du pont. Le fait est indiscutable, et vous même prévoyiez dans votre lettre du 17 Octobre 1873, une augmentation de prix en raison de l'augmentation du poids. Or, ces *suggestions* ont été transmises au constructeur à Paris avec ordre de s'y conformer autant que *praticable* et autant que cela ne modifierait pas par trop le prix de revient. Elles ont été suivies en partie, et les modifications qui en sont résultées ont augmenté de 6,230 kilos, ou 57 %, le poids de la partie métallique par rapport au poids du plan original. Eussent elles été suivies dans leur entier, le Conseil ne fait pas doute qu'elles auraient entrainé une augmentation de poids de métal qui, quoique moins importante, il est vrai, que celle de la partie métallique et des briques du pont tel qu'il doit être, une fois mis en place, eût été assez considérable, néanmoins, pour nécessiter la reconstruction de culées plus fortes que celles actuellement existantes. Il ne parait donc que juste que le Conseil Français supporte en entier la dépense de construction de la culée sud, et par moitié seulement celle de la culée nord. D'ailleurs, cette dernière avance outre mesure dans le lit du cours d'eau, et, telle qu'elle est actuellement, elle ne peut que géner la navigation.

Une erreur matérielle s'est glissée dans votre lettre. Le pont, tel qu'il a été commandé en France avec approbation de votre Administration, est dans des conditions de longueur qui ne permettent pas de donner à l'arche l'ouverture que vous suggérez par la construction en retraite du quai sud du Yang-king-pang aux abords du pont No. 4.

Le Conseil, au reste, s'explique difficilement le retour à une ancienne difficulté qui, dans l'intérêt du public, avait, d'un accord tacite pour ainsi dire, été laissée de côte. En effet, ce que le public doit vouloir avant tout, c'est un pont solide et la liberté de la navigation. Ce but paraissait devoir être atteint par la commande d'un pont en fer d'une seule arche entrainant par conséquent la suppression de la pile intermédiaire qui se trouve actuellement placée dans l'endroit de la plus grande profondeur de l'eau. De l'ensemble de la correspondence entre les deux Administrations cette pensée ressort d'une manière manifeste, et le Conseil ne peut que regretter profondément d'avoir à rappeler à votre Administration que les intérêts du public ne peuvent que souffrir du retard apporté à la mise en place du pont No. 4.

Le Conseil est peiné de voir que votre Administration actuelle ne tient aucun compte de ce fait que le Municipal Council, loin d'avoir continué sa réclamation par l'envoi du mémoire annoncé par lettre du 15 Janvier 1873, a, au contraire, semblé y renoncer en acceptant la construction d'un pont en fer à une seule arche qui a été proposée par le Conseil comme le moyen la plus pratique de faciliter la circulation dans le canal du Yang-king-pang en supprimant la pile qui est dans le milieu du chenal.

L'attention de votre Administration est attirée sur les avantages que la navigation retirera par la mise en place du pont en fer qui offrira à la circulation par bateaux une arche de 40 pieds anglais d'ouverture, tandis que le pont actuel présente deux ouvertures de 22 pieds seulement chaque.

Quant à ce qui concerne la question d'empiétement, la Municipalité Française est préparée à réprendre l'attitude qu'elle avait assumée précidemment lorsque, pour la première fois, une réclamation avait été soulevée.

Elle espére prouver qu'elle n'a nui à aucun des intérêts qui existent des deux côtés du Yang-king-pang, et si elle ne soulève pas elle-même des questions d'empiétement sur le Yang-king-pang de la part des autorités Municipales du côté nord, c'est qu'elle est certaine qu'elles ont été faites parfaitement de bonne foi et sans nuire en rien aux intérêts du public. Comme dernière remarque à ce sujet votre Administration peut se convaincre que presque tous les ponts sur le Yang-king-pang ont été bâtis par les soins des employés du Municipal Council, et qu'à une ou deux exceptions près, ils présentent une ouverture moins grande que celle qu'offrira le pont en fer.

Quant à ce qui concerne la commande même du pont, le Conseil pense être resté dans l'esprit des conventions intervenues entre les deux Municipalités, et il est convaincu que le pont en fer No. 4, une fois en place, remplira le but qu'on s'est proposé. Il lui semble que le Municipal Council s'en écarte en le rendant responsable de ce qui semble à votre Administration en dehors des prévisions et de ses suggestions, car l'Administration Française n'a jamais entendu et ne peut accepter le rôle d'entrepreneur responsable pour le compte des deux Municipalités au mieux des intérêts des deux associés, et ne peut même conseiller un recours contre le constructeur qui, à son avis, n'a pas donné lieu à des plaintes.

Il est à remarquer que dans le plan et devis qui ont été soumis au Municipal Council, la partie métallique est évaluée a kilos 11,052, devant côuter Francs 13,500. Par suite des suggestions qui ont été suivies en partie ; le poids du métal a été augmenté de kilos 6,230 et la partie métallique portée au poids total de kilos 17,282. Mais, par suite d'une baisse opportune dans le prix de la fonte, le prix de facture de la partie métallique n'a été que de Francs 13,500. Sans cette baisse les suggestions de votre Administration, en tant qu'elles ont été mises en pratique eussent augmenté de beaucoup le prix. Enfin, l'augmentation de poids a forcément entrainé celle du prix de transport.

Il est donc impossible au Conseil de trouver valables les objections relatives au côut du pont rendu à Shanghai, et je vous prie de vouloir bien me faire remettre un chèque pour la moitié de cette dépense s'élevant à Taëls 2,430.12.

Facture Frcs. 16,798.55 à f. 7.125 par Taël.....	Taëls	2,357.69
Intérêts à 6%, sur la dite somme payés au Comptoir d'Escompte du jour de la négociation des traites à Paris jusqu'à celui de l'arrivée du remboursement à Paris, soit 94 jours	,,	36.43
Frais de débarquement $18.00 à 0.75.....	,,	13.50
Prime d'assurance sur Tls. 2,500	,,	22.50
	Taëls	2,430.12

Soit moitié Taëls 1,215.06.

Lorsque le pont aura été mis en place, je vour ferai parvenir le montant des dépenses incombant à votre Administration, qui se détaillent ainsi :

Moitié des dépenses de reconstruction de la culée côté Nord ;

Moitié des dépenses de mise en place et en état de service du pont.

Comme il est dans les intérêts du public que le nouveau pout soit mis en place aussitôt que possible, et attendu que ce pont est conforme aux dimensions proposées dans le plan approuvé par votre Municipalité, le Conseil a donné les ordres nécessaires pour que les travaux de mise en place soient commencés immédiatement apres les fêtes Chinoises, et je vous prie de vouloir bien prendre en note que la circulation par le pont No. 4 Yang-king-pang sera interrompue à partir du 15 Février courant.

Le Conseil pense que le Municipal Council voudra bien faire abandon des matériaux de la pile intermédiaire qui seront employés à la reconstruction des deux culées, et je vous serai obligé de me faire connaitre sa décision à cet égard.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

Le Secrétaire,
H. SAYN.

Monsieur E. B. SOUPER,
Secretaire du Municipal Council.

(Translation)

Shanghai, 1st February, 1875.

Sir,—Before replying to your letter of 27th instant, relating to No. 4 Bridge over the Yang-king-pang, I am directed to convey to you the apologies of this Council for their delay in replying, and to offer you some few observations on this subject.

With the twofold object of obviating the delay generally attending a discussion by letter, as also to promote good feeling between the two Administrations, this Council had proposed to yours to submit all questions in dispute to a Committee formed of two members from each respective Council.

This proposal was accepted, but the double aim which our Council had in view does not appear to have been realized, for not only does your Council show no inclination to carry out this principle as agreed upon, but it has also, by a most unusual act, rendered for the future any meeting of delegates quite impossible.

It may not be out of place here to remark, in support of my first assertion, that it has always been the French Council who have proposed to settle through delegates the different matters in dispute which have presented themselves, and that quite recently a meeting of delegates officially appointed for the 13th January, has been adjourned by an private communication of your Chairman, without his appointing another day for the meeting. It appears therefore, that this means of promptly settling and despatching business of common interest has entirely failed.

With respect also to the foregoing assertion of the impossibility of any future practical good resulting from a friendly interchange of the views of the two Administrations, such is the result of the premature action of your Council, in publishing a complaint of encroachment without having first communicated with the French Council, to whom however your Municipal Council had already submitted the basis of the question. Therefore this wish to conciliate and to facilitate matters appears here also to have failed. Further, as no advantage in time or convenience will to all appearance be gained from the meeting of two delegates of each administration, the Conseil directs me to convey to you in writing its views in reply to your letter of 27th November.

The refusal to share the expense of constructing new abutments for the Iron Bridge No. 4, over the Yang-king-pang, appears to it, partly justified. In fact, in order to provide the public as speedily as possible with a bridge of a single span,—the utility of which had been allowed,—the Conseil,—though having to contend against objections made respecting the cost of reconstructing the southern abutment,—has taken upon itself the burthen of supporting the whole cost.

With respect to the abutment on the north side, it must be noted that the suggestions contained in your letters of 15th Sept. and 3rd Dec. 1873, would necessarily increase the weight of the bridge. This fact is indisputable, and you yourself,—as per your letter of 17th Oct. 1873—anticipated an enhanced price consequent on the increased weight. Thus, these suggestions on your part were forwarded to the builder at Paris with the instruction to adhere to them as closely as was practicable, and so long as the cost price was not too much augmented thereby. They have been partly followed, and the changes have resulted in an additional 6,230 kilos, or 57 per cent in weight, taking the weight of the hardware in proportion to the weight of the original plan. Had your suggestions been followed out in their entirety, the Conseil has no doubt but what they would have caused an increase in weight of metal which, though certainly less than that of the metallic part and of the—supposing the bridge finished and in place—bricks of the bridge, would still be sufficiently important to necessitate the reconstruction of abutments stronger than those actually existing. It is no more than just and reasonable therefore, that the French Council bears the cost of constructing the Southern abutment, and the *half only* of the Northern one. Besides, this latter projects out beyond a reasonble limit into the bed of the water course, and as it at present stands, is only an obstacle to free navigation.

A grave mistake has crept into your aforesaid letter. The bridge, according to the specifications, ordered with the approval of your Administration and forwarded to France, is not sufficiently long to permit of the size of span for the arch which you suggest being carried behind the Quay, on the South side.

Further, this Council can with difficulty understand this bringing forward again by yours of an old subject of contention, which in the public interest had, so to speak, been tacitly allowed to drop. To sum up;—what the public wants, is a substantial structure, and free navigation. This want appeared to be met by the order of an iron bridge of one span consequently rendering unnecessary the intermediate pile which is actually in the very spot where there is the greatest depth of water. The whole weight of the correspondence between the two Administrations shows this point manifestly predominant, and this Conseil cannot but deeply regret to be under the necessity of bringing to the notice of your Administration the fact of the injury which public interests suffer through the delay in putting in place the No. 4 Bridge over the Yang-king-pang.

This Conseil is much pained to observe that your Administration seems to quite ignore the fact that the Municipal Council, far from supporting its claims (?) by the forwarding of memoranda as announced by letter of 15th January 1873, had on the contrary seemed to have quite given it up, judging from its accepting the proposal of the French Conseil to construct a bridge of iron with a single arch, as the best and most practical way of facilitating the navigation of the creek, and of doing away with the pile in the middle of the canal.

The attention of your Administration is particularly directed to the great advantages to free navigation which are afforded by an iron bridge of a single span measuring forty (40) English feet. The present bridge has two spans of 22 feet only each span.

As regards the question of encroachment, the French Municipality is prepared to take up the same standing which it assumed when the question was first opened.—It trusts to be in a position to prove that it has by no means injured any interests which exist on either side of the Yang-king-pang, and that if it has,—on its own part,—hitherto refrained from bringing forward any complaints of encroachment on the Yang-king-pang, made by the Municipal Authorities of the northern side, it is only from the knowledge that they have been made in good faith, and because they have in no wise affected public interests. As a final remark on this subject, Your Administration may convince itself that nearly all the bridges over the Yang-king-pang have been erected by employés of the Municipal Council, and that with only one or two exceptions, their arches are smaller than will be the span of the new iron bridge.

So far as respects the order for the bridge itself, our Conseil considers that it has confined itself to the understanding arrived at between the two Municipalities, and it feels convinced that, once the No. 4 iron bridge is in place, it will fully meet the utmost requirements of the case. It further appears to it that your Municipal Council rather goes beyond its province in wishing to make the Conseil responsible for everything that your Administration may consider not exactly to meet its ideas and suggestions, for most certainly the French Council never consented—nor would think of accepting—the rôle of contractor for the two Municipalities. It has simply acted throughout to the best of its ability for the mutual benefit of the two Administrations, and cannot even recommend any action against the contractor, who, according to the opinion of the Conseil, has given no cause for such proceeding.

It may be noted that, in the plan and specifications submitted to the Municipal Council, the metallic part is put down at 11,052 kilos., to cost Francs 13,500. In order partly to meet the suggestions which were made, the weight of metal has correspondingly increased 6,230 kilos., and the metallic part has been brought up to a total weight of 17,282 kilos. But fortunately owing to a fall in the price of cast-iron, the cost of the Invoice of the metallic part does not exceed Francs 13,500. Had it not been for this opportune fall, the suggestions of your Administration, in so far as they were carried out, would have greatly increased the price. And further, the increase in weight has naturally entailed a greater cost in the transport of it.

It is therefore quite impossible that the French Conseil can admit any of the objections made relative to the cost of the iron bridge laid down in Shanghai, and I therefore must beg that you will be good enough to send me a cheque for the half of this cost,—amounting to..... Tls. 2,430.12

Invoice Fcs. 16,798.55 at fcs. 7.125 per Tael	,,	2,357.69
Interest at 6 % on the said amount paid into the Comptoir d'Escompte, from the day when the drafts at Paris were negociated until the arrival of the funds at Paris—say 94 days.....	,,	36.43
Landing expenses $18—at 75 %	,,	13.50
Insurance fee upon Tls. 2,500	,,	22.50
Taels		2,430.12

Half of which, say Tls. 1,215.06.

So soon as the bridge is put up, I will forward to you a memo. of the expenses due by your Administration, which may be thus detailed:

Half of the cost of reconstructing the abutments on the northern side;

Half of the cost of putting in place and in a state of service the iron bridge.

As it is in the interest of the public that the new bridge should be put in its place so soon as possible, and always understood that the said bridge is in conformity with the specifications set down in the plan approved of by your Municipality, the French Conseil has issued the necessary orders to commence work immediately after the China New-year holidays, and I would beg you to take due note that the traffic over the bridge No. 4, Yang-king-pang will be interrupted from the 15th February.

The French Conseil deems that the Municipal Council is willing to abandon the materials of the intermediate pile, and which could be employed in the reconstruction of the two abutments. I should feel obliged, if you would kindly communicate to me your decision on this subject.

I beg you to accept, Sir, the expression of my most distinguished sentiments.

The Secretary,
(signed) H. Sayn.

E. B. Souper, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Conucil.

15th February, 1875.

Bridge No. 4 Yang-King-Pang.

Sir,—The Council desiring in common with your Board that as little time as possible should be lost in placing in position the iron bridge recently arrived, confine themselves for the moment to replying to your letter of 1st instant only so far as regards the erection of this bridge—leaving the rest of your despatch for later consideration.

Cost.—They have much pleasure in handing you cheque on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for Tls. 1.215.06 (Taels one thousand two hundred and fifteen, cand. six) representing the share of the cost of the bridge (laid down in Shanghai) to be borne by the Ratepayers on this side of the Yang-King-Pang.

The expenses of putting up the bridge will of course be equally divided by the two administrations.

Abutments.—The Board note your intention to bear the expense attending the construction of an abutment on the South side of the creek.

They do not recognize the necessity of altering the position of the abutment on this side, and while thanking you for your offer to share the expense of doing so were it necessary, have decided to strengthen the abutment at their own cost sufficiently to sustain the weight of the bridge at the North end.

The centre pier and materials of the old bridge, the Council wish sold for the benefit of the two Settlements.

Presuming that the foregoing meets the views of your Board, and will not in any way alter the position maintained by this Municipality with regard to the question of the line of Bunding on the South side of the Yang-King-Pang—the Council agree to the traffic over bridge No. 4 being stopped on the 15th, and the work of putting up the new bridge commenced at speedily as practicable.

(Sd.) Edward B. Souper,
Secretary.

H. Sayn,
Secretary French Municipal Council.

16th February, 1875.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman French Municipal Council.

SIR,—In reply to the communication from your Council, dated 1st inst., my colleagues request me to say that they note with much regret the views expressed therein with regard to delegates meeting to discuss matters pending between the Municipalities.

They consider that the plan has not had sufficient trial to warrant any opinion as to its usefulness, as only one meeting has taken place, and although that resulted in each side maintaining its own previously entertained ideas it does not follow that future meetings would necessarily have the same result.

With regard to the meeting fixed for 13th January to which allusion is made, it is known to your goodself that on casually meeting one of the appointed delegates from your side, I mentioned that the day fixed was American mail day, and he most readily agreed that it had better be postponed, promising to inform you of the circumstance. Another day was not then fixed, as we did not know what day would be mutually convenient, and my sudden departure for Hongkong prevented one being appointed until my return, before which, however, the communication under reply was received.

I only refer to this point to prevent any wrong impression that might arise from the perusal of that communication by those to whom the facts are not known, as I am aware your Council have no intention of imputing any want of courtesy in the matter.

So far from showing no inclination to carry out the proposed plan, this Council can only repeat that they think it desirable to have submitted to a friendly meeting of two or three members of each Council, questions upon subjects which in their nature are susceptible of alteration or modification from interchange of views upon them, before they are definitely entered into by official correspondence; and in the same spirit which the Council have invariably manifested to do all in their power to maintain amicable relations between the two Municipalities, they hope the plan will not be abandoned at least until further trial proves impracticability.

With regard to the subject of the line of Bund on the South side of the Yang-King-Pang Creek, the Council need only say that having their attention called to the subject by several Ratepayers they referred to the correspondence of former Councils, and found that while the Council have always maintained very firmly their position regarding what they considered an encroachment on the South side of the Creek (how firmly may be seen by reference to letters of this Council to yours of 11th 14th 27th and 31st December 1872) both Municipalities had however agreed to leave the question to arbitration; but that no further steps had been taken after the 15th January 1872, owing no doubt to the late Secretary of the Council being shortly afterwards taken ill and leaving the settlement, and this matter with many others was overlooked for the time; and to this and not to the Council having given up their position, is to be attributed the non-forwarding the memoranda mentioned in their letter of 15th January 1873.

This Council therefore considered it their duty to ascertain your views, as the erection of a new bridge offered a good opportunity for the moving back of the line of Bund; or failing your acceding to that, they would have been pleased to know when it would be agreeable to your side to carry out the arrangement entered into by our predecessors, and which has never been abandoned so far as this Council know.

This Council entirely agree that what the Public wants is free navigation on that creek, and it was for this reason the Council on this side opened the question at all (see Mr. Dent's letter of 11th September 1872), as it is equally the only reason why the present Council have reverted to it.

It will also be seen by reference to correspondence of December 1872, that the idea that removing the centre pier of the bridge would compensate for the encroachment of the line of Bund, was not deemed satisfactory by the Council on this side. The removal of the pier is undoubtedly a desirable improvement, but is altogether independent of the other question.

The Council are much pleased, however, to understand from the letter under reply, that your Council are prepared to have the matter referred to arbitration as before agreed, and will be glad to learn when it will be agreeable to you to have this arrangement carried out on the basis of correspondence in January 1872, when the Council will immediately appoint its arbitrator.

The Council take due note of your remarks regarding the projecting of the abutment of the Honan road bridge on this side. They cannot admit it to be an encroachment. On the contrary, the line of the bund on the North side of the creek formerly went out to the end of the abutment (B' A B'), and in point of fact the space B1 B2 C lying between the present line of bund and the outside of the abutment has been given to the creek by this Municipality.

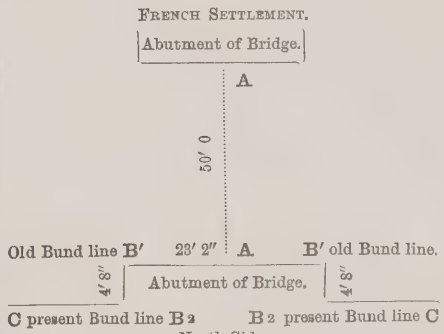
This will be better understood by a glance at the accompanying sketch, when it will be seen that the true width of the creek is the 50 feet (A to A) from abutment on the south side to the abutment on the north, as it was at the time when the bridge was taken over by the two Municipalities.

With regard to the question of expense and of putting up Bridge No. 4, as well as to the plan of the bridge, the Secretary has been instructed to reply thereto.

In conclusion, my colleagues join me in expressing the hope that, while differences of opinion regarding matters between the two Settlements will doubtless always exist, these differences even when they cannot be settled to the satisfaction of both sides need not in any way interfere with the cordial relation that should exist between the neighbouring Municipalities; and as one means towards this end, the Council consider that perhaps it will be better if in future, as in times past, all communications regarding important matters should be signed by the Chairman of the respective Councils.

(Sd.) J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

FRENCH SETTLEMENT.



Hongkew Creek Iron Bridge, Broadway.—The question of removing the iron bridge and replacing it by a Malava wood structure was deferred consideration.

Seward Road Extension.—The meeting were informed that further progress was at present delayed, until the new Taotai had taken office.

Bund Line.—The Council understanding that the Harbour Master was at present engaged in drawing up a plan for regulating the width of the River and large Creeks in the neighbourhood of Shanghai, and being a scheme which closely affects the interests of the Settlement, it was decided to write to Mr. Viguier stating that the Council will be glad to afford him any assistance in their power and to communicate with him in the matter.

Pontoons.—A suggestion as to making a wide step on pontoons, was referred to the Public Works' Committee.

Police.—The meeting expressed much satisfaction at the manner in which the approaches to the fire at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.'s Auction Rooms had been kept, and at the discretion and firmness displayed by the constables on the occasion.

The Secretary was instructed to request the Acting Superintendent of Police to make this known to the men under him.

Increase of Crime.—Read letter from the United States Consul-General, stating that he would bring before his colleagues at an early date the following letter from the Council as to the increase of crime in the Settlement and the insufficiency of the punishments awarded by the Mixed Court:—

20th January, 1875.

SIR,—It will probably not have escaped the attention of yourself and colleagues, that the number of misdemeanors and petty crimes by Chinese within the limits of the Municipality has been for a considerable time steadily on the increase, and there is every reason to suppose that unless some more effectual means are taken to check this growing evil, this Settlement will soon lose the reputation it has so long enjoyed of being particularly free from danger to life and property of the residents. The Council, from their position, possess a better knowledge of these facts than perhaps the Consuls, but the Daily Papers serve enough to show the prevalence of disorder in our midst.

The principal object the Council have now in addressing you, is to solicit your assistance in obtaining the consent of the Chinese to the re-introduction of the chain-gang system, which was formerly in operation and worked well.

The punishments now meted out to Chinese offenders, in many instances, are almost bribes to repeat the offences, and have naturally proved totally inadequate to obtain the end desired, the diminishing of crime.

The Council are strongly of opinion that the chain-gang hard-labor system is the one likely to prove the most effective that can be introduced, and that it would speedily show most excellent results. It is not necessary to trespass on the time of your Body by putting forward any facts or arguments in support of this position, as they feel sure the Consuls must agree with them.

In connection with this subject, the Council would enquire whether the Consular Body deem it expedient to address the proper Chinese Authorities on the subject of the Mixed Court. Two means of improving the existing state of things suggest themselves to the Council:—

Either that the Magistrate now presiding at the Court should be endowed with fuller powers, or, what would apparently better meet the ends of justice, that a Magistrate should be appointed by the Council to preside over and judge all cases now submitted to the Mixed Court Magistrate and foreign Cousular Assessor.

(Sd.) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

GEORGE F. SEWARD, Esq.,
Chairman, Consular Body.

Periodical leave of absence to officers.—Arrangements for periodical leave to officers were submitted and approved, subject to such modification as may appear necessary hereafter.

Municipal Year.—It was determined to move for the change of the year, making it co-temporary with the calendar year.

The Budget would be made up for nine months, and if the Ministers at Peking did not confirm the alteration, which, after all, was one of mere office detail, by 31st December next, it would then be necessary to call a meeting to vote funds for the three months ending 31st March, 1876.

There was only one opinion, that the change was desirable in every way.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The sixth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 15th instant. Hon. J. Whittall presided; and there were also present:—Dr. Adams, Messrs. J. S. Lapraik, Remedios, W. Morgan, H. Smith, McIver, Vaucher, M. E. Murray, Bottomley, Strack, Newton, Nelson, André, Budde, Linstead, Landstein, R. H. Cairns, Mitchell, Maclehose, E. T. Alford, C. P. Chater, H. Nicaise, and Chambers (secretary), &c., &c.

The notice calling the meeting and minutes of last meeting were read.

The CHAIRMAN said as the report and balance sheet had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, he would, with their permission, take them as read. He thought all he had to say was embodied in them. The business of the Company, he

was glad to say, continued to increase and was satisfactory; and, as far as it was possible to judge, all their securities were good. They had had very few losses, thanks to the management of the fire brigades, especially those of Hongkong and Shanghai. Before asking them to accept the report and balance sheet, he should be glad to answer any questions respecting them.

REPORT.

The general managers, in submitting their annual statement of accounts, have to congratulate the shareholders on the fortunate immunity from serious losses during the past year, and upon the continued satisfactory working of the Company.

The nett profits for the year 1873 amount to $207,000 to be appropriated, according to articles of association, as follows:—

30 per cent. to reserve fund.....	..$62,100
20 per cent. to contributing shareholders.....	 41,400
50 per cent. dividend to shareholders,	103,500
Total, ...	$207,000

thus increasing the reserve fund to $451,774 giving a return of 23/94 per cent. on contributions, and a dividend of $51.75 per share.

The working account 1874 shows a balance at credit of $233,784.87, both premium and interest accounts resulting more favorably than in the previous year.

The general managers and the consulting committee have every reason to consider the investments of the Company's funds as both remunerative and secure. During the past month they have interested the Company in the bonds of the Chinese Imperial Loan to the extent of $60,182.20, the equivalent of £13,000 sterling.

The departures from the Colony of Messrs. Sassoon, Rowett, and G. F. Heard, leaving vacancies on the consulting committee, the vacant seats have been accepted by Messrs. A. F. Heard, J. S. Lapraik, and A. André, and the existing committee, consisting of Messrs. J. J. dos Remedios, H. Nicaise, A. F. Heard, J. S. Lapraik, and A. André, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Mr. F. W. Mitchell and Mr. Henry Smith, (who holds the position at date, in consequence of Mr. Coxon's absence), offer themselves for re-election.

Dr. Adams proposed that the report and accounts be accepted and passed.

Mr. McIver seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said the remuneration of the committee was last year increased from $500 to $1,000. It would be for the meeting to decide whether the same amount should be paid this time.

Mr. Landstein proposed that the remuneration to the committee continue at $1,000.

Mr. Linstead seconded, and it was agreed to.

The Chairman said the remuneration to the auditors was $150. Would any one move on that?

Dr. Adams proposed that it continue as heretofore.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

The Chairman said that the vacancies on the consulting committee caused by Messrs. Sassoon and Rowett and the late Mr. G. F. Heard, had been filled by Messrs. A. F. Heard, J. S. Lapraik, and A. Andrè; and the existing committee, consisting of Messrs. J. J. dos Remedios, H. Nicaise. A. F. Heard, J. S. Lapraik and A. Andrè offered themselves for re-election.

Mr. McIver proposed that they be re-elected, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said, with respect to the auditors, that Mr. Coxon's name had been allowed to remain, and Mr. H. Smith had been appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Smith and Mr. Mitchell, the other auditor, now offered themselves for re-election.

Mr. W. Morgan said he understood Mr. Mitchell was leaving the Colony in March, and wished to know what would be the use of electing him again as auditor. He asked if it would not be better to elect Mr. Smith to officiate as auditor permanently.

The Chairman said that, if Mr. Mitchell should leave, the committee had the power to elect a successor to him at any time.

Mr. W. Morgan said they should like Mr. Mitchell to remain altogether, but he would now propose that both he and Mr. Smith be re-elected.

Mr. Nicaise seconded, and it was agreed to.

Mr. W. Morgan then said—Before we separate I have a proposition to make, which I trust will meet with your concurrence and hearty support. For a number of years a gentleman has been immediately connected with the business of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. Acting at first in a subordinate position under Mr. Jukes, he was on the departure of that gentleman appointed to his place, and from that time to now has so conducted the business of the Company, as to bring it to its present prosperous condition. But not only in the office has Mr. Chambers shown business qualities of a superior kind, but, as foreman of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.'s Volunteer Brigade, on many occasions he has materially aided in averting great destruction of property. It is therefore with pleasure that I propose, "That the thanks of the Shareholders of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. be offered to Mr. Chambers, for the great ability and zeal displayed by him in the interests of the Company during the time he has been in charge of the business of the office, and further recommend to the Directors that some bonus should be presented to him on the occasion of his relinquishing the post he has so ably filled, the amount to be left to the discretion of the Directors." I beg to mention as a precedent that on the departure of Mr. Jukes a sum of $1,000 was presented to him by the vote of the Shareholders. (Applause.)

Mr. Linstead seconded the proposition.

The Chairman had much pleasure in putting it to the meeting. There was no doubt that Mr. Chambers had done a great deal towards the prosperity of the Company, and he should be glad to support the views advocated by Mr. Morgan if the shareholders should agree with them. (Applause.)

The proposition was carried unanimously.

Mr. Chambers said he was extremely obliged to the gentlemen present for their kind recognition of any services he had rendered.

The meeting then terminated.

—*(Daily Press.)*

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK REPORT.

The Directors have now to submit to you a general Statement of the affairs of the Corporation, and Balance Sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last.

The net profits for that period, including $7,042.19 brought forward from last account, after paying all charges and deducting interest paid and due, amount to $119,785.42, of which, after taking out Rebate on Bills not yet due, and Remuneration to Directors, there remains a balance of $109,059,44.

The Directors again regret that they cannot recommend the payment of any Dividend to the Shareholders. The general working of the Bank during the half-year has been unsatisfactory, and, notwithstanding the profit derived from the Chinese Imperial Government Loan, the profits are comparatively small.

The losses and amounts written off require $106,000 of the Profits, together with the $275,000 of the Reserve Fund mentioned in last Report, and a further sum of $400,000 from the same account. The Reserve Fund will thus stand at $100,000, and there will be a balance of Profit of $3,359.44 to be carried to the credit of New Account.

The poor result of the half-year's working is attributable to the bad state of trade in the East; business generally has yielded but little profit and that in Exchange has proved no exception. The demand for advances has been small and the interest obtainable on them consequently low, while the interest paid by the Bank on deposits has been heavy. These deposits are now larger than they ever were, notwithstanding that, more than six months ago, the Directors resolved to receive none at a higher rate of interest than 5 per cent. per annum.

The amount now set aside is required as follows:—

For London Accounts.....	$160,000
,, Sterling Bills..	80,000
,, Head Office Accounts.....	180,000
,, Sundry Accounts.....	86,000
	$506,000

The $275,000, referred to in the last Report, has been required, as anticipated by the Chairman at last Meeting, chiefly by the Indo-Chinese Sugar Company's account and transactions connected therewith. The Company's estate now stands in the Bank's books at half the value the Bank's Special Agent has placed upon it. The Directors purpose to realize the property with all despatch, and steps have been already taken to that end.

The amount placed against London losses is required on account of transactions entered into prior to the present half-year. Although these transactions were known to the Directors at the date of the previous Meeting, they had no reason, from the information then in their possession, to look upon them as bad. Subsequent advices, however, shewed that a considerable amount had to be provided for them, which has now been done.

The Directors at the last Meeting had hoped to recoup the Bank a portion of the amount then set aside for London losses from Mr. Vacher, the London Manager at that time, as they believed he was possessed of considerable means, but he is unable to meet his own indebtedness (unwarrantably incurred) to the Bank, and although the Directors have obtained from him an assignment of his available property, they have to provide for a loss on his account. Mr. Vacher is no longer in the Bank's service.

The losses on Sterling Bills are chiefly due to purchases made previous to the half-year, and are now provided for.

The amount placed against "Head Office accounts" is required for writing off considerable amounts from the value, in the Bank's books, of the Sugar Refinery, the Pier Company's property and other items, and for deficiencies on current advances during the half-year, securities of all kinds having depreciated greatly in value.

The sum placed against "Sundry accounts" is required mostly to meet losses on advances made at some of the Branches previous to the half-year.

Referring to their last Report and to the expectations there expressed as to the extent of possible future losses, the Directors greatly regret that their anticipations should have turned out much too sanguine. They cannot, however, close this Report without pointing out, that, although they have been compelled to lay before the Shareholders two successive unfavourable statements of accounts, the general business and position of the Bank continue sound.

The Directors, under authority of Article 144 of the Deed of Settlement, have now resolved to take immediate steps to appoint a Local Committee in London to supervise the transactions of that Branch.

Mr. David McLean has been appointed to make a special tour of inspection of the Bank and will be here shortly, but it will be at least two months before he can hand the Directors his Report.

The Balance of the Marine Insurance Account now amounts to $33,981.06,—no losses have been sustained during the half-year.

Mr. Thomas Pyke resigned his seat at the Board, in conformity with the notice he gave at the last General Meeting. Messrs. R. Rowett and S. D. Sassoon also resigned their seats at the Board, on leaving the Colony, and Mr. F. D. Sassoon has been appointed in room of the latter gentleman.

Mr. Adolf André has been appointed Chairman of the Corporation for the year 1875, vice

Mr. Wm. H. Forbes, whose term of Office now expires, and Mr. A. F. Heard has been elected Deputy Chairman.

In conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, two Members of the Court, Messrs. Adolf André and A. F. Heard, retire from the direction, but they are eligible for re-election and offer themselves accordingly.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Assets.

Cash and Bullion		$ 8,550,804.92
Government Securities		2,478,887.74
Bills Discounted, Loans and Credits		9,759,524.26
Exchange Remittances		21,797,957.84
Bank Premises		229,967.09
Dead Stock		91,922.55
		$42,909,062.40

Liabilities.

Paid up Capital		$ 5,000,000.00
Reserve Fund		100,000.00
Marine Insurance Account		33,981.06
Notes in Circulation	$ 2,242,170.92	
Deposits	17,554,726.80	
		19,796,897.72
Exchange Acceptances		17,858,398.20
Profit and Loss Account		119,785.42
		$42,909,062.40

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To Amounts Written of:		
Remuneration to Directors	$10,000.00	
Rebate on Bills not due	725.98	
		$ 10,725.98
To Contingent Account:		
Amount set aside to meet Losses, (referred to in half-yearly Report of 12th Aug., 1874)	$275,000.00	
Amount set aside to meet Losses	506,000.00	
		781,000.00
To Balance:		
Carried forward to next half-year		3,059.44
		$794,785.42

Cr.

By Balance of Undivided Profits, 30th June, 1874	$ 7,042.19
By Amount of Net Profits, for the Six Months ending 31st December, 1874, after deducting all Expenses and Interest paid and due	112,743.23
By Amount from Reserve Fund	675,000.00
	$ 794,785.42

RESERVE FUND.

To Amount transferred to Profit and Loss Account to meet Losses	$ 675,000.00
To Balance on 31st December, 1874	100.000.00
	$ 775,000.00
By Balance on 30th June, 1874	$ 775,000.00
	$ 775,000.00

Miscellaneous.

JOHN WILKES, M.P., LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

In view of the contemplated celebration of the hundredth anniversary of his mayoralty (1775), it may be interesting to survey, as briefly as may be, the correspondence and papers of John Wilkes, M.P., Lord Mayor and Chamberlain of the City of London, and author of the celebrated number XLV. of the *North Briton*, which appeared on the 23rd of April, 1763. The papers to which we refer include many letters not before published, and were submitted by the representatives of the late Col. Macaulay, R.E., to the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, whose inspector has contributed a somewhat lengthy account of them in the voluminous Appendix to the Report, which has been recently presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty. Before proceeding to notice this collection in detail, and in order to shew its value, it will be convenient here to quote from the Report itself the remarks of the Commissioners respecting it. They state that they were permitted "to examine a box full of letters, both written by the celebrated John Wilkes and addressed to him. The correspondence between Wilkes and his daughter is extensive, and in the main unpublished. Here are letters by Boswell, some of which have not been printed, and these contain a notice of Dr. Johnson not embodied in Boswell's life and conversations. Many of the letters relating to Wilkes' duel with Mr. Martin, and the proceedings by the Government against Wilkes, were printed in his lifetime; but here are other letters and papers as yet unprinted on the subject of his prosecution and his expulsion from the House of Commons. Numerous letters from foreigners of note have been carefully preserved. The most interesting feature of the collection is a packet containing original letters by Junius to Wilkes, and copies of Wilkes' replies in the handwriting of the latter. All except one were printed by Woodfall; and that one shews the bitter hatred which Junius bore to the King. * * * A short hasty note by Junius, written immediately after a longer one the same day, is in a less studied handwriting than its immediate predecessor, and may be usefully examined in some future attempt to discover the author of the letters."

The present collection contains many of the originals of the letters which Wilkes himself published in 1769, and it was evidently made use of for the Correspondence and Memoirs of the life of Wilkes, issued in 5 vols., by John Almon, in 1805. The letters from Wilkes to his daughter between 1774 and 1796, as published in 1804, are not in the Macaulay collection, which, however, comprises numerous other letters which passed between the father and daughter in other years, and shew the great love that each bore to the other. "The refinement," says Mr. Horwood, in reporting upon these papers, "which he ought to have exhibited to all, seems to have been reserved for her alone, and her father's devotion to her was known and appreciated by all his correspondents; for hardly a letter omits mention of Miss Wilkes."

With regard to the Junius packet, the letter not printed by Woodfall, which was received by Wilkes on Nov. 7th, 1771, runs thus, and from the nature of its contents it is not surprising that Woodfall thought it advisable to suppress it:—"Since my note of this morning, I know for certain that the Duke of Cumberland is married to Luttrel's sister. The princess Dr., and the D. of Glr. cannot live, and the odious hypocrite is *in profundis*. Now is your time to torment him with some demonstration from the city. Suppose an address from some proper number of Liverymen to the Mayor for a common hall, to consider of an Address of Congratulation—then have it debated in Common Council; think of something. You see you need not appear yourself." From looking over the letters of Wilkes' various correspondents, Mr. Horwood came to the conclusion that the general character of the writing of the Junius letters was common at that period, and that from the uniform nature of the writing of all the letters, it is probable that Junius employed an amanuensis. The following details respecting the paper on which the letters are written, are interesting, and may some day prove useful:—"The letters of 21st August, 7th September, 18th September and 21st October, are written on paper of a large folio size; the watermark on one half being Britannia with a trident, and a lion rampant within a wooden fence, and the motto "Pro Patria;" and on the other half the letters G. R. under a crown, something like a feather at each side, and the whole enclosed in a circle. Five of the letters are on quarto letter paper, the watermark on two being a shield charged with a bugle, and surmounted with a royal crown, and on the others only the name of the maker, *J. Portal*. The other two letters are on small pieces of paper."

Three days before the letter cited above, H. S. Woodfall writes to Wilkes that he has just received a note from Junius, in which is the following passage:—"I hope Mr. W. will consent to have that silly account of my letter to the Bill of Rights contradicted." In a note, dated *Sunday afternoon*, Woodfall writes to Wilkes that he called to acquaint him that he received a letter from "J." in which he seems to be of opinion "that the cause suffers by its being understood that Junius has declared for the Parliament and rotten boroughs, and that this is an aspersion he ought not to submit." He did also expect "that you would have communicated him Dr. Lee's reply, but that as soon as you think proper."

In this collection also are, "The Controversial letters of John Wilkes, Esq., and the Rev. John Horne" (afterwards known as Horne Tooke), which were published in 1771. In one of these letters Wilkes says, "I glory in having four large volumes* of manuscript letters, many of them written by the first men of the age." Here, we are told, are letters by Lords Temple and Talbot, and Mr. Martin, in the matters of the prosecution of Wilkes, and the quarrels and duels between Wilkes and the two latter. Most, if not all, of these, adds Mr. Horwood, were printed by Wilkes in his lifetime; for he found that making a racket was the best means of raising or repairing his popularity. The volumes have been somewhat mutilated, and many letters are evidently missing from them; the largest also "has suffered much from water, and the Junius letters, which seem to have been once in that volume, are partially damaged." In one document is found a list of the 24 Original Members of the Sublime Society of the Beef Steaks, instituted 6th December, 1735, and their successors, all arranged in 24 columns.

Of two duodecimo volumes, each of 376 pages, originally intended to contain Wilkes' biography, the first has only 7½ pages of writing; these are by Wilkes himself, and comprise an exordium, a brief statement of his parentage and schoolmasters, and his introduction to the Mead family at Aylesbury; he mentions here that Miss Mead, afterwards his wife, was about ten years older than himself. Of the second volume, about 47 leaves are filled. It begins with the year 1764 and ends in the autumn of 1765. The chief part of the contents relates to his adventures with the Signorina Corradini in France and Italy. At Naples, Wilkes saw and understood the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius; and at Geneva the laugh of Voltaire banished all regret for the fair Italian. We may here mention that Almon, in his work alluded to before, states that Miss Wilkes destroyed some autobiographical sketches left by her father.

Of a folio volume of 43 leaves, the first 31 are occupied with verbatim reports of the speeches of Counsel and Judgment of the Lord Chief Justice in the case of John Wilkes, when, having in 1763 been arrested and imprisoned as the author of Number XLV. of the *North Briton*, he obtained his discharge on the ground that, as a member of Parliament he was privileged from arrest in a case of that kind.

In a letter, dated Rue St. Nicare, Paris, April 5, 1764, Wilkes writes to Alex. Phillips, complaining of his silence, and saying that he (Wilkes) has not heard the particulars of the proceedings in the House of Lords relative to the poem (? Essay on Woman.) He tells him to address under cover to Monsr. Suard, Auteur et Directeur de la Gazatte de France. (A pencil note opposite is, *Don't copy this letter.*)

On April 10, 1764, Wilkes writes from Paris to Charles Churchill, and suggests that he should make use of his intimacy with Hanbury to get from him the "treasure of letters from Lord Holland, Lord Chesterfield, &c., &c.," and print them in Paris. He mentions one letter of Fox's, worth £10,000. He says that the French Court was outrageous against D'Eon, who had infamously betrayed them, and published the secrets of his negociation. Says that he has begun a long letter to D'Eon on his dedication of the two volumes of the *Finance* to Lord Bute, in which he compares the Scot to the great Sully. Says that the eldest son of *the Fox* is there (Paris), dissipating the ill-got fleeting wealth of the father. Says that Sterne and he often meet.

On Oct. 27, 1768, the Chevalier D'Eon† writes to Wilkes from Brewer Street, Golden Square, and sends him a dozen of smoked Russian tongues. Will come in a few days to eat some with Wilkes; wishes that the tongues had the eloquence of Cicero and the delicacy of Voltaire, in order to worthily celebrate Wilkes' birthday.

1766, May 6, Auchinleck. James Boswell to Wilkes. Alludes to Wilkes' kind behaviour to him at Paris, when he heard of his mother's death. Asks for W.'s address. Begs that when Wilkes writes, he will put *John Wilkes* at the end of his letters, that they may not look like consigned title deeds.—Two months later there is a letter from Edmund Burke, putting aside Wilkes' offer of political assistance, on the plea of his party not having yet decided on their plan of action.

1767, May 25, Paris. Copy (by Wilkes) of letter by John Horne [Tooke] to Wilkes: "According to your permission I leave with you 1 suit of scarlet and gold cloth, 1 suit of white and silver cloth, 1 suit of blue and silver camlet, 1 suit of flowered silk, 1 suit of black silk, and 1 black velvet surtout: If you have any fellow feeling you cannot but be kind to them; since they too, as well as yourself, are outlawed in England; and on the same account—their supe[illegible]orth."

* In this collection.

† There are several other letters f[illegible] in the collection.

—Wilkes adds, Nov. 21, 1767, *Sent to Mr Punchaud's in the Rue St. Sauveur.*

We next come to a very thick folio, in which letters are laid down. Wilkes' book-plate is on the cover, *or* a chevron sable between 3 birds' heads erased. Crest, a cross-bow. Motto, *Arcui meo non confido.* Below it is written the following note, signed A. (*i.e.* Almon), "I find little exceptionable in this vol. Miss Wilkes' letters to her father and some indecent lines should be destroyed, and all the letters of Churchill and Lloyd."

Ignotus, 1762, April 9. Tells how at the conquest of Martinico, when the cannon were being hauled up to the top of Mount Tortenson, the French playing upon them from the batteries, a sailor mounted a 36 pounder while being drawn up, and with a fiddle played the Black Joke;—and how an Indian called Silver Heels (one of the 40 taken from N. America by Monkton) killed twenty-two French officers; at night he brought back twenty-two laced coats, and begged and obtained permission that he might put them all on, by way of military honours.

T. Smollett writes from Chelsea on March 16, 1759, asking Wilkes to use his interest to release Francis Barber (the servant of Dr. Johnson, the Great Cham of Literature), who had been pressed as a sailor.

Voltaire to Wilkes: Sir, I return you many thanks; you set me in flames with your courage, and charm me with your wit. Your most h. ob. s. V.

Under date of Oct. 8 and 16, 1754, we find two letters from David Hume at Edinburgh. In the first he says that Wilkes' curiosity to see his (Hume's) History does him much honor. It will be finished in less than 2 months. Says he could not get a copy for Wilkes' amusement on the road, because Hamilton, the publisher, did not like copies to get out before publication. . . Recommends Blacklocke, a Scotch poet, a poor tradesman's son and born blind, who by his industry had acquired Greek, Latin and French, and had become a good general scholar. He is a very elegant correct poet. He even employs the ideas of light and colour with great propriety. Dodsley intends to reprint his poems.—With a second letter Hume sends a copy of the History; and asks Wilkes' advice as to language: he says, Notwithstanding all the pains I have taken in the study of the English language I am still jealous of my pen.

In another folio volume there are many letters from Wilkes to Churchill, in 1763 and 1764. In one dated Dover, Tuesday, July 26, he says:—"Churchill the Bruiser! Hogarth "avaunt. If you will join in the conspiracy "I would advertise a *Critique on the works of* "*Hogarth*; for it would be a good sub-"stratum for all our unconnected ideas "of taste, humour, &c., and would shew "the nakedness of H." In another from Paris, Wilkes says he may print what he pleases there. Suggests that Churchill should print explanatory notes to the Rosciad. Wishes for Churchill's works in pocket volumes; then the great sale will begin. Wishes for a new edition of the Rosciad and the Ghost, with additional lines sacred to the impostures of the season; and says that Churchill may embalm every fool and block-head as they rise.

In this volume there is a long letter from John Horne (Tooke), dated Montpelier, 1766, Jan. 3. It is strong in his professions of friendship for Wilkes. Says that although a parson, he is not ordained a Hypocrite. True, he has suffered the infectious Hand of a Bishop to be waved over him. Mentions his having passed a week with Sterne at Lyons, and being to meet him again at Sienna in the summer . . . Sheridan [father of the dramatist] is at Blois by order of His Majesty, and with a pension, inventing a method to give a proper pronunciation of the English language to strangers by means of sounds borrowed from their own; and he begins with the French.—Tells a story of an attempt to prove Lord Harborough to have been an idiot. The counsel on each side relied on the same circumstance;—a box could not be opened; Lord Harborough told the servant to do with it as they did with oysters, viz., to put it in the fire and it would gape. Horne says that the Commission of Sheridan appeared to him to be equally equivocal, and should a similar statute be attempted at any time against His Majesty, they who do not know him may be apt to suspect that he employed Sheridan not so much for the sake of foreigners as of his own subjects, and had permitted him to amuse himself abroad to prevent his spoiling our pronunciation at home. There are also several letters from the person afterwards known as Philo-Wilkes, in some of which money is sent or offered. One in 1776 begins, "Eximious Sir," and in another, of which the date is not given, but which seems to have been written between 1772 and 1776, Philo-Wilkes mentions "the excellent invention of steel pens."

The volume further contains letters from Burke, Woodfall, David Garrick, &c., and one from Mr. A. Strahan in 1793, telling Wilkes that he heard Lord Mansfield say at a dinner in March, 1783, that Mr. Wilkes was the pleasantest companion, the politest gentleman, and the best scholar he knew.

The most noticeable letters in a 4to volume seem to be two from Almon (1767), in one of which he urges Wilkes to be quick with his History of England, because the purchasers of Hume's History will naturally have it by way of completing that work, and Hume himself is about a work of the same kind; and in another he offers to pay 500 guineas, when the MS. of the first volume of the history is delivered. John Nesbitt also sends draft of an agreement by a publishing firm to take Wilkes' History of England, proposed to be in three 4to volumes; he decries Almon as an upstart of yesterday. But ten days afterwards Heaton Wilkes writes to his brother that he had settled with Almon. And, adds Mr. Horwood, Almon's letter of 20th July is there, saying he had accepted the first draft for £200, and hoping the one-half of the MS. would be sent over by the 1st of September next.

Besides the forgoing there are numerous letters not "laid down," and of these we need notice but few.

There are about 100 letters from Miss Wilkes (1771-1780) to her father, and 3 or 4 from Henriette Wilkes to the same.

Of ten letters from James Boswell, eight were printed in the 4th vol. of Almon's Life of Wilkes. Edinburgh, 14th February, 1783. —He expected that Wilkes would have sent a peace offering of wit for having *put him in fear* of Dr. Johnson's anger at Mr. Dilly's. But as Dilly tells him that Wilkes says the Chamberlain of London is entitled to hear first from the Laird of Auchinleck, Boswell now *demands* what they in law language call a solatium, not of shining ore, but of brilliant pleasantry.

26th March, 1783. No. 22, Poultry. Boswell says that an invitation to dinner will not do. He is not hungry; he does not want wine but wit. He must have a pleasant apology for *putting him in fear* of Dr. Johnson's displeasure on account of a certain Epithalamium.

Dr. Dodd writes, "Anything you please to send, and the more the better, on politics or any miscellaneous subjects, news, squibs, &c., &c., will be taken due care of if directed under cover for the Editor of the New Morning Post, to Mr. Cox, printer, No. 73, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.—Pray don't forget the *psalm.*"

From L. Sterne, daughter of Lawrence Sterne, there are four letters to Wilkes and one to J. Hall Stevenson, author of *Crazy Tales.* The first and second to Wilkes are dated from Angoulême, July 22 and Oct. 24, 1[illegible], and the others are dated from Gerrard Street, Soho. Mr. and Miss Sterne earnestly solicit assistance, and that Wilkes and Stevenson should write the Life of Sterne. (Sterne died in 1768, £1100 in debt; his effects were sold for £400. Mrs. Sterne promised to pay his creditors the balance out of her estate of £40 a year!) In urging Stevenson, she says that it will prove that Rugenius was the friend of Yorick. There are thirteen letters and notes from Joseph Warton between 1789 and 1797. In Sept. of the last named year, he alludes to the attack in the *Monthly Review* on his edition of Pope's works, and says that he hears that he has been scourged in the *Pursuits of Literature;* wants to know who is the author of it; thinks the verse portion harsh, crabbed and obscure, and evidently written for the sake of the long pedantic notes.

Among the letters in French there are many (full of French Court Gossip) by the Baron de Castille, Officer in the regiment of French Guards, from Paris or Beaucaire, in 1779, 84, 85, 86. We will conclude this paper with an interesting extract [(which is in Miss Wilkes' handwriting) from one of these, as it tells a story which, we believe, is not very generally known. He says that Wilkes will remember the recognition by the Pretender of his natural daughter, known at Paris as Lady Charlotte, and living at a convent with her mother, called Countess of Alberstrooff. On the 14th August last, Lady Charlotte informed him that the Prince was going to take all necessary measures to naturalise her, and giving her the title of Duchess of Albany, and the King consented that all the *actes* should be registered in Parliament; and they were, in fact, so registered on the 7th of September, as she told him by letter dated 8th of September. She adds that His Majesty has granted to her letters patent enabling her to inherit all goods which the Prince her father has in France, and the right to dispose of them. She left a short time ago for Florence, where her father received her with tenderness; whose whole business seems to be to see her happy and settled according to her rank. Many Italian Princes have offered, and one of the brothers of the King of Sweden. Her father, who wishes to see her on a throne, presses hard for the latter. He is commissioned to write to England. The Duchess has suffered so much in her youth that she would prefer not to marry, if the Court of England would make her an allowance as long as she remained single, and thus every idea of the unfortunate house of Stuart would be extinguished. The pursuit of the King of Sweden on behalf of his brother is a speculation; he hopes to make some advantage by the alliance.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 20th.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge.*

Procopio da Silva *v.* Lane, Crawford & Co.

Mr. Hannen for the plaintiff.

Defendants were unrepresented by counsel.

The Plaintiff, as official liquidator of the estate of Pedro Loureiro & Co., sued John Wilson, James Alexander Harvie, and Henry Relph, trading under the firm of Lane, Crawford & Co., to recover Tls. 250, money received by them for the use of the plaintiff, being balance of the proceeds of sale of the *Evening Gazette* printing office, and deducted by them as commission, they being the mortgagees of the said printing office. In his petition, the Plaintiff set forth that the defendants applied to have formal possession of the property given to them, and that the same was given under guarantee that any surplus realised by the sale of the property, over and above Tls. 4,500, the amount of mortgage, was to be handed over to the estate; that before possession was given to the defendants, the sale of the said property was a settled affair between the purchaser and the owner, but as formal possession was to be given to the defendants, the purchaser was referred to them with regard to the transfer of the property and the payment of the purchase money; that the defendants, after collecting the proceeds of sale of the said property, amounting to Tls. 5,000 Shanghai sycee, instead of handing over Tls. 500, less amount of an order for Tls. 150, making Tls. 350, the balance above referred to, rendered an account tendering as proceeds only Tls. 100, by crediting themselves with five per cent., or Tls. 250, as commission on sale of the property, which never originated with them; that H.M.F.M.'s Consul on the 19th ult., demanded on behalf of the estate of Loureiro & Co. payment of the Tls. 250, and that no answer to his demand was given. The petitioner therefore, prayed that the defendants might be ordered to pay to plaintiff the sum of Tls. 250 Shanghai sycee together with the costs of this suit.

The Defendants' answer set forth their admission that they were the mortgagees of the estate of Loureiro and Co., but denied the allegation as to their giving a guarantee that any surplus over Tls. 4,500 was to be handed over to the estate; that on the 24th November, 1874, they took possession in the terms of a letter addressed by them to A. H. de Carvalho, Esq., H. M. F. M. Consul

for Portugal, in which they notified their taking possession under powers granted them by a duly registered deed of mortgage, and, "would dispose of the business publicly or privately, whichever may be to the best advantage, holding balance of funds, if any, to your (the Consul's) order, after recouping amount of mortgage and other indebtedness." On the same day, Mr. de Carvalho replied, by letter, "you, as privileged mortgagees of the property, can have the said property formally transferred to you on your giving me a letter guaranteeing that you will sell the said property to the best of the mortgagor's advantage, and that any surplus over and above Tls. 4,500 you will hand into his estate at this Consulate, without prejudice to any other claim you may have against Mr. Loureiro or Loureiro and Co." Defendants further admitted that, as mortgagees of the property, they were endeavouring to find a purchaser when they applied for possession, but they denied that they had concluded a sale until three days afterwards, in support of which denial they produced a letter from the ultimate purchaser, dated on 27th Nov., 1874, withdrawing all previous offers and making a new offer to them for the purchase of the property, which was accepted. Defendants admitted having sold the property for Tls. 5,000, but did not admit the plaintiff's statement that the sale never originated with them. In the final clause of their answer, the defendants said, "The mortgagees, in their capacity as commission agents and auctioneers, effected a sale of the property for the benefit of all concerned, aud in charging commission of 5% did merely what any other commission agents or auctioneers would do, it being the established and customary rate for such business."

Mr. HANNEN, after stating the plaintiff's case, as contained in his petition, said he believed the whole of the facts were undisputed, except as to the guarantee. He should not, however, rely upon the fact whether a guarantee to return the surplus of the proceeds of the sale to the estate had been given or not, but simply rely upon the law of the case. The defendants said that no such guarantee to hand over the surplus had been given.

Mr. WILSON (one of the partners) said they gave no guarantee to hand over the balance. There was a reason which at first caused them to think they could retain the surplus, which was that Mr. Loureiro was indebted to them otherwise to some extent; but after reading over the mortgage-deed, they found they could not do that, and so charged commission in order to recoup themselves.

Mr. HANNEN said the only question for the Court was whether a mortgagee could charge commission. It was a well known principle that a mortgagee, after selling, and recouping the amount of the mortgage, stood in the relation of a trustee.

His LORDSHIP—You do not contend that if they had employed another auctioneer, and charged his fees, they would not have been entitled to do so?

Mr. HANNEN said certainly not; but they did not do that. He quoted Harrison's Dig. Vol. 3, under the head Trustee-Remuneration, to show that Trustees were not entitled to charge any commission for trouble; and in the Supplement, vol. 2, under the same head, in column 3,591, a later case again laid it down that trustees could only be allowed costs out of pocket. He would further refer his Lordship on that point to "Fisher on Mortgage," page 956, under the head of mortgagee's right to costs. He now came to the question of mortgagees, and cited the case of "Thomas *v.* Rumball, 3, *Jurist*," and notes to "Robinson and Pett," leading cases in equity, in which the same principle was laid down that a trustee was only entitled to his costs out of pocket and could not charge commission. Then came "Kirkman *v.* Booth," 11, Bevan's Reports, 273; and, in fact, there followed a whole series of cases to the same effect. Upon those cases, some of which were exactly similar to that before the Court, he submitted the plaintiff was entitled to a judgment.

Mr. WILSON said the defendants simply contended that they took possession and sold the business in their capacity as commission agents, and on rendering their account they charged their usual commission. If they had employed another auctioneer, they would have had to pay his charges. They had had a great deal of trouble in the matter, and looked upon it that they were entitled to their commission as agents in the sale. He had no law cases to cite, but would simply repeat that they considered themselves entitled to their commission.

His LORDSHIP said he thought the cases cited by Mr. Hannen were conclusive. There could be no doubt that mortgagees were not entitled to anything more than the bare expenses out of pocket, and that nothing in the shape of commission accrued.

Mr. WILSON—That is to say, we are to charge all actual expenses out of pocket?

Mr. HANNEN—But that cannot affect this case.

His LORDSHIP—You stand towards the other creditors now in the position of a trustee; and as a trustee you are bound to hand over everything.

Mr. HANNEN—This amount of money will be distributed among the employés, who are nearly all Portuguese, for their wages. It is very hard upon them, and I hope your Lordship will make an order as to the costs of the suit now. You have the power to do so, and it will shorten matters greatly. I venture to say that if Mr. Wilson had made a statement to his lawyer, and taken an opinion, for which he would have had to pay some Tls. 10 or Tls. 15 perhaps, he would not have been put to these costs.

Mr. WILSON—If I am to pay costs, they must come out of the estate. I cannot be expected to pay them out of my own pocket.

His LORDSHIP—In cases which involve a doubt, it is much better to ask legal advice. The amount is Tls. 250, and I will fix the costs at $50. I do not wish Mr. Wilson to think I am fighting the battle of the lawyers, but, in all cases where there is any doubt as to the bearing of the law, it is better to have legal opinion. In the end it saves money.

The Court then rose.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 17th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. (Master of *Northampton*) *v.* JOHN WILLIAMS.

Defendant, a man of colour, an able seaman of the British ship *Northampton*, was charged with using abusive language to the chief mate, and with being absent without leave and drunk, on Sunday, the 14th instant. He denied being abusive to the mate, but admitted the other offences, adding that the doctor came to him on Monday and asked him if he could go to his work. He told the doctor he could not, because he was drunk.

The Chief Mate said the defendant was abusive to him on a former occasion, but the next day became aft, said he was sorry, and the affair was overlooked. On Sunday morning last, he went on shore between ten and eleven in the forenoon without leave, and came on board about five o'clock in the afternoon, in a state of intoxication, but was unable to turn to work until noon on Tuesday. On Monday, witness went to the forecastle to see him, with the doctor, who said he was drunk, and it was no use giving him medicine for that. There was no work being done on the Sunday, but it was usual for seamen to ask for leave before going on shore; no one had been refused. Defendant's wages were £4 per month.

His WORSHIP said, on the former occasion, when defendant had been abusive to the mate, he had the good sense to express his regret for it, and it was overlooked. That, however, made the present matter worse, as notwithstanding the leniency shown towards him, he had repeated the offence. He must forfeit £1 from his wages, pay the cost of the summons, and return to his duty.

R. (Master of *Star of Jamaica*) *v.* ADAMS and WESTERBURY.

Continued Refusal of Duty.

Defendants, for the fourth time, were brought up on the above charge. They were put on board by order of the Court on Monday afternoon, and again refused to return to work.

Captain SACK said the ship was ready to go to sea, but he was now disinclined to take defendants, as he thought it would be running too great a risk to put to sea with a mutinous crew.

His WORSHIP said if the captain was not willing to take them, and the men refused to go, it was no use sending them on board. There was no doubt these men had been led away by the other two, who were already in prison, and as it seemed they were anxious to join them there, they would have to do so for twelve weeks. Before a week was over, they would perhaps wish they were on board again.

ADAMS said it was no use going to sea in such a ship.

His WORSHIP—Do not say that. You were in her for nearly ten months without complaint.

The Captain, in reply to questions, said the ship was bound to New York, and from thence home, which he would probably reach in six months, but it depended on the time of his detention in port.

His WORSHIP (to defendants)—Then by the time you come out of prison, your ship will be half way home,—a pleasant look out for you, is it not? But if you want to go to prison, you can go,—it is no use standing there.

The defendants were then handcuffed, and removed.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 17.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and A. DAVENPORT, Esq., British Assessor.

House Robbery.

A Chinese thief, who had been previously convicted, was charged with stealing six articles of wearing apparel from a native house in the Peking road. The case was clear against the accused, and he was sentenced to 100 blows with the bamboo, and to be cangued for a month at the door of the house he had robbed.

Feb. 18th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and Dr. YATES, U. S. Assessor.

Attempted House Robbery.

The Chinese thief who, a few weeks ago, was found inspecting the upper apartments of a foreigner's house in Hongkew, while the family were at dinner, and whose excuse was that he had made a mistake in the house, having been invited next door, was brought to Court on another charge. On this occasion, he had been caught wrenching a lock off a stable door. He had no good defence to-day, and was sentenced to 100 blows with the bamboo, and to be cangued for a fortnight.

Feb. 19th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and A. DAVENPORT, Esq., British Assessor.

Attempted Store Robbery.

The thief who attempted to steal some pieces of cloth and flannel from Messrs. Watson and Co.'s store, was brought up to-day, and the charge being fully proved against him, he was sentenced to 200 blows with the bamboo and a month's cangue.

Feb. 20th.

A Chinese Cutpurse.

A native was charged with stealing $3.50 from a fellow-countryman, by the simple process of cutting away the purse containing the money. Information being given to the police, the thief was captured, and $1.50 found upon him. He was sentenced to 100 blows with the bamboo, and a fortnight's cangue.

Obstructing the Footway.

A jinricksha coolie plying for hire near the Club, was charged with obstructing the footway at the entrance of that building, in the competition with others of the class to obtain a fare. This kind of offence is of nearly every-day occurrence, notwithstanding that frequent complaints are made respecting it; and only the other day an offender was brought up and leniently punished. In the present case, a sentence of one day's imprisonment was awarded.

Feb. 24th.

Raid on Chinese Gamblers.

Four natives were charged with gambling in a house in the Woo-hoo road. It appeared that, from instructions received, a native Sergeant and Constable of the Municipal Police went to the house on Tuesday afternoon, and found quite a number of people there, all of whom were gambling. As soon as the Police were seen, a stampede ensued, but four were captured, one of them being the occupant or "head man" of the house. He was sentenced to 200 blows with the bamboo and three months' cangue; each of the others to 100 blows and one month's cangue.

Petty Theft.

Two natives went on Monday night to a lodging-house in the Woo-hoo road, to sleep. One of them had a small bundle, containing seven pieces of clothing. In the morning he found that his companion and the bundle had disappeared. Information given to the police led to the speedy capture of the thief. He had pawned some of the articles, and was wearing the others. Sentenced to one month's cangue.

Obstructing the Footway.

Two jin-rik-sha coolies were charged with the frequent offence of obstructing the footway on the Bund, near the Club. Sentenced to two days' cangue each. (This is an improvement—the sentence hitherto has been only one day's cangue or imprisonment.)

Stealing Ballast from a Pilot Boat.

Two native boatmen were brought up on a charge of stealing a quantity of copper and iron ballast from a pilot boat, value $200. The evidence of the head lowdah being necessary, the prisoners were remanded until the return of the boat from a cruise down the river.

Stealing an Anchor.

Three Chinese were accused of stealing an anchor, weighing, it is said 200 catties, from a boat-builder's yard on the Soochow Creek. One of the thieves was caught in the act, but the others ran away. The captured one, however, gave information as to the whereabouts of his accomplices, and they were also taken. The punishment awarded was one month's cangue each.

Clippings.

Has it yet to be preached that ships' boats at sea ought to be in perfect readiness for launching, having water and provisions placed in them? A correspondent of the *Times* remarks upon the simple plan of packing bottles of water in each boat, and tins of preserved meat, with a knife or two to open them, ready for use. The value of these stores of cooked food for such purposes has yet to be acknowledged. At least, some kind of food should be packed in the boats, and done under Government inspection.

The last news received from Mr. Avery, our Minister to Peking, was by a letter from him to a friend in this city. His health had greatly improved, and he was about to continue his journey toward Peking. He left Shanghai October 14th, arrived at Tientsin on the 18th, and resumed his journey toward Peking on the 31st. Mr. Avery has had a severe struggle with the Prime Minister of Death, but had at last accounts the advantage in the controversy. We hope he may win over him fully, and be able to hold his own against Prince Kung.—*Alta.*

Still another China line of steamers is proposed to be established, to run between San Francisco and China, in connection with the Union Pacific Railroad. Jay Gould's name is mentioned as the party who entertains the idea of establishing such line, and, of course, upon the credit of the United States, and the indebtedness of the Union Pacific Railroad to the United States. No wonder the idea is looked upon as a novel one. We should say as reported it is an audacious one. However, the scheme may be different from what the telegraph would appear to suggest. Of course, San Francisco and this State would be pleased to see as many steam-lines on this route as could make money by the business. But it may be doubted if this or the other proposed new line could pay its way and profits in a trade whence the English company was but too glad to withdraw because of its unprofitableness.—*Idem.*

Captain Jordan, of the schooner *Tori*, which arrived yesterday from the Ronin Islands, brings news of the suspicious disappearance of Captain Pease, an American subject, part owner and formerly master of the *Tori*, who had been living at the Ronin Islands since he left her. On the 9th October last Pease was missing, and enquiries were made of his wife, a coloured woman. She said he had gone to visit her brother-in-law, who lived two or three miles distant. It was discovered that Pease had not been near the place referred to, and his boat was afterwards found on the beach, smashed up; not by the sea, apparently, but by hand. The next morning, traces of blood were found in Pease's house, in a room which was generally occupied by Captain Jordan, but where the missing man used to write. The wife was again questioned, when she made the excuse that her nose had been bleeding. A coloured man named John Spencer was suspected of having assisted her in making away with Pease, and both were taxed with the crime. They positively denied any knowledge of the affair, and Spencer, on being questioned as to where he passed the night of the 9th inst., thrice made contradictory statements. A meeting was then called by Captain Jordan, who exercises, we believe, the functions of magistrate, and all the residents attended, except the wife of Pease, the man Spencer, and Mrs Pease's brother-in-law; the latter positively refused to attend. The general impression of the meeting seemed to be that Spencer and Mrs. Pease had caused the death of Captain Pease, with the connivance of Mrs. Pease's brother-in-law. Whether or not these suspicions are well founded remains to be proved; but, about three weeks after the occurrence, Spencer and the coloured woman made application to Capt. Jordan, asking to be united in wedlock, but he of course refused to marry them. The affair will be laid before the U. S. Consul-General at this port, who will, no doubt, take measures to discover the truth, and, if foul play be proved, bring the perpetrator to justice.—*Japan Gazette.*

The recent murderous attack on Mr. C. E. Hill, at Shanghai, by a Chinese mob, following on several other outrages lately committed by natives on foreigners in that city, affords another proof that the hostility of the Celestial to foreigners, which was so signally evidenced by the riots of last year, is still only slumbering. Acts of violence would be even yet more frequent in the Settlement were it not that the Chinese local authorities are kept in wholesome dread of the satisfaction which is very properly insisted upon by the foreigners. Assaults of the kind committed on Mr. Hill are happily very rare in Hongkong nowadays. And even when they take place, they are usually committed with the object of plunder, as in the case of Mr. Downs, who was knocked down one evening last May, robbed of his watch, and left insensible on the road. The large and efficient police force maintained in this colony also renders the perpetration of such offences a very hazardous job, and hence Europeans go about freely, without the slightest fear of insult or danger. But in Shanghai there is no such security. Last month several cases of violence and robbery were recorded, some of a most dastardly character, and the criminals escaped, we believe, the punishment they so richly merited. In one instance a lady was struck across the face by some scoundrel without the smallest provocation. It is often difficult, at such times, to identify the perpetrator of the outrage, for he of course beats a speedy retreat, and the Mongolian physiognomy presents fewer and less striking variations than the Caucasian, and it is consequently more difficult to recognise a Chinaman thus hastily seen. It is time, however, some more efficient means of protecting foreign residents in Shanghai were taken, or the Chinese, emboldened by former impunity, will make a trade of plundering unprotected foot passengers. It has become necessary either for foreigners to carry arms or to insist upon the Chinese authorities exercising an effectual restraint upon their people, for it is perfectly clear that Mr. Hill's courage and presence of mind alone saved his life.—*Daily Press.*

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			[Cash.
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	17 % disct. Exc. 73—18 % „ 30th April.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	73
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½ nominal
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	„ 100	5 p. c.	84
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 „	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 86½
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 188
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	500 ex div.
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c.	123
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	130
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	4 p. c.	103 Cash.
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			78¾

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

London, Jan. 8th, 1875.

Bank and Miscellaneous Shares.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing prices.
£ 20	Chartered of India, Australia and China	all	14½ to 15¼
£ 25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	all	24 to 25
500 fr.	Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris	all	561¼ fr.
Th. 200	Deutsche	all	Th. 172
£ 28½	Hongkong & Shanghai...	all	26 to 28 x.d.
£ 25	Oriental	all	45 to 46
	Telegraph Cos.		
£ 10	Eastern Extension Australia and China	all	7⅞ to 8
£ 8	Reuters	all	11¼ to 11¾
	Miscellaneous Cos.		
500 fr.	Mess. Mar. of France ...	all	557½ fr.
£ 50	P. & O. S. N. Co.	all	57 to 58
£ 50	Do. do. 1867...	10	¼ dis. to ¼ p.m.
£ 98	Japan Loan, 9 per cent.	all	110 to 112
£ 92½	Do. 7 per cent.	all	96 to 98

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EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1874-5.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687 24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584 45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	... 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark .. ... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ... .. ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda .. .. ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Meikong..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Glenearn..... ,,	... 31	,,	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... ,,	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	1,049.77	2,730.33	3,780.10
Gwalior ..... ,,	... 28	Bombay	.....	102.47	102.47
Carried forward ...			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10

* Taken Cargo of Glenartney at Foochow. † Took Cargo of Glenfalloch at Tientsin.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			488,283.28	66,954.82	555,238.10
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4	London	2.78	693.75	696.53
do. ..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	170.55	170.55
Priam..... ,,	... 4	L. v. Fchow	20.22	1,055.41	1,075.63
Amazone ..... ,,	... 18	London	.....	227.52	227.52
Hector ..... ,,	... 22	,,	262.27	930.90	1,193.17
Total.....			491,270.24	86,217.94	577,488.18

TO UNITED STATES.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N. Y.&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica..... ,,	... 6	,,	.....	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State... s.v.	... 23	N. Y. v F'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
Sarpedon ..... s.s.	... 27	New York	.....	2,254.67	2,254.67
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	,,	0.54	5,708.48	5,709.02
Priam..... s.s.	Feb 4	,,	.....	95.48	95.88
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 1	,,	.....	1,696.29	1,696.29
do. ..... s.s.	... 1	San F'cisco	.....	96.81	96.81
Nevada ..... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	57.79	57.79
Star of Jamaica s.v.	... 16	,,	.....	2,541.63	2,541.63
Hector ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	.....	57.75	57.75
Total.....			10,349.00	109,675.82	120,024.82

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica... .. ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
Amoy ..... ,,	... 26	Hongkong	.....	14.40	14.40
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	Japan	66.90	.....	66.90
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4		.....	4.37	4.37
Costa Rica..... ,,	... 22	Nagasaki	2.25	.....	2.25
Total.....			4,216.96	5,375.32	9,592.28

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 24TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—The London mails of 8th ultimo yesterday, per P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, and the steamers *Benledi*, *Corea*, and *Pardo*, from London.

Telegrams.—The last received gives quotations the same as those appearing in the previous week's Report.—The export of Plain Cottons from home has been telegraphed as 5,500,000 yards.

Four steamers, the *Shingking*, *Shantung*, *Appin* and *Taku*, are on the berth, and will leave for the North so soon as there is the slightest chance of their being able to enter the Peiho.—Latest advices from Tientsin—dated 8th instant—speak as if the ice were expected to break up about the beginning of next month. Business at date had not been resumed. From Hankow, the accounts of markets are rather better than they have been for a length of time past. A fair amount of business in 9¾, 8¼ and 7-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* is reported, but, as is pretty often the case now-a-days, the natives of Shanghai were aware of the improvement, or knew that it was coming some days ahead of the foreigner. The result—which is not so important as it might have been—will be found below. The *Japanese* dealers have done scarcely anything. The letters by the *Costa Rica*, arrived on 18th instant, were discouraging in tone, and telegrams since received are equally so. The markets—for *Grey Shirtings*, and *Velvets* more especially—are said to be very dull at all the ports.

Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs.—About 16,000 pieces of Dewhursts' *Eagles*—which were wanted when last mail was under despatch, have been bought for the Hankow districts at Tls. 1.90 *a* 1.92 per piece, for J.A. and P.A. general imports—and holders are now asking higher prices. The enquiry has not been very active, and the improvement which these rates indicate has been due to firmness on the part of sellers. At Hankow the native selling price is said to be Tls. 1.97 per piece, which however includes Municipal rates, and for a credit of three months. Collie's *Dollar* chop has been sold at Tls. 1.95 per piece, and *E-wo green dragon* has been booked at Tls. 1.98 per piece; but in the lower qualities only a trifling business has taken place. At the close there is a little demand for Collie's *Spread Eagle* at Tls. 1.80, and for good *Lie Eagle* at Tls. 1.62 *a* 1.63 per piece. At the *Yuen Fong* auction last week, Mildews of the *Two-man* chop were sold at Tls. 1.51 per piece. In 6 and 7-lbs. there is no change to note. The market continues flat, and buyers can be found only when they see a bargain. Best *heavy Shirtings* are still wanted at Tls. 2.60 for Dewhurst's *Eagles*.

White Shirtings.—Some 56 Reeds at Tls. 1.61 *a* 1.65 per piece have been settled, and that is nearly all that can be said about this article to-day. The purchases for the most part have gone to Japan.

T-Cloths.—Common to ordinary 6, 7 and 8-lbs. have been in good request. Of the lighter weights the market seems to be cleared; while the rates offered for the 8-lb. cloth, viz., Tls. 1.58 *a* 1.60 per piece are a shade too low to bring many on the market. A few ordinary 8-lbs. have changed hands at Tls. 1.60 *a* Tls. 1.62½ per piece. *Mexicans* have seldom or never been asked for.

Drills.—The sale of between 17,000 and 18,000 pieces of Levita and Hudson's Dragon 14-lbs. at Tls. 2.35 per piece is the most notable event of the week, and the next to it in importance is a transaction—1,500 pieces, in Americans *Feiman*, at Tls. 3.40 per piece. These have nearly all been settled to the Northern dealers, whose orders are now about full for the first steamers. To-day, 3,000 pieces of Mendel's 14-lbs. Pillars are reported at Tls. 2.30 per piece.

Jeans.—The foreigners market for these has had a relapse. The enquiry noticed last week has entirely subsided, having been satisfied out of previous heavy speculative settlements not reported at the time of sale. Prices for all but the very best are little more than nominal.

Sheetings.—In the absence of stocks of English, there is no business to report, and buyers still refuse to pay the rate demanded for the American cloth on hand.

Fancy Cottons.—Quietness has prevailed, and transactions have been very trifling. Reported sales embrace 300 pieces 2¼-lb. *Turkey Reds* at Tls. 1.76 per piece; 800 pieces *Dimities* at Tls. 1.50 per piece; 1,800 pieces *Irishes* at Tls. 2.80 *a* 3.02½ per piece; 160 pieces printed *Cashmeres* at Tls. 4.25; 1,000 pieces extra good *Chintzes* at Tls. 1.52 per piece; 500 pieces of *Dyed Brocades* at Tls. 2.65 per piece; 150 pieces *Velvets* at Tls. 0.18¾ per yard, and 2,000 dozens of blue *Handkerchiefs* at Tls 0.52 *a* 0.54 per dozen.

Woollens.—Scarlet *Long Ells* have continued in request at last mail's rates, viz., Tls. 7.30 per piece for C.P.H., but there are none on hand. A small business however has been done in assortments of H. D. B. at Tls. 6.90, and in dark blue of a more ordinary chop at Tls. 6.50 per piece. *Camlets.*—Sales of C. P. H. scarlet at Tls. 14 were effected at the beginning of the week. Since then the rate has fallen to Tls. 13.90 per piece, free of commission. At the close speculators are enquiring for "cheap" goods, or as they describe them, "hurry sell-'m cargo." *Lastings.*—About 1,000 pieces—560 assorted, and 400 pieces black, have been settled at Tls. 10.80 and Tls. 10.20 *a* 10.25 per piece respectively. *Figured Orleans.*—The only transaction I have heard of consists of 600 pieces assorted inferior cloth at Tls. 2.70 per piece. *Spanish Stripes.*—A misprint occurred in last report. The selling rates of C. P. H. and H. H. *Gentian* should have been Tls. 0.60 and 0.64 per yard. In this article scarcely anything has transpired since last mail day, and the price of Scarlet has declined fully 1 cand. per yard without attracting notice. In *Medium Cloths*, business has been confined to 100 pieces No. 2 *Russian Cloths* at Tls. 25.50, and 40 pieces damaged of the same at Tls. 25 per piece.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.9.0	13.5.0	14.4.0	13.0.0	13.4.0	...	...	12.1.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ... ,, ... ,,	7.3.0	6.8.0	6.7.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.1.0	6.7.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.9	0.5.4	0.5.9½	0.5 9	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.5.7	0.6.0	0.6.0	0.6.4

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 18TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.60	12.92½/12.95	13.85/13.87½	13.00	13.35	...	.....	12.10	12.97½	12.60
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.50/13.55	12.82½/12.85	13.80/13.82½	12.97½/13.00	13.25/13.30	...	.....	12.02½	12.95/12.27½	12.47½/12.50
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.58¼/0.58½	0.56/0.56¼	0.59¼/0.60	0.59¾/0.60¼	.....	0.59	0.57	0.61¼/0.61¾	0.59/0.59¾	.....

Sales.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.42½; S.S.G., 600 pcs., av. Tls. 13.36½ per piece.

Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 756 pcs. av. Tls. 0.58½ per yard.

8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, Britannia chop, 2,250 pcs., at Tls. 1.69 *a* 1,69½ per piece.

Do. C.P.H. Peacock, 5,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.59 *a* 1.59½ per piece.

Do. Two-man (Mildew), 6,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.51 *a* 1.51½ per piece.

		T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₱	pc.	1.3.5	to	1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9½-lbs.	,,	2.1.5	,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.....	,,	2.4.5	,,	2.6.2
Tun Sin	,,	2.7.5	,,	.....
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₱	pc.	1.6.0	,,	1.7.0
60 reed	,,	1.7.3	,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ...	,,	1.9.0	,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
Best.....	,,	2.8.0	,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...		3.3.5	,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....		2.3.0	,,	2.4.4
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...		2.6.0	,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....		2.2.7	,,	2.3.5
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb...		2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼ lbs...		1.8.3	,,	1.9.2
American ,, ,, ,, ...		2.7.5	,,	.....
SHEETINGS—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....		3.7.0	,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....		2.7.5	,,	3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.0.6	,,	1.1.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.1.8	,,	1.2.2
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.0	,,	1.3.0
7-lbs. ,, ...	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.5.5	,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX		1.8.0	,,	2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₱ dz.		0.4.5	,,	0.5.4
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.2
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₱	pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.4.5	,,	2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.0	,,	2.7.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.4.0	,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.5.2
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.3.8
Scarlet	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...		2.0.0	,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...		3.7.0	,,	4.2.5
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in.	,,	1.7.0	,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,		2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₱ yd.		0.1.6½	,,	0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.4	,,	0.1.5
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS	,,	0.0.3½	,,	0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....₱	pc.	1.2.0	,,	1.3.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.6.0	,,	0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S	,,	13.0.0	,,	13.7.5
G G	,,	13.4.5	,,	.....
S S G	,,	13.4.0	,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₱ yd.		0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.5.7	,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.8½	,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,,	.....
LONG ELLS—				
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₱	pc.	7.2.5	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,,	,,	7.3.0	,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,,	,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,,	,,	7.0.0	,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,,	,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds	,,	9.5.0	,,	11.5.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES	,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black.....	,,	3.7.5	,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS, &c.—*Nailrod Iron.*—The market continues very quiet, 2,000 bundles "M. M." at Tls. 2.85 per picul being the only sale reported. In best cargo there appears to be nothing doing, and Tls. 3.00 *a* 3.10 per picul, according to assortment, is still quoted. *Lead.*—Small sales of L.B. to natives at Tls. 6.25 per picul are reported, but this price is said to include all charges, delivering, and putting on board cargo-boats or ships. *Tin—Fok Chok* and the lower brands are rather more firmly held, and for the few little lots that have been settled slightly higher rates have been paid. *Copper* and most other Metals have been neglected. *Tin Plates.*—There have been offers of remunerative rates for some floating cargo, but as yet no sale has taken place.

A fair quantity of South Sea Island *Sandalwood* has recently changed hands at Tls. 3.70 per picul for best quality.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.		
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	155.0.0	*a*	160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....	per Box	6.4.0	*a*	.....
Small ,, ...	,,	.....		.....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0	*a*	6.7.5
18 ...	no demand. ,,	7.0.0	*a*	.....
19/23	,,	7.7.5	*a*	8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom....	,,	20.7.0	*a*	.....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	20.0.0	*a*	.....
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0	*a*	.....
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0	*a*	3.4.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	*a*	4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	.....	*a*	.....
Slab, best	,,	18.5.0	*a*	.....
Ore	,,	16.5.0	*a*	17.0.0
HOOP IRON	,,	3.3.0	*a*	3.4.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0	*a*	31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—				
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.1.0	*a*	3.1.5
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.5	*a*	2.7.0
M. M. Crown..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.5	*a*	2.9.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.9.0	*a*	3.1.0
Round.....	,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.1.5	*a*	6.2.5
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... ..	*a*	.....

		Tls. m. c.		
COTTON—Common New	per Pic.	7.8.0	*a*	8.2.0
,, Medium	,,	8.6.0	*a*	9.2.0
,, Best.....	,,	9.6.0	*a*	10.2.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0	*a*	6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0	*a*	5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0	*a*	5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	*a*	5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0	*a*	4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0	*a*	4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	*a*	2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	9.7.0	*a*	.....
—White	,,	15.0.0	*a*	18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	*a*	4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0	*a*	4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	*a*	2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0	*a*	3.7.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0	*a*	10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0	*a*	18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK.....	,,	0.7.0	*a*	1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5	*a*	0.5.0

FREIGHTS.—*Ping-On*, Br. str., 477 tons, Nagasaki to Tientsin, no lay days—private terms; *Hilda*, Br. bq., 306 tons, Nagasaki and back, 12 lay days—$2.89 per ton coal; *Warden Appleby*, Br. bq., 253 tons, Nagasaki and back, 12 lay days—$2.80 per ton coal; *Hamburg*, Ger. bq., 310 tons, Nagasaki and back, 13 lay days—$2.80 per ton coal; *Condor*, Ger. bg., 239 tons, Nagasaki and back, 12 lay days—$2.80 per ton coal; *Lydia*, Br. bq., 376 tons, Nagasaki and back, 15 lay days—$2.80 per ton coal; *Lady Belmore*, Br. bq., 253 tons, Nagasaki and back, 12 lay days—$2.85 per ton coal; *Oscar Vidal*, Br. bq., 256 tons, Shanghai to Hiogo, no lay days, $0.18 per case kerosine oil; *Farningham*, Br. bq., 281 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, no lay days—$0.41 per picul.

COTTON.—The market continues quiet, and quotations remain unaltered. The stocks at the hongs are not heavy, but the receipts are regulated entirely by the demand. Rates are not expected to decline, as the country people will soon be engaged on their fields, and during their agricultural labours the supply of necessity will be limited.

EXCHANGE.—There is more demand for Bank paper, and rates are weaker. 5s. 9d. was the quotation at the beginning of the week, but at the close 5s. 8¾d. *a* 5s. 8⅞d. is the best rate named. There is still but a limited supply of private paper. Closing quotations are 5s. 9¼d. for Credits, and 5s. 9⅜d. for documents. On India, rates close at Rs. 304½ on Bombay and Rs. 306 on Calcutta. On Hongkong, Bank paper can be got at 26⅜ *a* 26½.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7½d.	₱ Tl.	
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 8⅝d. *a* 5s. 8¾d.	,,	
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9¼d.	,,	
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅜d.	,,	
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.22½	,,	
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼	,,	
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.31¼	,,	
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 306	₱ 100 Tls.	
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 304½	₱ 100 ,,	
ON HONGKONG.—Bank Bills, demand, 26⅜ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 26¾ per cent. disc.		
INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.		

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.825 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.60 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,530 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 24th February are reported as :—

Stock on 10th February	Malwa,	2,955	Chests.		Patna,	1,825	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	905½	,,		,,	570	,,
Total	,,	3,860½	,,	Total	,,	2,395	,,
Deliveries from 10th February	,,	970	,,		,,	392	,,
Stock	,,	2,890½	,,		,,	2,003	,,
Ex "Sunda"	,,	969	,,		,,	55	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,859½	,,		,,	2,058	,,

Bargained Opium..... .....1,550 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New,...	Tls. 422	415	415
Old, ...	Tls. 435	430	430
Patna—New,...	Tls. 438	428	428
Old, ...	Tls. 436	435	434

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The export to date, as compared with that of last season, is :—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,339,735	lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	1,153,076	,,
To United States—Black	Excess	711,431	,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	3,703,581	,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	51,363,107	lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,152,588	,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,368,711	,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	6,201,360	,,

Black.—Three small parcels of Common Teas from Kiukiang have been settled at Tls. 15 *a* 18½, and two have been shipped on owners' account, thus clearing the market.

Settlements and shipments, 465 chests. Stock (against *none* last year), *Nil.*

The following prices have been paid :—

	Exchange, 5/9¼.	Freight, £3.
Common Kiukiang kinds	Tls. 15 *a* 18½ =	0/10½ *a* 1/0½.

Green.—There has been only a small business during the fortnight, buyers seeking for considerable concessions, which holders are at present unwilling to make. A few purchases of Country Teas show a decline of about Tls. 2, but a larger decline is apparently wanted to cause any general demand.

					Against 1874.
Settlements—Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	5,060 ½-chests.	Stock,	49,500 ½-chests.		4,517 ½chests.
,, Pingsueys	1,382 ,,	,,	5,500 ,,		1,211 ,,
,, Shanghai packed	... ,,	,,	4,000 ,,		1,700 ,,
	6,442 ½-chests.		59,000 ½-chests.		7,428 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9¼.	Freight, £3.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Teenkais and Moyunes	Tls. 16 *a* 39½ =	/11 *a* 2/1 =	23 *a* 52¾ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 24 *a* 26¾ =	1/3¾ *a* 1/5½ =	32¼ *a* 36½ ,,
Shanghai packed	.... =	..... =	..... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,003,602 lbs.	58,663,867 lbs.	62,362,069 lbs.
Green	10,512,093 ,,	9,359,017 ,,	10,738,891 ,,
	75,515,695 lbs.	68,022,884 lbs.	73,100,960 lbs.

Export to United States and Canada—

Black	1,612,500 lbs.	801,069 lbs.	1,277,164 lbs.
Green	15,957,571 ,,	19,661,152 ,,	22,240,168 ,,
	17,570,071 lbs.	20,462,221 lbs.	23,517,332 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows :—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	75,515,695 lbs.	68,022,884 lbs.	73,100,960 lbs.
,, Foochow to 13th Feb.	61,581,299 ,,	54,857,063 ,,	52,231,792 ,,
,, Canton to 15th Feb.	19,863,912 ,,	15,383,512 ,,	20,178,078 ,,
	156,960,906 lbs.	138,263,459 lbs.	145,510,830 lbs.

SILK.—The last public telegrams from London report business confined to a few auction sales ; fair No. 5 Tsatlee is quoted at 12s. 6d. ; Common Tsatlee, 12s. 0d. ; Skeins, 11s. 0d. *a* 11s. 6d. ; 9/12 Moss Taysaams, 11s. 3d., and No. 2 re-reeled Haining at 16s. 0d. Deliveries of China Silk continue fairly satisfactory, being 1,800 bales from the 1st to the 16th of this month. The shipments of silk since my last circular have been 134 bales for London, 211 bales for the Continent, 33 for India and Coast, and 5 for America, in all 383 bales, the smallest fortnight's export seen this season. For the French mail of the 19th inst., about 300 bales found buyers at the following reported prices.

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Dragon Chop, No. 3 Tsatlee	Tls. 395	19s. 6d.	Frs. 54.60
Donkey ,, ,, ,,	Tls. 395	19s. 6d.	Frs. 54.60
Pang-e-tai "Ting-how" Tsatlee	Tls. 337½	16s. 9d.	Frs. 46.80
,, "Tay-how" ,,	Tls. 317½	15s. 9d.	Frs. 44.10
Blue Elephant	Tls. 335	16s. 7d.	Frs. 46.60
Red Peacock	Tls. 320	15s. 10d.	Frs. 44.45
Common Tsatlee	Tls. 260	12s. 11d.	Frs. 36.28

During the past week only 500 bales have been purchased, at slightly lower rates. No chops or known silks are said to have been bought, the settlements consisting of market and common Tsatlees, Tls. 260 *a* 330, Taysaams, 260 *a* 280, Sewhings, 240 *a* 250, and Yellow silks, 180 *a* 230 per picul. For America 200 bales have been taken at Tls. 320 *a* 370 for re-reeled Tsatlees, and Tls. 320 *a* 390 for re-reeled Hainings, and the market is almost cleared of desirable parcels of this class of silk. Arrivals for the fortnight have been very trifling, and the unsold stock is estimated at 4,300 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 22nd Feb., 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 34 @ 39, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	2,900	7,800	5,249	19,650	...	...	...	250	...	...	1,500	...	...	4,250
T-Cloths ..... ,,	2,410	2,740	3,820	14,855	...	...	...	300	...	500	...	...	...	3,960
White Shirtings ..... ,,	100	250	50	2,250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,280
Drills ..... ,,	90	60	30	300	...	...	...	...	...	300	300	960	...	330
Jeans ..... ,,	...	...	...	880	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	40	...	...	174	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	670	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	40	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	40	410	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	...	840
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	797	...	150
Velvets ..... ,,	30	54	...	384	...	...	...	...	...	120	420	...	...	280
Velveteens ..... ,,	20	24	...	110	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	60
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	1,050	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,200
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	30	150	24	300	...	...	...	24	12	...	...	...	...	252
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	36	116	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	120
Camlets ..... ,,	20	150	310	410	...	...	...	20	80	...	...	...	...	90
Long Ells ..... ,,	40	220	280	800	...	...	...	...	20	60	...	...	...	100
Lastings ..... ,,	20	20	40	200	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	550	...	...	50
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	180	60	310	...	...	...	...	56	120	...	...	...	960
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	50	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	273	1,063	...	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	760	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	274	...	685	388	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against. 24/2/74
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	41,599	287,103	244,987	481,121	1,417,000	687,500
T-Cloths ..... ,,	28,585	126,643	67,308	127,872	606,800	1,179,000
White Shirtings ..... ,,	3,930	23,879	40,656	81,449	133,400	84,000
Drills ..... ,,	2,370	12,087	8,150	39,478	271,400	435,500
Jeans ..... ,,	940	10,720	19,001	38,408	69,000	95,300
Sheetings ..... ,,	.....	80	.....	10,000	11,600	53,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	714	3,906	6,153	9,709	8,700	2,000
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	.....	350	2,565
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800
Brocades, White ..... ,,	1,990	2,289	.....	1,445	3,100	400
,, Dyed ..... ,,	770	3,720	6,104	10,183	35,700	22,400
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	122	162	2,403	3,682	10,600	4,900
Chintzes ..... ,,	1,470	6,320	5,418	10,542	92,900	118,200
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,247	8,038	3,246	13,488	32,300	34,300
Velvets ..... ,,	1,288	5,442	3,339	7,211	9,500	12,800
Velveteens ..... ,,	254	646	696	1,076	1,700	7,500
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	3,250	14,780	5,342	6,902	64,900	139,700
Muslins .....Pcs.	200	706	300	700	11,100	24,200
Dimities ..... ,,	100	650	230	230	14,300	10,200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	792	3,962	4,146	6,446	13,200	35,600
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	278	1,588	288	1,365	10,200	19,800
Camlets ..... ,,	1,080	6,110	6,170	10,560	27,300	22,500
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,520	7,300	3,100	6,340	8,100	14,000
Lastings ..... ,,	420	1,770	2,300	4,260	14,900	8,000
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	100	720	700	1,800	10,300	3,900
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	700	3,000	1,199	2,549	3,600	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	1,686	8,896	5,813	7,200	126,800	135,000
,, Crape ..... ,,	350	1,140	1,000	2,000	23,100	11,900
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	1,347	9,604	2,188	8,299	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,306	8,772	7,938	19,491	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Amoy-Cassandra, Kashgar, State of Virginia, Hector, Ava, Benledi, Pardo, Sunda, Corea,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

February 25, 1875.

Arrivals.—February 19th, British ship *Black Adder*; 22nd, British barque *Janet*, both from Sydney.

Departures.—February 21st, British barque *Star of Jamaica*, for New York; 23rd, British steamer *Hector*, for London.

The English mail steamer *Kashgar* takes about 250 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8$\frac{3}{4}$d. *a* 5s. 8$\frac{7}{8}$d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9$\frac{1}{4}$d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9$\frac{1}{4}$d. *a* 5s. 9$\frac{3}{8}$d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.22$\frac{1}{2}$ *a* 7.25. Private, Frs. 7.30. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 305$\frac{1}{2}$. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 307. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.85 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.50 per 100. Copper cash, 1,530 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

S. S. N. Co.—We have no business to report. Shares are readily obtainable at Tls. 73 per share.

H. & S. Banking Corporation.—A fair business has been done at 17 % discount cash, and at 18 % discount for April. Shares are on offer for cash, but are enquired for on time.

Marine Insurance Shares.—*China & Japans* are wanted at Tls. 86$\frac{1}{2}$. *Yangtszes* and *Chinese* are also firm at quotations of Tls. 585 and $188 respectively.

Fire Insurance Shares.—*Victorias* are on offer at quotations—cash and time; *Chinas* are wanted for cash, and *Hongkongs* are obtainable at $500 *ex div.*

Hongkew Wharf Co.—Shares have been placed at various rates from Tls. 95 *a* 101 cash; and they are now in demand at Tls. 103.

Land.—Twenty-five *mow* of land, situated in Hongkew, below Dow's godown, and having a frontage to the river, has been sold at auction for Tls. 34 per *mow*.

Weather.—After four days of nearly incessant rain, the temperature became much lower on Saturday, and some smart snow showers fell. These were followed by others early Sunday morning, but towards noon the dark mass of cloud which had overshadowed us so long, began to disperse and blue sky was once more seen, the afternoon being crisp and clear. The moon "fulled" at 8.1 a.m. on Saturday, and the alteration in the weather took place within the prophetic thirty-two hours afterwards. This morning, however, the sky became again overcast, and as we write snow is falling thickly. The thermometer has ranged from 31 to 50. Another deep fall of snow is reported from Ningpo.

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	26,427	28,305	3,393	1,609	59,734	..	59,734
Subsequent Shipments	51	662	62	78	853	..	853
Total....	26,478	28,967	3,455	1,687	60,587	..	60,587

COTTON.

	Cleared	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report..		131,144.46	..	..	222,559.44	..	..	74,339.41	..	..	428,043.31
Subsequent Shipments		2,785.36	..	..	1,618.50	..	..	335.80	..	..	4,739.66
Total....		133,929.82	..	..	224,177.94	..	..	74,675.21	..	..	432,782.97

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 20th FEBRUARY, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	16	16.00	285	342.00	65	78.00	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	16	16.00	285	342.00	65	78.00	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore.....	36	36.00	106	127.20	66	79.20	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa	174	174.00	39$\frac{1}{2}$	39.50	73	73.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	71	71.00	..	..	..	..	357$\frac{1}{2}$	357.50
Patna	6	7.20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	7.20
Benares	2	2.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2.40
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	182	183.60	39$\frac{1}{2}$	39.50	73	73.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	71	71.00	..	..	..	..	365$\frac{1}{2}$	367.10

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 408. SHANGHAI, MARCH 4, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℘ AN.

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San Francisco,	,, 15	Yokohama,	,, 17
Hongkong,	Feb. 24	Nagasaki,	Mar. 2
Tientsin,	,, 15	Foochow,	Feb. 23

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Dec. 3 } Received 7th Jan.
Shanghai, ... Nov. 27 }

BIRTH.

At 6 Pyrland Road, London, N., on the 7th January, 1875, the wife of the Rev. J. HUDSON TAYLOR, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Shanghai, on the 26th Feb., 1875, at H.I.G.M.'s Consulate, before W. Annecke, Esq., GUSTAV THEODORE BAFFY, to HELENE MARIA MEYER.

On Thursday, 4th March, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, ERNEST WALTER TISDALL to ISABELLA, eldest daughter of the late Thos. Simpson Duff, of London.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, MAR. 4, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Piece Goods, continued. *White Shirtings.*—An increasing trade in this fabric has to be recorded; the year 1874, in its consumptive deliveries overtopping those of any previous period it has been our privilege to review. The Comparative Statistics stand thus:—

	Imports.	*Deliveries.*	*Stocks.*
1874 pieces	573,000	586,000	50,810
1873 ,,	385,000	525,000	64,900
1872 ,,	527,000	560,000	204,600
1871 ,,	540,000	442,000	244,600

Moreover, the business has been fairly steady throughout. The fluctuation in prices has not been great, and a fair ordinary 64-Reed—which, like its congener the 8¼-lbs. in the Grey, comprises by far the greatest portion of the deliveries—when a market existed, has always commanded a reasonable value. Dewhurst's best Eagle—*Taeping*—was never quoted under Tls. 2.15 per piece, against the opening and maximum rate of the year, Tls. 2.25 per piece; and the more ordinary cloths seldom showed a wider difference, excepting when the system of weekly auctions of sound goods was instituted last summer. At that time, and for two or three months subsequently, demand was at a very low ebb, and the forcing of business under the circumstances was followed by its natural consequence. A chop which was worth Tls. 1.93 *a* 1.94 in May, had fallen as low as Tls. 1.80 in August, and this was all the more to be regretted considering the very favorable position of stocks during the greater part of the season. For two months afterwards, enquiry languished, but then the demand came, and under its influence every available parcel was quickly taken up. Prices at once rebounded to their earliest level, and dealers were eager buyers for distant arrival at the advance indicated by the following quotations, taken from our Market Reports from 1st to 31st December, viz.: Tls. 1.90 *a* 2.05 for common chops, and Tls. 2.17½ for Dewhurst's *Taepings*. White Shirtings are closely allied to the unbleached article, and the causes which influence the trade in the one very frequently affect the other. Thus 52 *a* 60-Reeds, like the 6 and 7-lbs. Grey Shirtings, have been very difficult to move in quantity from year's end to year's end, while in conformity with the better business in heavy Grey Shirtings, the finer counts of bleached cloths improved materially as the season advanced, and yielded fair profits to those engaged in their importation.

T-Cloths.—There is one point, and one only, on which favorable comment can be made, and that is the decrease in the stocks that has been gradually taking place since 31st December, 1873. On that date, the Chamber of Commerce Returns showed 1,260,000 pieces of all weights in godown and on board ship in harbour, whereas at the beginning of the present year the stock by similar Returns appeared to be only 487,600 pieces, or say 600,000 pieces, allowance being made for the goods held by those firms who did not furnish statistics. But this diminution was powerless in raising the very low rates current at the opening of last season, and after two or three ineffectual efforts to establish higher quotations, holders, accepting their destiny, sold out as opportunity offered; and many an one seemed thankful for the riddance, although it was like the parting of old friends, and cost him severe pangs to see them go. And were they not old and dear friends, or had they not the right to be styled as such? Yea, verily, for some of them had been quietly reposing in their owners' warehouses for years, and every year they became dearer and more expensive still. But against this decrease in stocks, there has been a serious falling off in the consumption of *T-Cloths* within the past two years, much to the disappointment of the importer as well as to his loss; and no satisfactory conclusion as to its cause has yet been arrived at. We noticed this fact in our Retrospect for 1873; mentioning that general opinion was disposed to ascribe it to the plentiful cotton-yield of the previous autumn, notwithstanding that statistics were rather against the supposition. The depression prevailing in the *T-Cloths* market, however, and the great abundance and cheapness of native cotton and cotton-cloths throughout 1874, give force to the previous belief, and so in the absence of any better reason, we accept the native cotton idea as the true solution of the mystery. In connection with the foregoing, the following comparative statement of the statistics for the past six years may prove of interest to our readers:—

	Imports.	*Deliveries.*	*Stocks.* on 31st Dec.
1874 pieces	1,675,000	2,327,000	487,660*
1873 ,,	1,685,000	2,283,000	1,259,500
1872 ,,	4,650,000	3,597,000	1,782,300
1871 ,,	3,680,000	3,246,000	1,063,600
1870 ,,	2,556,000	2,946,000	570,000
1869 ,,	2,716,000	2,115,000	None [published.

* Calculated to be short about 100,000 pieces, the supposed holdings of those firms who disapproved of the annual collection of the stocks of imports by our Chamber of Commerce, from whose list the above stock column is taken.

The diminution of the stocks, as we have already said, is the only satisfactory point noticeable in the *T-Cloth* position, for business was flat at the opening of the year, and quotations low, and this was pretty well the ruling state of matters until its close. In our earliest Report, 7th January, no mention is made of the article, while in the next, quotations were altogether omitted and the market was thus described: "Trans- "actions are again trifling, and consist "chiefly in the class of Mexican 7-lbs. "obtainable at about Tls. 1.35 per piece. "There is a slight enquiry for fine 7-lbs., "and Tls. 1.60 is the rate named; but "it is somewhat difficult to define the "buyers' meaning of 'very fine,' and "so we can give no particular chop as "the basis for sellers to work upon; "small lots of Dewhurst's M.T. 8-lbs. "have found a market at Tls. 1.70 per "piece;" and again about six weeks later, our weekly Report states, "A sale "of 6-lb. Mexican T-Cloths is such a "rarity now-a-days, as to deserve a "special record." That same trans- action consisted of 1,000 pieces only, and the price realised was Tls. 1.32½ per piece, against a laying-down cost of about a mace higher. In March, although there was a more extensive business going on, and an advance of 3 to 5 c. per piece established in the value of 7-lbs. we were compelled to record the dissatisfaction still prevailing amongst holders who "generally, are "under the impression that before long "they will see a more satisfactory trade "and better prices." By the 1st of April, however, the dealers had "returned "to their old offers of Tls. 1.35 or inside "Tls. 1.40 for ordinary Mexican 7-lbs." Nor could they be induced to operate largely, unless on better conditions, during the remainder of the year; and, on 31st December, and for some weeks previously, we find that class quoted at Tls. 1.30 per piece. We con- clude our T-Cloths' Review with the following quarterly range of prices for the different weights and qualities:—

		1st July	1st April.	3rd July.	7th Oct.	31st Dec.
6-lbs. Common per piece	Tls.	1.01 *a* 1.06	1.04 *a* 1.07	1.05 *a* 1.10	1.09 *a* 1.13	1.05 *a* 1.10
6-lbs. Mexican		1.13 *a* 1.20	1.17 *a* 1.25	1.16 *a* 1.30	1.16 *a* 1.30	1.15 *a* 1.25
7-lbs. Mexican		1.31 *a* 1.37	1.35 *a* 1.55	1.38 *a* 1.57	1.31 *a* 1.55	1.30 *a* 1.55
7-lbs. Common		1.13 *a* 1.20	1.13 *a* 1.18	1.15 *a* 1.25	1.20 *a* 1.25	1.18 *a* 1.22
8-lbs. Common to Good		1.55 *a* 1.70	1.55 *a* 1.70	1.70 *a* 1.88	1.30 *a* 1.80	1.53 *a* 1.70

The improvement in 8-lbs. cloths at Midsummer was owing to an enquiry that set in about the beginning of June, and to the very moderate supply of the article on hand. Towards the middle of that month, heavy sales of hard and floating cargo were registered; but after that time the demand moderated, and when the goods began to arrive freely, prices reacted, reaching their normal level by the middle of November. *Mildew* has had no small share in keeping the lighter weights of T-Cloths at such a low range during 1874. But the Mildew in many instances was more in consequence of prolonged holding than of any primary adulteration in the manufacture, and it occurred mostly in those classes of 7-lb. Mexicans which are more particularly alluded to, and which in former years were crowded upon this market from home, to an extent far heavier than the country could bear. Of course, there have been cases of Mildew in more recent arrivals, but the damage of which we speak, and which we believe to have been partly instru- mental in depressing the market values of the year, was the result of excessive production and the consequent accumu- lation on this side.

Drills.—The opening of the market was exceedingly disappointing to holders. It is true that the year was inaugurated by heavy sales, but the rates paid and accepted were simply ruinous. When the autumn trade of 1873 terminated, quotations of ordinary quality—14 *a* 15-lb. English Drills were Tls. 2.48 *a* 2.58 per piece, and these figures even were somewhat below cost. But the stock was heavy, and supplies from home were constantly pouring in. Hence sellers became frightened, and most of them made haste to realise. Buyers had everything to themselves, and it is not surprising that they managed in a very brief space of time to get prices down to "Tls. 2.30 per piece for fair ordinary 15-lbs., or its equivalent for the lighter weights." Moreover, on the 21st of January last year, we find it written, "A sale of 7,000 pieces "fine 15-lb. English Drills (Dewhurst's) "at Tls. 2.35 distant clearance—has "been the event of the week. Indeed "there has been little else done, although "similar quality has been in constant "demand. Such a decline was rather "unexpected, and holders generally are "not yet prepared to accept it." Never- theless, most of the business of the year was done at or under those quotations, and a 15-lb, of fairly passable quality was auctioned in May at Tls. 2.18 per piece. However, the final results to importers, as the season advanced, were not so deplorable as at the commencement. The cost in Manchester had lessened considerably; the shipments from Europe and America were on a reduced scale, the home trade being scared by the unsatisfactory accounts from this side; and native consumption continued large; our stocks became more manageable. And so the importer of 1874 frequently sold his goods at a profit, not great certainly, but it was cheering to him to have something in his hands with which he could do a little good.

The English manufacture occupies by far the most important position here now, and to a great extent it rules the market. American cloth, by reason of the regulated supply, commands fancy prices so to speak, and the Dutch 13 *a* 14-lbs. rank after the same weights of English. During 1874, however, the imports from Holland also decreased very materially. The accumulations of the latter at the close of 1873, the peculiar and unaccountable absence of demand, and the high cost of produc- tion last year, acted as deterrents to shippers. Besides, to say nothing of the impossibility of selling at reasonable rates as compared with those paid for the English textile, many a holder was for a long time fettered by limits from home; and when sales became practica- ble the unlimited few closed with the earliest offers they received, selling out at from Tls. 2.00 *a* 2.10 per piece in May, up to Tls. 2.20 *a* 2.30 per piece in December. Hankow, which is the chief emporium for Dutch Drills—at least it has proved itself so in bye-gone days—has this season taken off but a small proportion only; whether because of the limits placed on most of them, or whether owing to the *Likin* difficul- ties, we are not in a position to say; but the fact remains, that the usual Hankow Spring enquiry was not experienced last year, and the trade in the article stood still, until the heavy decline indicated by the above figures attracted the atten- tion of the Northern dealers, who entered the market in Autumn, and whose opera- tions gradually established the prices cur- rent when winter set in. Of American Drills, it is only necessary to remark that they suffered in common with the other descriptions, although probably not to so great an extent. The market opened in April at Tls. 3.75 for P.M.C.D. *Dragon* chop, declining to Tls. 3.47½ towards its close. The cheaper makes were mostly wanted, and fair quantities of them changed hands from time to time on the basis of Tls. 3.30 *a* 3.40 per piece.

A falling off in the business of Drills has to be noted, but under this heading we have already trespassed too far, and will now close the subject, leaving the following comparative statement to explain what we had intended to say farther:—

	Imports.	Deliverres.	Stocks.
1874...pieces	561,000	777,000	244,000
1873...	1,315,000	1,056,000	397,000
1872...	1,010,700	971,000	124,700
1871...	710,640	788,000	104,000

Jeans.—The importer of *Jeans* has not gone altogether unrewarded, neither have the natives suffered on that account. Moreover, consumption has outrun the importation, and 1875 com- mences with as low a stock as we have seen for a number of years past. The opening quotations for ordinary to good medium qualities were Tls. 1.75 *a* 1.90 per piece, but the average selling prices of the year were considerably higher than these figures. In fact, excepting on one or two occasions, there was no business done so cheaply. In March, the standard quotation for English 8-lb. Jeans was Tls. 1.86 *a* 2.06, receding in June to the opening rates, recovering themselves shortly afterwards and maintaining an average value of Tls. 1.84 *a* 1.95 per piece throughout the remainder of the year. In *Dutch Jeans* transactions were neither extensive nor important, and seldom did the rates realised cover cost. Quotations were fairly steady throughout, the extreme points being Tls. 2.23 in January, Tls. 2.05 in Spring and early Summer, and Tls. 2.20 in Autumn and Winter. Of American Jeans there were not any importations:—

	Imports.	Deliveries.	Stocks.
1874...pieces	308,000	328,000	253,000
1873... ,,	387,200	365,000	96,700
1872... ,,	396,500	333,000	88,400
1871... ,,	187,000	189,000	39,500

Summary of News.

The P.M. str. *Golden Age*, with American mails of the 15th January, is just signalled.

A mail leaves for Europe to-morrow, by the M. M. str. *Ava*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week :—

Mitchell again stands for Tipperary.

Congress has voted the Revenue Bill, which increases the Sugar Duty 25 %. Tea and Coffee are not taxed.

The trial of the Gaekwar is proceeding.

The Official Journal in France declares that Macmahon is resolved to uphold Conservative principles.

The steamer *Hongkong* has struck on a rock and foundered.

We hear that the Chinese Government have contracted a new loan of Tls. 3,000,000, two-thirds of which have been taken up by the Oriental Bank, and one-third by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. It is secured on certain Customs revenues.—It is said that the money is destined for the army in the north-west.

The Annual Meeting of subscribers to Trinity Church was held on Monday. The accounts, as printed in another column, were passed. It was pointed out, however, that if the sum of Tls. 512 subscribed towards the salary of an assistant Chaplain were deducted, they would be nearly Tls. 400 to the bad. This is due to a falling off in receipts from pew-rents.—Messrs. Krauss and Bell were elected Trustees, and Mr. M. O. FitzGerald Treasurer, for the ensuing year.—Negociations have been going on in England, about engaging an Assistant-Chaplain ; and it is hoped that news will very shortly be received of an arrangement being made.—Power was given to the Trustees to sell certain superfluous benches and bells, and a clock which is not likely to be again useful.—It was pointed out that the lease of the Main Guard to the Gymnasium had expired, and that it was now occupied subject to six months notice. It was resolved to let this arrangement continue.—Some discussion took place as to the advisability of asking the Bishop of North-China to constitute Trinity Church his diocesan Cathedral. It was agreed that this would be a fitting compliment to Bishop Russell, and that the position of Shanghai entitled it to this distinction. The Trustees were accordingly authorised to advise with him on the subject.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Race Club was held on Friday afternoon, and was numerously attended. The chair was taken by Mr. C. J. King, who briefly stated that the balance of loan and interest due to Mr. Keswick had been paid, and eight shares in the race course purchased on behalf of the Club, which now possessed 17 out of 25 shares.—The accounts, showing a balance in favour of the Club, of Tls. 2,649, were passed as printed, after an enquiry by Mr. Brandt as to what had become of the German Challenge Cup, which had disappeared, and on account which the Club stood indebted to the final winner in the sum of Tls. 350. The Chairman said this matter was the subject of correspondence between the Stewards and Mr. Cordes, who was now at Honkong, and it would be premature to say anything more about it at present.—The next business was the appointment of Clerk of the Course, consequent upon the resignation of Mr. F. King. The Chairman said that the duty would be undertaken by Mr. Barnes Dallas, if elected, and be held in conjunction with his appointment as Secretary to the Race Club. A resolution was passed, electing Mr. Dallas to the vacant post, at a salary for the joint offices of Tls. 720 per annum.—Some correspondence which had passed between the Club and the Recreation Fund Trustees was read, and resolved to be printed for circulation among the members, the decision to be left to an extraordinary meeting. An amendment, declining to entertain the proposition contained in the Trustees' letter, was lost.—The thanks of the Club, with a sum of Tls. 200, were voted to Mr. Dallas, for his services and the time expended by him in attending the late trial in the Supreme Court.—A suggestion that some alteration should be made in the present steeplechase course, was [illegible] consideration of the Stewards : as was also another suggestion with reference to altering the date of holding the annual meeting, from January to a period just after the autumn meeting. The following were elected by ballot as stewards for the ensuing year :—Messrs. C. J. King, F. D. Hitch, Low, Fergusson, McLeod, Bell and Hart.—A letter was read from Mr. P. V. Grant, to the effect that a sum of Tls. 500 had been subscribed among the engineers of Shanghai for a piece of Plate to be run for and won by a China pony from the same stable, two consecutive years. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Grant and the subscribers.

The schedule of the first Flower Show to be held in Shanghai, on the 24th and 25th May next, has been published, together with the rules under which exhibitors are to enter their contributions. The number of prizes offered is no less than seventy-four, and the committee must be congratulated or being able to publish so large a number at first starting. The productions, for the excellence of which these prizes are offered, include plants in pots, forty-seven ; cut flowers, eight ; vegetables, fourteen ; and fruits, five. But in addition to those named in the schedule, the committee solicit further contributions in any of the classes named, whether mentioned in the catalogue or not (for which prizes will be given at the discretion of the judges), as well as for flowers mentioned, not being in pots. Appended to the rules, is the important announcement that the Committee will make every arrangement for the security and health of the contributions, but will not be responsible for loss or damage. By Rule 8, contributions may be sent for exhibition only, and not for competition—an excellent arrangement, which is found in the case of all flower shows at home to aid materially in filling the marquee. The Committee consists of Messrs. W. H. Medhurst, W. V. Drummond, T. R. Wheelock and C. E. Endicott; the latter being also hon. secretary, and of whom any further information may be obtained. Given bright sunny weather, and there seems no reason to doubt the success of the first Shanghai Flower, or more strictly, Horticultural, Show.

The unusual occurrence of two alarms of fire on the same morning, happened Sunday ; but, fortunately, neither of them were of a very serious nature. The first was at about the early hour of four a.m., the bells intimating the locality to be Hongkew. It appears that a watchman on duty at Hunt's Wharf noticed a glare of light proceeding from some stables in the rear of the Chinese houses on the side of the Broadway opposite to the Wharf Hotel. He roused Mr. Vail, who at once rang the alarm connecting the wharf with the Hongkew police station. It was afterwards found that a bamboo-built shed used as a stable and trap-house, was on fire. The signal was quickly taken up by the Central and other stations, and the fire-brigade and police were soon in motion ; but Mr. Stripling seeing, from the inflammable nature of the structure, that the fire would probably burn itself out before the engines could arrive from the English and French side, despatched Sergeant Lloyd in his trap to stop them, which he did. The Hongkew engine and Hook and Ladder Company were soon on the spot, and remained at hand in case of emergency, but all source of further danger was prevented by means of [illegible] pulling down the burning remains. Two ponies were destroyed, having been probably suffocated by the smoke before the flames reached them. A carriage was also burnt. The stable belonged to the compradore of the English Sailors' Home.—The second alarm was rang out at a little before nine a.m., and was at first believed to be the prelude to a serious disaster. The engines, &c., were again speedily under way and making for the district indicated, this time in the French Concession. But it was soon found that their services were not required, the fire being only in a chimney at the French Consulate. It was extinguished by the primitive method of pouring water down from the roof. It is rather hard that the entire Settlement should have had its nerves shaken by the piercing clangour of fire-alarm bells—the second time in one morning, too—for nothing more than a blaze in a chimney.

The various men-of-war in harbour and the flag-staffs of the several consulates were gaily dressed on the 25th ulto., in honor of the young Emperor's accession. The Mandarins resumed their most gorgeous official robes—breastplate, beads, fringe, buttons, red umbrellas, &c., &c.—and went to the Hwan Shêw Kung 萬壽宮 temple inside the West Gate, to kotow before the Imperial tablet. The proceedings were guided, as in the case of the mourning ceremonies, by explicit instructions, which add that all ornaments are to be laid aside and the quiet dress of mourning resumed, immediately afterwards.—The *Shênpao*, we observe, came out on vermilion paper in honour of the occasion. The idea seems to have struck the Chinese fancy exactly ; double the usual number of copies having been sold. The paper itself must have cost our contemporary as much as his charge ; but hi[illegible]

enterprise will no doubt have an indirect reward.—The Mandarins opened their seals after the new year's holiday, and resumed business, on Wednesday.

The *débris* of Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co.'s auction rooms have been sold at auction for Tls. 460.

The Race Course was open for training for the Spring Meeting, on Monday morning.

A general parade of the Volunteer Corps is called for to-morrow afternoon.

The *Shanghai Evening Courier* and the *Evening Gazette* have been incorporated, under the title of *The Shanghai Courier and China Gazette.*

We have several complaints of the mismanagement which failed to give merchants a chance of writing by the P.M. str. *Vasco de Gama.* This str. arrived in Yokohama on Sunday, the 28th Feb., but only on Tuesday night was news of her arrival and of her intended depatch for San Francisco on the 9th March, received in Shanghai; whereas the P.M. str. *Costa Rica* had left for Shanghai the same morning, and a mail for America might have been made up by her if the Yokohama manager of the Co. had given earlier notice. This, too, assuming that the decision to send the *Vasco* was a sudden one; whereas it was probably predetermined, and might have been pre-announced. This, however, is only on a par with the general neglect of public convenience which has been shown lately in the management of the P. M. steamers; they run without regularity, and their movements are announced and changed with suddenness and inconsiderateness. Two several correspondents suggest that a public letter should be written to the President of the Company, complaining of the mis-management and neglect of their interests. It would certainly have some effect.

We regret to learn that Messrs. Siemssen & Co. have received a telegram announcing the total loss of the str. *Hongkong,* near Socotra. The telegram says nothing about the Captain and crew; we may therefore hope that they are safe.

Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have received telegraphic news that the O.S.S. Co.'s str. *Ulysses* is ashore at Jeddah. Her cargo was being transferred to the *Nestor* and *Deucalion.*

The Customs Gazette for the last quarter of 1874 was published Saturday. We have already noticed the Shanghai Return, which was published separately on the 3rd inst. The total revenue collected at the 14 open ports, during the quarter, was Tls. 2,835,163.

Pages 20 and 21 of No. 26 of the Peking Magazine, contain a poem, stating that, among other grievances to which Chinese are subjected in Cuba, their bones are boiled down for purposes of sugar refinery!

We are informed that Mr. Wade has given a donation of Tls. 100 to the Chinese Polytechnic Institution and Reading Room; and that Chên, the Mixed Court Magistrate, has placed at the disposal of Her Majesty's Consul $200 out of the fines levied in the "General Yang" abduction case; one moiety to be handed over to the Polytechnic Institution, and the other to be applied as Mr. Medhurst may see fit, in the relief of distressed British subjects.

We have had an opportunity of inspecting specimens of the new magnetic fire-alarm apparatus, adopted by the Municipal Council for this Settlement. The apparatus is known as "Siemen's Patent Inductors," and has been used in Manchester (which possesses one of the most complete fire-brigade organisations in the world) and also in the principal towns of France, Belgium, etc., for a long period. In construction, arrangement, and working, the system is simplicity itself. There is no complicated machinery, only one wheel and a handle being required, and altogether there are only three moving pieces in each box. These boxes are little more than a foot square, and can be fixed anywhere, the wires being led to them in the ordinary way. The power is obtained by means of a series of magnets and a revolving cylinder known as "Siemen's armiture." The peculiarity is that there is no battery required, and the apparatus not being affected by variations of temperature or other influences, always retains its strength. Mr. J. D. Bishop has fitted up, in a room at his residence at Hongkew, the requisite number of boxes to represent the Central, Louza, and Hongkew Police Stations, together with the fire-station in the French Concession and the outlying district along the Bubbling Well road; but, of course, these could be multiplied to any extent necessary. There are two ordinary clock-bells attached to each inductor, and these are rung by means of a hammer suspended between them, the magnetic current at the same time releasing a painted circular vane, which flies up and so indicates the whereabouts of the fire. No effect is produced by only turning the handle, the circuit not being completed without pressing down a knob, when the bell immediately rings and the alarm is given. For each district, there is a different stroke of the bell, either a long and then two short ones, or a short and then a long one, etc., as might be arranged, to indicate it. The mode, too, of disconnecting the various districts is exceedingly simple. For instance, it would be unnecessary to communicate to the residents in the Bubbling Well road, the news of a fire in Hongkew—they would hear the alarm soon enough by means of the alarm-bell, with signal-lights at night—and, therefore, in order to conserve the magnetic force as much as possible, a little movement disconnects any of the districts at will. The usefulness of the apparatus in the outlying districts is to send an alarm of fire to the various stations, and this anybody can do by merely opening the box and turning a handle. The present telegraph poles will be made available to stretch the wires, and but comparatively little additional expense would be incurred to place inductors and extend the wires to every essential point throughout the Settlement. The simplicity, durability and usefulness of the new system over that now in use, can hardly be over-estimated.

Among the passengers arrived by the *Oregonian* from Yokohama, was His Excellency M. Von Brandt, late German Minister resident in that city, but now *en route* to take up his residence at Peking. Previous to his departure from Yokohama, Mr. Von Brandt was present at an official dinner given in his honour by the Government; and on the following day, he was entertained by the members of the German Club in their hall.

We have letters from Newchwang via Chefoo, to the 27th January. Our correspondent writes:— Business is quiet, owing to the China New Year, which is drawing near. We have had a cold week, the thermometer ranging from 5 to 12 degrees below zero Fahrt. but the wind not being strong, the cold has not been felt much. Small pox has carried off a great number of children.—Imperial troops have been successful against banditti, judging from the disgusting sight of heads in baskets with which we are greeted at the East gate, near the British Settlement.—The Peking mail is just in, with news of the Emperor's death. There will be no work for the barber, for the next month.

We have Tientsin letters to the 15th February. Our correspondent says everything was quiet at Peking.—The last Chinese impression was that the river will not be open till the end of the first week in March.

A meeting of Land Renters in the British Concession at Chinkeang was held on the 4th instant. The report of the Municipal Council for the past year describes various improvements; jetties have been made, trees planted, and a new road is recommended. The income had been Tls. 1,598 and the expenditure Tls. 1,564, leaving a balance of Tls. 34.—Messrs. Starkey, Bean, Duff, Gearing and Williamson were elected a Council for the ensuing year.—Some irritation seems to have been caused by the use of the Municipal sewer to drain land belonging to Father Massa, which is not in the Concession. Sir Edmund Hornby has decided that he was entitled to use the sewer; but the residents claim that his decision is antagonistic to their bye-laws.—The following taxes were agreed on—3 per cent. on rentals, Tls. 150 on pawnshops, and Tls. 10 per lot of land.—The condition of the Bund seems to be giving anxiety, and professional opinion is to be had.—Messrs. Spencer & Wolff's market report of the 1st March says:—Business has now fairly commenced in staple goods, and the market may be considered steady at quotations. So soon as the remainder of the country dealers (now daily expected) arrive, an active trade is looked for.—Grey Shirtings, 1.56 and 1.76; Iron dull; opium, active.

A private letter from Takow, dated the 21st February, and brought by the *Glamis Castle,* says:—"About 300 Chinese soldiers and three or four Mandarins have been killed by savages at the Southern end of Formosa. The savages surprised the camp during the night. A steamer left here the other day for Foochow, with the news. The Authorities will await instructions from that place, before attacking the savages."

Full summaries of Hongkong and Japan news will be found under the usual "Outport" heading.

Editorial Selections.

MANCHURIA.

The extension of cultivation into Manchuria, where large districts still remain to be occupied by the industrious natives of Chihli and Shansi, who form the bulk of immigrants, cannot but eventually be productive of considerable changes both social and political. It seems strange that, for so many centuries, a country so rich in its products and enjoying so fine a climate, should have been permitted to remain almost uninhabited, alongside so ancient a civilisation and so teeming a population as that of China. Taking advantage of a season of supereminent weakness, the rude though hardy tribes who inhabited the valley of Sungari actually succeeded in overcoming the populous empire which lay at their doors; but, as in many a similar case, their success was only the prelude of their own political extinction. The barrier between the two countries once removed, the more populous race flowed over quicker than the other, and the Manchoos as a nation are now almost effaced; those that do remain having to witness the occupation of their soil by the less warlike and robust, but more persevering sons of Han. Pouring as the flood of Chinese immigration is, into the rich soils of Manchuria, the first feeling of the new settler is probably one of relief from the narrow limits within which he has cribbed during his abode in China. The few square feet of garden patch laboriously cultivated, and just yielding enough in ordinary seasons to preserve his half vegetable life, give place to what to him must appear the freedom of an almost boundless prairie. He can, for the first time in his life, raise not only enough to keep body and soul together, but actually a surplus, which if favourably situated he may perhaps contrive to sell. Such is his present position, and in it he might be disposed to see the germs of future prosperity. But though nature has been kind to the country, there are things she has not given. The greater part of Manchuria drains, not south to the gulf of Pechihli, whither its produce might be conveyed by barge in summer or sleigh in winter; but north, towards the inhospitable regions of the Amoor. Consequently, the settler, unless placed at a position of vantage as to communication, is troubled even more than at home by the position of enforced isolation in which he is placed. He has if possible less inducement to grow the more ordinary crops, as they are practically valueless in a country where everyone has enough, and no means exist for sending a surplus to a market for sale. The consequences are easily seen. The peasant in Manchuria, unable to make a profit out of the ordinary products of the soil, grows the only one which will bear the expense of carriage to market, namely opium. Out of this he can get the few cash which he requires to buy salt, a little sugar, and his light summer clothing, while for the rest he has to depend on the soil itself. Now the result of this state of affairs cannot fail, in the course of a few generations, to make itself felt, unless means are taken to counteract it in the beginning. Under such circumstances, population must and will increase to the utmost possible extent, while the isolated nature of the country which has led to that high population, will result in seasons of agricultural failure and famines of the most severe description. Manchuria, when fully populated, will in fact be a second China, with all the evil features of the Chinese system intensified. The remedy for this state of affairs is, of course, good roads of whatever description. Railways would be best, but in their absence roads of some sort. At present the country, rich as it naturally is, is entirely devoid of the most primitive of roads. Tracks made by the laborious passage of mules and carts are the only substitute; and these become in bad weather so impassable, that the open country is adopted in preference. Some effort to improve the means of communication would naturally be adopted by any Government other than the Chinese. The present dynasty, however, seems to have made it a matter of policy to obstruct as far as possible the intercourse of the provinces. Not only are no new roads made, but old ones are allowed to go to ruin, and when once ruined no attempt is made to repair them. In this way China itself is well nigh ruined, and what ought to become a prosperous dependency is started on the same downward track.

EUNUCHS.

If, as Dr. Williams tells us, there are some 5,000 eunuchs connected with the palace, we can easily understand that they form a very strong influence, and may be a very fertile source of trouble if any conflict of interests arise among their masters. An edict in the Peking *Gazette* of the 1st February shows that there has been trouble with them lately; and the guess might not be a very rash one, that they have taken the opportunity of the late complications to assert themselves intolerably. Whether they have simply been running riot during a time of transition, when discipline was naturally relaxed, or whether they have been taking a share in political intrigue, we cannot pretend to guess. One thing only is clear, that they have emphatically offended the Empresses Dowager, and have come to condign grief in consequence. The edict convicts them of having "misbehaved themselves and acted re-"gardlessly of duty, even going so far "in some cases as to assume authority "to which they had no title, and to "engage in intrigues with officials of the "Household for dishonest purposes." Three of the chief eunuchs, including one wearing an official button, are consequently to be stripped of office and banished to the Amoor, there to be given as slaves to the soldiery; while four others are to be severely bastinadoed and set to work as grass-cutters in the Hunting Park. It is quite possible the case may be purely one of indiscipline; the coincidence, only, of the row with the inauguration of a new regime, suggests a political interpretation. Perhaps the most likely case is, that the eunuchs have taken advantage of the late Emperor's youth and inexperience, to curry favour, and gain an influence in palace affairs which the Empresses will not tolerate.

Eunuchs have always been a source of trouble at Peking, though they have always been recognised as a necessity. Chinese annals contain abundant memorials and edicts, deprecating their influence and legislating for their control. A memorial by one Ngew Yang-sieu, during the time of the Song dynasty, paints them with great boldness and truth:—"In all ages, eunuchs who have had power have been looked upon as the pests of a State. They are still more to be feared than women; and that is saying a great deal. They are insinuating, artful, and patient; they know how to give certain proofs of their virtue very dexterously in matters that don't cost them much, that they may court the esteem of the Prince. They make advantage of certain seasonable occasions, which of themselves are of no consequence, to make a shew to their master of their attachment and loyalty, that they may gain his confidence. Do they gain it? They take care to pay themselves for their trouble: They manage the Prince as they please, either by raising up empty phantoms to fright him, or by suggesting delusive hopes to soothe him. The Prince may well have at his court men of capacity, virtue and zeal, but he looks upon them as strangers in comparison of the eunuchs, who are always near his person in the heart of the palace; he places his whole confidence in them, and they well know how to use it, so as to increase their own power: the officers without doors are of no greater value than the eunuchs have a mind to put upon them. Then men of merit either retire or grow cold, and the poor Prince remains alone in the hands of his eunuchs, to whom he has abandoned himself. These wretches frighten him every moment and, rendering themselves necessary, they more and more strengthen their authority, or rather, their tyranny."—A prince may, says the writer, be recovered from the influence of women, and no harm ensue. That is a weakness dangerous to the State, but it may be conquered, it is an evil not without remedy; whereas, "if he abandon himself to his eunuchs, in vain would he retract." Instances are quoted of dynasties that have perished simply through submission to such influence; those of the Han and the Tang for instance. Ministers and people became indignant at the position the eunuchs had arrogated, and created a rebellion in the effort to upset them. "They are," says a memorial of Su-chê, "malignant swellings in a part which has too near a connection with the vitals to be cut off without danger. However, they were cut off and death ensued; or, to speak without a figure, the Sovereign authority was violated by extirpating these favourites against the Prince's will; and all that the conquerors gained was to perish with that State which they hoped to have saved."

Without knowing what has brought about the present collision, we may give the Empresses every credit for energetically repressing a dangerous class. The temperament of Oriental peoples, and the constitution of Oriental Courts, render these singularly liable to intrigue; but the intrigue of relatives and friends is innocent, compared to the baleful influence

which the writers we have quoted, set themselves to deprecate. Socially ostracised, eunuchs have no interest in the welfare of the country. Knowing necessarily all that transpires in the palace, having access to both the Emperor and his zenana, they have singular opportunities for acquiring an influence which they care only to use for their own gain. A Court where such satellites are even tolerated, cannot but be regarded as a semi-barbarbous Court; and by striving to abolish the system, Chinese statesmen would do more to raise their Sovereign in the world's esteem, than by simply asserting a superiority which is ridiculous in face of facts.

BUSINESS.

Although business can scarcely be said to have been resumed as yet since the Chinese New Year, the natives seem to have more sanguine ideas about the probable course of events than at this time last year. At all events the succession at Peking seems to have been quietly acquiesced in. This, however, is a thing with which the ordinary Chinaman troubles himself so little, that some grievance must needs be inflicted to force him to move; and as the present dynasty, with all its errors, has perhaps proved itself superior to the later Emperors of the Ming, the nation is willing to believe that its time is not yet come, and that it may be allowed to regulate its own affairs as to succession in its own way. The simple fact that the New Year in Shanghai opened with a deluge of rain, has been adopted by the natives as a prognostic of good; and as no nation, since, perhaps, the Romans, has been so firm in its belief in auguries, this feeling may possibly go some way towards removing the want of confidence which was, in every trade, the prevailing feeling of the last two years. It is needless to say that foreigners would gladly reciprocate this feeling of confidence, were the prospects in other quarters equally bright. Some such feeling certainly actuated the greater portion of those engaged in trade last year, but was hardly justified by the result. Silk, for instance, to the best informed, seemed to offer a chance but seldom afforded. It appeared evident that a revival from the dreary inactivity of the last three or four years in Europe was about to take place, while at the same time everything looked favourable for exporters in China. As a matter of fact silk has probably paid all round, but it has certainly not yielded a large profit on the total, and has only been profitable to some, while it has lost to others. Low prices were not followed by the expected demand, and the market remains, in the end, nearly as dull and inactive as ever. But although there were sufficient grounds to justify some activity in the silk market, the same could hardly be said of tea. The previous year's teas had been bought at prices which generally proved remunerative, but some fancy on the part of buyers in China seems to have led them to expect that teas in England would advance beyond the average prices of the last four years. It is needless to say they did not, and really there was no reason why they should. There had been no special depression in the market, and supplies were going on as usual, and keeping a pretty fair pace with consumption. And so the result seems to have been that the difference in price between the rates at which they had been bought, as compared with the previous year, nearly balanced the account of profit and loss. In green teas, even the excuse of a possible rise could hardly be urged. They were notoriously sick when the season opened, and forced sales on an inactive market have made them worse month by month. Still, the unfavourable comments upon them in the *Lancet* and other quarters no doubt helped to depress them. Imports again were unprofitable, partly on account of the want of confidence which was the characteristic of Chinese trade during the year; but mainly because shippers in England could not be made to believe that, in the face of large stocks in China and abundant cotton crops, no permanent improvement in price could take place.

Now, all these elements seem likely to affect trade again for the coming year. So it is, perhaps, a good thing that foreigners generally have got rid of a little of the sanguine element which played them such ill pranks last year. It was in some respects a bad thing that Epimetheus should have kept back hope in Pandora's box, for hope has been the steady opponent of everything rational in China for the last fifteen years. Hope seemed some years ago disposed to confine her operations to their legitimate channels, but the opening of the telegraph cable, and Reuters' daily announcements, seem to have set her at her pranks again, and she has been steadily picking the pockets of the China trade. Doubtless tea purchasers will again this year hope that the market will go up, and that hope will give them thence a few taels a pecul. Yet, if they only looked calmly at the matter, they would see some cause for apprehension, especially so far as Shanghai and the river ports are concerned. The competition of the Southern ports is likely to be more dangerous than it has been for many years, while there is every prospect of Hankow finding a nearer rival in Kiukiang, to disturb the market. The home market has accommodated itself to the import of teas by steamers, and so far has eased the trade of one great element of uncertainty, but it does not seem at all disposed to raise its rates in unison with the ideas of purchasers in China. What is true of black tea is true of silk. Hope again seems in the ascendency, but there is some slight difference. With low prices ruling, the market for silk can apparently be largely extended, while high rates at once put a stop to deliveries. A brisk market on low rates does not by any means justify the hope of establishing any permanent rise; it is only by depressing rates that the necessary demand can be excited. The amount produced is increasing year by year, but there is no reason to believe that the cost of production is greater than formerly, and no reason therefore why the price should be higher than formerly. Europe and America have certainly not reached the limit of demand, but there are so many ways of making up for silk at extravagant rates, that practically it has to enter into competion with far inferior fabrics. Unluckily, the enhanced price of silk for the past few years, has led fashions to move on mixtures, and fashions are not to be changed in a day.

REVIEW.

Medical Reports for the Half Year ended 31st March, 1874, by the Surgeons to the Customs at the Treaty Ports.

II.

Dr. Jamieson's report on the Health of Shanghai during the year 1873, contains little of special interest as regards the year under notice. 1873 was, in medical as in other respects, an ordinary year. One case of scarlatina (imported from the Coast) occurred, and this is remarkable, as it has been hitherto considered, on merely negative evidence however, that China enjoyed an exemption from the disease. It is certainly noteworthy that, during the long practice of foreign physicians since China was opened to foreign residence, no case of scarlatina should hitherto have been observed, and that the combined experience of those in charge of the various dispensaries and hospitals for natives should have led to the same conclusion. The negative evidence here was of the strongest nature. Variola, varicella and rubeola, the latter of a malignant type, were known to prevail extensively, yet scarlatina itself was apparently unknown. It does not tend to simplify the matter, that the only two known cases as yet have occurred amongst the foreign community, and were undeniably communicated the one to the other. Arterial disease continued prevalent in Shanghai, among 31 certified deaths no less than 5 being due to aneurism. Dr. Jamieson would not, he tells us, even hazard a guess as to the cause of this extraordinary prevalence in Shanghai of this class of disease.

"That senile decay in its ordinary sense, has nothing to do with the prevalence of aneurism in Shanghai, is clear, but it is equally clear that in a considerable number of foreign residents there exists that degeneration of the tissues which is so often associated with advanced life as to be included among its common phenomena, and to acquire a name from it."

As compared with Hongkong in this respect, Shanghai offers a singular contrast. Amongst nearly 6,000 cases treated in the various Hongkong hospitals within six years, but four cases of aneurism were registered, a number exceeded by the cases of death amongst the ordinary resident population here in one year. There has been no very especial tendency to aneurism during the year, as compared with Dr. Jamieson's previous report, so that the number of cases may be excepted as normal.—Dr. Jamieson complains with good cause of the quality of the water made use of in Shanghai. It is not that good water cannot be had here, for the analyses of the samples sent to England proved that water of unusual purity was obtainable. The Hwangpoo can match, for the quality and wholesomeness of its water, most rivers in the world; but practically this purity is of little moment, as our supplies are regularly drawn from polluted

localities. There is a difference between the main stream of the Hwangpoo and the polluted eddies from which our water coolies delight to draw our supplies, and a still greater difference between even these and the pools of semi-stagnant slush along the banks of the Soochow Creek and the Yang-king-pang, on which the larger part of residents have to depend. Even the Soochow Creek, above the Settlement, when the water is drawn on the ebb, shows a fair amount of purity; but Chinese servants, careless themselves, will not take the trouble of thinking for their employers, and too often the nearest puddle becomes the source of water supply. We do not quite follow Dr. Jamieson into his somewhat sensational remarks about the milk supply of the place. It is doubtless essential, so far as possible, that the cows should be protected from all contaminating influences. At present they merely have, in the majority of cases, to put up with water of very similar quality to their masters. The communication of cattle murrain by water has not, we believe, been suggested. Steps to prevent contagion proved effective in arresting the disease in England. Sun, its connection with a prevalence of dysentery in Shanghai could scarcely have been accidental. No more ready means of communication could be suggested, than from a diseased cow to a diseased infant through the milk of the former.

We are glad to observe Dr. Jamieson's remark on the subject of the proposed quarantine regulations at Shanghai. At the time those regulations were published, we protested against them as being useless and vexatious. Experience in Europe is not in favour of quarantine, and we notice that the feeling against it is daily becoming stronger in the best informed quarters. Quarantine *would* be useful if it *could* be effective. But no method of making it effective has ever yet been introduced. On a small island, like Malta, with the most rigorous means of guarding access, it might possibly be found possible, at an enormous expense, and at serious injury to the industry of the place, to establish an effective quarantine; but no means has yet been devised of making quarantine effective in a continental port, and the case of Shanghai is exceptionally difficult. Take the present epidemic of small-pox in Japan, for instance. We have heard more than one suggestion that ships coming from Japanese ports should be quarantined, during its continuance. But if this would not be straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, the proverb was never illustrated. The advocates of quarantine must forget that the Chinese inoculate their children, and that there are consequently hundreds of cases of small-pox continually going on in the City and suburbs. Where, again, would be the use of preventing one or two additional cases from coming by sea, when every creek is a possible inlet for infection from the country? Even were quarantine effectually introduced, it would probably result in less care being taken to preserve those sanitary conditions which are the best guardians of the public health. Endemic diseases arising from imperfect drainage and impure air are far more deadly in the long run than epidemics of cholera. The best preservatives against the latter, are fortunately also our best defences against the foe always in our midst. Quarantine, as Dr. Jamieson remarks, is, as tending to inspire false confidence, worse than useless. It has never been adopted to any extent in England, and English physicians are almost unanimous in desiring to introduce in its stead a system of rigid medical inspection. That the latter would be useful, is almost as undeniable as that the former is harmful. Still in Shanghai even it, from the complexity of the means of approach, could scarcely be made effective except to the most infinitesimal extent.

Outports.

NAGASAKI.

There is very little news from Nagasaki. The *Abbotsford*, from London for Yokohama, called in on Friday for a pilot, to take her through the Inland Sea.—A fire occurred in the village of Aba on 10th, and 300 houses were destroyed.—The Japanese are said to contemplate filling in the water lot between the Custom House and Decima, to be used as a Recreation Ground. Fancy the Chinese doing anything so energetic.—The *Rising Sun* has it that the Empresses-Dowager are running the "Infant Imperial Line," in the face of all opposition.

HIOGO.

The Hiogo papers which have reached us contain absolutely nothing in the shape of news; but several numbers are missing, and we infer that they probably contain an account of a fire which seems to have occurred at Osaka on the 7th instant, and by which 1,145 houses, 16 godowns, 12 temples, &c. were burnt down. The following is a copy of a printed handbill which has been published in Kioto, by the Committee of the Exhibition:—

An Exhibition is to be held this year, in the Gosho, Kioto, similiar to that of the last 3 years, and will remain open to the public for 100 days, from the 1st March to the 8th June, inclusive. During this time, foreigners will be permited to visit Kioto and also to exhibit any articles at the Exhibition. Foreigners exhibiting goods at the Exhibition will be allowed to visit Kioto one week before and one week after the above date. All the other rules are the same as for the former Exhibition. Therefore, all foreigners are cordially invited to visit and to exhibit various articles, and so assist this Exhibition. Specimens of the productions throughout the whole of Japan are to be collected this year, and they will be classified according to their districts. It is hoped that all learned persons will advise and give information respecting such articles.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* states that the Committee appointed to choose two successors to Dr. Dalliston, the late Surgeon to the General Hospital, have elected Dr. Eldridge and Dr. Massaís. The latter was formerly medical officer to the French Municipal Council in Shanghai, and has since been employed by the Japanese Government in connection with some of the provincial hospitals.—The hearing of the case of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation against E. Wallace was resumed on the 11th, before H.B.M. Consul. His Honor declined to permit the production of further evidence on the plaintiff's side and the case ended with the addresses of the respective Counsel, judgment being reserved.—Mr. Moriyama left on the 11th on his mission to Corea. He was accompanied by two officials belonging to the Ministry of foreign affairs.—The *Herald* says, the 11th instant, being the anniversary of the coronation of the first Emperor of Japan, the men-of-war in harbour dressed ship, and a national salute was fired at noon.—According to a statement in the *Herald*, there are now thirty-four native newspapers printed and published in Japan, and they sent through the local post-office during 1874, no fewer than 2,564,229 copies. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* heads the list, with 977,643 copies.—General Yamagata, Minister of War, accompanied by General Saigo and a large staff, on the 13th inst., paid a farewell visit of inspection to the French and English troops.—Previous to his departure, Major Kinder was honoured with an audience by his Majesty the Mikado, who spoke in flattering terms of Major Kinder's services in connection with the Mint.—The Messageries Maritimes Co. have presented a gold chronometer watch, bearing a suitable inscription, to Mr. Maida Koriou, as a testimony of their thanks for his kindness to the survivors of the *Nil*.—The *Tokei Journal* conveys the gratifying information that small-pox has disappeared from that place.—At five minutes past 11 o'clock on the night of the 15th inst., a severe and protracted shock of an earthquake was experienced here.—The *Herald* states that on the 15th there was a strong rumour to the effect that the ex-Shogoon was to be restored to power, as the outcome of the political meetings of politicians at Osaka. There was, however, no confirmation of the rumour at the departure of the mail, The Gazette reports numerous other fires in Yokohama and neighbourhood.—The same paper says that foreigners are cordially invited to visit the Exhibition, to be opened on the 1st March at the Gosho, Kioto. The exhibition will remain open until June 8th, and the invite to foreigners extends from one week before to the same period after the above dates.—The Tokio omnibus broke down on the 11th instant. One passenger had his arm broken, and the horses becoming frightened, ran over the two bettoes, killing them instantly.—A Farewell banquet was given to H. E. M. Von Brandt on the 11th by the Government. Most of the principal officials and ministers were present.—On the 5th inst., a man went to Takeda Michinobu, the priest of the shrine, and informed him that he had been entrusted with the mission of offering to Inari a copper lantern, on behalf of a number of *geyshas*. The priest was so elated that he entertained the ambassador with fish and *sake* until dark, when they both became intoxicated. The man at length went out hastily, saying he would return next day; but, soon after, the priest found the drawer of the money chest open, and discovered that the sum of twenty *yen*, which he had scraped together with much assiduity, had been abstracted.—The Members of the Royal Marine Battalion and Infanterie de Marine Francaise who until lately, acted as police-constables, have each been presented with a roll of red and of white silk crape, of fine texture.—A girl named Hana, who was employed by one Hirasawa at Higashi Konya-cho, Tokio, was rewarded with a handkerchief, for having discovered a fire which had just broken out in the house of a person who resided next door. She was greatly pleased with the present, and being desirous of receiving a further reward, attempted to set fire to her master's house, but was detected, and as a warning, mulcted in the heavy penalty of 75 *sen*.

TIENTSIN.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 31st Jan. we find an announcement that Ching-lin and Tih-chun, whom I mentioned last week

as having been promoted the first to Vice-President of the Board of Works, and the second to Vice-President of the Colonial office, had had an audience to return thanks for the favors bestowed on them. Ching-lin is one of the junior members of the Tsung-le yamun; and Tih-chun was, during the rule of Chunghow at Tientsin, superintendent of the Imperial Arsenal. In the same *Gazette* it is announced that the Ministers of the Cabinet and Li Hung-chang, as Minister of State, had been summoned by the Regents to the Council Room for deliberation and the dispatch of public business. The *Gazette* of the 2nd February adds that Li had had an audience of the Regents, to take leave on his departure for Paouting. Further on, in the same *Gazette*, and on the same day, we find it announced that the Ministers of the cabinet and Li Hung-chang had been summoned to the Council Room, for deliberation and the dispatch of business. From private letters received here from Peking on the evening of the 3rd and 4th instant, we learnt that Li would leave Peking on the 3rd instant for Paouting; and since then we have heard from the Chinese officials here, that his Excellency had reached Paouting on the 5th instant, the last day of the Chinese year.

In the *Gazette* of the 2nd February there is a short Edict in reply to a memorial from Censor Li Kweilin, praying that the Throne will allow Ting Show-chang, lately Territorial Taoutai at Tientsin, at present at this place in mourning for his father, and a man highly respected by the people of Tientsin, to be again employed in the public service in Chihli. The Regents command, accordingly, that at the expiration of his one hundred days of mourning, [illegible] give Ting Show-chang employment. Ting is a native of the same province as Li Hung-chang, the province of Nganhway.

The heavy mail with our newspapers arrived here on the morning of the 4th instant, putting us in possession of the *North-China Daily News* up to the 15th January, and London papers up to the 27th November. On the 2nd instant, a party of three Tientsin sportsmen started for the wild grounds of Mongolia, and as they, in our minds, rank with Gordon Cumming, Baldwin, Baker, and Rice as sportsmen, we naturally expect to see them return, after the Chinese holidays are over, with a long string of carts, heavily laden with the trophies of their rifles and guns, namely tigers, wild boars, wolves, foxes, elks, antilopes, bustards (Tepoo) down to sand grouse. In imagination we see two new wings commenced to be added to the Shanghai Museum to take in new specimens of wild animals and birds bagged in Mongolia—a new field really for foreign sportsmen.

The 6th instant was the first day of the Chinese New Year and the first day of the first year of the reign of Kwang-seu. I have not heard of anything having occurred on that day worthy of being chronicled in the *North-China Herald*, beyond the circumstance that on that day, and only for that day, the mandarins went out of mourning, wearing their buttons, &c., &c., and using red cards. As customary, the Consuls sent their cards to the local Chinese officials to congratulate them on the new-year; but as the officials do not receive visits while in mourning, no congratulatory visits as hitherto will take place on the 5th day of the first moon.

On the 1st instant, my Chinese people saw a flock of wild geese flying north. On the 5th instant, I saw a flock of sixteen flying over my place in an easterly direction, and fancied I saw them with my glass alight on the lakes, where I suppose there must be some place free of ice.

On the 4th instant, we had charming weather—bright sky, calm, and mild,—and during the following night the thermometer only fell to 26°. At 10 a.m. on the 5th instant, a change took place, the wind coming out of the east and blowing strongly. In an hour it ceased, and we had a calm till noon; but during this time we could see, high in the air, that ere long we were going to have a dust storm from the north, and of course at once set to work closing firmly our windows and doors to meet it efficiently. About half-past twelve the storm reached us, and we were almost in darkness in a few moments. It continued all the remainder of the day and during a great part of the following night; the weather becoming colder every minute. On the morning of the 6th inst., the thermometer stood at 10° Fahrenheit, and yesterday at 9°.

The ice harvest has come to an end, and I understand that it has throughout been satisfactory.

Puritan.

8th Feb., 1875.

HONGKONG.

We reprint from the *Daily Press* a report of proceedings at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Meeting, on the 18th instant. It will be seen that the Chairman made an elaborate statement regarding the affairs of the bank, and that a good deal of detail information was afterwards elicited. The Shanghai Bank premises are to cost Tls. 115,640; the proposed outlay of £4,000 in furnishing them was objected to. The total amount which has been provided for London losses is £71,000. No figures appear to have been stated regarding the Sugar Company, but a prospect was held out of realising the estate. A proposal was brought forward, to reduce the Directors' fees from $20,000 to $10,000 a year; but the Chairman declined to put it to the meeting, on the ground that two days' notice should have been given. —A meeting of shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Company was held on the 19th instant. It was explained that the Company had done a larger business than during the previous year, but it had been less profitable, owing to the typhoon of September, by which they had lost $130,000. The Report and Accounts were passed.—The flower show on the 19th is spoken of as a great success.—Sir Arthur Kennedy is likely to go home on leave.—The Douglas Challenge Cup was again sailed for on the 19th, and was again won by the *Naiad*; the *Naomi* lost her topmast during the race.

The *Gazette* contains reports from several Heads of Departments. A decrease in crime of 22.96 per cent. is noted, and the figures may apparently be relied on, as they are calculated on the number of cases reported, and not of prisoners taken.—The number of kidnapping cases has greatly diminished since the stoppage of the Macao coolie trade.—The success of the Police school has been highly satisfactory.—A large fire was reported to be raging in Canton city on the night of the 20th, but no particulars had been received.—The *Daily Press* regrets Sir Edmund Hornby's recent decision, upholding the constitution of the Foochow Mixed Court, as likely to prove very inconvenient.—The report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. shows a steadily improving position of affairs. A dividend of 2 per cent. for the half-year is advised. The debt to the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company has has been reduced to $190,000.

A meeting of shareholders in the Victoria Fire Insurance Company was held on the 22nd February. It was stated that the reserve fund was now made up to the full amount required by the articles of Association, and a small excess was available for distribution among the shareholders.—A variety of changes are being made in the Government offices, consequent on the departure of Sir Arthur Kennedy. The Hon. J. G. Austin will become acting Governor; the Hon. C. C. Smith, acting Colonial Secretary; Mr. C. May, acting Colonial Treasurer; Mr. Wodehouse, assistant Colonial Secretary; Mr. Tonnochy, acting Registrar General; Mr. Tomlin, acting Governor of the Gaol; Mr. Lister, Postmaster General (consequent on Mr. Mitchell's retirement;) while Mr. Russell reverts to his old post of Private Secretary to the Governor. The *Hongkong Times* comments on the absence from the list of Mr. Stewart, who, as Inspector of Schools, has shown himself one of the most practical and able officials in the Colony.—An appointment, also, which it severely blames, is that of Mr. Lister to the Post Master Generalship vacated by Mr. Mitchell; and we concur in its criticism. The appointment was fairly due to the Assistant Postmaster, Mr. Barff, and it is unwise and unjust to place over that gentleman's head an officer who has had no experience whatever of Post Office work. Mr. Mitchell's conduct of the Post Office has always been popular; but it is well known that he has been often holding other offices, during which his attention must have been more or less distracted from his own. On such occasions, and during his occasional tours of inspection, the control must of course have devolved more or less upon Mr. Barff, who appears to have proved himself thoroughly competent. The appointment of Mr. Lister as Post Master General, simply means that Mr. Barff will have to teach him his duties, and to do the chief part of the work while he is learning them. The appointments to Hongkong Government offices have been often a subject of satire and amusement to outsiders; but as the majority of the posts are more high-sounding than important, people have seldom cared to protest—the whole administration being really not on a larger scale than that of the Shanghai Municipality. The Post Master Generalship, however, is an office which really requires training and experience, and we repeat that it is both unwise and unfair to pass by a qualified man, and appoint one who has had neither.

The British ship *Atlantic*, which left Hongkong on the 30th January for Vancouver's island, has been obliged to put back and go into dock, she having been ashore on the southernmost island of the Madjicosima Group.

MACAO.

We publish, below, a letter from the Secretary to the Macao Committee of Relief, warmly acknowledging the remittance of $1,374.57, subscribed by the Shanghai community for the relief of those who suffered by the cyclone in September last.

Illmo. Sr.—O Sr. Presidente da Commissão de Beneficiencia de Macao tendo recebido uma letra sobre Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation de $1,374.57 do Illmo. Sr. José H. de Carvalho quem a remettera em nome da Illustre Communidade de Shanghai, sendo ella parte do producto de uma subscripção, que por iniciativa de V.Sa. fora aberta n'essa em soccorro dos que soffreram privações pelos effeitos destruidores do grande tufão que passou esta Cidade na noite de 22 para 23 de Setembro ultimo; e tendo a commissão encarregado a mim como Secretario da mesma do honroso dever de significar á Illustre Communidade, e particularmente a V.Sa. como iniciador d'essa caridosa e philantropica obra, o seu sincero voto de agradecimento por si e pelos soccorridos, cumpre-me pois rogar a V.Sa. se digne acceital-o, bem como transmittil-o a Illustre Communidade, a quem e igualmente a V.Sa., ella assegura que não poupará nenhum esforço para cabalmente corresponder a confiança que teve ella a honra de merecer.

D. Ge. a V.Sa. Macao, 21 de Janeiro de 1875.

O Secretario da Commissão de Beneficiencia de Macao,

ANTONIO DOS REMEDIOS.

Illmo. Sr. ANTONIO H. DE CARVALHO,
&c., &c., &c.
Shanghai.

[*Translation.*]

SIR,—The Chairman of the Macao Committee of Relief having received a draft on the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation amounting to $1,374.57 from Mr. J. H. de Carvalho, who has handed it over in the name of the illustrious community of Shanghai; this amount being part proceeds of a subscription solicited by you for the relief of those who suffered by the late cyclone on the night of the 22nd to 23rd September last; and the Committee having charged me, as their Secretary, with the honourable duty of expressing to the illustrious community, and particularly to your goodself as the originator of this charitable and philantropic deed, their heartfelt thanks:—it behoves me to beg your acceptance of the same, and to transmit them to the said illustrious community, whom the Committee assures that no pains will be spared to justify the confidence they had the honour to deserve.

ANTONIO DOS REMEDIOS.

Macao, 21st Jan., 1875.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Jan. 30th-31st.—The Court Circular of the 30th announces that the Governor-General Li Hung-chang had audience.—That of the 31st announces a further visit of His Majesty, to-morrow morning, to the building in which the remains of the deceased Emperor are lodged.

(1)—A Decree. In reply to the Memorial from the Board of Ceremonies, requesting that an envoy and associate-envoy be appointed to convey to Corea a copy of the valedictory manifesto of his late Majesty, We appoint Ming-an 銘安 as chief, and Li-jui 立瑞 as associate-envoy. Let them reverently convey the manifesto [to Corea] and promulgate it there. (N.B.—Ming-an is at present a member of the civil government of Shêng-king, as vice-president of the Board of Revenue at Moukden.)

(2) A Decree by the two Empresses. We have received the memorial presented by the Censor Wu Hung-ên, offering observations in pursuance of the Decree calling for advice (see *Gazette* of 26th inst.) The several representations he has made, in respect of nurturing virtue in the Sovereign, acquiring support in men's minds, and being guided by the expression of public opinion, are all worthy of attention. His Majesty being still of tender age, it is beyond question expedient that effectual training in the right path be studied. All those who surround His Majesty and are in near employment about His person, should be without exception of tried capacity and solid character. No youthful and thoughtless persons shall be suffered to be in attendance. Thus it may be that, by laying from the first a right foundation, the virtues which become a Prince may daily be made to increase in splendour. Inasmuch as the first consideration, in the policy of the State, is regard for the welfare of the people, it has already been enjoined upon the high officials in all the Provinces that they should devote themselves, with redoubled care, to guarding against the evils under which the people suffer. Let all Governors-General and Governors be active in putting an end to unauthorized levies and to oppressive exactions of every description. The contributions ordered by the Board of Revenue from provincial resources should also be reduced, or wholly done away with, as the circumstances of each province may, on consideration, shew to be advisable. As regards the expenditure of the Privy Purse, the annual amount of this is fixed by rule; and it is especially incumbent upon the Comptrollers of the Household to be accurate and sparing in their administration, avoiding all approach to wastefulness or excess. In all matters of judicial punishment and rewards of merit, the Sovereign is guided by the one rule of absolute justice. It should be the aim of all officials to mould their actions by this example, so that, whether it be to add a lustre to good deeds or to brand the conduct of evildoers, an even balance be ever held in advancement or in repression. In such wise may effect be given to the continual desire of the Sovereign for the perfection of His rule.

(3).—The Governor of Hunan reports the receipt of a communication from Tsiang Yih-li, titular ex-Judicial Commissioner of Shansi (heretofore Governor of Kwangtung), who states that he has a large number of kinsfolk whose circumstances are of a straitened nature, on whose behalf he has resolved upon devoting certain property of his own, being the result of his savings from his official salary, to form a fund to provide for the expenses of their education. He has made arrangements to set aside the rental of certain lands, amounting to 1,275 piculs of grain, besides 3,000 strings of cash, to be allotted proportionally among the descendants of his great-great-grandfather in a yearly division of the amount accruing thereform. He requests that this foundation may be officially recorded; and it is consequently reported to the Throne.

Feb. 1st.—2nd.—(1)—A Decree of the two Empresses, referring to the stringency of the discipline enforced by the August Sovereigns of the present dynasty for the governance of the eunuchs of the Palace. Notwithstanding this, certain eunuchs have been so bold as to misbehave themselves and act regardlessly of their duty, even going so far, in some cases, as to assume authority to which they had no title, and to engage in intrigues with officials of the Household for dishonest purposes. Their evil machinations, with an eye to their own profit, are worthy of the deepest abhorrence. Let the most notable among these offenders, to wit, the superior eunuchs Chang Têh-hi and Mêng Chung-ki, with the eunuch wearing an official button, Chow Tsêng-show, be forthwith stripped of their office and be transported to the Amoor, to be given as slaves to the soldiery and to be excluded from the benefit of any future general pardon. Let four other eunuchs (whose names are given) be bastinadoed in the severest manner by the office of discipline, and be handed over to the Comptrollers of the Household to be transported to the Hunting Park and set to work as grasscutters. The Comptrollers of the Household are likewise to make enquiry with regard to any acts of collusion between the officials of that department and eunuchs, and to impeach any such persons as may be found to have been guilty in this respect. The Comptrollers will be held answerable themselves if they allow favouritism to stand in the way of justice.

(2) A Decree of the two Empresses, in answer to a memorial by the Censor Li-Hung-mo, in denunciation of certain officials. A memorial was heretofore presented by the Censor Sun Fêng-siang, accusing the Comptroller of the Household, Kwei-pao, of collusion with Li Kwang-chao in his attempted frauds in connection with the supply of timber, whereupon sentence of deprivation of rank was submitted by the Board. With regard to the Comptroller of the Household, Wên-si, he was some time ago denounced by the Censor Chang King-ts'ing for malversation of his office, and he was removed from all his functions. Both these officials are thus in bad repute and unfit to discharge their trust. Let Kwei-pao and Wên-si be forthwith stripped of their rank. Let the proper Board take note.

(3) Memorial by Li Tsung-hi, Governor General of the Two Kiang, applying for leave to retire on the score of ill-health. (Rescript granting the application published Jan. 12th).

(4) Li Tsung-hi reports, in a postcript memorial, that the war-junks of the naval divisions of the Yangtsze, and adjacent coast and inner waters, had been assembled and exercised on receipt of the Imperial orders to take measures for defence within his jurisdiction. As the necessity for defensive measures has now passed by, it is desirable that the vessels should return to their respective stations in time of peace, in order to discharge the constabulary duties which are incumbent upon them, and orders have accordingly been given to this effect.

(5) Li Ho-nien, Governor-General of Min-chêh, reports that during the absence from his post of the naval general of Fuh-kien, Lo Ta-ch'un, who is at present in the North of Formosa, at Su Ao (Sawo), directing the measures that are in hand for opening the mountains, a temporary appointment in his stead is necessary. The Brigadier-general of Chang-chang, Sun K'ai-hwa, is consequently appointed his locum tenens.

(6) Memorial by the Duke Twan-siu, asking leave to resign his command and appointments about the Court, together with the State allowance of his rank, on the ground of increasing infirmity. (N.B.—This memorial was acknowledged and the request acceded to, on the 13th January, among the decrees issued with reference to the decease of the late Emperor on the previous evening.)

Feb. 3rd-4th.—(1)—A decree, on receipt of a memorial from the vice-president of the Sacrificial Court, Chow Jui-ts'ing, soliciting posthumous honours on behalf of Tsiang Yih-li, who has just died. The military services rendered by the deceased official, in combating the rebellion, before his advancement to the post of Governor of Kwang-tung, are duly acknowledged; and it is added that his late Majesty, mindful of the distinguished merit he had achieved, summoned him last summer to Peking with a view to conferring employment upon him. Having come to the capital, suffering though he was from illness, he has now been removed from the world to the great sorrow of his Majesty. It is ordered that he be honoured with the funeral rites due to a provincial governor, and that his life be recorded in the imperial historiography.

(2) A Decree. Replying to memorials from two officials, expressing opposite views with reference to the conduct to be pursued by the late Prefect of Tientsin, Ting Show-ch'ang. The Censor Li Kwei-lin has memorialized, extolling the virtues and ability of Ting Show-ch'ang, who some months ago was obliged by his father's death to vacate office in order to observe the 27 months of mourning, and requesting that in his case an exception to the general rule be made, and that he be retained for service in Chihli. On the other hand the vice-president of the Sacrificial Court, Chow Jui-ts'ing, represents that Ting Show-ch'ang is bound by rule to observe the mourning period, and requests that he be commanded to return to his provincial home for this purpose. It is decreed hereupon, that the retention of Ting Show-ch'ang in Chihli is for

detached service, and not in the incumbency of any stated office. The memorial of Chow Jui-ts'ing need not, therefore, be taken into consideration. (Ting Show-ch'ang, who, as Taotai of Tientsin, was highly trusted by the Governor-General Li, was retained by the latter in an appointment on his own staff on his being compelled to vacate his office as Taotai a few months ago. The memorial and countermemorial dealt with above, probably form part of the arrangement, as the readiest means of publishing sanction to a somewhat irregular proceeding).

(3) A decree, referring for consideration by the Board of Civil Office a memorial from the Censor Yüan Chêng-yeh, urging that the ancient rules with regard to the purchase of rank be reverted to, and a check be placed upon the system of recommendations for promotion in ordinary cases.

(4) Kin-shun, the commander-in-chief of Kansuh, and divisional general of the troops beyond the Wall, draws attention in a postscript memorial to the alacrity and efficiency with which the provincial government of Shensi have bestirred themselves in maintaining the supply of funds required. He mentions that he has now reached Barkul (near Hami) with the force under his command.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

The Annual Meeting of the above Club was held on Friday afternoon, present—Mr. C. J. King, in the chair; Messrs. R. Fergusson, F. D. Hitch, and Barnes Dallas, stewards; Messrs. H. Savage, D. Brand, A. Robinson, Percival, Fitz-Henry, C. A. Rees, H. Morriss, H. J. Limby, C. Lucas, J. S. Fearon, O. Brandt, J. Haas, G. A. Lindsay, J. E. Wallis, H. Thorburn, Rohl, P. Möller, C. J. Ashley, Walker, T. G. Williamson, R. Church, W. Leslie, T. R. Wheelock, M. Kalb, W. H. Short, E. A. Fabris, J. A. Pond, A. Farrar, R. G. Ogle, B. Palamountain, and Lovett.

The Chairman said, in asking them to receive the accounts, which had already been before them, he would merely allude to Mr. Keswick's loan, the balance of which, together with interest, had now been paid, so that that obligation had ceased. Another matter to which he might allude, was that eight shares in the Race Course had been purchased on behalf of the Club, so that now 17 out of 25 shares were the property of the Club, which was considered a very desirable object to obtain. With those amounts paid, there remained a balance of Tls. 2,649.43; and, without any further remark, he hoped the accounts would receive the approbation of the meeting, and be passed; though if it were thought necessary to ask any questions respecting them, he would be happy to give any information possible.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for 1874.

Dr.

February 18th, 1875.	Taels.
To Rent of Course for 1874	528.00
,, Government Ground Rent for 1874	93.38
,, Interest on Balance of Mr. Keswick's Loan and Balance of Loan	1,650.00
,, Secretary's Salary	360.00
,, Wages—Coolies at Race Course, European Gate-keeper, Shroff, &c., &c.	1,126.90
,, Advertising, Tls. 11.38; Printing, Tls. 24.82; Stationery, Tls. 46.20	82.40
,, Repairs to Stand, Stables, &c., &c.	560.21
,, Prizes—Spring, Tls. 4,238; Autumn, Tls. 2,380	7,618.00
,, Value of German Challenge Cup won Spring Meeting, 1873	350.00
,, Legal Expenses	327.72
,, Expenses—Spring and Autumn Meeting, Police, Tiffin, Dinner, Band, &c., &c.	1,158.94
,, Club Room for Meetings, Postages and Petties	56.42
,, Furniture, Picture Frames, &c.	33.79
,, Purchase of a Buffalo, Tls. 35.00; Mowing Machine, Tls. 100	135.00
,, Purchase of Shares in Race Course	2,812.00
,, Balance	2,649.43
	Tls. 19,542.19

Cr.

February 18th, 1875.	Taels.
By Balance	5,360.06
,, 203 Subscriptions of Tls. 15 each	3,045.00
,, 27 Entrance Fees of Tls. 5 each	135.00
,, Honorary Members	20.00
,, Entries at Spring Meeting	4,145.00
,, Prizes Presented Spring Meeting	821.00
,, Sale of Tickets do.	620.12
,, Rent of Stables do.	195.00
,, Extra Entrance Fee for Running Last	5.00
,, Entries at Autumn Meeting	3,260.00
,, Prizes Presented at Autumn Meeting	833.00
,, Sale of Tickets	465.46
,, Rent of Stables	150.00
,, Fines for Riding in Wrong Colours	15.00
,, Extra Entrance Fee for Running Last	10.00
,, Dividend on 17 Shares in Race Course	359.04
,, Interest on Balance at Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to 30th June, 1874	58.93
,, do. do. 31st Dec., 1874	44.58
	Tls. 19,542.19

February 18th, 1875.	
By Balance	Tls. 2,649.43

Dependency.

By Return on 2 Shares in Shanghai Race Course in dispute	Tls. 160.00
Spring Meeting Stable Rent, Tls. 10; Wrong Colours, Tls. 5	15.00
Autumn do.	55.00

Mr. Lucas proposed—

That the accounts as printed be accepted and passed.

Mr. Brandt said, before the accounts were passed, he wished to ask for an explanation with respect to the German Challenge Cup, for which the Club were made indebted in Tls. 350. It was understood that the amount had been subscribed by the German community for the purchase of the cup, and it could hardly be understood why the Club were now charged with it.

The Chairman said the amount had been subscribed and invested in the purchase of a cup, he believed; but the cup had never reached the hands of the Club up to the present time. It was, however, now the subject of correspondence between the Stewards and Mr. Cordes (who was at present at Hongkong), and perhaps it would be premature to say more about the matter yet.

Mr. Brandt considered it was a subject that ought not to be lost sight of. The Cup ought certainly to be forthcoming.

The Chairman said the meeting would excuse him, if he said he was not acquainted with the matter fully. Perhaps Mr. Dallas could tell them more about it.

A general conversation ensued, and a member said he heard the cup had been traced up to a certain time, since which nothing had been known of it. It was time some steps should be taken with a view to its recovery.

Mr. Brandt said he had heard it had been seen at the German Club. He asked how the Race Club became responsible for the value of the cup?

The Chairman said the cup was promised to the Club, and was advertised by them to be run for. It was run for and won under the terms advertised, and then was not forthcoming. There appeared to be some mystery about it, and to-day, for the first time, he had heard it had been seen at the German Club. But if that were so, he should have thought the cup would have been in a safe place there, and have been produced when required.

Mr. Dallas said there were several persons, who, like Mr. Brandt, thought the Cup was at the German Club, and, acting upon that thought, the Cup was applied for. They were told it was not a race cup at all that had been seen, but a cup that was won as a rifle-shooting prize.

Mr. Brandt said the cup came out from Berlin in 1870, he believed. It was seen at that time.

Mr. Dallas said in 1870 the old cup was finally won; and the cup in question first run for in 1871, being finally won in 1873.

A member expressed the opinion that, if Mr. Cordes was responsible for the money, he ought to be applied to for payment.

The Chairman replied that Mr. Cordes undertook to collect the money; but somehow there was a slip between the cup and the lip, and Mr. Cordes was as much surprised at it as they were. But as he had before said, the Stewards were in correspondence with Mr. Cordes on the subject, and perhaps it need hardly be continued now.

Mr. Brandt thought if the cup had been in the care of the German Club, that Club ought to be made responsible for it. It certainly was too serious a matter to be lost sight of.

The Chairman repeated that the matter had not been lost sight of. The Stewards were now in correspondence with Mr. Cordes on the subject, and that was all that could be done at present. In the meantime, the Race Club were called upon to pay the amount, because the cup had been won under the terms advertised by them. As soon as anything was understood about the cup, it would be made known to the members.

The conversation then dropped, and

Mr. Haas seconded the motion for the adoption of the accounts, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said the next business to which he had to call attention was the appointment of a Clerk of the Course, which had become vacant by the resignation of Mr. F. King. The duty would be undertaken by Mr. Barnes Dallas, if elected to the office; and for the purpose of offering himself, that gentleman had resigned his position as Steward, which he (the chairman) was sure they would all much regret. They had, therefore, to recommend that Mr. Dallas should receive the double appointment, as Secretary to the Race Club and Clerk of the Course, at a salary of Tls. 720 per annum. He moved that the services of Mr. Dallas be accepted.

Mr. Hitch seconded the motion, and it was agreed to *nem. diss.*

The Chairman said he would now ask them to listen to some correspondence which had passed between the Recreation Fund Trustees and the Stewards of the Race Club; with which the Stewards did not feel themselves competent to deal without ascertaining the opinion of the members of the Club.

Mr. Dallas read the correspondence, as follows:—

Shanghai, 27th July, 1874.

C. J. King, Esq.,
Chairman Race Club,
and the Trustees.

Dear Sirs,—As it has been suggested that I should address the Trustees of the Recreation Fund with a view to alter their determination as to the necessity of appeal, I have to-day written them, pointing out how I think the difficulty now existing might be arranged.

In their letter of 14th July, they state.—"We cannot, under the permanent injunction granted by the Court, sell the Land or deal with it as (they) we please on terms of our Trust. On the other hand, the Race Club Land is unfettered, and may be sold, or be let upon, to the detriment of the Recreation Fund Land on the interior of the Course. They also state that we never had, and that we have not now, any wish or intention to obstruct the view of the Race Course." Their determination to appeal strikes me as based on the first portion of the above quoted paragraph, and I have therefore pointed out to them how I think the whole matter could be settled without further litigation, viz., that the Trustees of the Recreation Fund should give the Race Club a formal and sufficient guarantee of their expressed intention never to interfere with the view of the Race Course, and that the Race Course Proprietors and Race Club on their side will equally pledge themselves that, so soon as the present Race Course has ceased permanently to be used as a Race Course, then the Recreation Fund Trustees will be at liberty, so far as the Race Club is concerned, to use the Land in the interior for any purpose they may see fit. If the above should meet with your approval, a meeting with the Trustees of the Recreation Fund might tend to a satisfactory conclusion, and the Lawyers would draw up the necessary documents for a final settlement of this vexed public question with honor and satisfaction to all.

Trusting it may be so.

I remain, Dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully,
John Dent.

Shanghai, 30th July, 1874.

John Dent, Esq.

Sir,—I am requested by the Stewards of the Shanghai Race Club to thank you for your letter of 27th inst., to Mr. C. J. King, Chairman of the Race Club, and to express to you their sense of the obligation you have conferred on the Race Club by bringing forward a satisfactory solution of the difficulties pending between the Trustees of the Recreation Fund and the Race Club.

The Stewards think it desirable that the Chairman of each body should meet, to arrange a settlement of the question, on the general ground laid down in your proposition, viz., that the Trustees guarantee an uninterrupted view of the Race Course so long as it is

permanently used for Racing purposes, and on the other part, the Race Club will undertake to release the land in the interior of the Race Course from all liabilities to the Race Club when the Course ceases to be used for Racing purposes.

The Stewards hope that, at a meeting as above, full terms of the settlement of the difficulty may be arrived at, to the satisfaction of both parties; and have every reason to believe the members of the Race Club will be willing to agree to the terms that may be laid before them.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
BARNES DALLAS,
Steward and Secretary Shanghai Race Club.

Approved.
C. J. KING,
F. D. HITCH,
C. S. GRANT,
E. G. LOW.

Shanghai, 28th August, 1874.

C. J. KING, Esq.,
Chairman, Shanghai Race Club.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to hand you the enclosed Communication which has just come to hand from the Chairman of the Recreation Fund, and would ask your serious consideration of it.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DENT.

Shanghai, August 18th, 1874.

JOHN DENT, Esq.,
Shanghai.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 27th ulto. has received the earnest consideration of the Trustees. We are glad to see in it the expression of, what we believe to be, a general desire for an amicable settlement of the questions at issue between the Race Club and the Recreation Fund, and if we hesitate to accept the compromise which you suggest, it is not because we fail to reciprocate the wish for an adjustment, but because the plan proposed does not seem to us to go far enough.

It is a notable fact in the history of Shanghai amusements, that in every private association which has started with a proprietary distinct from the general body of members or subscribers, there has, sooner or later, been a certain divergence of opinion, or clashing of interests between the two sets of men, with a result always more or less unfortunate. Illustration of this fact will recur to the mind of every old resident, and further allusion to it would be out of place.

The Trustees, however, may say that the elimination of the proprietary element from schemes of public amusement, has long appeared to them an advantage to the community, and an object towards which they may properly devote a portion of their Fund whenever opportunity arises.

Recent events have brought to light the fact, that the Recreation Fund Trustees are viewed by many persons as a body in direct antagonism to the Race Club and its special interests. How this feeling originated or has been fostered, it is useless to enquire, but we believe that its existence has been at the bottom of all the late trouble, and that it may continue to breed discussion as long as the legal tenures of the Race Course and of its interior remain in their present unsatisfactory state.

It is, therefore, not only in response to your letter, but with the two-fold object of showing that this supposed antagonism does not exist, and of enabling the Race Club to purchase the remaining private interests in the Course, that we submit the following scheme:—

1.—The Trustees will at once furnish the necessary funds to buy up the privately-held shares in the Race Course, and they will issue to the Race Club, debentures representing the balance of the cost of the Race Course, bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum, and redeemable by instalments within five years.

NOTE.

Cost of Race Course to original shareholders, (including cost of 30 *mow* of ground, houses thereon &c., &c)	Tls. 10,800.00
(25 *shares at Tls.* 432 *a share.*)	
Less cost of above 30 *mow*, houses &c., for which payment has already been made by the Recreation Fund, Tls. 2,000 in cash and certain privileges as per letter of Secretary to Race Course, 5th October, 1872	3,427.94
Actual cost of Race Course.	7,372.06

The final result of this arrangement would be to give the Race Club some Tls. 3,200 in cash, against which and the cash paid for purchase of shares they would be chargeable with interest at 5 per cent., making the annual rental of the Race Course, Inner and Steeple Chase Course, Tls. 368.60.

2.—The Race Course and Grand Stand enclosures to be vested in the Trustees of the Recreation Fund, two Stewards of the Race Club, *ex-officio*, to be added to the five present Trustees.

3.—The Trust Deed to provide that the Race Course shall be left in possession of, and under the sole control and management, of the Race Club, as long as the Club shall consist of members or more. That the Course shall not be sold until a new and suitable Course, ready for use, be first provided, and then only with the consent of at least five Trustees and two-thirds of the resident members of the Race Club.

4.—The Deed also to provide that the land in the interior of the Course shall not be sold, or the view of the Course obstructed, as long as the Course is in the possession of the Race Club.

5.—The Race Club to be responsible for keeping the Course, &c., in order, for the necessary repairs, taxes, &c., and to pay interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the amount expended by the Fund in taking over the shares in the Course, it being understood that *no individual responsibility is incurred by the members.*

6.—In order to arrive at a settlement of *all* points at issue, the Trustees will waive their claim for a clean title deed for the 30 *mow* of Land alleged to be in the interior of the Race Course, which they have already paid, and will confirm the privileges granted to the Race Course in respect of the Training and Steeplechase Courses.

You will doubtless remember that the agreement with the Race Club, to which you as *ex-officio* Chairman of the Trustees were a party, made the production of clean title deeds for the 30 *mow* of Land, the consideration for both the money payment and the privileges above-mentioned.

The Trustees believe that the proposed amalgamation is the only plan by which the various interests can be thoroughly conciliated and advanced, and they submit it for frank discussion upon its merits. They would specially deprecate, on the one side or the other, any remarks bearing upon either the past disagreements or the present relative positions of the parties to the late litigation—and they hope that the scheme may be viewed solely as to the advantages which it offers for the future.

To the Race Club, the pecuniary inducements are manifest, while a security for the preservation of the Race Course is offered which does not exist to-day. To the Trustees there will remain the satisfaction of having widened the usefulness of the Fund, and of having given a definite solution to a long-vexed question.

I remain, dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman of the Trustees of the Shanghai Recreation Fund.

Mr. LUCAS thought a question of the importance contained in the letter should have been circulated more freely. He considered the present meeting was hardly capable of dealing with so sweeping a measure.

Mr. HITCH suggested it would be better, perhaps, to have the correspondence printed for circulation amongst the members.

A general conversation took place, and, ultimately,

Mr. LUCAS proposed—

That the correspondence between the Club and the Recreation Fund Trustees be printed and circulated among the members, and the decision in the matter left to an extraordinary meeting.

Mr. HAAS seconded the motion.

Mr. MORRISS—Why not come to a decision at once, and decline it?—it will be sure to be declined.

Several members considered this would be too summary a way of disposing of the question; and it was also suggested that members not present at the meeting might like to have an opportunity of expressing their opinion.

Mr. LINDSAY however, submitted, as an amendment—

That the Secretary be instructed to answer the proposition made in the Recreation Fund Trustees' letter of 18th August, and to decline the same on the ground that there is no reason to alter the present constitution of the Race Club.

Mr. MORRISS seconded the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN put the amendment first, but there were only six hands held up in its favour, the remainder of the meeting voting against it. The original motion was then put, and carried, against one dissentient.

Mr. J. S. FEARON thought, before the subject dropped, the meeting should give some expression and acknowledgment of the Club's indebtedness to Mr. Dallas, for his services on the occasion of the trial between the Recreation Fund Trustees and the Club. He would, therefore, move—

That the thanks of the Club be voted to Mr. Dallas, with a sum of Tls. 200, for his services and the time expended by him in attending the late trial in which the Club was involved in the Supreme Court.

Mr. FERGUSSON had only too much pleasure in seconding such a proposition.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the motion, and it was carried without dissent.

Mr. DALLAS thanked them very much for this recognition of his services.

Mr. SAVAGE suggested that the Stewards should make some alteration in the Steeplechase jumps. The present arrangement was very unsatisfactory to racing men, and no doubt prevented a greater number of entries. As one instance, he might mention that the wall was too near the start, and many China ponies would not face it.

Mr. DALLAS said it was in contemplation to move the wall to near the Monument, and to place a hurdle for the first jump.

Mr. SAVAGE also thought the double opposite the Grand Stand might be improved.

A voice—It might he made a treble. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. S. FEARON remarked that the number of entries for the Steeplechase was generally so small that it was hardly worth while to alter the course. He thought it would be better to have only one Steeplechase at each meeting.

Mr. WALKER thought there would be a larger number if the wall were altered.

The CHAIRMAN said it would probably be sufficient to draw the attention of the Stewards to the question, who would take it into consideration.

Mr. SAVAGE had only wished to call attention to the subject.

Mr. LINDSAY observed that there was another subject to which he might ask their attention. He thought it would be more convenient to call the annual meeting immediately after the Autumn races, when matters were fresh in the minds of the members, and would be likely to receive closer attention than at a long period afterwards. If the subject were brought to the notice of the Stewards, they would perhaps see fit to make the alteration.

Mr. J. S. FEARON did not agree with the suggested alteration. He considered the proper time to hold the annual meeting was when the accounts were presented.

No discussion followed, and,

Mr. LINDSAY said he only mentioned the matter suggestively, and did not intend to propose any resolution upon it.

The next business was the election of Stewards for the ensuing year.

The CHAIRMAN said there was a vacancy caused by Dr. Gottburg going home, and another by Mr. Dallas' retirement in order to become Clerk of the Course. The meeting would, however, ballot for stewards as usual.

The papers having been handed in, the following were found to have received the greater number of votes:—Messrs. C. J. King, F. D. Hitch, E. G. Low, R. Fergusson, McLeod, F. H. Bell and Hart, who were declared duly elected.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. P. V. Grant, to the effect that the engineers of Shanghai had subscribed Tls. 500 for the purchase of a piece of Plate, to be run for and won two consecutive years by a China pony from the same stable. (Applause.)

Mr. FERGUSSON moved, and Mr. HITCH seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Grant and the subscribers to the Plate, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, who briefly acknowledged the compliment, concluded the meeting.

MEETING OF SUBSCRIBERS TO TRINITY CHURCH.

The Annual Meeting of Subscribers to Trinity Church was held at H. B. M. Consulate on the 1st instant.

Present:—W. H. Medhurst, H. B. M. Consul (in the Chair,) Rev. C. H. Butcher, Sir E. Hornby, Messrs. Alabaster, Davenport, Dent, Drummond, Krauss, Tate and Turnbull.

The CHAIRMAN said this was the usual Annual Meeting to receive the accounts, elect office bearers, and discuss any other general matters that might be brought forward. The accounts had been audited, and, together with the Report, had been circulated and were now before them. He might add that the Meeting would have been held earlier, in accordance with the Act, but for the unfortunate illness of their esteemed Treasurer, who was still not able to be present, but in whose stead Mr. Turnbull would give any necessary explanation.

Mr. TURNBULL proposed

That the accounts as laid on the table be passed.

REPORT.

The Trustees beg to lay before the Subscribers their Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

It will be noticed that the Receipts from Pew Rents in 1874 have fallen to Tls. 4,408.88 against Tls. 4,748.94 in 1873,—a decrease of Tls. 340.06. On the other hand, the amount paid for Repairs in 1874 is less than that paid in 1873 by Tls. 711.54. A bell, which had for some years been lent to the Municipal Council as a Fire Alarm in Hongkew, has now been sold to that body for Tls. 150.00.

Parsonage Loan.—The thanks of the Subscribers are due to Messrs. Birley, Worthington & Co. for their liberality in writing off the amount at their credit under this heading. It is hoped that this example may be followed by the other creditors.

Assistant-Chaplain. — The Trustees were authorised at a Special Meeting held on 9th February last, to increase the Stipend offered to Tls. 2,700.00 per annum, and they have empowered a Committee in England—Messrs. F. D. Barnes, F. B. Johnson, and A. Michie, to receive applications and fill the appointment. The thanks of the Subscribers are due to these gentlemen, and especially to Mr. Johnson, for the trouble which they have taken in the matter. Mr. Johnson's last letter announced that a suitable candidate had presented himself.

Eight Seats containing 40 Sittings have been set aside as Free Seats. Twelve Seats containing 60 Sittings will henceforward be let at the reduced rate of Tls. 12 per annum per Sitting in accordance with a Resolution passed at the General Meeting of 21st Jan., 1870.

An Alms-box has been placed at the entrance to the Church.

The Trustees cannot close their Report without tendering their best thanks to the Members of the Voluntary Choir who have so kindly given their services during the year.

The Account of the Treasurer and Trustees of the British Episcopal Church Establishment *at Shanghai, for the year ending 31st December*, 1874.

1874 Jan. 1, to Dec. 31	Tls.
To Pew rents received	4,408.88
,, Rents of Main Guard	200.00
,, Proceeds of one bell sold to Municipal Council	150.00
,, Birley, Worthington and Co. Amount written off from Parsonage Loan	167.98
,, Balance carried down	3,234.12
	8,160.98

1874 Jan. 1, to Dec. 31	Tls.
By Balance of last account	3,297.61
,, Chaplain's Stipend	3,200.00
,, Incidental expenses and repairs	1,530.77
,, One year's interest on the Parsonage Loan at 5 per cent. per annum	132.60
	8,160.98

Statement of the Parsonage House Loan,

Dr. 31st December, 1874.

1873 Dec. 31.	Tls.
To Amount of last account ..... Tls. 2,820.09	
Less Amount written off by Birley, Worthington and Co. ..... ,, 167.98	
	2,652.11
To Interest charged to the Trustees' General Account, one year on Tls. 2,652.11 at 5 per cent per annum	132.60
	2,784.71

Cr.

1874 Dec. 31.	
By Amounts due to the following;—	
G. Barnet and Co.	352.77
Jardine, Matheson and Co.	552.77
Shaw, Brothers and Co.	352.77
Gibb, Livingston and Co.	176.38
Bull, Purdon and Co.	176.38
Gilman and Co.	176.38
Augustine Heard and Co.	176.38
The Estate of Dent and Co.	408.35
,, Smith, Kennedy and Co.	408.35
,, Lindsay and Co.	204.18
	2,784.71

1874—Collection in Trinity Church on Christmas Day ..... Tls. 512.65

Treasurer's Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1874.

Dr.	Tls.
Balance of Trustees' Account	3,234.12
Cash in Treasurer's hands	63.24
Total....	3,297.36

Cr.	Tls.
Parsonage Loan of 1859	2,784.71
Assistant Chaplain's Fund	512.65
Total....	3,297.36

The Chairman asked how the falling off in pew-rents was to be explained; was it through people leaving?

Mr. Turnbull said the same number of pews were not taken; probably people leaving had something to do with it.

Mr. Tate seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Mr. Dent thought one word of comment might be made on the accounts. The balance carried forward, of Tls. 3,297 showed rather a better position than last year. At the same time if they deducted the subscription to the Assistant Chaplain's fund, they would really prove nearly Tls. 400 to the bad on their actual financial position. He drew attention to this because, if the public were made aware of the discrepancy, and read the first portion of the report showing that the receipts had fallen from Tls. 4,748 to Tls. 4,408, they would probably be willing to come forward and supply the deficiency. It was merely a falling off in pew-rents which had caused the reduced income. The collection balanced the deficit; but the collection was for the Assistant Chaplain's salary.

The Chairman asked if the reduction which had been agreed on in the rate of certain pew-rents, had affected the revenue?

Mr. Turnbull thought not to any great extent.

The next question was the election of officers for the ensuing year. Mr. Turnbull said he himself and, he believed, Mr. Dent, declined further service; but Messrs. Krauss and Bell were willing to accept office, and Mr. FitzGerald would continue to act as Treasurer.

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Turnbull, these gentlemen were elected.

Mr. Turnbull called attention to what was said in the report about an Assistant Chaplain. Mr. Johnson had interested himself very much in the matter, an in a late letter said he hoped he should soon complete an arrangement with a gentleman who was in every respect well qualified. Probably the incoming mail might bring further information on the subject. He did not know that any further comment was necessary; the salary which should be offered had already been decided on at a meeting of the 9th February. They were aware what arrangement had been with the Trustees of the Seamen's Church, and the means on which they counted for the balance of the emolument.

The Chairman here suggested that the Minutes of the special meeting on the subject should be read; and in connection with it a letter was read from the Seamen's Church Trustees, repudiating any personal responsibility for the amount they had undertaken to provide, and a reply recognising their position.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. Dent seconded, a vote of thanks to the gentlemen who had been interesting themselves, in England, in procuring an Assistant Chaplain.

Mr. Turnbull called attention to certain property belonging to the subscribers, in the shape of benches, bells, and clocks, which it was not likely could be ever made use of. As regarded bells, the one used in Hongkew as a fire-bell had been sold to the Municipal Council. This did not involve spoiling the set because one, which was lying in Mr. Krauss' compound, was cracked. There still remained two bells which were in some way connected with the clock. A portion of this clock Mr Krauss had also kindly allowed to stop on his premises, but the most delicate portion was in charge of Mr. Gombert. It was a question for consideration whether the clock would be any use to them, or whether they had not better dispose of it. Then the benches were some which they had over; there had been rather too many made, and they might also be sold.

It was remarked that the clock was formerly in the tower of the old church. Was not a tower contemplated in the present one? As this project, however, had not yet got the length of plans, it was eventually proposed by Mr. Tate, seconded by Mr. Dent, and resolved—

That the Trustees be empowered to use their judgment with regard to the disposal of certain articles of furniture now of no use to the church.

Mr. Turnbull said there was one other matter. The lease of the Main Guard expired at the end of last year; and it was now occupied on terms of six months' notice. Would the meeting wish to go on, on this footing, or have a new lease?

It was explained that the terms of the lease gave the Trustees the right of opening the building on a wet Sunday, for the purpose of sheltering chairs, and it was occasionally so used. After some conversation, it was resolved to let the lease go on on the present footing.

Reference was also made to the fact of carriages occasionally driving up to the church door; the road was not intended for a drive. It was suggested that the Municipal Council, which has charge of the compound, might perhaps make a drive; but no definite action was taken.

Mr. Tate then rose to call the attention of the meeting to a matter of great importance, which had apparently escaped the notice of the last meeting, but which he believed in truth had not been brought forward because people were uncertain of the proper course to be taken in the matter. They were aware that a Bishop of North China had been appointed, and, as everyone who identified himself with the rising fortunes of the community with which he was associated, he felt anxious that steps should be taken as soon as possible to induce His Lordship to select Trinity Church as his Cathedral. There was no doubt that the building was suited for the purpose; and he thought that, as the oldest, largest, wealthiest, most numerous and in every way most important Community in the North of China, Shanghai had a just claim to be honoured by the erection of its church into a Cathedral now opportunity offered. They were he believed all agreed in the matter, and he would not detain them longer save to say that he echoed the wishes and feelings of a number of people not present. He would simply move

That the Trustees be requested to advise with the Right Reverend the Bishop of North China as to the erection of Trinity Church into a Cathedral, and be authorised to take what steps are necessary to that end.

Sir Edmund Hornby had great pleasure in seconding the proposal.

Some discussion followed as to the position of a bishop with reference to his cathedral. Sir Edmund Hornby explained that he had no other right in it but to his throne. The erection of Trinity Church into a cathedral would not imply any dependence on the bishop, nor in any way affect the position of the incumbent. The Church would remain precisely as it was now. The Bishop would simply be invited to adopt it as his diocesan church, and it would gain a nominal dignity. If we were to have cathedrals in China, he did not see why Hongkong should have a monopoly. The proposed step would be a compliment to the Bishop, a recognition of his episcopal rank, and of the high character which had led to his selection for the office. As far as law went, he would gain no power over the church, either ecclesiastical or temporal. The Trustees would simply invite him to nominate the church of Shanghai as his cathedral church; it was in his power to select which church he pleased for this dignity.

The Rev. Canon Butcher cordially endorsed the proposal. He had the highest esteem for Bishop Russell, and should be glad to be brought into more intimate relations with him. The erection of the church into a cathedral would promote the dignity of Shanghai, with which his interests were inseparably bound up.

Sir Edmund Hornby repeated that the proposed step would be a compliment to the Bishop, and considered it fitting that

the first community in China should place at his disposal their church, of which they would still retain the Government. Another result would be to dissolve their connection with Hongkong. At present their worthy chaplain was a Canon of Hongkong, which was a mistake now the diocese was divided. If he were a canon at all, he should be a canon of the diocese in which he was stationed.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Rev. CANON BUTCHER then proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, to whom they were much indebted for their services during the year; and with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting broke up.

SHANGHAI AND HONGKEW WHARF COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on Monday, at the Club. The following were present:—Mr. C. J. King, in the chair; Messrs. A. Lind, J. Welch, J. Foster, W. Keswick, T. M. Drysdale, J. Jaques, Wm. Murray, T. Brewer, H. Sutherland, M. Hawtrey, F. Groom, Wm. Mitchell, J. Macgregor (Provand & Co.), S. Daly, J. H. Drought, G. Jamieson, J. P. Bisset, J. Macgregor (Jardine, Matheson & Co.), P. Maclean, Wm. Kidner, J. Wilson, G. A. Lindsay, Overbeck, J. B. Tootal, Carnie, J. Mackillop, R. S. Gundry, T. Olyphant, Lucas, J. J. Buchheister, R. Fergusson, Rodewald, A. Hennequin, A. Little, Alex. J. Pollock, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN commenced the proceedings by reading the notice calling the meeting, advertised in the *North China Daily News*. He afterwards alluded to the report of the Directors, which had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, there being, therefore, no necessity to expatiate upon the facts which it revealed. They would see that the result of the year's working, if the recommendations of the Directors were adopted, would be to return to the shareholders 5 %, and to the contributors, 2½ %, leaving a reserve of 1⅓ %; being together about 9 % on the paid-up capital, or Tls. 19,250.18, after providing interest on advances from Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Tls. 2,623.43, and for all old and bad debts, Tls. 1295.01; or 9½ % on the total capital of the Company—in all, Tls. 2,316.62. On comparing the accounts of 1873 and 1874, the shareholders would see that business was well maintained, in spite of increased depression, which made 1874 the worst year in respect to imports in the history of Shanghai. Repairs during the year had cost Tls. 728.34, against Tls. 197.88 in 1873; and House and Land Taxes had amounted to Tls. 1,078.20 against Tls. 657.39. Other charges were slightly favourable for 1874, but the Directors could not deduce hopes of future improvement from a consideration of those figures. They had urged the adoption of a uniform tariff with Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, and the agents had done their utmost to obtain the concurrence of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., who, while admitting the propriety, positively declined co-operation. Opposition and competition had never been more active in reducing the rates of wharfage and storage, than during the late winter months, when the Northern ports were closed and more opportunity afforded by the absence of the steamers engaged on that line. A proposal was before the meeting, intended to remove those inconveniences; but before arriving at that business, and in the absence of any further information required, he would propose that the report and accounts of the Directors be read and passed.

Mr. LIND seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

REPORT.

In submitting the Accounts for the past year, the Directors regret that the increase of business has not been important, the gross earnings of the Wharf being Tls. 64,809,23, against Tls. 64,239.26 in 1873, while the net earnings of the Company shew a diminution of Tls. 5,890.44, of which amount, a discount of 10 per cent. on Wharfage and Warehouse Accounts represents Tls. 5,527.20, which concession, in face of a similar practice by competing establishments, was necessary for the maintenance of the business.

The Directors regret that hitherto they have been unable to obtain the co-operation of other Wharf proprietors in an amended tariff of charges, without which they are unable to recommend the adoption of higher rates by the Company.

An interim dividend of 4 per cent. was paid to Shareholders for the six months ending 30th June last, but the year's Account leaves a balance to the credit of Profit and Loss of only Tls. 5,022.98 after making full provision for the Balance at Debit of that Account on the 31st December, 1873, and for all bad debts and omissions on that and the preceding year, representing together a sum of Tls. 1,295.01. The Directors can only therefore recommend the payment of a further dividend of 1 per cent., making in all 5 per cent., for the year 1874, and carrying Tls. 2,872.98 to the credit of a Reserve Account.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dec. 31, 1874.	Taels.
To Salaries, Wages, Coolie Hire, &c.	32,488.11
,, Insurance on Buildings	910.20
,, Repairs	728.34
,, House and Land Taxes	1,078.20
,, Rent of Adjoining Premises	1,292.80
,, Advertising, Stationery, &c.	428.83
,, Legal Expenses	196.86
,, Cost of Pony, Trap, and Sundries	276.82
,, Commission on Gross Earnings, Tls. 64,809.23 at 5 per cent	3,240.45
,, 10 per cent. Return to Contributors	5,527.20
,, Net Profit	18,641.42
	Tls. 64,809.23

Dec. 31, 1874.	Taels.
By Warehouse Rent, Wharfage, &c.	64,751.23
,, Transfer Fees	58.00
	Tls. 64,809 23

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dec. 31, 1873.	Taels.
To Balance as per Statement	806.18
,, Sundry bad debts 1872-73 written off	397.83
,, Land Tax for Quarter to 31 December, 1873, paid in 1874	91.00
July 14, 1874.	
,, 6 months Dividend to 30th June 1874 on 2,150 Shares at Tls. 4 per Share	8,600.00
Dec. 31.	
,, Interest on Advances from Hongkong & Shanghai Bank during 1874	2,623.43
,, Directors' Fees for 1874	800.00
,, Auditors' Fees for 1874	300.00
,, Balance	5,022.98
	Tls. 18,641.42

Dec. 31, 1873.	Taels.
By Net Profit on Working Account as per Statement	18,641.42
	Tls. 18,641.42

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

Assets.

Dec. 31, 1873.	Taels.
Original Cost of Property	262,169.40
Less at Credit Depreciation and Repair Account	18,783.28
	243,386.12
Dec. 31, 1874.	
Outstanding Claims—	
Warehouse Rent, Wharfage, &c.	9,188.36
Unexpired Insurance, &c.	620.10
	Tls. 253,194.58

Liabilities.

Dec. 31, 1873.	Taels.
Paid-up Capital, 2,150 Shares at Tls. 100 per Share	215,000.00
Dec. 31, 1874.	
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank for Advances against additional Cost of Property	27,309.15
Sundry Creditors	5,862.45
Profit and Loss Account 1874, Balance at Credit as per Statement	5,022.98
	Tls. 253,194.58

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the appointment of directors for another year. It was with very great regret that he had to inform them of the retirement of Mr. Behn and Mr. Lind from the direction; though in fact all the directors retired, as noticed in the report; and Mr. Bell and himself (the Chairman) were the only two old directors who were candidates for re-election. Messrs. Hennequin, Sutherland, and Drysdale had, however, expressed their willingness to be put on the Board of Directors, and they would make up the required number; but if any other gentlemen were willing, he would be happy to propose their names. Otherwise he should ask them to give their consent to the election of the five whose names he had given.

No other names being mentioned,

Mr. GROOM proposed that Messrs. C. J. King, F. H. Bell, H. Sutherland, T. M. Drysdale, and A. Hennequin be elected as directors for the ensuing year.

Mr. MACGREGOR seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said they had now come to the most interesting part of the business of the meeting, which was to consider the terms of their proposed amalgamation with Hunt's and Heard's Wharves. The shareholders had had before them the memorandum relating to it, which had accompanied the Report; and in laying the question before them, he (the Chairman) should simply make such comment upon the proposals contained in the memorandum as struck him as being necessary.

The memorandum of proposals alluded to, was as follows:—

Memo. of terms of proposed amalgamation of Hunt's & Heard's Wharves with the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Company.

That the Wharves known as "Hunt's & Heard's" and the "Shanghai & Hongkew," shall be worked together under the Agency of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and that the terms and conditions of the combined working shall be as follows:—

1.—That Hunt's & Heard's Wharves shall be admitted into the amalgamation on the basis of their net earnings during the year 1874, say Tls. 32,675, and the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf on the basis of 10 per cent. on the Company's Capital, say Tls. 24,200, and that out of the Working Account (provided the earnings admit of it) the said sums shall be paid in full; or in the event of the earnings not reaching Tls. 56,875, then the sum actually earned shall be divided *pro rata* in accordance with the above valued income of the respective properties.

2.—That the Working Account of the combined Wharves shall be debited with the expenses necessary to the business, such as Coolie Hire, General Disbursements, Office Charges, Fire Insurance, Municipal Taxes, the rent of the Sailors' Home frontage, Directors' Fees, Commissions, and all ordinary and necessary repairs to the Wharves and premises of the character usually borne by tenants.

3.—That out of the profits divided between them, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as representing Hunt's & Heard's Warves on the one part, and the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. on the other part, shall each severally and separately pay the expenses that are usually borne by Landlords and that may attach to their respective properties, such as the maintenance of sufficient accommodation and, if it be necessary, the extension of accommodation to meet the requirements of the business of the Wharves, the reconstruction of Old Buildings and the erection of New Buildings, and the cost of dredging or of otherwise keeping deep and serviceable water in front of their respective properties.

4.—That in case any expenditure is required for the construction of New Buildings (not the re-erection of Old), or for the extension of the accommodation of the Wharves as provided for in the preceding clause, interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum shall be paid on all sums so expended, and such interest shall be debited in the General Working Account, and be paid to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. or the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. as the case may be.

5.—That if in the opinion of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. and the Directors of the Wharf Co. the earnings of the Wharves to the 30th June in any year will admit of an *ad interim* payment on account of the sums named in Clause 1, such payment shall be made, provided it does not exceed one-half of the said respective sums of Tls. 32,675 and Tls. 24,200, or say to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. the sum of Tls. 16,337.50 and to the

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. the sum of Tls. 12,100.

6.—That as soon as practicable after the 31st December each year, the Accounts of the Wharves shall be closed, and if it should then appear that there is a balance of profit in the Working Account after making the payments of the said respective sums of Tls. 32,675 and Tls. 24,200, the said balance shall be equally divided between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. respectively.

7.—That Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as General Agents of the Wharves shall charge 5 per cent. Commission on the gross earnings of the Wharves, and that the senior representative of the said Firm in Shanghai shall be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Company and of the Board of Directors.

8.—That this Agreement between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., shall extend to the 30th June 1887, when it shall terminate unless otherwise arranged.

The subjoined correspondence had passed on the subject :—

Shanghai, 22nd February, 1875.

Dear Sirs,—We have this day laid your draft proposal before the Directors of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, and we are by them instructed to inform you that it will be necessary, in order to bring it before the meeting of our shareholders on the 1st March, that we receive it in a form that may be printed for circulation among our shareholders not later than Wednesday morning the 24th instant, for which purpose we return the draft herewith.

Without further comment on the proposal for the amalgamation of the wharves, the opinion of our Directors to render it successful requires the guaranteed independence of the Direction, and that the Agency should be subordinate to the Board, of which the Senior representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., if the proposal is adopted, would in all propriety be a member and the chairman.

We are, Dear Sirs,
Your's faithfully,
(Signed) Chapman, King & Co.,
Agents Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Company.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Shanghai.

Shanghai, 23rd February, 1875.

Dear Sirs,—We are obliged for your letter of yesterday's date, and as requested hand you a revised copy of the proposals which have been mutually considered by us for the amalgamation of our respective wharf interests. The concluding part of your letter constrains us to say that with the independence of the Board of Directors, the contemplated amalgamation would not interfere, and further that we consider it important that the Agents should have the privilege of appointing or removing the officers and employés of the wharves, with a view to the efficient working of the staff.

We remain, Dear Sirs,
Your most obedient Servants,
(Signed) Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Messrs. Chapman, King & Co.
Agents Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.

The Chairman referred to each clause of the above memorandum, separately, as follows :—

Clause I.—In the combined earnings of the wharves, is proposed a division of the profits—

To Hunt and Heard's Wharf..	Tls. 32,675
To the Hongkew Wharf.....	24,200
	Tls. 56,875

Representing the utmost earning power of Hunt's and Heard's Wharves; and to enter on such a proposal for twelve years might be rash, with little hope of any increase on these figures to the advantage of the combination.

A similar calculation, based on the frontage of the Companies' Wharf 1510 feet, irrespective of the Sailors' Home frontage, would make our earning power on present rates Tls. 55,000 net, and without more than an allusion to the circumstance that a large proportion of Hunt's and Heard's Wharves (extending along Broadway) is occupied by houses, making the available area of the Hongkew Wharf probably double that of Hunt's and Heard's, while its water frontage alone is more then half as much again.

Clause II.—Omits mention of the Government Land-tax.

Clause III.—Provides for the expenses to be borne by each party as Landlords in the conservancy of their properties, and as I have before noticed, our larger extent of Wharf would occasion a greater outlay than the smaller premises of Hunt's and Heard's Wharves. To be provided out of the more slender share of the earnings proposed to our shareholders, and would necessitate the appropriation of a more or less sum to be deducted from the 10 per cent. on their capital calculated in Clause I.

Clause IV.—Provides for the extension of buildings &c., the weight of which obligation, if the amalgamation is adopted, must necessarily fall on the portion of the Wharf now the property of the Company. Hunt's and Heard's Wharf is to a considerable extent held, under lease; and apart from the natural desire to avoid the construction of permanent buildings on such land, the most useful sites for such extension would be found on our larger property, and this consideration is of great importance to our shareholders; for whereas we have no funds for the purpose, we shall have to borrow money for which the proposed allowance of 10 per cent. from the combined working account, will do no more than provide the interest, while the additional profits to be derived from such extensions will, under Clause 6, be equally divided with Hunt's and Heard's wharf.

Clause V.—Provides for the payment of an interim dividend.

Clause VI.—I have already noticed in connection with Clause IV., as giving to Hunt's and Heard's wharf, an equal benefit with ourselves in extensions most likely to occur from a further outlay of capital by our shareholders, and in addition to the sum of Tls. 32,675, which I take to be the maximum earning power of their property.

Clause VII.—I shall not notice, further than to remind the meeting that to give it effect requires a change in the fundamental regulations of our Company, and that in my opinion the Chairman of our Direction should be duly qualified as a shareholder for that post, and that the agency of the Company can only be properly reposed in persons with whom the interests of the Company are pre-eminent—and if the interests of all parties can be consolidated in a manner which may secure the interests of the Company, I shall with reluctance resign the confidence you have so long reposed in my firm as agents of the wharf, with which they and myself have been connected for 13 years, during which time we have enjoyed many periods of great success, and adversity. I cannot see any recourse at this meeting than to propose that the Directors who have just been appointed by you should resolve themselves, with the aid of other persons, whom they may call into their councils, into a select Committee to go into the matter of the proposed amalgamation of the wharves, and to lay such amended proposals as they may be able to obtain from Jardine, Matheson & Co. before an adjourned meeting of the shareholders at an early date.

In conclusion, the Chairman proposed a resolution to the effect that the consideration of the proposed amalgamation should be left to the Directors as a Committee, to report at a future meeting.

Mr. Forster seconded the resolution.

The Chairman, in submitting the resolution, said that any suggestions that would tend to promote the labours of the Committee would be gladly received by them. He was speaking only as one of the Committee, but knew these were the sentiments of his colleagues; and he would be happy to hear any remarks that the proposal might call forth from anybody present at the meeting. In order to afford an opportunity, he would not put the resolution yet; or, if he did, he hoped it would not stop any further conversation upon the subject, for it would be much better to deliberate upon it, and give it thorough ventilation.

Mr. Keswick would wish to make a few remarks in connection with the memorandum, over which the Chairman had passed in review. He drew attention to the figures contained in Clause I, and wished the shareholders to observe that whereas Hunt's and Heard's Wharves were entered at their actual earnings, the Company's Wharf was put at fully 35 % more than it had earned last year, a point to which the Chairman had not alluded, but which he assured the shareholders was most important, and entirely disposed of the Chairman's hint that because Hunt's and Heard's Wharves were valued at their maximum earning power, the sum of Tls. 24,200 was a disadvantageous one upon which to admit the Company's Wharf. The next point was to the effect that some of the clauses would bear unequally upon the properties. In drawing up the memorandum he endeavoured to arrive at what was fair and just to both parties, and if it could be shown that anything in those clauses bore more upon one side than the other he would be glad to alter it. The object he had in view was that the proposal, if carried into effect, should bear upon them all fairly. (Hear, hear.) He would come to Clause 7, in which it was said that Jardine, Matheson and Co. should be represented upon the direction; and he thought it should not be forgotten that, as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, they contributed to the property an interest far greater then any other firm. He did not wish to give them undue preponderance and prominence, but there could be no doubt the value of the property his firm brought into the concern entitled them to the representation he asked for, when he desired they should have a seat *ex officio* on that Board. He quite acquiesced in the matter being considered in the way proposed, but he might state, in order to prevent any misconception, that in the fundamental principle of the amalgamation, as proposed by himself, there could be no alteration.

Mr. William Murray said—At the request of several of the shareholders, I rise with the object of making a few remarks on the merits of the proposed scheme of amalgamation, as set forth in the document recently circulated amongst the proprietors. It is possible that some of the gentlemen present may not have given the amended scheme that careful consideration which the importance of the subject requires, and possibly my own construction of the terms may be erroneous; and if so I shall be glad to be put right by the Chairman, as it is very desirable that all present should know the full bearings of the scheme before this meeting is dissolved. It is my intention to take each clause separately, when comment is necessary. Clause 1st,—I should remark that this, in my opinion, is the most important clause in the scheme now submitted for our calm consideration. According to the figures, at first sight, I acknowledge the terms would appear to rest entirely in favour of one side, or say in favour of Heard's and Hunt's Wharves; but if we view the case calmly, we perceive that the net earnings are actually Tls. 32,675, and Messrs. Jardine have netted the sum in the face of very keen competition, as the Chairman has just remarked, for "business has been for the past year exceptionally dull and competition unusually severe," or words of similar import. On the other hand, we must not lose sight of the fact that when the scheme in question comes into operation, the collateral advantages which will accrue to the general agents, such as increased commissions, the sole control of loans and finance business generally, with other concurrent advantages, which need not be here enumerated; I say, taking these facts into account, it is but reasonable that Jardine, Matheson & Co. should reduce their terms from the original basis of Tls. 32,675. It would be well to point out

also that Heard's and Hunt's Wharves were full to their utmost capacity during most of the preceding year. Should the special committee be appointed, doubtless the gentlemen elected will do their utmost to have the item reduced to as reasonable a figure as they may consider just to our separate interests. I feel assured, however, that Messrs. Jardine will act equitably towards the interests of proprietors of the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf, and will not quibble regarding concessions to be made, if they can do so consistently with their own individual interests. It is but fair that Mr. Keswick should base his terms on last year's earnings, and it is but natural that the proprietors should hold out for the most advantageous terms procurable. I am led to believe that a very liberal scale of charges will be adhered to as regards the public, and I believe the firm in question, if appointed agents, are quite alive to the importance of rendering the Company as popular as it is possible to make it, by being fair to every one ; and from the circular which I have just received it will be seen that the powers of the Directors will be as free and as unfettered as ever they have been. *Clause 2nd.*—This requires no comment, as Mr. King as gone fully over the same ground. *Clause 3rd.*—The Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf being greater in size and extent, will perhaps have considerably more expenses to bear, while on the present basis Hunt's & Heard's Wharves will receive proportionably fully ¼th more of the joint net earnings. This no doubt requires looking into, and will fall to the duty of the select Committee for modification. *Clause 4th.*—I have just learnt that the alternative with regard to this clause is that 9% be fixed as interest, and 4% as depreciation, which I dare say will be agreeable to every one, even to experts who are qualified to give an opinion on the subject. *Clause 5th.*—Calls for no comment. *Clause 6th.*—With reference to this clause, I think it desirable that some provision should be made for a Depreciation Fund, or Reserve Fund, or call it what you may. It is well that provision should be made for a bad year or for any unusual contingency. We have often had forcible illustration of the benefits arising from accumulative profits when bad years occur ; of course I merely suggest this in the event of the present scheme being successfully carried through. *Clause 7th.*—This has already been fully explained. *Clause 8th.*—I see no objection to this clause if the proposed scheme meets with approval. In conclusion, I would only observe that it is for the interest of the proprietors to decide on the course of action to be adopted regarding the future management of their property. The past year has not shewn satisfactory results, as you all know, but I am strong in the belief that should the present amalgamation scheme be carried through effectually, on what may be considered a fair and equitable re-adjustment, the value of the property will not only become enhanced in the future, but that the future working of the Company will be as satisfactory to the public as it ever has been in the past.

The CHAIRMAN would make only one remark. When they were talking about a reserve, they must not overlook the fact that it must be created, and that it meant earnings. A reserve could only be created out of earnings, and in their case by some increase of business. But the business of the past year was described properly by the united business of these Wharfs; so there was no room for the increase which they anticipated. Of course, increasing the tariff somewhat would make the accounts better, but that would have to be done with great discretion and judgment. He thought that people who had not gone into these calculations, would be disappointed in the result of their ideas as to the facility and ease with which incrased profit could be derived from that source.

Mr. GROOM thought that when the Wharf was established, a certain tariff was drawn up. Might he ask if that tariff was still acted upon?

The CHAIRMAN—No, it is not. We have a tariff, and adhere to it as nearly as possible, but the result of competition is such that we sometimes do business for almost nothing at all.

Mr. GROOM—Where does that competition come from?

The CHAIRMAN—From the other two wharves.

Mr. GROOM—Then, if that competition is done away with, you can return to the old tariff?

The CHAIRMAN—If that were done, it would have to be done very carefully.

Mr. GROOM—I think I am right in saying there has been a reduction of 40 *a* 50 per cent. in some things. Take coal, for instance.

The CHAIRMAN—I think coal is a sufficiently highly-taxed article.

Mr. GROOM—But still you get it? Then there is nailrod iron?

The CHAIRMAN—We get 1½ c., instead of 2 c. per picul for it.

Mr. GROOM—In that case, if the present earning power is Tls. 64,000 ; if you went back to the old tariff, the earning power of the Wharf would be increased 30 per cent., bringing it up to Tls. 80,000.

The CHAIRMAN—I think not. Storage is only one part of the business. The transit and wharfage of goods would not be affected by it.

Mr. MACLEAN said if the tariff were raised too much, ships would discharge in the stream. Some did so even now.

Mr. KESWICK said the tariff could be raised upon some articles and reduced upon others, but it must be done very carefully, and only to bring the rates up, and fix them, upon such a scale as would enable the shareholders to get a fair return for their money, and not drive the contributors of business to store elsewhere. At the same time, competition had bought about a scale of charges which in some cases were unduly low, while the rate in other cases needed lowering. He agreed that a rate could be arranged which would give a larger return, but the re-arrangement of the scale would require great care.

Mr. J. MACGREGOR said that as shareholders they must not forget that it had been explained an attempt would be made to raise the rates, with the view of giving the shareholders a better dividend. With reference to a remark made by the Chairman as to the earning power of the frontage, he (Mr. Macgregor) might say he was sent to the Municipal Council, to represent to the Finance Committee the unfairness with which Hunt's Wharf was taxed in conparison with the Hongkew Wharf. Probably the meeting would be surprised to hear that Hunt's Wharf was taxed 20 per cent. higher than the others.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that what caused Hunt's Wharf to be more heavily taxed was that there were houses built upon it, and the Assessment Committee always attached more value to land that was occupied with houses, and nearer the town. The Chairman then put the resolution formally to the meeting, but, before the votes were taken,

Mr. KESWICK begged to repeat what he had said before, that no fundamental change could be made in the proposals before them, and he therefore thought the resolution should be more precise. The composition of some of the conditions he was prepared to reconsider, but the fundamental principle he could not consent to change. Therefore it would be wrong for him to permit an idea of that kind to go forth, and any consultation upon it would be a waste of valuable time.

Mr. J. B. TOOTAL said be supposed that what Mr. Keswick meant was with reference to the relative amounts set down.

Mr. KESWICK said be meant the money conditions contained in Clause 1.

The CHAIRMAN said they all wanted time to consider the matter. It would be better to waste a little time than to take a hasty step ; and he thought they could not do wrong in appointing a Committee to consult with Jardine, Matheson and Co., through Mr. Keswick.

Mr. KESWICK said he did not wish to be obstructive in the matter at all, but there were certain matters which were admissible, and others that were not. It was not of any use to appoint a committee to meet him upon any other principle than that embodied in the memorandum, from which he could not depart. He thought it was useless to appoint a committee at all to consider the question, unless the principle were adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said that for one or two reasons, he thought it would be better to appoint a committee to look into the question more maturely than they could do at that meeting. Probably they might see a way (through difficulties) which they had not yet seen.

Mr. KESWICK said that for the reconsideration of all the clauses he was quite prepared, and would be glad to see it take place ; but with regard to the fundamental principle he had already mentioned, he thought it was quite needless for him to discuss it with a committee.

Mr. GROOM thought the meeting did not clearly understand what was meant by the fundamental principle. Perhaps Mr. Keswick would explain it more fully.

Mr. KESWICK said he was prepared to consider any concession with the exception of the principle embodied in Clause 1. With reference to this he might mention that he was willing to reduce the Tls. 32,725 to Tls. 30,000 ; but he could make no other change.

Some desultory conversation followed, and

The CHAIRMAN afterwards said, unless any amendment was proposed, he would now put the resolution to the meeting. He thought the resolution really met all the requirements of the case. They were not in a position to say more than that the directors of the company should consider the proposal, and bring any amended proposals before an adjourned meeting at an early date. They were not now prepared to lay any amended proposals before the meeting, although Mr. Keswick had said he would be prepared to accept alterations.

Mr. KESWICK said he would be glad to have the clauses reconsidered, with the exception he had named.

The CHAIRMAN then formally submitted the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. MURRAY thought it would be well to have another meeting at a period not greater than ten days hence, to enable them to have a thorough understanding of what was meant. There was an impression abroad that all tariffs would be raised and no one would derive any benefit from the amalgamation besides Jardine, Matheson & Co., but this would be met by gentlemen who really understood the matter. He thought to leave the adjourned meeting to an indefinite period would be a wrong step.

The CHAIRMAN said it was not intended to leave the meeting over to an indefinite period, but that was a question that might be left to the directors.

Mr. MURRAY thought it should be decided by the present meeting when they would adjourn to. It they left it to an indefinite period they did know what might happen.

The CHAIRMAN said nothing serious was likely to happen. The meeting might be held not later than fifteen days from the present date. It could hardly be held earlier.

Mr. Murray considered the time should be fixed, and he should move that the meeting he held ten days hence.

Mr. J. B. Tootal said it would be of no use calling another meeting in ten days, if the committee could not get through the work in that time.

Mr. Murray said the work could be got through in two days, but he would say this day fortnight. He thought it was for the interest of everybody concerned that it should not be held later.

The Chairman thought it had better be left to the committee.

Mr. Murray—But the committee have not been appointed.

The Chairman—By this resolution the directors are appointed a committee. I have put it to the meeting, and it has been carried.

This closed the discussion, and with a vote of thank to the Chairman, the proceedings terminated.

CHINKIANG LAND RENTERS' MEETING.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Land Renters in the British Concession Chinkiang, held at H.B.M. Consulate Thursday, the 4th day of Feb., 1875.

Present:—

	Votes.		Votes.
W. Bean,	7	G. Williamson,	1
A. E. Salter,	1	A. Novion,	1
E. Starkey,	8	J. G. Gearing,	3
W. F. Walker (by proxy)	1	T. W. Duff,	1
A. W. Spencer,	1	D. A. Emery,	1
Revd. Père Massa,	1	E. A. Hardoon,	1

A. R. Hewlett, *Chairman.*

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 3rd July, 1874, were read by the Chairman, and, on the proposition of Mr. Bean, seconded by Mr. Salter, were adopted and confirmed.

Six Electors having offered their services as Members of the Municipal Council for the ensuing year, a poll was taken which resulted as follows:—

1.—E. Starkey,	27	votes.
2.—W. Bean,	27	,,
3.—T. W. Duff,	27	,,
4.—J. G. Gearing,	20	,,
5.—G. Williamson,	17	,,
6.—A. E. Salter,	10	,,

The first five gentlemen were declared to be duly elected as Members of the Municipal Council for 1875.

The retiring Council then handed in their Report for 1874, as follows:—

The Municipal Council for the year 1874 beg to inform the Electors that,

The Bund has been an unexpected drain on the funds of the Municipality to the extent of Tls. 490, which sum has been absorbed in the execution of necessary repairs.

As the retiring Council are of opinion that the Bund in its present form is likely to be a source of continual expense for like repairs in the future, they would strongly recommend that professional advice be taken before further outlay is made thereon.

The Roads are at present in good order, having been gravelled, repaired and improved at a cost of Tls. 490.39. But a trifling expenditure will suffice to maintain them in fair condition during the ensuing year.

Two jetties have been erected as deemed necessary to facilitate the landing and shipping of cargo. Their constant use is the best proof that they meet a requirement.

Trees have recently been planted wherever thought requisite. In the event of any of the same failing within twelve months, the Contractor agrees to replace them free of charge. Substantial wooden guards have been placed for the protection and support of the trees.

The Central Drain now carries the sewage of the Chinese quarters bordering on the South of the Concession, rendering an iron grating at that extremity a necessary adjunct. This has been provided at a cost of Tls. 18.60, but the Council beg to call the attention of the Electors to the fact that this expense, as well as the more important matter of the nuisance of native sewage having an outlet on the foreshore of the Concession, has been forced upon them by the authority of the British Consulate, although, in their opinion, the main drain of the West Gate Street could have been rendered available for that purpose.

The Council leave it to the Electors to decide whether or not they are prepared to have their property forcibly availed of for the advantage of those without, to the detriment of those within the Concession, and to relinquish so important a Bye-law as No. 6 annexed to the Land Regulations.

The construction of a new Road from the south-west corner of the Concession to the Nanking Road is strongly advocated by the Council. The pressing need of such a thoroughfare will, they think, not be questioned; and that the longer the acquirement of the necessary land is delayed, the more expensive and difficult will it be to carry out the project, must be evident to every resident.

The retiring Council would therefore suggest that their successors be authorised to expend such monies and take such steps as they may deem prudent to attain this end.

Among the minor improvements which the Council would have been glad to see carried out, had the funds at their disposal admitted, they would mention those of walling in the Club Lot and of increasing the police staff so as to allow of having a night patrol. These matters they have had to leave for the consideration of the incoming Council, as being at present impracticable.

(Signed) A. E. Salter,
Geo. Williamson,
William Bean,
Municipal Councillors.

With reference to a paragraph in the foregoing Report, headed "The Central Drain," the Chairman begged to remark that the Council were not quite accurate in stating that their action with reference to Père Massa's application to make use of this sewer for the drainage of the native quarter adjoining the south side of the Concession "had been forced upon them by the authority of the British Consulate." From a letter which he would now read, the meeting would see that he had conveyed officially to the Council the opinion that Sir Edmund Hornby, the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court at Shanghai, had pronounced on this subject—which was that Père Massa was entitled to have his land drained through the Municipal sewer.

[Copy.]

H. M. Consulate,
Chinkiang, 29th December, 1874.

The Secretary,
Municipal Council, Chinkiang.

Sir,—Père Massa has requested me to apply to the Council for permission to discharge the drainage of the street, and part of the Chinese quarter adjoining the South side of the British Concession, through the main Municipal sewer to the river.

I am aware that permission has been refused by the Landrenters on the ground that Père Massa should pay for the privilege of making use of the Municipal drains; but I beg leave to point out that permission cannot any longer be legally withheld by the Council, as the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, to whom the question was referred, has recently given it as his opinion that the Fathers are entitled to have their ground drained through the Municipal Sewer.

Such being the legal aspect of the case, and Père Massa having offerred to undertake at his own cost the drainage of the Marshy ground situated close to the Concession, as well as of the street which divides it from the Concession, it would be in my opinion in the highest degree inexpedient were the Council to offer any further objection to the removal of a nuisance which is becoming every day a great source of danger to the health of every resident in the Settlement, and which there are no means other than those proposed, of abating. I need scarcely add that the draining of the street referred to will add very materially to the comfort of the foreign community.

Under these circumstances I cannot doubt that the Council will, in reply, authorise me to state to Père Massa that, in view of the very fair proposition he has made, they are prepared to grant him the permission he has applied for, and to consult with him as to the best means, as far as they are concerned, of putting his project into execution.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) A. R. Hewlett.

To this letter the Council had sent no written reply; but Mr. Bean, the Municipal Secretary, had replied to it by calling at the Consulate and by stating, after, it is true, some objections, that if Père Massa would communicate with the Municipal Contractor he would be shewn the manner in which he must proceed in order to make use of the Municipal drain.

Mr. Bean begged to point out that there must have been some misapprehension on the subject, as he had never felt authorised to grant the permission applied for.

Mr. Williamson remarked that the other Members of the Council had never seen Mr. Hewlett's letter, and had had no voice in the assent said to have been given.

The Chairman replied that, for this omission, no one but the Secretary to the Municipal Council could be held responsible, as an official letter had been addressed to him on the subject, which it was only natural to suppose would be handed in due course to the other Members of the Council.

Mr. Emery regretted to find so large an item as Tls. 490 incurred in last year's estimates for repairs of the Bund, as the Land Renters had been given to understand by Mr. Bean, that the Contractor was bound to keep the Bund in repair for two years.

Mr. Bean pointed out that this was a mistake, as no such contract existed.

Mr. Bean then proposed "that the Report of the Municipal Council for 1874 be adopted." This motion was seconded by Mr. Novion, and carried nem. con.

The following abstract of accounts for 1874 was then handed in:—

Abstract of Municipal Accounts for 1874.

Receipts.

House Property	Tls. 423.60
Concession Lots	180.00
Native Banks	300.00
China Navigation Company	500.00
Chinese Taxes	195.16
	Tls. 1,598.16

Expenditure.

Balance from 1873	Tls. 31.09
Roads	490.39
Bund	390.00
Police	325.00
Jetties, Trees, and Sundries	254.16
Printing and Stationery	73.15
Balance due by the Treasurer	34.37
	Tls. 1,598.16

On the proposition of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Starkey, the Accounts were passed nem. con.

The following Resolutions were then put to the Meeting:—

That H. B. M. Consul be requested to furnish the Electors with a copy of the Statement submitted to the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court, in rê Père Massa's claim to the use of the Municipal Drain, as the Land Renters are wholly at a loss to understand upon what grounds so important a Bye-Law as No. 6 annexed to the Land Regulations can have been overruled, had the facts of the case been fairly represented.

Proposed by Mr. Starkey, seconded by Mr. Gearing.

Carried nem. con.

That a tax of 3 per cent. be collected from the owners of Concession lots on the assessed annual rentals of their house property.

Proposed by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Bean.

Carried nem. con.

That a tax of Tls. 150 be collected from each of the two pawnshops.

Proposed by Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Emery.

Carried nem. con.

That a call of Tls. 10 be made on each Concession Lot.

Proposed by Mr. Starkey, seconded by Mr. Bean.

Carried nem. con.

That the Taotai be invited to contribute say Tls. 200 towards the expenses of repairing the Bund.

Proposed by Mr. Bean, seconded by Mr. Gearing.

Carried nem. con.

With reference to this resolution, the Chairman stated that, in the absence of instructions from H.B.M. Consul at Shanghai, he should not feel justified in conveying this application to the Taotai, as, in forwarding the sum of Tls. 200 towards the repair of the Bund last year, the Taotai had expressly stipulated that such a contribution was not to be looked upon as an annual charge.

That the Council be requested to hold a meeting once a month, and to circulate the Minutes of such meeting for the information of the Ratepayers.

Proposed by Mr. SPENCER, seconded by Mr. NOVION.

For the resolution 7
Against ,, ,, ... 1
Carried by a majority of 6

That a road from the Concession South being urgently needed, the Municipal Council be authorised to take steps to acquire possession of the portion of land between the Concession and the Nanking Road which is bounded on the East by the present Community pathway and on the West by the Yin Hill.

Proposed by Mr. BEAN, seconded by Mr. WILLIAMSON.

With reference to this, the CHAIRMAN stated that he had been in communication with the Taotai, who had received the scheme for a new road from the Concession very favourably, and who had undertaken to assist the community in acquiring the land required. The Chairman need hardly urge the importance of acquiring the land without delay, as the difficulties attending its purchase would increase year by year.

An amendment to the above resolution was proposed by Mr. STARKEY, and seconded by Mr. DUFF, as follows :—

That the Municipal Council be requested to ascertain for what consideration the present owners of the ground bordering upon the proposed new road are prepared to cede their property, and that, this being ascertained, a special meeting of the electors be called to decide whether the necessary ground shall be purchased.

The amendment was put to the meeting and carried nem. con.

That the newly elected Council be instructed to procure professional advice and report upon the present bunding of the Settlement before incurring further expenditure for repairs thereto.

That, should the construction of a more substantial form of bunding be recommended, as being more to the interests of the Ratepayers than repairing the present structure, the Council be requested to elaborate a scheme for carrying out the work and submit the same for the consideration of the Electors at a Special Meeting to be convened for that purpose.

Proposed by Mr. WILLIAMSON, seconded by Mr. DUFF.

Carried nem. con.

The following memorandum of valuations of Rentals for House Property on the British Concession for 1875 was then read to the meeting:—

Lot No.	1	Annual	Rentals	valued	at	Tls. 6,000.
,,	2	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,000.
,,	3	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,200.
,,	5	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,200.
,,	6	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,000.
,,	11	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,000.
,,	12	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,000.
,,	14	,,	,,	,,	,,	900.
,,	15	,,	,,	,,	,,	500.

Mr. STARKEY represented that a reduction should in fairness be made on the assessment of Lot No. 1.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, in accordance with Rule IX. of the Land Regulations, Mr. Starkey should appeal to a Committee of Electors for a reconsideration of the valuation now assigned to Lot No. 1.

A vote of thanks to the retiring Council for the able manner in which they had discharged their duties during the past year was proposed by Mr. SPENCER, seconded by Mr. STARKEY, and carried nem. con.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. WILLIAMSON and seconded by Mr. BEAN.

A. R. HEWLETT,
Chairman.

H. B. M. Consulate,
Chinkiang, 4th Feb., 1875.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The sixth ordinary meeting of shareholders took place on the 18th instant. Present: The Hon. Mr. Lowcock (in the Chair), the Hon. P. Ryrie, Messrs. McIver, W. Wilson, Kirby, C. M. Kerr, M. W. Boyd, T. Hall, J. S. Cox, J. G. Smith, H. Kiær, J. Noble and Coughtrie, (Secretary).

The adoption of the report was proposed and unanimously carried.

REPORT.

The directors have now the pleasure to present a statement of the Company's Accounts for the year ending the 31st December, 1874.

The net profit accruing to the year 1873 is as follows :—

Balance at credit of "working account," as per last report	$86,038.63
Deduct losses and claims paid in 1874	4,768.71
Net profit.....	$81,269.92

25 per cent. of this amount, or $20,317.48, is due to contributing shareholders, yielding a bonus of $14.87 per cent. on their contributions during 1873, and the remaining 75 per cent., representing $60,952.44, has been added to reserve fund, which now amounts to $248,614.30.

The balance at the credit of "working account," 1874, $69,870.39, shows a falling off from that of the previous year in consequence of a considrable decrease in the amount of premia collected. The Directors are, however, of opinion that this decrease is, in a great measure, owing to the altered conditions of the trade of China generally.

Mr. Henry Lowcock and Mr. W. H. Forbes retire from the Board in accordance with the 86th clause of the articles of association, and both gentlemen being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

The re-election of Messrs. Lowcock and Forbes as Directors was likewise carried *nem. con.* The confirmation of Mr. Kerr, and the re-election of Mr. Deacon as auditors was also agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN then observed that there was nothing connected with the affairs of the Company that he might say had not been embodied in the report. The amount of premia collected during the year was certainly less than formerly, but there was no decrease in the Company's customers. The falling off was therefore attributable to the general decrease of business in the China trade. He thanked those present for their attendance and hoped they would not only continue to contribute business, but would influence their friends to do so too. (Applause).—*China Mail.*

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Ninth Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the above Company was held on the 19th inst., present :—Messrs. M. W. Boyd, (Chairman), A. F. Heard, A. McG. Heaton, Stephens, C. P. Chater, Middleton, J. J. dos Remedios, Deacon, Anton, J. S. Lapraik, Nicáise, E. Sharp, Davis, McCulloch, Captain Sands, Leong Wing Choon, Choy Achan, and Mellish.

The CHAIRMAN, having read the notice calling the meeting, said that as the report had been in the hands of the shareholders for several days, he thought they might take it as read. The business of the Company had been on a larger scale than during the previous year, but notwithstanding this, the result of the year's working had not been so satisfactory, owing to the unprecedented typhoon which visited the Colony in September last, and by which the Company lost over $130,000. Before moving that the report be adopted, he should be glad to answer any questions.

REPORT.

The committee have much pleasure in submitting to the shareholders a statement of the working of the Company for the twelve months terminated on the 31st October, 1874.

The premia collected at the Head Office and Agencies amount to $347,381.34.

After deducting returns, re-insurance, losses, and all charges appertaining to the year; carrying forward to next year's accounts $15,285.06, the amount of premia on risks unexpired on 31st October, and the sum of $71,000 to meet estimated claims, and providing for directors' and auditors' fees, there remains a balance of $24,338.46 available for general distribution.

The apportionment of this amount, under clause 133 B of the articles of association, will be as follows :—

To Shareholders, ...	$ 8,112.82
,, Contributors of business,....	16,225.64
	$24,338.46

The sum of $34,362.25 has been received for interest; of which, as provided by clause 133 C of the articles of association, $12,475.07 has been carried to reserve fund, increasing it to $300,000, and the remainder, $21,887.18, has been placed to the credit of shareholders, making the general dividend, with the amount of $8,112.82 stated above, $150 per share.

The Chinese Loan just issued offering an opportunity for the investment of a portion of the reserve fund, the sum of $49,589.46 has been placed in same.

Mr. Kaye having resigned his seat at the Board in consequence of his departure from the Colony, Mr. M. W. Boyd has been appointed to fill the vacancy. That gentleman and Mr. J. J. dos Remedios retire by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. STEPHENS wished to ask whether the committee thought it necessary that the capital should remain in the hands of the General Agents any longer. He should like to propose that part of it be invested in some manner to be decided upon by the general committee or by a meeting of the shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN asked if it would not be better to leave the matter to the committee and the General Agents.

Mr. STEPHENS said he was quite willing to do so, and had only wished now to call their attention to it.

The CHAIRMAN said it would have their due consideration. He then proposed that the report (a copy of which we have already published) and accounts be passed.

Mr. MELLISH seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. HEARD said there was one matter which he should like to refer to, because he did not think that a liberal and generous policy should be passed over without notice. What he alluded to was the manner in which one of the banks met the desire of the General Agents and the committee respecting a portion of the reserve fund. It was in the bank at five per cent., and when they wished to invest it in the China Loan, Mr. Boyd kindly allowed them to withdraw it from the bank with which he was connected, at only very short notice. He was sure they were all obliged to Mr. Boyd for doing so. (Applause).

Mr. STEPHENS said there was one other question he should like to ask, and that was whether the sum of $43,478 in the hands of the London agents was merely on a running account.

The CHAIRMAN said it was necessary to have £10,000 in London, and that sum stood there in the name of the Company.

Mr. HEARD proposed the re-election of Mr. Boyd and Mr. J. J. dos Remedios on the committe.

Mr. DEACON seconded, and it was carried.

The Auditiors, Messrs. R. Deacon and H. Smith, having been reappointed, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.—*Daily Press.*

THE VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The fifth annual meeting of shareholders was held on the 22nd Feb. Present :—Messrs. A. F. Heard, (Chairman), F. D. Sassoon, André, Cordes, Karberg, M. W.

Boyd, McCulloch, Head, J. Noble, Kiær, Alabor, Mody, and Kleczkowski.

The Chairman, having read the notice calling the meeting, said the report and accounts had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, and they might be taken as read. He did not think they called for any special remark. There was a falling off in the total premia for the past year, but this was to be attributed to the bad state of trade generally. They would observe that the reserve fund was now made up to the full amount required by the articles, and in addition to that a small portion of the excess was now available for distribution to the shareholders. He proposed that the report and accounts be accepted and passed.

Mr. Kiær seconded, and it was agreed to.

Report.

The directors have the pleasure of submitting their report upon the affairs of the Company for the year terminated 31st Dec., 1874.

The gross earnings of the Company for the year amount to $124,442.68, of which $92,083.72 consist of premia collected and the balance of $32,358.96 accrues from interest on Investments.

Working Account, 1873.—The balance of $76,562.36 at credit of this account has been appropriated in accordance with the articles of association as per annexed statement, giving to shareholders a dividend of 4.25 per cent. and a bonus of 15 per cent. on their contributions.

Reserve Fund.—This account now shows a balance of $179,821.83 exclusive of the working account of the past year.

Working Account 1874.—After deducting re-insurances, losses, interest on paid up capital, commissions, and charges, there remains the sum of $50,278.48 to be carried forward to credit of this account.

Directors.—Messrs. Kaye, Rowett, S. D. Sassoon, and George F. Heard having left the Colony, Messrs. M. W. Boyd, Albert F. Heard, F. D. Sassoon and P. Karberg were elected to fill the vacancies. Messrs. André and Boyd retire from the direction in accordance with clause 79 of the articles of association but offer themselves for re-election.

Messrs. Boyd, A. F. Heard, F. D. Sassoon, and P. Karberg, were elected to fill the vacancies caused by the departure from the Colony of Messrs. Kaye, Rowett, S. D. Sassoon, and the late G. F. Heard.

Messrs. André and Boyd, who retired by rotation from the direction, were re-elected. —*China Mail.*

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

(Daily Press.)

The Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the shareholders of the above Corporation was held in the City Hall, Hongkong, on the 18th instant. W. H. Forbes, Esq., chairman of the directors, presided; and amongst those present were Messrs. André, Heard, Belilios, Cordes, Hoppius, F. D. Sassoon, Hayllar, Greig, Lemann, Kingsmill, Green, Middleton, Woonwalla, Cama, Bottomley, McIver, Burrows, Alford, Wasserfall, Kruse, C. P. Chater, Cohen, Strack, Landstein, Fairbairn, Ede, Millar, Budde, Linstead, H. Smith, May, Mylne, Mitchell, Nicaise, Mellish, Russell, Ozorio, Hancock, Nelson, Mehta, Dunn, Demée, Pereira, Beart, Hughes, W. Morgan, Weeks, J. T. Chater, the Hon. P. Ryrie, Baron von Overbeck, Dr. Adams, Dr. Young, Dr. Wharry, Capt. Bernard, &c, &c.

The Chairman, having read the notice calling the meeting, said the report and abstract of assets and liabilities had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, and he did not think there was any necessity for him to read it.

Mr. Kingsmill: I think it had better be read.

The report was accordingly read.

The Chairman then said: Before asking you to pass this report, I wish to make a few remarks. I regret I have again to present you an unfavorable report and statement of accounts, the more so as on the last occasion we met here I gave expression to such strong hopes of a speedy return to a better state of things. *Small Profits.*—The bank has again been unfortunate in its operations during the past half-year. Trade generally in the East has been dull and unprofitable, and we can but echo what some of the other banks connected with the East have already said—viz., that their business in China has not paid. Such being the case with them, you can easily imagine how it is intensified in our case, our business and interests being so closely and largely connected with the China trade. But better times must come for trade generally connected with these parts, and when it does we shall doubtless derive our full share of benefit from them—it shall be our endeavour, at all events, to do so. Our report informs you why, in our opinion, the half-year's results have been so unsatisfactory, and had it not been for the China Loan there would, I regret to say, have been no profit available. If you refer to the previous statement of accounts presented to you, you will find our advances then were 13 millions of dollars, whereas now they are only $9\frac{3}{4}$ millions, and they include the China Loan nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions, which only came in towards the close of the half-year, so that we may almost say in so far as earning interest is concerned, that our advances were towards the end of December $5\frac{3}{4}$ millions less than at 30th June last. Our deposits again are $2\frac{3}{4}$ millions more than at 30th June last, so that at present we are at double disadvantage. *Interest on Deposits.*—I may mention here that a further reduction of the rate of interest on deposits has had our attention, but there are so many reasons against adopting such a course that we have not yet decided to do it. If the interest on deposits was reduced to 4 per cent. undoubtedly a good deal of the money now with us would be withdrawn, 4 per cent. being not sufficiently tempting to the bulk of depositors. *Losses and amounts written off.*—The losses and amounts now written off are extremely heavy, but with the present state of affairs generally, the policy of writing down the value in our books of some of our securities must be apparent to you all. It is, of course, possible that our action may have a depreciating effect on the realizable value of some of these securities, but we are confident that it is best in your interests. *Indo-Chinese Sugar Company.*—The amount written off for the Indo-Chinese Sugar Company's account reduces the value of the estate in our books to half the value our special agent has placed upon it, as stated in the report. The value at which it now stands appears in statements of account which the general manager has prepared, showing the position of this account as well as that connected with the Sugar Refinery and the Pier and Godown Company, which may be consulted by any shareholder in the general manager's room. Having regard to the ultimate realization of the property, the directors think it altogether undesirable to make public here the actual values to which these properties have been written down respectively. The factory at the Sugar Company's estate is now in good order, and by latest accounts from the bank's special agent was working not unsatisfactorily. The season's working will be over in little more than two months, and it is not our intention to expend any more money after this season. The money being advanced for this season's working will, if our last advices be confirmed, come all back with something to the good besides. We hope to realise the the estate soon, such being, we know, the desire of many of our shareholders. *London Losses.*—It has been pointed out to us by a shareholder that at the last meeting I stated that our manager there (London) had on his own responsibility, and without our knowledge or consent, made some considerable transactions in bonds and securities, outside of English and Indian Government paper; and the result has been a heavy loss. We have considered it advisable and best in your interest to provide fully for this loss, though we do not accept it on account of the Bank, and in the meantime we have asked for explanations, and in their present report the Directors say "the amount placed against London losses is required on account of transactions entered into prior to the present half-year. Although these transactions were known to the directors at the date of the previous meeting, they had no reason, from the information then in their possession, to look upon them as bad. Subsequent advices, however, shewed that a considerable amount had to be provided for them, which has now been done." We have been asked for certain explanations with reference to these two paragraphs, which I am glad to have now the opportunity of giving. The transactions referred to by me at the last meeting and those mentioned in the present report, are, with one trifling exception, different. The total amount which has been provided for London losses is about £71,000. At the last meeting we had written off £30,000. We have now written off $160,000. In London itself £8,000 had been written off in April, 1874. The losses provided for at the date of the last meeting arose from transactions chiefly in Spanish Bonds and American Railways. The amount of securities outside of English and Indian Government stock now stands in our books at only £1,800, and the Directors mean to have that realized immediately. The losses now written off arose chiefly from advances which should never have been made, and would never have had our sanction had we been asked about them beforehand. Immediately we knew the nature of the transactions we used every effort in our power to get them settled, but without avail. We had no reason to consider the advances otherwise than good at date of last meeting, or of course we would have provided for them. The true state of affairs only reached us subsequently, and cruelly shocked and surprised us. Had not the Directors unfortunately reposed the greatest confidence in the integrity and caution of their London manager, it is probable that many of these losses would have come to their knowledge months before information about them was received; but unhappily they remained misinformed until it was too late. The Directors feel very keenly the position in which these matters have placed them with respect to the shareholders, and the regret which has been expressed outside cannot exceed that which they themselves experience. The appointment of a local Committee in London, regarding which immediate steps are to be taken, will remove any likelihood of a recurrence of such transactions as I have just referred to. *Sterling Bills.*—The losses on sterling bills are such as almost no Exchange Bank, doing a large business, can be entirely free from in bad times. The utmost care is exercised in purchasing these bills at all times, but it is impossible occasionally to guard against errors in judgment in their selection. *Head Office.*—The amount written off Head Office accounts, is a very large one, and is appropriated as mentioned in the report. We have written off considerable sums from the value in our books after various items referred to, not so much on account of our believing previous valuations would not be realized, but in order that on realization we may not have to come to you again with deficiency. The Sugar Refinery suffered a good deal by the typhoon in stock and buildings, but the business progresses

favorably and has apparently become solidified; no advances are made to the Refinery, and none are required, almost all the manufacture is sold for cash. During 1874 just over 100,000 piculs were thus sold. We of course still adhere to our resolution to dispose of the property on the first favourable opportunity. The Pier Company's property has been written down in our books for much the same reason as the Refinery. *Sundry Losses.*—The sundry losses are mostly made up of deficiencies on the value of goods advanced on at some of the branches previous to the half-year, the borrowers not having been able to pay margins when called upon. Many of the goods have since been realized and the losses are written off. These are the particulars of the amounts now written off, and we hope that a considerable amount may yet be recovered. *Shanghai Premises.*—A good deal has been said outside regarding our new Shanghai premises, and it may be well that I should now give you some particulars regarding them. The lease of our present premises in Shanghai expires shortly, and the terms on which we were offered a renewal, viz., that the place should be rebuilt, would have cost us a very high rent. With this in view, and considering it indispensable that the Bank should be on the Bund, the Directors had, about 18 months ago, decided that the Bank should purchase premises in Shanghai, and bought the present site for Taels 60,000. A contract was made for the buildings for Taels 44,000. Some iron pillars, &c., were ordered from England, costing about Taels 8,000, and the architect's commission was to cost Taels 3,640, making a total cost of Taels 115,640, and, so far as we know, these amounts will not in any way be exceeded. Taking the highest rate at which we receive deposits, viz. 5 per cent. this would cost us Taels 5,782 per annum, and we shall have most commodious premises, with accommodation equal to that for which we now pay Taels 5,040 per annum rent. *Shanghai Sub-Manager.*—The Directors have deemed it advisable to appoint a Sub-Manager in Shanghai, and have selected Mr. John Walter. They consider this step will have a good effect on the local business there, and it will give the manager more freedom to attend to business generally.—Before moving the adoption of this report, I shall be glad to answer any questions which shareholders may desire to put to the Directors.

Mr. KINGSMILL then said he had given notice that he wished to ask a few questions upon certain matters connected with the Bank. He did not think it would be fair either to the directors or the shareholders or the chief manager, that no questions should be asked. It would not be honorable either to screen such questions, and he had given notice of them because he thought every opportunity should be given of considering them beforehand and meeting them in the best way. At the outset he was happy to say that the Chairman in his address had met a number of the questions he intended to put—had met them, he was bound to say, in some cases very satisfactorily, and in no instance unsatisfactorily. (Hear, hear). He had intended to ask some questions about the sums written off with respect to what he might term the three bugbears—the Indo-Chinese Sugar Company, the Pier and Godown Company, and the Sugar Refinery. But after the statement which had just been made by the Chairman, and the tabulated summary in the chief manager's hands, which altered the complexion of things considerably, he thought it would be quite unnecessary to put questions referring to them. But, beyond this, there were certain questions which he really should have to ask, and one of them was about that London manager. It was not his (Mr. Kingsmill's) intention in the slightest degree to attribute any misconduct whatever, either to the present Board of Directors or to any preceding Board, with reference to these losses in London. He was sure they had resulted from the gross mismanagement of the Corporation's manager there, although he was bound to state that he thought the Board had placed overweening confidence in him. But Mr. Vacher was a man well known in China years ago. When he (Mr. Kingsmill) was in the East before, he knew him, and he was looked upon as an owner of considerable property and a good business man. He was not, therefore, very much surprised that so much confidence had been reposed in him; although he believed it would be a sound policy for the Board not to overtrust any of its servants. The remarks made by the Chairman, as he had already said, had cleared up some of the matters upon which he wished for information; but some questions were yet necessary. Was he, for instance, to understand that all the transactions with Mr. Vacher, which were taken into account at last meeting, consisting of speculations in Spanish Bonds and American Railways, realised their amount, with the exception of some £1,700 or £1,800?

The CHAIRMAN said the balance now remaining for the purposes of the Bank was some £1,800.

Mr. KINGSMILL said he supposed then that the loss was the difference between that amount and the amount advanced. He wished to know if the Board had taken any valuation of the losses which they thought would turn out sound?

The CHAIRMAN said they were included in the $160,000.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Will you kindly tell me if any losses besides those received out of the said transactions, accrued in respect of advances made by the London Branch in which Mr. Vacher has or had any interest? If so, what is the amount of said losses?

The CHAIRMAN: The Directors know of no other losses. A dispute has arisen with reference to one amount which is now under litigation, and from the information at their disposal the Directors expect a successful issue to their suit. The amount in question is £10,211 0s. 8d.

Mr. KINGSMILL: At what date did Mr. Vacher cease to be a servant of the Bank?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vacher ceased to be a servant of the Bank on receipt of a telegram from the Head Office, sent on the 8th January, 1875. He had for some months before that been on leave, and had not acted for the Bank since the date of last meeting.

Mr. KINGSMILL: May I ask who managed the Bank in Mr. Vacher's absence?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Mr. D. Maclean, the sub-manager.

Mr. KINGSMILL: When did Mr. Maclean first inform the Directors about the transactions by Mr. Vacher?

The CHAIRMAN said the information came in gradually after the last meeting. Mr. Maclean discovered the transactions and made them known.

Mr. KINGSMILL said it was really very important to the shareholders that they should know the exact date.

The CHAIRMAN said he could not then give him the exact date.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Is it a fact that, in the course of the past year, 1874, the Directors granted a bonus of $10,000, or of any other and what sum to be distributed among certain of the employés of the Bank, in addition to their regular salaries?

The CHAIRMAN: The Directors have granted no such bonus.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Is it a fact that the Court of Directors granted Mr. Rowett a sum of money as a gratuity before his leaving Hongkong. If so, what was the amount so granted?

The CHAIRMAN: It is a fact that the Directors did grant to Mr. Rowett a gratuity before leaving Hongkong. The sum was £500. Mr. Rowett had accepted office in the Bank, and, to enable him to do so he has resigned the Directorships of various Companies including the Bank, the emoluments of which brought him in a considerable annual income. Had it not been for Mr. Rowett's acceptance of office in the Bank, it had not been his intention to resign his appointments, nor to leave the Colony for at least a year. When Mr. Rowett therefore resigned the office which he had accepted under circumstances which, as they are pretty generally well known, it is not necessary to detail to this meeting, he clearly became, in the opinion of the Directors, entitled to some compensation; and it should be added that that which he accepted amounted to a very inconsiderable ratio of the emoluments he had previously given up.

Mr. KINGSMILL: I will make no comment on that. One of my questions is with reference to the Shanghai branch. Were the Directors warranted in incurring such an expenditure for the building in Shanghai?

The CHAIRMAN: We wanted office accommodation in Shanghai, and we could not get it, and that is why we built the premises.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Has it been contemplated by the Directors to sanction an outlay of the sum of $20,000, or any other and what sum, in purchasing furniture for the Shanghai premises?

The CHAIRMAN: The furniture referred to has not yet been ordered; but it is contemplated by the Directors to sanction an expediture not exceeding £4,000 to furnish the premises properly when occasion requires. But the bulk of the money will not be spent until better times come.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Two half-years gone over, and no dividend to the Shareholders; over a million dollars lost to the Bank, and now the Directors sanction an outlay of £4,000 for furnishing the premises at Shanghai! (Shame!) Is it a fact that $79,000 or any other and what sum was offered for the purchase of the Hongkong Pier and Godown Company's premises? If so, why was not that offer accepted?

The CHAIRMAN: The highest bid made at the auction of those premises did not reach the limits which had been previously fixed by the Directors by way of reserved bidding. This property had shortly before the auction cost the Pier and Godown Co., Limited, on the whole nearly $300,000, and the Directors had fixed their limit at a figure which they considered more than sufficiently low.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Is Mr. Maclean's inspection to extend to the working the details and the accounts of the Head Office of the Bank here in Hongkong, as well as, and in the same manner as, to the different branches?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Is Mr. Maclean's report, or the substance thereof, to be communicated to the shareholders, or to any select number or committee of shareholders as representing the general body?

The CHAIRMAN: The report will be laid before the Directors, who will communicate its substance to the shareholders.

Mr. KINGSMILL: Will the Directors inform the shareholders of the names of the gentlemen proposed to form the local committee in London before making any appointments, and consult the shareholders as to the appointments?

The CHAIRMAN: Under Article 144 of the deed of settlement, the appointment of local committees rests exclusively with the Court, and it is their intention to act in accordance with their powers.

Mr KINGSMILL: Are we to understand the shareholders are not to be told the names of the committee?

The CHAIRMAN: After the appointment, of course you will be told.

Mr. Kingsmill: Is it contemplated to allow any remuneration to the members of such local committee? If so, what is the amount of remuneration contemplated?

The Chairman: It is so contemplated. The amount at which such remuneration will be fixed has not yet received discussion by the Court. It will not exceed what is usual in such cases.

Mr. Kingsmill: Does it form part of Mr. Maclean's instructions, or is it within the scope of his inspectorship, that he shall inquire into and report on the position and working of the Bank's various establishments with reference to the expenses, the efficiency, and strength of the staff, whether excessive or not at each office?

The Chairman: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Kingsmill said it was a very unpleasant task that had fallen upon him. He had considered the propriety of framing certain queries for the Directors to answer, and considered it was his duty to come forward and ask these questions before the body of the shareholders. He had endeavoured to do so fairly and honestly, and he felt bound to say, before he sat down, that there was a great deal that had transpired in the Chairman's address, and from the replies that had been given to some of the questions, that was satisfactory to him, and, he was sure, to the great body of the shareholders present. Many of these replies had given them a very fair insight into the real state in which the Bank stands, which he believed they had never had until that day. At the same time he must say the answers respecting the furniture for the office at Shanghai had rather startled him. But, from what he had heard that day, and if the sums written off bore a fair proportion to the value put on the various properties, if no more money was wanted, and if the directors ceased advances to those who would turn the Bank into a Cave of Adullam, and turn over a new leaf, he for one was bound to say that the Bank was never in such a strong or solvent condition as at that moment (applause.)

Captain Bernard wished to know the amount advanced to the Anglo-Chinese Sugar Company at Saigon.

The Chairman: The Bank has no interest in property at Saigon.

A Voice: You mean Siam.

Captain Bernard: Siam or Saigon; at all events, I mean out of this Colony. Is there no Director on the board now who took an active part in advancing that money?

The Chairman: I don't know; but I don't think there is.

Captain Bernard: What was advanced on the Distillery?

The Chairman: Nothing.

Captain Bernard: Well, upon the Sugar Refinery then?

The Chairman said Captain Bernard could see the accounts at the office, but he had alluded to the subject in his speech.

Captain Bernard: What has become of the money set aside to meet and make provision for all doubtful debts?

The Chairman: It has been meeting those accounts.

Captain Bernard: I should very much like to know more about those losses. They surely must have been very severe, for we have been writing off, and are not finished with it yet. There's going to be a local committee in London, I see. Have the Directors appointed that committee?

The Chairman: Not yet. I have already stated it is in contemplation.

Captain Bernard: Is it likely to include men who have been Directors?

The Chairman: That we cannot tell.

Captain Bernard: I bel eve this report states that we have a reserve fund of a million.

A Voice: A hundred thousand.

Captain Bernard: Well, a hundred thousand. What is the new building at Shanghai to cost?

The Chairman: About 115,000 taels.

Captain Bernard: You had better write that off. If there is an apothecary present, I should like to ask him for an ounce of civet.

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the report.

Mr. Kingsmill, who unfortunately was at times inaudible, said that he had already expressed himself not quite satisfied on some points that had been discussed that day, but nevertheless he was willing to second the adoption of the report for many reasons. He was glad to see the Directors awaking to a sense of their position, and meeting the shareholders like men. It gave them hopes of better times. He himself had no fear of the Bank. Years ago, when at home, a stockbroker there, a friend of his, who was honorary secretary of the Stock Exchange, said to him, "Kingsmill, the only danger to that Bank is from within. If they are true to themselves the Directors can hold their own." The history of the Bank had shown the truth of this remark. As he was in the position of a seconder, he might add a remark that would assist the shareholders in estimating the position of the Bank. It was in 1870 that the first sum was written off, namely $268,507. In 1873 nothing was written off. Last year $334,000 was written off, and now they had the sums of $106,000 and $675,000, making $1,383,507. So that except $268,507, all the writing off had taken place since the beginning of last year. Confining himself to the report and accounts, he had great pleasure in seconding them. If the directors had met the questions put to them in a different manner, he would have been the first to propose the adjournment of the meeting and the suspension of the Court until the receipt of the advices.

The report was then put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

Mr. Cordes then proposed that Mr. F. D. Sassoon be appointed a director in the room of Mr. S. D. Sassoon who had left the colony.

Mr. Chater seconded, and it was agreed to.

Mr. Hoppius then proposed the re-election of Messrs. André and A. F. Heard.

Mr. Linstead seconded, and it was carried.

The Chairman proposed the re-election of the auditors, the Hon. P. Ryrie and Mr. F. W. Mitchell.

Mr. Burrows seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. May said he should have hesitated to address the meeting, except for what he had to speak about. It was a simple matter, and the first point he had to notice had reference to the feeling of the Directors, and he had a resolution to propose, which was especially interesting to the shareholders. The Chairman and other gentlemen had placed their hands to the plough, and although the furrows had not been straight they had been marvellously deep, which was not owing to the incompetence of the ploughmen, but to the restive nature of the horses they were driving, the Pier and Godown, the Sugar Company, &c. In the old days, when everything was flourishing, an investment in the shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was looked upon as the safest possible investment both for business people and widows and orphans. Now, owing to the recent losses many of the latter were in the greatest distress, and many more were put to the greatest inconvenience. They had said that hard times and the great depression of business accounted for this, but he asked the Directors, as men of feeling, to escape from the accusations which had been made against them, with a certain amount of injustice, it was true, but they were made. People outside accused some of the members of the board of a desire for the loaves and fishes. He did not desire to say one word offensive or personal, but it was impossible for him to convey an idea of the suffering entailed on many families by the present state of affairs without using the language he did. Now this presented an opportunity to the Directors to show their sympathy and share in the suffering which had been caused under their direction, if not by their fault. They could say—"We voluntarily, and by our own desire, but not without the suggestion being giving at a public meeting, give up a moiety of our remuneration to be carried for the benefit of these parties." (Applause). Many of those present had lived in the Colony during the reign of the merchant princes, when the enormous profits made in mercantile transactions enabled them to exercise unbounded liberality. No one could look back to those times but with regret; but they had now come to a time when it was necessary to enforce stern economy. This applied to all around them and why not themselves? This was what the directors might, and he was sure would, say. He therefore begged to propose that, in consideration of the altered state of mercantile affairs in China, and the present depressed condition of the Bank, the remuneration to the directors be reduced from $20,000 to $10,000 per year, commencing from the first of January last. (Applause).

Mr. Hayllar said that resolution could not be put at that meeting, as the deed of settlement required two days' notice to be given of any special motion. Even, therefore, if the meeting accepted Mr. May's resolution, it would be informal. He suggested that the matter be left to the Directors themselves. (Cries of "No, no.")

Mr. May said he desired to keep to the form, but the deed of settlement certainly appeared to him to give the power to any general meeting to alter the remuneration of Directors.

The Chairman then suggested that the matter should be left to the Directors themselves.

Mr. May said he placed much reliance in the Chairman, and if he said it would receive his support, he thought it would be acted upon.

The Chairman said he could only repeat that the board would give it their consideration. It seemed to him they were trying to push it down their throats.

Mr. May: Ah-h-h. (Laughter).

The Chairman said the resolution had taken them by surprise.

Mr. May said his resolution had reference to the future, not to the past.

The Chairman asked if Mr. May thought the directors' fees should be cut down for good.

Mr. May said he thought that, at least at present, they should be one-half of what they were in bygone days.

Mr. Kingsmill said he thought the remuneration of the Directors was too high.

The Chairman again said the matter would be taken into consideration, and he had no doubt it would be settled to the satisfaction of the shareholders.

Mr. May: Would you not take the sense of the meeting on the subject?

The Chairman said he did not think so; it was scarcely worth while.

Mr. Belilios: I regret it is not legal to put Mr. May's motion, for I was prepared to second it. (Enthusiastic applause).

Mr. May asked if the Chairman decided that the question could not be discussed.

The Chairman said he had gone by the articles of association. The directors were not supposed to tell the shareholders what they were to do. Everyone of them had a copy of the deed and could read it for themselves.

Mr. Russell said he only asked for information, as it was important as regarded future meetings. Personally he agreed wi'h the Chairman.

Mr. HAYLLAR said he thought two days' notice ought to have been given. Mr. Kingsmill had done so with his question.

Mr. KINGSMILL said he had, but it was not necessary, he thought. He saw nothing in the articles of the association against Mr. May's motion.

The CHAIRMAN said he was relying on the opinion of the Bank's counsel.

Mr. KINGSMILL said that on the present occasion that meeting had nothing whatever to do with counsel.

The CAIRMAN: Very well, I will not state my reasons, but merely say that I think two day's notice ought to have been given.

Captain BERNARD asked if the remuneration was to be reduced.

The CHAIRMAN: I have suggested that the matter be left to the directors.

Captain BERNARD: But we do not like the security. We are like the lawyer and Mrs. Bardell. I think there is a great want of delicacy in cavilling at such a resolution. If you feel that you have done your duty you are entitled to double remuneration.

The CHAIRMAN: If the meeting thinks that I have not done my duty, I shall be happy to resign my direction now.

Captain BERNARD again repeated that they seemed to be cavilling about the resolution. When people had lost so much, it was only fair that the directors should be content with half remuneration.

The CHAIRMAN: If Captain Bernard does not withdraw that personal remark, my resignation is before the shareholders.

Mr. ANDRE: And mine is before the shareholders too.

Mr. MAY said Captain Bernard was labouring under some excitement as to losses he had sustained. He (Mr. May) had the firmest reliance in the sufficiency and capability of the directors in conducting the affairs of the Bank. But he earnestly hoped that they would agree to their remuneration being reduced one-half.

Mr. KINGSMILL said the Chairman and directors should let such remarks as those of Mr. Bernard, pass.

The CHAIRMAN said he was perfectly willing to have an adjournment if the meeting desired it.

Captain BERNARD: That is what I want you to do.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN proposed that the question of remuneration be left entirely to the discretion of the directors.

Mr. RUSSELL said the Chairman had decided that the question of the remuneration of the directors could not be discussed at that meeting, and the motion therefore could not be put.

The CHAIRMAN then declared the meeting dissolved.

Amusement.

THE SHANGHAI AMATEUR MINSTREL SOCIETY.

On Monday evening, a negro entertainment, rather a novelty on the Shanghai boards, was presented to the public by sixteen amateurs. The object being charity, the tickets sold freely, and notwithstanding the unfavourable weather the house was well attended. The curtain rose with commendable punctuality, and the performance commenced with a selection from "La fille de Madame Angot." This passed off quietly; it might have been more effective if Bones and Mr. Pompey had been better acquainted with the air. The second piece was the Song and Chorus "Driven from Home." In the absence of a list of the *Dramatis Personæ*, we can only speak of this part of the programme as being well executed and well deserving of an encore. The Chorus was supplemented by several musical instruments, one or two of which were rather too powerful. A far-fetched conundrum followed, which created only half a laugh, after a few minutes consideration. The remaining portion of the first part of the programme consisted of Songs and Choruses, interspersed with riddles and funny sayings, the most appreciated of which was one by Mr. Pompey, who informed his brethren and the audience that the portico in front of the new Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was intended for the display of the Bank Dividend, when it had one to show.

After an interval of fifteen minutes (termed five on the programme,) the second part opened with a piece on the clarionet, accompanied by the piano. This was undoubtedly the *chef d'œuvre* of the evening. The accompanyist, we have heard before, as we have the clarionet player, at some of our most brilliant musical entertainments.

A sketch of negro life, or as the programme stated, a "Comic Sketch," which followed, was feeble, and even elicited some murmurs of disapproval. After an interval, we welcomed the return of the pianist, quickly followed by a leading member of the Society, dressed regardless of expense, who performed the "Big Sun Flower," a plantation song and dance.

"Three Black Crows" was next put on, and we have to commend the trio for the brevity of their ejaculations. A Cornet Solo was set down as the next item, but did not come off—we are told, the performer failed the company at the last moment. The whole concluded with "The S. A. M. S.'s trip to Woosung" by the whole strength of the company. We will not attempt to describe this; but merely remark on the appropriate scenery, prominent among which was a tailor's shop, bearing a signboard Thorne, Silver & Co.'s trousers, 12s. 6d. each. During the time allowed for rest at one of the supposed stations, the audience were entertained by a quadrille with banjo accompaniment. A grand finale resulted in the upsetting of the supposed carriages and sudden death of the occupants.

We are given to understand that the Minstrels are greatly indebted to the A.D.C. for their kind assistance and co-operation.

PROFESSOR IBURG'S CONCERT.

Professor Iburg's Concert on Tuesday evening, in the Lyceum Theatre, was the most interesting from a musical point of view of any which we have yet had this season. The performance of Schumann's piano quintett would alone have sufficed to stamp the entertainment as one of the very highest order; but in addition to this we were treated to a movement from one of Beethoven's Violin Sonatas, and variations by Haydn, while more general tastes were consulted by the introduction of two violin solos, three songs and two choruses. So solid and so varied a bill of fare should have filled the house from floor to ceiling, but (it is with something like shame that we say so) the attendance was not at all good.

The Concert opened with Schumann's Quintett, Op. 44, a work which shows the composer at his best. Concert-goers will remember the excellent performance of the same composer's piano Quartett, Op. 47, at Mr. Magnussen's first *Soirée Musicale* last winter. We hardly know which of the two works to give the preference to, both being absolutely perfect in the artistic point of view. We are glad to be able to say that the rendering of the Quintett by Mr. Iburg and the associated Amateurs left really nothing to be desired. Like so much modern concerted music, the piano has a leading part in the piece, and special recognition is due to the highly accomplished Amateur who rendered that portion of the score. Later in the evening, the same gentleman played Haydn's Variations in F minor, with even more than his usual success; the *pianissimo* passages, especially, were brought out with a delicacy and clearness which recalled Madame Goddard's happiest efforts. The first violin part in the Quintett was, of course, taken by the concert-giver himself, who in this and his other pieces showed himself an able performer and a true musician. His *technique* is only inferior to that of the foremost professionals. His bowing is remarkably free, and his tone is round and full, though better in the lower register than in the high notes, some of which were not quite accurate in intonation. His powers as a solo player were displayed in Vieuxtemps' beautiful *Rêverie* and a brilliant *Fantaisie* by Alard, in both of which he greatly pleased his audience, who recalled him after each. Beethoven's ninth Violin Sonata, a portion of which inaugurated the second part of the concert, is, as a work for the violin, only inferior in importance to the great Concerto, Op. 61. It was written for, and dedicated to, the celebrated violinist, R. Kreutzer, and abounds, of course, in technical difficulties. The middle only was given, the stately *andante*, with its four variations. This exquisite *morceau* was the gem of the evening, and was excellently rendered by the violinist and Mr. Fentum. The demisemiquaver variation for the violin showed Professor Iburg to the greatest advantage, and the difficulties for the pianoforte in the fourth variation were not less successfully overcome by his associate. We had only to regret that this noble work was not given in its entirety.

Our excellent and obliging *Basso* gave us two songs in his best manner. The tenor songs were likewise well given, but the gentleman who sang them can do better. He possesess a well-cultivated voice, and sings perfectly in tune—a very uncommon thing with Amateurs. Whether, however, owing to cold or some other cause, he was not in his usual "form" on Tuesday evening. Each section of the Programme terminated with a chorus lustily and effectively given by the Liedertafel, but we think they might have been taken a quarter of a tone lower with advantage.

We sincerely hope that we have not seen the last of Professor Iburg, though, after the somewhat limited encouragement he has received, he may not care to adventure a second Concert. Meanwhile, we must congratulate him on the artistic success of his late enterprise, and at the same time thank him sincerely for the treat he has afforded to ourselves and all lovers of classical chamber music.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 26th,

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

A. CAMERON *v.* J. F. TAYLOR.

The parties to this action are pilots, and plaintiff sued to recover $99, being money claimed by him through defendant refusing to allow him the use of a certain pilot schooner, he being a partner therein.

Mr. MYBURGH appeared for the plaintiff.

The defendant did not appear, and

His HONOUR said that on Tuesday (the day on which the summons had been served) the defendant had come to the Court, and applied that either the case should be heard on one of the two following days (Wednesday or Thursday), or that its hearing should be postponed till his return to Shanghai, as he was engaged to pilot the *Benledi* out on Friday. The plaintiff was communicated with, and requested to attend on Wednesday morning, when the defendant was also to be in attendance, so that the case could be then heard, if plaintiff were agreeable; otherwise it was to be postponed. The plaintiff came,

but instead of waiting quietly till I was disengaged, and the defendant had come, he made a great noise outside the Court, saying he would have it heard on no other day than Friday, and went off. When the defendant came, immediately after, I suggested his trying to find the plaintiff and arranging with him to have the case heard on Thursday, but on his saying that it would be no use trying, as he was sure the plaintiff would not consent, I made an order postponing the hearing till after the defendant's return to Shanghai.

Mr. Myburgh—But ought he not to have received a notification of the postponement?

His Honour—Certainly not, he knew of the application; and if he was so discourteous as not to wait to hear the result, the Court was not to run after him to tell him. (To plaintiff)—Why did you go away?

Plaintiff—I wanted to get the case off on Wednesday, but these gentlemen (pointing to the Court officials) told me it could not come off then.

The Usher explained that on Tuesday the plaintiff came to the Court for a summons and wanted to know if the case could be set down for Wednesday. He (the Usher) then told him it could hardly come on, on Wednesday, as there would probably be no time to serve the summons, the defendant being a pilot.

His Honour—And when it turns out that the case can be heard on the Wednesday, as he at first wanted, he vehemently objects to its being heard before Friday—probably because he then knew the defendant was going away in the *Benledi* and could not be here. Engagements of that kind are known and talked about among pilots, of course.

Mr. Myburgh—I must object to that assertion. Your Honour is not justified in imputing motives to my client. I say he ought to have been informed in the usual way, of this postponement.

Plaintiff (to His Honour)—Can't you do something with the case to-day?

His Honour—You could give me your version of the case, but that would be of no use, the case would still have to be adjourned.

Mr. Myburgh—Then I am to take it that the proper course is to adjourn a case on the application of a defendant, and not give the plaintiff notice of it? That is not the usual custom, and I must say with due deference that I consider the course adopted most unfair and irrregular. I consider my client has been prejudiced by it. His witnesses are pilots, and their convenience should have been consulted as well as that of the defendant. Besides that, he has been put to the expense of bringing me here to-day, which might have been avoided if notice had been served. His going away from the Court in the way stated did not justify this proceeding.

His Honour—He did not in my opinion, after his conduct, deserve notice. Besides, he had notice in the first instance, and when once he comes in compliance with such notice, he is, by our Rules, affected with knowledge of all that takes place in the matter of his particular case. If he does not choose to stay and hear what takes place, he has himself only to blame.

Mr. Myburgh—And then, about the plaintiff's witnesses?

His Honour—What witnesses has he?

One witness, named Peters, a pilot, came forward; another, Sutherland, from the body of the Court, said he was a witness.

His Honour asked Peters if he was here on Wednesday and Thursday?

Peters replied that he was.

His Honour—Then the plaintiff could, so far as that witness is concerned, have had the case heard on either of those days. And Sutherland was with him on Wednesday at the Court. What other witnesses are there?

Plaintiff said there was another, but he was not in Shanghai.

His Honour—Then so far as he too is concerned, the case could have been heard on Wednesday. I cannot imagine why you did not have the case heard on that day, when all parties were present in Court, unless it was with the view of putting (as you hoped) the defendant at a disadvantage.

Hearing adjourned until one side or the other gives notice of the defendant's return.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, Feb. 22nd.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. *v.* William Stevens.

Drunk and Incapable.

Defendant, an able seaman of the steamer *Ocean*, was found by P. C. Piper in the Tiendong road, on Sunday, drunk and incapable. He admitted having been before the Court on a former occasion, charged with a similar offence, and now had no excuse to offer.

Fined $2.

R. *v.* Philip Barnard.

This defendant, a fireman of the steamer *Benledi*, was charged by P. C. Stean, with a similar offence, also on Sunday, in the Woosung road. Being his first offence here, he was let off with a caution.

Feb. 24th.

R. *v.* Duncan Matheson.

Drunk and Incapable.

Defendant, a fireman of the steamer *Ocean*, was paid off from his ship on Tuesday, and was found by P. C. Boysen, at half-past twelve the same night, drunk and incapable in the Broadway, Hongkew.

Cautioned and discharged.

Feb. 27th.

Reg. (Master of the *Omba*) *v.* George Grey.

Using threatening language and absent without leave.

Captain Thomson charged George Grey, an A.B. on board, with being absent without leave, and using threatening and disgusting language towards himself and officers of the ship, on Sunday last.

The Captain stated that, since the arrival of the vessel in this port, defendant had given a great deal of trouble, and had in consequence been logged on several occasions. On Sunday last defendant was ordered forward by the Chief Officer, when he refused to go and made use of very bad language; later in the day defendant left the ship and did not return until Tuesday morning.

Defendant admitted the charge of being absent, but denied using any bad language, and averred that the mate had abused him with foul language.

His Worship said that he should not go into the question of language. It was clear the Captain had borne with defendant's bad conduct for a long time, and had been very lenient. Had he been brought to Court sooner, it would perhaps have been better for him. He should now sentence him to four weeks imprisonment with hard labor, during which time he would have to pay for his maintenance, and also to pay the cost of these proceedings. Should the ship sail before the expiry of the term of imprisonment, he would be put on board.

March 1st.

R. *v.* Pamero, Quarter-master of the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*.

Drunk and incapable.

Defendant admitted the offence, and was cautioned by his Worship and dismissed, having been locked up all night.

March 2nd.

Before R. A. Mowat Esq.,

Reg. (Master of the *Corea*) *v.* John Lundstrum.

Drunk and incapable on board.

Defendant admitted being drunk, and unable to do his duty on the 1st inst.

Ordered to pay the cost of the summons.

Samuel Polow, cook of the *Corea*, was also charged with being drunk and incapble near the Soochow creek, at 11.50 p.m. on the 1st inst.

The defendant on getting into the box, said in answer to His Worship, that he was sober enough now, only he had a frightful head ache.

His Worship.—Well, I will let you off on this occasion, and I hope that the head-ache you have will teach you not to get drunk again.

Christopher Petersen *v.* Charles Churchley.

Assault.

Defendant and complanant were both seamen of the *Corea*.

Complainant stated—Yesterday I was standing near the after companion. Defendant came aft and asked for some breakfast. The steward told him to go to the cook. I walked forward, and defendant followed me, and when near the galley he struck me; knocking me down; he then kicked me on the side. In falling I struck the winch and hurt my arm. I can hardly move it now. No one else struck me but defendant.

His Worship—You hear what the charge against you is; did you assault the complainant?

Defendant—I suppose so; I don't know. I had no reason to do so, that I know of.

His Worship to complainant.—Has the defendant ever abused or struck you before during the voyage from England?

Complainant.—No Sir, but either he or I must leave the ship now.

His Worship.—Have you seen a doctor about the injury to your side?

Complainant. — The doctor came in the morning, but I did not see him.

His Worship to defendant.—I see that there are two other charges against you, one for broaching cargo, and another for threatening to take the captain's life; is that true?

Defendant.—No, false.

His Worship said he would remand the defendant in custody until Friday, for the purpose of obtaining a medical certificate as to the nature of the injuries upon the complainant, and for the production of the proper witnesses on the charge of broaching cargo.

Reg. *v.* Thomas Cowley.

Drunk and refusing duty.

Defendant, a seaman of the *Corea*, was charged by the captain with being drunk and unable to do his duty on the 1st inst.

Captain Adams stated, that on Monday morning the second officer reported that several of the crew were drunk and unfit to work. Defendant was one of the men.

Defendant said that he worked all day on Saturday, and on Monday.

The Usher of the Court stated that he served the summonses in all these cases on Monday at about 3 p.m., and had to go down into the forecastle, where defendant and several others were lying in bed. A man named Duncan was also summoned on a similar charge, but he had not appeared.

Captain Adams said Duncan had said this morning that he was sick, so he let him remain on board.

His Worship said a warrant would be issued against Duncan, which the officer could serve later in the day, after the doctor had visited the ship.

Defendant was ordered to pay the cost of the summons, and forfeit six days' pay to the ship.

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TO GREAT BRITAIN.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May 28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687.24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584.45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July 16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	... 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852.56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ..... ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3.22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda ..... ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319.98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774.32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Carried forward ...			487,998.01	66,633.47	551,536.49

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			487,998.01	66,633.47	551,536.49
Meikong ..... s.s.	Dec 11	London	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Glenearn ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet ..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	1,049.77	2,730.33	3,780.10
Gwalior ..... ,,	... 28	Bombay	.....	102.47	102.47
Tigre ..... ,,	Feb 4	London	2.78	693.75	696.53
do. ..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	170.55	170.55
Priam ..... ,,	.. 4	L. v. Fchow	20.22	1,055.41	1,075.63
Amazone ..... ,,	... 18	London	.....	227.52	227.52
Hector ..... ,,	... 22	,,	262.27	930.90	1,193.17
Kashgar ..... ,,	... 25	Bombay	.....	140.03	140.03
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	London	.....	203.19	203.19
		Total.....	491,270.24	86,560.16	577,830.40

TO UNITED STATES.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122.75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079.33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades ..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.13
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440.45
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699.89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N. Y&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	.....	30.15
Sooloo ..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica ..... ,,	... 6	,,	.....	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State... s.v.	... 23	N. Y. v F'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
Sarpedon ..... s.s.	... 27	New York	.....	2,254.67	2,254.67
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	,,	0.54	5,708.48	5,709.02
Priam ..... s.s.	Feb 4	,,	.....	95.48	95.88
Costa Rica ..... s.s.	... 1	,,	.....	1,696.29	1,696.29
do. ..... s.s.	... 1	San F'cisco	.....	96.81	96.81
Nevada ..... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	57.79	57.79
Star of Jamaica s.v.	... 16	,,	.....	2,541.63	2,541.63
Hector ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	.....	57.75	57.75
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	,,	1,735.78	6,067.25	7,803.03
		Total.....	12,084.78	7,164.00	127,827.85

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam..... s.s.	May30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon ..... ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal ..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung ..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking ..... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr .... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore ..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca ..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
		Carried forward	803.02	2,580.47	3,383.49

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
		Brought forward	803.02	2,580.47	3,383.49
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	Oct 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
Amoy ..... ,,	... 26	Hongkong	.....	14.40	14.40
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	Japan	66.90	.....	66.90
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4		.....	4.37	4.37
Costa Rica..... ,,	... 22	Nagasaki	2.25	.....	2.25
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	Japan *			
		Total.....	4,216.96	5,375.34	9,592.30

* 2,057 Packages for transhipment.

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	26,478	28,967	3,455	1,687	60,587	..	60,587
Subsequent Shipments	307	175	5	10	497	..	497
Total....	26,785	29,142	3,460	1,697	61,084	..	61,084

COTTON.

	Cleared.	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report..		133,929.82	..	..	224,177.94	..	..	74,675.21	..	..	432,782.97
Subsequent Shipments		1,388.29	..	..	19,516.34	..	..	1,260.20	..	..	22,164.83
Total....		135,318.11	..	..	243,694.28	..	..	75,935.41	..	..	454,947.80

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 27TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,023	1,023.00	10	12.00	45	54.00	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	1,023	1,023.00	10	12.00	45	54.00	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore.....	42½	42.50	110	132.00	58	69.60	2	2.00

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa.....	157	157.00	77	77.00	57	57.00	169	169.00	128	128.00	..	..	44	44.00	..	..	..	..	632	632.00
Patna.....	14	14.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	..	..	2	2.00	10	10.00	..	..	27	27.00
Benares	10	10.00	..	..	..	..	7	7.00	1	1.00	..	..	1	1.00	..	..	..	..	19	19.00
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5.00
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	181	181.00	77	77.00	57	57.00	176	176.00	135	135.00	..	..	47	47.00	10	10.00	..	..	683	683.00

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 3RD, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—*Egeria*, s.s., from Hamburg; the s.s. *Glenartney*, *Glamis Castle*, and *Foochow*; and the s.v. *Belted Will*, from Great Britain.

TELEGRAMS.—*Mid. Or. Cotton*, 8⅛d. per lb.; 8¼-lb. *Eagle Grey Shirtings*, 9s. 9d.; *Iron*, £10 10s.; and *Lead*, W.B., £23 7s. 6d.

THE first batch of Northern steamers left this on the 27th ultimo. They comprised those mentioned in last Report, and also the *Haining*. The *Chihli* has since sailed with cargo for Chefoo and Newchwang.

TIENTSIN advices to 15th of last month per overland courier were received two days ago. They note some improvement in *American Drills* and mention sales at Tls. 3.20 of sea-damaged Dragon chop, which were bought at Auction here in November last, at fully that equivalent. Otherwise trade was quiet, not having been fairly resumed since New Year. Letters from HANKOW under date 27th ultimo, state that "only a limited business has been done and prices are unchanged." There were sellers of best 9¾-lb. *Eagle Grey Shirtings* at H. Tls. 2.59 per piece, and of 8¼-lb. of second quality—same chop—at H. Tls. 1.86 per piece. The foreigners at Chinkiang are still "looking for an active trade." At the present time "the finest makes of 7-lb. T.-Cloths and 8¼-lb. Shirtings command no attention." The P. M. S. str. *Oregonian* from Japan arrived on 25th ultimo, but brought nothing interesting in regard to Piece Goods. Some small orders for inferior cotton came over by her, however, and there has in consequence been rather more stirring in our Cotton market since last mail day.

PIECE GOODS.—With the exception of one sale of over 9,000 pieces *American Sheetings*, and another of 8,000 doz. *Handkerchiefs*, transactions have not been important. At same time the aggregate business has been considerable. As reported it sums up as follows:—

6-lbs. Grey Shirtings	5,000	pieces	Common	at Tls.	1.30	@ 1.31	per piece.
7-lbs. Do.	9,000	,,	Common to best	,,	1.35	,, 1.50	,,
8¼-lbs. Do.	8,200	,,	do.	,,	1.60	,, 1.91	,,
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. Do.	13,000	,,	do.	,,	2.50	,, 2.62	,,
6-lbs. T-Cloths	2,500	,,	Common	,,	1.08	,, —	,,
7-lbs. Do.	3,000	,,	Mexican	,,	1.32	,, 1.40	,,
8-lbs. Do.	8,000	,,	Ordinary	,,	1.60	,, 1.62½	,,
15-lbs. Drills, English	2,040	,,	Levita's Dragon	,,	2.50	,, —	,,
8-lbs. Jeans, do.	2,000	,,	Ord. & Peacock	,,	1.80	,, 1.83	,,
Sheetings, American	9,200	,,	Lion, &c.	,,	3.75	,, —	,,
Dimities	500	,,		,,	1.50	,, —	,,
White Brocades	250	,,		,,	2.25	,, —	,,
Chintzes	2,500	,,		,,	1.30	,, —	,,
Muslins—Printed	700	,,		,,	0.95	,, —	,,
Lastings—Black	100	,,		,,	10.25	,, —	,,
Camlets, English and Dutch	700	,,		,,	13.25	,, 13.60 and 19.00	per piece.
Figured Orleans	1,200	,,		,,	2.80	,, 3.30	per piece.
Mohammedan Cloths	300	yards		,,	0.14½	,, —	per yard.
Handkerchiefs	11,000	doz.		,,	0.45	,, 0.52	per doz.

Long Ells and Crapes, nothing; and very little in Mediums, or in Spanish Stripes beyond those disposed of at auction week since.

Heavy Shirtings have been in strong request, and within the last two days stocks, and floating cargo close at hand, have advanced in value from 2 *a* 5 cand. per piece. Thus far the excitement has extended to these supplies only, buyers being afraid to touch long distant shipments. Common 7-lbs. have also been in good demand, and rates may be quoted 1 cand. per piece or so firmer, but in 8¼-lbs. business has been very dull, and the few sales recorded are barely sufficient to establish quotations. A few of Collie's *Green Lion* chop have brought Tls. 1.83 per piece.

White Shirtings.—Occasionally there has been an enquiry for 56 *a* 60 Reeds, but it has borne but little fruit. The market appears to be steady however, and the article apparently is wanted, judging from the price paid, Tls. 1.76; at Auction the other day for some sea-damaged 60s. In the higher counts no business has been published.

T-Cloths.—The demand noticed on Wednesday last has not changed. It still runs on the common descriptions of the different weights. Yet no improvement in value can be noted. This is not a little surprising as regards 7-lbs., of which there is not a piece in stock, and very little known to be on the way. The natives say, however, that it will pay them better to buy low Mexicans at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.31, than to give any advance for the commoner counts. To-day, 50 bales of *Tai-ping* Dewhurst's 8-lbs. T-Cloths have been sold at Tls. 1.80 per piece.

Drills.—Enquiry has been limited, but the clearances for the North have been heavy, and the Northern men are now waiting, professedly, to learn the result, or the prospective outturn of these their first shipments.

Jeans.—Nor has the demand for these been on an extensive scale, and the market closes weak with sellers.

Sheetings.—Buyers evidently could not give the prices demanded for the cargo of the *Golden State*, from NEW YORK last year, in stock, and so the holders have wisely accepted Tls. 3.75 per piece for the lot. *English Sheetings* are repeatedly asked for, but the supply continues limited.

Fancy Cottons.—The trade wants have not been very comprehensive. The articles embraced are common *Chintzes* at low prices, *Handkerchiefs*, *Dimities*, *Mahomedan Cloths*, and *White Brocades*, with the results as noted above. *Blue Mottles* or *Denims* have also been wanted, and in the absence of stocks, some sales to arrive have been effected.

Woollens.—*Figured Orleans* of good quality and of approved pattern and assortment have been in some request, but it is very difficult to suit the taste of buyers, and hence only a few have been settled. *Camlets*—The business in these—outside auction sales—is trifling, still it is enough to show a stiffening tendency in prices. At the auction last week an advance of one mace per piece was paid. *Long Ells.*—100 pieces scarlet C.P.H. at Tls. 7.26 free of brokerage is about the only transaction reported. *Lastings*—In addition to the sale of black at Tls. 10.25 per piece mentioned above—about 500 pieces of C.P.H. assorted have been quitted at Tls. 12.60 per piece. *Spanish Stripes* and *Medium Cloths*—nothing to report. An auction sale of the latter was attempted last Friday but it fell through, the prices offered being altogether too low. The No. 2 *Russian Cloth* reported as sold in my last circular, was not the genuine article but an imitation.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	13.7.0	14.5.0	13.0.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.2.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.3.0	6.8.0	6.6.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.1.0	6.6.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.9	0.5.4	0.5.9	0.5.9	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.5.7	0.6.0	0.5.8	0.6.4

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 25TH FEBRUARY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. ...Tls.	13.70	13.12½/13.15	13.97½	13.07½	13.32½	...	.....	.....	12.92½	12.62½
S.S.G. ,, ,, ... ,,	13.60/13.62½	13.02½	13.90/13.92½	13.00	13.20/13.25	...	.....	12.10	12.90/12.95	12.55
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd.... ,,	0.58	0.56/0.56¼	0.58/0.58¼	0.60⅜/0.61	.....	0.60	0.57	0.61	0.58⅜/0.59	.....

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.55; S.S.G., 600 pcs., av. Tls. 13.45 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs. av. Tls. 0.58 per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock chop, 7,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.59½ *a* 1.59⅜ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₱ pc.	1.3.5 to	1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.9.2
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.1.5 ,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.6.5
Tun Sin ..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	.....
G. E. White Shirtings—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₱ pc.	1.6.0 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
Drills, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.4
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.7 ,,	2.3.5
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb...	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8½lbs...	1.8.3 ,,	1.9.2
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
Sheetings—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	3.0.0
T-Cloths—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.0.8 ,,	1.1.2
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.2.4
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8½-lbs. ..... ,,	1.5.5 ,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0 ,,	2.1.5
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in. ₱ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White ₱ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0
Brocades—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.5
Chintz—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.5.2
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.2.5
T. Reds, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in... ₱ yd.	0.1.6½ ,,	0.2.0
Velveteens—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,,	0.1.5
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.1
Blue Denims ..... ,,	0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....₱ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
Camlets, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0 ,,	13.9.0
G G ,, ,,	13.5.5 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.4.5 ,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths ₱ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.8 ,,	... ..
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.1 ,,	.....
Long Ells—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₱ pc.	7.2.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.2.5 ,,	7.3.0
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.0 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0 ,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds..... ,,	9.5.0 ,,	12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron.*—The tone of the market has somewhat improved since last week, although dealers still complain of dulness. A demand from Japan for small sizes has induced shippers to take advantage of the present cheap rates of steamer freight, and of 10,000 bundles good M.M. cargo, which has been settled this week at Tls. 2.85 *a* 2.90 per picul, about one half goes to the Japanese markets. *Lead.*—A decline of £1 2s. 6d. per ton was telegraphed from home on 26th instant, and rates have since become rather weaker in consequence, small sales of L.B. having taken place at Tls. 6.15 *a* 6.20 per picul. Holders still cling to the hope that the natives must come into the market before many days are over, and that their wants, being imperative, must be supplied at any cost, but the latter appear to entertain slightly different ideas. At all events, and although it is evident that they do require the article, they steadily refuse to meet holders to any great extent on present terms. Whether they can hold out remains to be seen. *Tin.*—The slender improvement noticed last week has not been maintained, and quotations have receded to their former level, the market closing very quietly.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

	Tls. m. c.		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER ..... per Pcl.	155.0.0 *a* 160.0.0	COTTON—Common New ..... per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a* 8.6.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10..... per Box	6.4.0 *a*	,, Medium ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 9.6.0
Small ,, ... ,,	..... *a*	,, Best..... ,,	10.0.0 *a* 10.6.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
18 ... } no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a*	,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
19/23 } ,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0	,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.... ,,	20.3.0 *a*	Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
Fok Chok ..... ,, ... ,,	19.5.0 *a*	,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,	13.7.0 *a*	,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
STEEL ..... per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Bamboo ..... per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0	Common ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	..... *a*	,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Slab, best ..... ,,	18.5.0 *a*	,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
Ore..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 17.0.0	PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	9.3.0 *a* .....
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0	—White ..... ,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
PIG IRON ..... per Ton	30.0.0 *a* 31.0.0	RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
		—Good to fine .... ,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
NAILROD IRON—		—Best..... ,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.1.0 *a* 3.1.5	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.6.5	5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,	2.8.5 *a* 2.9.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.1.0	Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Round ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.3.0	Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
		MANGROVE BARK..... ,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.1.5 *a*	FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,	... .. *a*		

COTTON.—Upwards of 7,000 piculs have been settled this week, and under the influence of the prevailing activity, prices have risen about 4 mace per picul all round. Purchases have embraced every quality, and are destined for the South, for Hankow, and for Japan. The excitement is bringing supplies more liberally in from the country.

EXCHANGE.—Rates are firmer, the Bank quoting 5s. 9d., at which a fair business has been done. There is but little Private paper offering. Credits are quoted at 5s. 9⅜d., and Documents at 5s. 9½d. On India, there is a demand for Rupees at 307 on Calcutta, but no business has been reported. On Hongkong, 26¾ is the closing rate.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7½d.	₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 9d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9⅜d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9½d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight ..... Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.32½	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 306	₱ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 304½	₱ 100 ,,
On Hongkong.—Bank Bills, demand, 26¾ per cent. discount.	
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27¼ per cent. disc.	
Interest.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.	

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.90 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.70 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,530 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—There has been a small business in Green Tea during the past week, at prices shewing a decline of from Tls. 2 *a* 3 as compared with rates current before Chinese New Year.

Settlements—Fychow, Moyune, &c.	4,941 ½-chests,	at Tls.	19 *a* 28.	Stock—44,280 ½-chests.
Pingsuey	1,358 ,,	,,	20½ *a* 22.	4,160 ,,
Shanghai-packed.....	— ,,	,,	— *a* —.	3,540 ,,
Total.....	6,299 ,,			Total... 51,980 ,,

Export to Great Britain (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black.....	65,038,571 lbs.	against	58,663,867 lbs.
Green.....	10,663,305 ,,	,,	9,359,017 ,,
Total.....	75,701,876 ,,	,,	68,022,884 ,,
To America and Canada—			
Black.....	1,843,937 lbs.	against	801,149 lbs.
Green	16,775,316 ,,	,,	20,078,112 ,,
	18,619,253 ,,	,,	20,879,261

SILK.—Latest London telegrams quote Gold Lion No. 1 at 18s.; Red Peacock, 15s.; common No. 5 Tsatlee, 12s. per lb., and business confined to a few auction sales. Since the 25th February a fair business has been done, considering the advanced period of the season; the inferiority however, and consequent rejection of a good deal of the silk settled, has reduced purchases accepted to 800 bales, amongst which are the following well-known chops, showing a slight a decline on last quotations.

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Koo-fong-sing Chop No. 3 Tsatlee	Tls. 415	20s. 6d.	Frs. 57.30
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and "Kin Hock" Tsat.	Tls. 340 & 310	16s. 10d. & 15s. 4d.	Frs. 47.10 and 43.05
Pagoda Chop No. 2 Tsatlee Beautiful Woman Chop No. 2 Tsatlee Buffalo Chop No. 2 Tsatlee	Tls. 325	16s. 1d.	Frs. 45.10
Blue and Yellow Elephant	Tls. 325 & 300	16s. 1d. & 14s. 11d.	Frs. 45.10 and 41.70
Red Peacock	Tls. 320	15s. 10d.	Frs. 44.40
Bird Chop "King-ling"	Tls. 307½	15s. 3d.	Frs. 42.52

For the larger proportion of the stock on the market Chinese are eager sellers, whilst for the few desirable lots that are left they are fairly firm on a basis of the above quoted prices. The estimated unsold stock is barely 3,500 bales, and consists chiefly of very inferior descriptions.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 1st March, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 40 @ 45, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	10,150	21,200	11,750	28,200	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	5,150	1,000	...	8,700
T-Cloths ..... ,,	6,780	4,460	3,050	17,425	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	500	2,000	...	7,480
White Shirtings ..... ,,	830	1,000	300	4,100	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,250	500	...	2,840
Drills ..... ,,	510	930	...	2,485	...	...	...	...	...	870	2,280	...	...	450
Jeans ..... ,,	670	...	...	350	...	900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	250	100	150	350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	322	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	340	830	...	760	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	1,270
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	110	50	...	100	...	450	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	160	24	108	440	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	324
Velveteens ..... ,,	92	...	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	400	1,600	400	1,400	...	...	...	...	...	...	600	...	...	1,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities ..... ,,	...	100	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	96	192	144	372	...	24	...	...	...	...	36	...	...	288
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	132	99	12	134	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Camlets ..... ,,	170	200	310	1,390	...	...	...	...	40	...	20	...	...	140
Long Ells ..... ,,	60	260	520	2,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	120
Lastings ..... ,,	40	20	120	300	...	60	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	350	...	...	50
,, Figured ..... ,,	780	350	150	450	...	300	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	1,320
,, Crape ..... ,,	70	100	50	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	777	336	...	126	...	...	...	...	70	730	840	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	...	...	...	898	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 3/3/74.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	88,150	375,253	97,500	578,621	1,426,300	806,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	42,695	169,338	25,247	153,119	589,300	1,195,000
White Shirtings ..... ,,	10,820	34,699	15,605	97,054	138,200	93,400
Drills ..... ,,	7,525	19,612	2,915	42,393	266,800	459,500
Jeans ..... ,,	2,000	12,720	2,400	40,808	69,400	102,500
Sheetings ..... ,,	.....	80	.....	10,000	11,600	53,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	170	4,076	499	10,208	9,000	3,400
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	.....	350	2,565
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800
Brocades, White ..... ,,	150	1,595	.....	2,289	3,900	449
,, Dyed ..... ,,	1,000	4,720	100	10,283	34,800	25,200
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	322	484	400	4,082	10,700	5,500
Chintzes ..... ,,	3,300	9,620	.....	10,542	89,600	123,900
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	810	8,848	8,220	21,708	39,700	38,800
Velvets ..... ,,	1,196	6,638	1,620	8,831	9,900	15,300
Velveteens ..... ,,	278	924	360	1,436	1,700	8,400
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	6,000	20,780	400	7,302	59,300	139,000
Muslins ..... Pcs.	.....	706	.....	700	11,100	24,400
Dimities ..... ,,	300	950	.....	230	14,000	10,200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,152	5,114	1,020	7,456	13,100	36,000
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	533	2,121	1,290	2,664	11,000	21,300
Camlets ..... ,,	2,270	8,380	1,173	11,733	26,200	25,100
Long Ells ..... ,,	3,100	10,400	1,340	7,680	6,300	13,100
Lastings ..... ,,	700	2,470	.....	4,260	14,200	8,000
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	80	800	.....	1,800	10,200	4,500
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	450	3,450	.....	2,549	3,100	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	3,410	12,306	600	7,800	124,000	137,000
,, Crape ..... ,,	470	1,610	.....	2,000	21,500	11,600
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	898	10,502	2,334	10,633	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,879	11,651	7,443	26,934	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Hector*, *Ava*, *Benledi*, *Sunda*, *Corea*, *Egeria*, *Glenartney*, *Belted Will*, *Glamis Castle*, *Foochow*, several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

March 4, 1875.

Arrivals.—February 25th, British barque *Ceres*, from Newcastle, N.S.W.; 25th, British ship *Silver Eagle*; March 1st, British barque *Kate Waters*, both from Sydney.

Departures.—February 27th, British ship *Northampton*, for New York.

The French mail steamer *Ava* takes about 800 bales of Silk.

The P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Oregonian*, which left Shanghai on Tuesday morning, took 265 bales of Silk, for New York.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅜d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.32½. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 305. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 306½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 26¾ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.80 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.80, per 100. Copper cash, —— per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

S. S. N. Co.—Sales were made on 26th ultimo at Tls. 70 per share, since which a fair business has been done at the same rate, and there is now a feeling of improvement in the market.

H. & S. Banking Corporation.—After the issue of our last report, the rate touched 20 % discount and ex 73, at which business was done up to 1st March, when a reaction took place, which has resulted in considerable sales at all rates up to 14 % discount and ex 73¾. Buyers now offer that price, but cannot get shares.

Fire Insurance Shares.—*Chinas* have been placed at $131, and *Victorias* at $120 per share; and both are in demand. *Hongkong Fires* are on offer at $500 per share.

Marine Insurance.—*Chinese* are in demand, and *Yangtszes* and *Japans* are on offer at quotations.

Hongkew Wharf Co.—Rates advanced to Tls. 105 per share with business, but shares are now freely offered at quotations.

The Weather cleared on Saturday and Sunday—the latter day especially being bright and mild, with a Southerly wind. Heavy rain fell again on Monday afternoon, but a strong Northerly wind set in on Tuesday morning, and the weather has since been again clear and cold. The thermometer has fluctuated between 33 and 49.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 @ 14 % disct.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	70
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½ nominal
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	205
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	84
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 86½
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	500 ex div.
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	121 March 15.
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	131
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	4 p. c.	102
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7

Exchange

Bank Bills on Hongkong 73½

F. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, for Yokohama—Messrs. R. G. Ogle, C. Lucas. For San Francisco—Mrs. Marshall, Messrs. W. Nicholson, J. S. Fearon. For New York—Mrs. Patterson and three children, Mrs. Lancaster, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. N. Pratt and three children. Per str. *Kanagawa Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. J. S. McCall, T. Symons, J. Symons, J. Donovan. For Hiogo—Mr. H. Hogge. For Yokohama—Mr. H. Barnet, and 7 Chinese steerage.

Arrived.—Per str. *Egeria*—Miss Auerfeldt, Miss Franche. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Moses and Isaac. Per str. *Glenartney*, from London—Mr. Moutrie. Per str. *Glamis Castle*, from Hongkong—Mr. Hughes. Per str. *Hochung*, from Swatow—Messrs. Tranach, Moller and Capt. Koch. Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Mr. Johnstone. From Chinkiang—Mr. Kowen. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Chinkiang—Mr. A. E. Salter. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, from Nagasaki—Capt. Law, Mr. and Mrs. Soulier and four children, Madame Kinelato and three children, eleven Japanese and five Europeans; Messrs. McDermott, Kinelato, James M. Wilson, Amook, and two in steerage. Per str. *Tunsin*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Fish.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Ava*, for Port Said—Messrs. Sheveleff, T. F. Saltonoff and S. T. Zotoff. For Marseilles—Messrs. Terp, Mingaud, Lund, Mr. Allcot and infant.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Feb.	° ′	°	°	°					
25	30.252	45.0	42.0	35.0	8	r	15	2	N. E.
26	30.200	42.0	40.0	33.0	9	r	9	3	N. N. E.
27	30.250	41.0	44.0	33 0	8	c	..	6	N. E.
28	30.254	43.0	48.0	33.0	7	b	..	0	Z
Mar									
1	30.202	42.5	49.0	39.0	7	b	10	3	E. S. E.
2	30.152	44.0	50.0	37.0	8	r	9	7	N. E.
3	30.200	39.0	46.0	32.0	7	b	..	4	N. W.

Explanation.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

NOTICE.

ON and after this date, the discount of 33⅓ % on Premia will be allowed by this Office for Local Risks only.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.,
Agents—China Traders' Insurance Co., (Limited.)
tf 2062 Shanghai, 27th May, 1874.

Yangtsze Insurance Association of Shanghai.

CAPITAL and SURPLUS—Tls. 800,000.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the world, at current rates.

This Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15 per cent. to Shareholders on Capital, and thereafter distribute among Policy-holders, annually, in Cash, ALL the profits of the Underwriting Business *pro rata*, to amount of premium contributed.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Z 2079 *Secretaries.*
31de-75 Shanghai, 7th July, 1873.

The China Fire Insurance Co. (Limited.)

Head Office—Hongkong.

Capital.....$2,000,000
Paid up $400,000
Reserve Fund 1st Jan. 1873, $116,961

THE undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Risks on Buildings and/or their Contents on the usual terms and conditions, to the extent of Tls. 75,000 on any one separate risk. Twenty-five per cent. (25%) of the nett profits distributed annually to Contributing Shareholders.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
tf 2054 Shanghai, 17th July, [illegible]

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 409. SHANGHAI, MARCH 11, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℔ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Jan. 22	Hankow,	Mar. 7
San Francisco,	,, 15	Yokohama,	Feb. 23
Hongkong,	Mar. 5	Nagasaki,	Mar. 2
Tientsin,	Feb. 22	Foochow,	,, 2

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Dec. 17
Shanghai, ... ,, 11
} Received 22nd Jan.

BIRTHS.

At Chefoo, on the 24th ult., the wife of Dr. MYERS, of a daughter.

On the 19th Jan., at 16, Grosvenor-crescent, the wife of R. C. ANTROBUS, of a daughter.

On the 14th Jan., at the Vineyard, Totnes, Devon, the wife of Capt. ALEXANDER BULLER, R.N., H.M.S. *Modeste*, of a son.

On the 4th Jan., at No. 1,603, Lucas-place, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A., the wife of ETHAN A. HITCHCOCK, late of China, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On Thursday, 4th March, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, ERNEST WALTER TISDALL, to ISABELLA, eldest daughter of the late Thos. Simpson Duff, of London.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Mar	° /	°	°	°					
4	30.250	42.0	52.0	33.0	7	b	..	0	Z
5	30.152	42.0	61.0	39.0	7	b	..	4	S. S. W.
6	30.050	58.0	70.0	48.0	7	b	..	3	,,
7	29.850	60.0	66.0	50.0	8	r	5	0	Z
8	30.100	52.0	60.0	47.0	8	o	..	3	N. N. E.
9	30.155	53.0	55.0	45.0	8	c	..	5	E. N. E.
10	30.000	55.5	55.0	48.0	8	r	3	0	Z

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy). o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm; Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 6.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, MAR. 11, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Foreign Relations continued.

Although our political position is unsatisfactory, our relations with the people have been generally friendly. The old awe of the foreigner has greatly disappeared, but has been succeeded by the tolerance of habit. There have been collisions, but they have generally had special causes, and have not arisen from sheer dislike to foreign intrusion. There have been, as usual, missionary troubles; notably at Che-meh in Shantung (*N.-C. Herald* June 13th), and at Hoochow (*N.-C. Herald* Dec. 17th). Both were eventually settled by negociation. A serious riot also occurred in the French Concession at Shanghai (*N.-C. Herald* May 9th), through a dispute between the Ningpo guild and the French Council. The latter wished to lay out and metal a road which had been traced on an old plan of the Settlement, and which they contended therefore had been virtually reserved as Municipal property. The Chinese urged that the road would run through an old graveyard, and offered to give other adjacent land. The Council refused; much excitement arose, large crowds gathered about the Joss House, and eventually a collision with the police precipitated a riot. The mob burned and gutted a number of houses, maltreated several French persons, and were proceeding wildly with the work of destruction, when the Volunteers were called out and sailors were landed from the various men-of-war. At their approach the rioters scattered. A proclamation issued next day by the French Consul-General, terminated the difficulty by yielding the point at issue. M. Godeaux's action was severely criticised, and time has not altered popular opinion. The great majority of foreign residents favoured the Chinese view of the question at issue between the Guild and the Council; but every one condemned M. Godeaux's concession under mob pressure, as politically bad and a dangerous precedent. He acted, moreover, without the knowledge and in opposition to the wish of his colleagues, who were loyally standing by him in his difficulty. The punishment of the rioters and the restoration of the damaged property should have been insisted on, as preliminary to any further negociation.

An affair, trifling in itself, but which gathered some importance from the violent action of the Chefoo Taotai, occurred in connexion with the Lighthouse work on the Shantung Promontory (*N.-C. Herald*, Aug. 8th). Some dispute arose between the workmen and the country people; a foreigner in charge of the work was assaulted, and struck one of his assailants with the butt of a revolver, which went off and killed a man behind. The Chinese of course accused him of murder, and he was brought up for trial before H. M. Consul, in the presence of the Taotai. No sufficient evidence was forthcoming, and Mr. Lay acquitted the accused, when the Taotai was guilty of most unseemly violence, declaring at first, that no one should leave the Court till the judgment was altered. Mr. Lay, however, was quite equal to the occasion; the matter passed over, and the accused left Chefoo. He was subsequently re-arrested by the order of the Chief Judge, and tried but acquitted by a jury. We quote the case chiefly to record the impertinence in which the Chinese magistrate indulged. We can understand that, as it was clearly a bullet from the foreigner's pistol which caused death, he was to the Chinese mind guilty of murder. But no Chinese magistrate would have ventured ten years ago, to comport himself as did the Taotai of Chefoo towards a British Consul.

Riots have also occurred in Foochow, in connexion with the projected

telegraph line from that city to Amoy. Sanctioned by the Authorities when war with Japan appeared imminent and quick communication with Formosa was important, the work was thwarted directly that danger had passed. Unable to evade the sanction they had at first given, the officials seem to have got up the farce of popular opposition. Mobs, in which the presence of yamen runners was accused, attacked the workmen and destroyed certain property of the Telegraph Company. The neighbouring villagers subsequently disclaimed, to the Foreign Superintendent, any personal hostility to the project, the Elder expressing himself rather favourably to the undertaking, as providing remunerative work. It remains to be seen what action the Danish Government will take, and what assistance will be lent to its Minister by the Representatives of other powers, in the remonstrances which will necessarily have to be first made, at Peking.

Rumours got afloat at one time, of renewed agitation at Tientsin, and of an intended fresh outbreak against foreigners; but they probably originated in the uneasiness which preceded an émeute among Li Hung-chang's troops. It was felt that something was coming, but it was not known exactly what. The mutiny, when it did occur, was promptly quelled.

An idea gained ground in the early part of the year, that Ichang would be shortly opened to foreign steamers, but no symptom has yet appeared of any intention to make that concession. We should not be surprised to see the steamers of the C. M. S. N. Co. run there, with the declared object of bringing away tribute rice; nor should we be surprised to see the innovation let pass, without a like a privilege being insisted on for foreign steamers.

No move has yet been made towards deepening the Woosung bar; and the Inspector General of Customs is credited with the chief opposition to the measure. He believes that Shanghai is doomed to extinction, that foreign interests are moribund, and that Chinkeang is the port of the future, where only a few foreign agents will contrive to eke out a painful livelihood, while Chinese merchants flourish and the Chinese flag floats proudly in the ports of Liverpool and London. As we disagree with Mr. Hart, we still hope against hope that the Chinese will be some day made to do a work which no civilised nation would hesitate about. The Woosung bar wants dredging, and the Hwangpoo river wants dredging; but only reasonable care and conservation are needed, to preserve the latter as the important channel of commerce it now is.

An attack on the steamer *Spark* during her voyage from Hongkong to Macao, proved that piracy is yet far from extinguished in the south, though it has apparently been routed out from the Eastern coast. A number of pirates who went on board as passengers, rose during the trip and murdered all the foreigners on board except one, Mr. Mundy, who however was so badly injured that his recovery is surprising. A pirate junk then ranged up and took off the murderers and the valuable portion of the cargo. The Chinese engineers took the steamer into harbour. Active research led to the discovery of some criminals and some cargo, but the greater part seem to have escaped.—Mr. Mundy asked Lord Derby to claim compensation for him, from the Chinese Government, but was refused. And, in fact, we do not see just ground for the claim. The outrage was certainly perpetrated by Chinese, but it was not perpetrated on Chinese soil or under the Chinese flag. The steamer was a foreign one, and the Chinese Government might reply that it was the business of the foreign owner to take the necessary precautions for discipline and safety during the passage.

On the whole, the record of Foreign relations with China during the past year is an unsatisfactory one, though marked by no political incident of note. A sense of stagnation weighs upon us, and a feeling that the position and prestige which were conquered in 1859, and which should have been upheld and exalted by moral influence, are being rather let fall. The error of consenting to treat as equal a nation which is not our equal, becomes every year more apparent. One does not argue with children; one reflects on what is best, and desires them to conform.

Piece Goods, concluded.

Sheetings.—Against an importation of 25,200 pieces of all kinds, there was a delivery of 82,000 and the heavy supply with which the year began was reduced to 1,700 pieces at its close. The enquiry set in at the end of last winter, and continued—with only short-lived intervals of quiet—until most of the northern dealers left for their homes in December. The stock of December 31st, 1873—viz., 50,000 pieces—together with the slight accessions it received from time to time by fresh imports, was worked off long before autumn, at prices—opening at Tls. 2.10 *a* 2.20 per piece for fair to ordinary descriptions of 14 *a* 15-lbs. English Cloth, and going as high as Tls. 2.60 *a* 2.80 as the demand continued and as the supply got into fewer hands. The later arrivals were taken off as quickly as they were placed on the market, and many of them sold as high as Tls. 3.00 per piece. It is needless, almost, to say that the results of the business done during the first half of 1874 was unfortunate for holders, but although hope whispered better things, despair—the offspring of former experiences—was the stronger sentiment, and, there being no sign of any future improvement, it counselled progress with the goods on hand. Further, there was *Mildew* amongst the stocks—and *Mildew* in *Sheetings* is *a very serious matter*, when a sale is being negotiated—and that too impelled owners to realise as fast as they were able. In early autumn, however, and on to the closing of the northern trade, things changed, and the out-turn of the few parcels of English Sheetings from time to time received, showed a little profit to the importer. *American Sheetings.*—The business of 1874 was transacted between the months of February and July, and every Lot that came to hand was easily placed at Tls. 3.20 *a* 3.40 per piece. In the course of the month last named, stocks were entirely exhausted, and they were not replaced during the remainder of the season; but it became known in December that there were 500 bales (10,000 pieces) in the "Golden State," from New York—arrived January, 1875—and the northern men, through their deputies, made offer several times of Tls. 3.75 per piece for the lot without avail. We may mention here that the parcel has since been sold at that figure.

Fancy Cottons.—This term embraces a great variety of articles, and the list, which to no small extent is dependent on the ingenuity of money-makers, is yearly being added to. There are certain standards, such as *Velvets*, *Turkey Red Shirtings*, and *Gentian Shirtings*, in which the only important alteration or improvement attempted is the shade of colour, and quality of the cloth; and there are others—viz., *Brocades*, *Damasks*, *Handkerchiefs*, and *Chintzes*,—whose designs and assortments are subject to the caprices of fashion or taste. The trade in these has not varied greatly in its nature or extent from that recorded in previous years, although it must be conceded that, on the whole, the balance is against 1874. The consumption of some articles has fallen off, while that of others has increased. Take *Turkey Reds* for instance. The trade requirements of 1873 were satisfied with 110,000 pieces, while, during 1874, upwards of 130,000 pieces went into consumption. The respective importations of these two years were 126,000 pieces and 98,000 pieces, the deficiency between the imports and deliveries of last season being supplied out of the heavy stock on hand at its commencement. On the other hand, *Velvets*, *Chintzes*, and *Brocades* show a decrease, but with regard to the first, this is easily accounted for by the larger direct shipments from home to Japan. In all these articles, too, as well as in the article of *Velveteens*, there has been a heavy falling off in the supply, so that the position of our merchants, at the beginning of 1875, cannot be regarded as much worse than it was at the opening of last year. In *Handkerchiefs*, the business has expanded considerably, the deliveries for 1874 being computed at 245,000 doz., against 126,000 doz. in 1873, and by reason of the very moderate importations during last year—under 170,000 doz., the stocks on 31st December were reduced to 73,000 doz., against 150,000 at the close of the previous twelve months. Amongst those Fancies which are only occasionally quotable, we find *Blue Mottles* or *Denims*, *Printed Cashmeres*—which of late has almost taken the rank of a standard, and from which rank on the other hand, *Dyed Spotted Shirtings* have well nigh disappeared.—*Muslins*, plain and figured, and *Dimities*. These last two fabrics, a

few years ago, held a much higher place here than they seem to do now, and had it not been for the help accorded us by Japan, the sales—of *Muslins* more particularly—on this market last year, would have been very insignificant indeed. The deliveries of *Muslins* for the period under review amounted to only 38,000 pieces, against receipts of 31,000, the deficiency being supplied from the remainings of 1873, and the *Dimity* statistics are even less favorable, the imports being in excess of consumption by 6,000 pieces. A similar remark, but stronger in degree, is applicable to *Damasks*, the difference against consumption being 14,000 pieces.—And as with the general decrease, so has it been with the returns to those concerned in the trade. *Turkey Red Shirtings* is about the only article that has done any good. The year was opened by sales "to arrive" at rates which showed a very fair margin of profit, and throughout its course the importer of a fair to good quality and current chop seldom found much difficulty in disposing of it on favourable terms. A contract for 2000 pieces 3-lbs., of the approved description, to arrive in March, was entered into in January, at Tls. 2.20 per piece, and business was done in the same import as it arrived on market during the year, at figures little short of that, much to the satisfaction of the proprietors of the chop. It was otherwise, however, with some importations of narrow width and inferior chops. Such could be passed off only in times of great scarcity and of excited demand, and these might—not inappropriately—be likened unto "angels visits." The owners were forced to sacrifice, and that word occasionally signifies loss. Of *Velvets* and the other manufactures that make up the class comprehended under the heading of Fancies, it is unnecessary to say more than that the foreign dealers in them—with very rare exceptions—have had little reason for desiring to continue in the business. Indeed, several confess that, were it not for the fact that the possession of some fancy work occasionally brings dealers about, and so ministers to or facilitates some more important sales, they would give up the trade at the earliest opportunity.

Woollens.—The year 1874, like many of its predecessors, has not been a profitable one—at least so say some of those who have been interested in Woollens. Both foreigners and natives unite in saying that the balance of trade has been against them. The Western provinces have again been blessed with most bountiful harvests, and everything connected with the internal prosperity of the country has favoured the introduction of our Yorkshire manufactures amongst the Chinese people; but the *Li-kin* has cast its withering influence over the trade, ruining the natives, and creating general dissatisfaction. To this cause, principally, is ascribed the falling off in the consumption of woollen goods, during the past year. In 1873, when the Mandarins were less exacting, the trade made wonderful progress; and strong hopes of a still increasing business were entertained at the beginning of last year. But those hopes have not been realised — nor in our opinion, will any permanent good be experienced until the internal transit is better regulated, and the natives are more considerately treated by their authorities. So far as we can see, there is nothing, save *Camlets*, amongst the chief woollen imports whose position contrasts favorably with those of previous seasons, and the statistics of *Camlets* show an increase in the deliveries of only 4,000 pieces over those of 1873. But the following table speaks for itself on this subject :—

	Camlets.		Long Ells.		Lustres Plain and Figured.	
	Impts.	D'lvries.	Impts.	D'lvries.	Impts.	D'lvries.
1874 pcs.	79,000	81,420	79,800	90,000	175,000	196,600
1873 ,,	85,300	77,130	77,000	120,000	293,000	273,000
1872 ,,	57,800	65,100	82,900	126,000	192,000	262,000
1871 ,,	67,000	73,400	105,000	125,000	117,000	197,000

	Spanish Stripes.		Broad & Med. Cloths.		Lastings.		
	Imports.	Deliveries.	Imports.	Deliveries.		Imports.	Deliveries.
1874..	74,200	96,700			1874..	46,000	37,000
1873..	119,000	106,000			1873..	51,000	47,000
					1872..	26,000	35,000
					1871..	45,000	38,000

And this untoward state of matters has happened under circumstances which, had the trade otherwise been allowed free scope, have been exceptionally favorable to consumption. We refer more especially to the system of auctioning sound goods that was instituted here at the end of May last. By that system, a constant weekly supply of *Camlets* and *Spanish Stripes*, and of *Long Ells* occasionally, was placed on the market, and sold. "Without reserve" is the principle on which these auctions are conducted, and buyers at them regulate their prices according to the requirements of the day. If a good demand prevails, they compete, and run up rates pretty close to actual market value; but if times be dull, they combine to secure the goods at figures on which they imagine there cannot be any loss in the future. A great thing in favour of the system is that the chops sold are all well known and approved ones, and some them are the exclusive property of the auctioneers. Thus there is nearly always a market for them, or if there is not, they are bought and held until one arises, and so it often happens that other importers are unable to make any progress whatever. In times of scarcity, of course, the general importer can readily dispose of his wares, and he invariably obtains higher rates than are paid at the auctions, but the amount of business he can do is small as compared with what is put through at the weekly sales, which certainly have now a fair hold of the situation; in illustration of this we present our readers with the following aggregate :—

	Sales at Auction from 29th May to 31st December.	Re-exports and local deliveries for same period.	Balance, the business done by all other importers for same period.
Camlets	25,000	51,000	26,000 pcs.
Long Ells	10,200	67,000	56,800 ,,
Spanish Stripes	11,000	43,000	32,000 ,,

We do not profess to enter into the question as to whether the results of these auctions are encouraging, but, judging from the groanings of the general trade, we conclude that they might be a little more satisfactory without doing the auctioneers any serious harm. *Long Ells* have been short in stock throughout the year, and at times, when wanted, there were scarcely any—save the commonest descriptions to be found, but notwithstanding this, they have seldom risen in value so much as to yield a profit on cost. *Camlets*, *Spanish Stripes* and *Medium Cloths* likewise have given discouraging out-turns indeed, this may be said of almost every description of Woollen Goods in which business has been transacted here during 1874; the results to the importers of *Figured Orleans*, of the lower qualities more particularly, being very unfavorable. For many months, inferior makes have been saleable only at a heavy sacrifice, and even the finer kinds have frequently had to be forced off. Special chops, designs and assortments—have sometimes done a little good, but the profits they have shown are but "drops in the bucket," as compared with the losses sustained by importers generally. The cause of this collapse is rather difficult to determine. Some say, and we think there is reason in what they do say, that it originates in the abundance and cheapness of silk, which is now within the reach of many natives who formerly were contented with *Figured Orleans*, and who, consequently, now dispense with them. In this article, a growing trade with JAPAN has to be recorded, and to that country we are indebted for the lion's share of business done in *Plain Lustres* during 1874. *Black Lastings*, too, have been frequently shipped hence to the Japanese markets, but the qualities taken have, as a rule, been inferior—costing from Tls. 9.50 to 10.50 per piece,—and the final sales of them seldom did much more than cover these figures.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 15th January arrived on the 5th inst., by the M. M. steamer *Hoogly*

The English mail of the 22nd January also arrived on the 5th, by the P. & O. steamer *Avoca*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. steamer *Sunda*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week :—

The missing boat of the steamer *Hongkong* has been saved.

Prussia has resolved to require the Bishops to recognize the Supremacy of the State over Papal authority under the penalty of disendowment, and it is intended to re-establish the placet in Ecclesiastical documents.

The American Congress has withdrawn the Pacific Mail subsidy.

The American Senate has voted the Revenue Bill.

Archbishop Manning has been summoned to Rome to receive the Cardinal's hat.

The exportation of horses to Germany has been prohibited.

A meeting of subscribers to the Shanghai Library was held on Monday afternoon. The report and accounts showed that the institution had been prospering during the year; and a well-deserved vote of thanks was passed to Mr. How, the Hon. Sec., for the efforts on his part which had greatly conduced to this result.—There are now 147 subscribers on the list. And there is no doubt that, with a continuance of the attention shown during the year, the future welfare of this old and valuable Library will be secured. A satisfactory feature of the meeting, was the drawing for payment of six debenture bonds.—The Rev. Canon Butcher, Messrs.

Medhurst, Cordier, McClellan, FitzGerald, How, and Dr. Macgowan were re-elected as a Committee.

We are requested to publish Minutes of a meeting of the Museum Committee, held on the 23rd ultimo. The most interesting information is about tigers. Chinamen have offered to supply an entire animal (dead) weighing 400-lbs., for $200.

We congratulate the French Municipal Council on having obtained the withdrawal of the Chinese soldiers who have been stationed in their Settlement since the riot in May last. The presence of either Chinese soldiers or policemen within Municipal limits, is eminently undesirable.—We cannot think that the Council are equally wise in insisting on their right to the roads which occasioned the riot. A letter has been written to the Chargé d'Affaires at Peking, asking him to confirm the right of the Municipality to these roads. It would be wiser to let the matter drop, and to require only the surrender of the adjacent land originally offered by the Guild as an alternative line of road.—Consultation is to be had with the English Council, as to regulating the wheelbarrow traffic.—The Chairman has written a very courteous and friendly letter to the Chairman of the English Council, in answer to the one which we published on the 24th ulto.—We see that the Council purpose asking the Gas Company to reduce the price of gas. By their original agreement with the Council, the Company are bound to lower their rate directly they pay 12 %. They never have paid 12 %, preferring to divide 11 % and carry the balance to reserve; but their earnings would have permitted the higher dividend, and the Council intend asking for a reduction in price, on that plea.—Steps are to be taken to widen certain portions of the Rue du Consulat.

At a meeting of the Municipal Council held on the 1st instant, Tls. 600 were voted for making a new road between the Soochow Creek and Tiendong Road, along the line of Kingsmill Creek.—Delegates were appointed to discuss with the French Municipal Council the subjects—Division of Wheelbarrow Fees, Jinricksha Regulations, Construction of Honan Road bridge over the Yang-king-pang, and the encroachment on that stream by the French Bund.—We regret to find that the hope which had been raised, of a Bund line being fixed, is premature. The Harbour Master is only preparing a plan of the present Bund and wharves.—Application has been made to Hongkong for a drill-sergeant.—The French Council adhere to their decision to bear only ⅓ of the cost of bridges over the Yang-king-pang. We cannot quite see the ground of this position.

The Trustees of the Eurasian school held an examination of the pupils on Monday, and expressed themselves well pleased with the progress of the children. Prizes were given to the two best in each class; and smaller presents, by way of encouragement and mark of approval, to the remainder—for Mrs. Gill gives all the children an excellent character, both as to behaviour and effort to learn.

The fortnightly literary and musical entertainment given, on Saturday night, under the management of the Shanghai Temperance Society, was numerously attended. Some of our best amateurs gave their services on the occasion, and the audience frequently showed the pleasure they experienced, by loud applause. An address by the Rev. Canon Butcher, couched in his usual popular style, was listened to with attention.

A case having much local interest was entered on before the U. S. Consular Court, yesterday. In form, it is simply a suit by the Municipal Council against Mr. W. H. Fogg for arrears of land-tax, which his agents refuse to pay because they say he is over-assessed. The interest arises from the nature of the defence. Mr. Twombly questions the whole status of the Council, impugning the validity of the Land Regulations and denying his legal liability. The Regulations, he contends, have not been signed by the Chinese Government, and have not been sanctioned by the United States Government, but only by their Representative at Peking, and are therefore not legally binding.—However, he has always been willing to contribute his quota towards the maintenance of good order in the Settlement; but he refuses the present demand as wrong on two grounds. In the first place 6 mow out of the 14 with which he is charged are surrendered to the public, and in use as roads, or lying waste as foreshore to which his right is not recognised; in the second, he contends that the rate of valuation is excessive. The Council are quite willing to reduce the assessment to 8 mow, if the title deed is revised, the excess cut off and the stated area reduced to the actual area of Messrs. Fogg & Co.'s compound. (It was mentioned that this had been already done in another case.) But the area stated on the title deed has always been taken as the standard for taxation, and the Council adhere to it. Mr. Twombly declines the alternative;—and hence the suit. The case was only partially gone into yesterday, and stands adjourned till Tuesday.

About 100 Volunteers turned out on Friday afternoon, and went through some battalion drill with very creditable precision. Marching past was first practised, and was accomplished successfully. Some échelon movements of companies were gone through exceedingly well. The first charge was rather shaky, but a second, later in the afternoon, was done more steadily. The Band was on the ground, and played during several of the movements, but it rather overpowered the words of command. A number of ladies were present in the compound—and a still larger number of men, who would have figured with much better credit in the ranks of the Volunteers. There were enough able-bodied onlookers to form two strong companies, and the exercise of the drill would have been far more healthy—and useful.

The Rangers turned out for drill on Monday afternoon, and again on Tuesday, under the command of Captain Savage, and went through some steady drill inside the Race Course.

An advertisement has been published, announcing the opening of the Rifle Range for practice; the establishment of prize competitions for recruits, as well as for those members of the corps who have never won a prize; and the adoption of a weekly musketry drill at the Main Guard. The prize-shooting for recruits will take place in April, and the usual Spring competition in May.

It does not very often happen that we get two European mails on the same day. It is worth nothing, therefore, that this happened on Saturday; the *Avoca* with the mails of 22nd January, and the *Hoogly* with the mails of the 15th, coming in, one shortly after the other.—The *Avoca's* performance is rather a triumph for the P. & O., her mails having been actually delivered here several hours before those brought by the M. M. str. *Hoogly*. She was four days ahead of her time, the *Hoogly* two days behind her's.

The almost simultaneous departure of the steamers from Hongkong, at noon on the 2nd inst., had caused some little interest in the Settlement as to whether the mails of the 15th or 22nd January would arrive first. The question was solved by the arrival at 3 a.m. on the 6th, of the *Avoca*, the *Hoogly* not reaching Woosung until about eleven the same morning. While coming up the river, the *Hoogly* took the ground on the Woosung Spit, between the Red Buoy and the old Joss-posts, and remained fast. At a quarter to twelve, the steamer *Kwashing* went alongside and attempted to tow her afloat, but could not do so. She, therefore, took off mails and passengers, and brought them up to Shanghai, returning immediately to the scene of the mishap; lighters were also sent down, and the discharging of cargo into them was at once commenced. An anchor was got out astern of the *Hoogly* so as to keep her in the same position, and her yards and topmasts were sent down; tugs were also held in readiness to tow her off at the rising of the tide. We are glad to hear that she was got off successfully; and has since arrived in port, but in manœuvring to an anchorage at Woosung, she carried away the Red Buoy. We are told that the cause of her grounding was the fact that the Red Buoy was considerably to the Northward of its true position, thus misleading the pilot.

The French iron-clad *Montcalm* came up the river Monday afternoon. Her arrival gave rise to various rumours among the Chinese about an intention to enforce the opening of the roads alongside the Ningpo Joss-house.

The Paper Hunt Handicap on Saturday was won by Mr. Brandt, on *Sea Bird*. Some particulars of the run will be found on another page. The ground was heavy, and very trying to the ponies. It was at first thought that the handicap would have to be run on the Steeple Chase Course, owing to the apparently impracticable state of the country. But two days' sun so far dried the ground that it was eventually resolved to run it off in the country, and the Stewards selected a line between Sikawei and the Bubbling Well. It is purposed to have a Handicap

Steeple Chase on Saturday, inside the race-course.

The competition did not seem to be very keen, at the auction held on Wednesday at the Horse Bazaar, and we are told that only a few Griffins were sold, at prices ranging from Tls. 65 to Tls. 120. The ponies were rather a good-looking lot, and in the "pow" which usually follows the auction, one purchased for Tls. 65 went in very good form.

Mons. Remusat has announced that he will give a grand vocal and instrumental concert at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 23rd instant.

We are glad to hear that, although the weather was so unfavorable at the recent performance of the Shanghai Amateur Minstrel Society, the sum available for the institution in whose aid the entertainment was given—viz. the New Hospital—amounts to $103.40. We hear that another performance will be given at an early date, with the same charitable object.

Mr. Iburg gave a second concert at the Lyceum Theatre, on Tuesday. It was well attended and gave general pleasure.

The S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shanse*, Captain J. F. Crowell, was the first to arrive in Tientsin, and the first to get back to Shanghai. She arrived in port on Tuesday morning, and reports having passed the *Haining*, *Appin*, *Shinking*, *Shantung*, *Nanzing and Fusing*, all bound in, and the steamer *Chihli* at 7.30 A.M. on the 5th, bound up. The *Lee Hung* (late *Leven*) was passed in the river, disabled.—The *Appin* also arrived, direct from Tientsin, in the afternoon.

We understand that a correspondence has taken place between the United States Consul-General, the Agency of the "Mitsu Bishi" Steamship Company, and the Japanese Consul, in regard to the transmission of mails between this port and Japan by the Company's vessels. The Postal Convention between the United States and Japan provides that the mails shall be made up at the U. S. Postal Agency for Japanese mail packets hence to Japan. The question is, whether the vessels of the Company can be considered mail packets. The question has been referred to the Japanese Government and the United States Minister at Yedo, and it is hoped that a satisfactory settlement will be reached. This matter is of interest, as the "Mitsu Bishi" steamers have orders at present to receive no mails in Shanghai. These orders seem at variance with the purposes of the Company, as expressed in the letter of their Agent, which was published in our issue of the 15th February.

Reuter's telegram of the 3rd instant, seems to remove any apprehension about the crew of the *Hongkong*. If "the missing boat has been saved," we may infer that all on board except those in it were already safe.

The *Halloween*, Captain Watts, which sailed from Shanghai on the 21st October last, with a full cargo of Tea and Silk, has made the run home to the Isle of Wight in 90 days. The round voyage from London to Sydney, Shanghai and home, was accomplished in nine months and seven days, of which seventy-eight days were used in port.

H.M.S. *Dwarf*, 4, double-screw composite gun-vessel, Commander the Hon. Edward G. Dawson, arrived in harbour from Hongkong, on Thursday, after, as we are informed, the unprecedentedly long passage of eighteen days. The ship seemed unable to make headway against the monsoon, and on some days made as much leeway as progress. She was obliged to put into Amoy to coal. The *Dwarf* was recommissioned in November last at Hongkong, and this was her first trip afterwards. It is not the first time that similar complaints have been made respecting vessels of the *Dwarf* class; and although it may be well to utilise them now they are here, it would seem wiser to keep them in one place as guardboats, than to move them about—especially against adverse monsoons.

We have pleasure in stating that Chên, the Mixed Court Magistrate, has divided amongst the Gutzlaff, Hongkew and Chinese hospitals, the sum of $366 and Tls. 27—amounts that have been further recovered out of the bribes taken in the "General Yang" abduction case.

Our former Taotai, Ting Jih-chang, subsequently Governor of this province, left Saturday afternoon for Soochow, having spent six days in Shanghai. He resided at the Arsenal, of which he is the founder, and looks it is said, with much pride on his work. Natives remark that he is unostentatious and affable, and they have much to say in commendation of his probity and energy.

We have to acknowledge a pamphlet, entitled "The Returns of Trade at the Treaty Ports in China, as published by order of the Inspector-General of Customs, critically examined. Reprinted with additional notes and an appendix. — By Johannes von Gumpach."

We have the January-February number of the Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal. Dr. Bretschneider continues his "Notes on Chinese Mediæval Travellers to the West," which have a great deal of quaint interest.—Dr. Williams contributes a paper on "Moveable Types." He seems to fix the invention (in China) of printing from wooden plates, about A. D. 581; and that of moveable types about A. D. 1056. —Mr. Phillips continues the discussion as to the locality of Zaitun, and identifies it with Changchow, instead of Chinchew which Col. Yule selects. — A paper on "Whisky in Mongolia," over the pseudonym of Hoinos, accuses the Mongols of drunkenness, and says, "if Christianity is ever to do any good in Mongolia, it must go hand in hand with teetotalism." Dr. Gauld writes on Medical Missions, in reply to a paper by the Rev. W. Scarborough, which appeared in the May-June number.—The Rev. T. McClatchie contributes a paper on "Paganism."—Correspondence, and sundry items of missionary news, complete the number.

A correspondent sends some notes of an overland trip from NEWCHWANG to Peking, which give a striking sketch of the condition of the country. We have heard a good deal from our Newchwang correspondent, and from the Peking *Gazette*, of the robbers of Manchuria. Our correspondent's experience supplies practical details of their proceedings. They are apparently masters of the country; the people are afraid of them, and the soldiers either indifferent or unable to cope with them.

We have no news from NEWCHWANG, other than commercial. Messrs. Bush Bros.' Circular of the 16th February, says there had been little doing of late, owing to the New Year holidays. Business, however, was reviving, and some sales of imports were reported.—As regards exports, rates were, for cash now and delivery in Spring.

Peas,	Tls. 2.10	per 300 c.
Beancake,	,, 2.85	,, 10 ps.

Arrivals from the Interior amounted to Peas, 345,000 shees; Oil, 520,000 piculs.

Our TIENTSIN correspondent, writing on the 22nd February, says the ice in the river was then 11 inches thick, and the exposed thermometer (at dawn) marked 20°. The ice was thought likely to break up about a week later. Large flocks of wild fowl had been seen flying North.—It was rumoured that Li was to go to Peking, to be present at the coronation of the young Emperor.

The ice in the Peiho began breaking up on the 25th February.—The S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shanse* was the first of the season to reach Tientsin. She arrived off the Settlement at 5 a. m. on the 2nd instant. The *Haining* was also off the mouth of the river on that day.—The Danish Minister was expected down from Peking, en route for Amoy. Four Danish engineers skilled in torpedo manufacture, were expected from Shanghai.—Li Hung-chang is likely to take up his residence in Tientsin shortly. —The Peruvian Minister was also looked for at an early date, to exchange ratifications of the treaty.

The HANKOW market Report says the market has been dull during the fortnight; Grey Shirtings alone having been dealt in to any extent, and business in those is below the average of former years. Sales of all weights amount to 20,750 pieces for the fortnight, of which 15,000 were 8¼-lbs. Messrs. Gordon Bros. write that raw cotton is still being shipped from Shanghai, but prices nevertheless have advanced to Tls. 10 *a* 11.50 per picul. Stock about 31,000 piculs.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff report from CHINKIANG, 8th March, 1875:—Although a fairly active business has been transacted in Cotton Goods since the date of our last, sales have not been on so large a scale as was anticipated, many of the most important dealers not having yet arrived from the country. Prices, however, appear to be hardening, and we expect to see extensive operations at improved rates during the ensuing week. There has been a good demand for Opium throughout the week, and it has been freely met by holders at current rates.

Mr. Jonathan Russell has been appointed United States Consul for MANILA.—The Manila Jockey Club has decided that the Races there shall take place on the 8th, 9th and 10th April.—The *Diario de Manila* contains an account of a destructive fire which occurred at Pampanga, Manila, on the 14th ultimo. Seven houses and twenty godowns, the latter filled with sugar, were destroyed, and other premises much damaged. The body of a young girl was found in one of the ruins.

Editorial Selections.

MANDARINS AND THEIR FOREIGN INSTRUCTORS.

Our recent review of the Arsenals in China would not be complete without mention of that at Tientsin, commenced by Mr. Meadows, under the auspices of Chunghow, as a powder manufactory. Mr. Meadows has scarcely yet received the amount of appreciation which he might have fairly looked forward to, for his share in founding this establishment. The combination of the two scarcely compatible objects, a Powder mill on the one hand and an Arsenal on the other, seems mainly to be the cause why the Tientsin Arsenal has never proved itself able to afford an outturn in any respect commensurate with the large sums which have been expended on it. The Arsenal was commenced, it will be remembered, when Chunghow was in power; and when that official was sent away to endeavour, in France itself, to clear his conduct in connexion with the Tientsin massacre, the Arsenal works fell into other hands. The story of Mr. Meadows' treatment is akin to that of the other foreigners connected with the Chinese Arsenals. As soon as a certain proficiency was thought to be obtained, plots were started in all directions to get rid of the foreign Head, or, failing to oust him, to reduce his position to the lowest possible standard. It was too irksome to the pride of an uneducated Chinese Mandarin, to find that a foreigner should have any control along with himself. He could not see, because he had not the necessary knowledge, that the foreigner had something within him, in the naturally inductive turn of his mind, to which he himself, as a member of a different race, was a stranger. To him, it seemed only necessary to learn, superficially and by rote, the details of the various processes, in order that they might be carried on successfully. The long train of inductive agreement on which each detail, however apparently trivial, was founded, was to his mind an utter blank. So, from the moment in each case where the European was superseded, or reduced in nominal or actual power, the story has been the same, of rapid degeneration from day to day.

The history of Chinese literature and Chinese philosophy shows us that the Chinese mind has never risen above the subjective stage. When we consider that the Greeks themselves, with all their strivings, never thoroughly emancipated themselves from the same blemish, we can form some conception of the difficulties which the Chinese mind has in grasping the practical details of problems so far removed from its ordinary experience. European speculators on the advance of the Chinese, have omitted this most important element from their calculations. We doubt not that the Chinese have got some vague ideas of progress; they are willing to acknowledge that in many, or, if they speak as their mind honestly dictates, in most, things, they are behind the natives of Europe. But they have not appreciated the true reason of their backwardness; which is, that they have never been able to grasp the inductive as distinguished from the subjective method. If we quote the remarks of G. H. Lewis on the Philosophy of Plato, we shall have a fair idea of the highest range of the Chinese intellect. "The method employed by Plato," he tells us, "was the subjective. The test he uniformly applied, was that of submitting the external order to his conceptions of what was rational, without previously determining how he came by those conceptions of rationality, and what guarantee they offered of being themselves demonstrable." Such opinions would never have led to the revival of the world after the darkness of the Middle Ages. To Aristotle, the philosophic world owes the first promulgation of a truer principle; but to the rude and practical wit of the Teutonic race, which after worrying itself over the childish sophisms of the schoolmen, at last took a firmer hold of the doctrines promulgated by the great Greek philosopher, and finally culminated in the inductive minds of Bacon and Descartes, the world is indebted for the steady but real progress of the last four centuries. This phase is so entirely wanting in the Chinese character, that we may search the literature of the Empire from its earliest foundation to the present, without finding a trace of it. We wonder at Fengshui, but Fengshui is only the hard setting of primitive truths in the subjective mind of the Chinese. The processes learnt to-day, would, were foreign influence withdrawn, become to-morrow the foundation of a similar system. The inductive learning which led up to their invention, would be forgotten in a maze of speculations as to their abstract relations. The processes themselves, in the state of degeneracy to which they would assuredly fall, might, under such a system, be preserved, but it is certain that in such a frame of mind no improvement would be possible. This is our experience of the Chinese. We have been acquainted with them for many years; *tot homines, tot sententiæ;* we might naturally have imagined that many of our processes, when submitted to men accustomed to work in a different groove, would have received some slight modification, which, under the circumstances, we would have accepted as an improvement. Our experience, however, tells us that, amongst the thousands of artisans in China who have been brought in contact with foreign appliances, not one has ever attempted the slightest modification which could have been construed into an improvement. If he have made a change, it is invariably, as in the case of the Camps and the Arsenals, a reversion to a former state of things, acknowledged to be inferior.

THE HONGKONG BANK AND THE SUGAR COMPANIES.

The present condition of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is an instance of the obstacles at present existing in China, to all enterprise. Its difficulties have mainly arisen through its unlucky connection with an attempt to introduce improved methods of manufacture into China. The scheme of the Sugar Company, in which so much money has been sunk, looked well at first. China is a large sugar producing country, but, notoriously, the system of extracting the sugar from the cane is conducted in a rude and inefficient manner, entailing much waste and reducing the quality of the article. With all these drawbacks, Chinese sugar has been gradually but slowly making its way in the world, and is at times, when the market allows, exported to California and the Australian colonies. To make use of improved machinery to express the juice, and improved methods to refine it, was an idea which has ever presented itself as practicable. The originator, however, reckoned without his host; those most to be benefitted, the Chinese producers, with a shortsightedness that we have, however, seen displayed in other countries, set themselves against the scheme; the Chinese associated in it at the beginning played false, and sought from their position the opportunity of making private pelf instead of advancing the concern. The original company divided into two; machinery was put up in Hongkong, away from the sugar producing districts, and it was intended that unrefined sugar should be carried there from Canton, Swatow, Manila or other ports. Finally, everything seemed fair and square, and the company established itself at Saigon, where favourable sugar grounds existed, and where the Government took a sort of paternal interest in its welfare. Such, as far as we can learn, is a brief sketch of the sugar industry; for notwithstanding numerous enquiries, we have been unable to solve the mystery of the two sugar companies, their origin and development, and, we are sorry to have to add, apparent collapse. At all events, a sugar company was finally established at Saigon; and from this, good hopes of a favourable outturn were looked for. Floods, markets, and one thing or another, have however year after year proved unpropitious, and from what we can learn, the affair has never even paid its expenses. The prospect of the sugar company becoming a financial success, led to the starting of other branches of industry in Hongkong. We were to have distilleries, rice mills, &c., &c., and to help out these a pier and godown company was started to fill an acknowledged want. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, having gone in heartily for the first scheme, might naturally be expected to back it up by affording assistance to its satellites. The idea was a grand one, to make Hongkong a commercial centre, with the local bank the great director of finance. Unfortunately, the collapse of the sugar companies destroyed the foundation of the structure; and the bank, which had, as we believe, honestly endeavoured to change the character of the trade of Hongkong, finds itself relegated to a position scarcely better than that at which it started. Doubtless a lesson is to be learned from all this, and that is, that industrial reforms in the East must proceed by slow degrees. It would be a mistake to condemn on principle the action of the bank, though in practice its conduct was undoubtedly reprehensible in a high degree. Unfortunately, so serious an error as has been committed will not be without its deterrent effects. The memory of the sugar disasters will long remain a stumbling block to future industrial movements, and in localities where the true cause of the collapse is entirely unknown, will be quoted as a instance of the folly of taking any further steps towards improving the

productions of China. We have stated above that we are ourselves in a state of crass ignorance of the history of the origin, progress and decay of the sugar companies; yet this history would be both interesting and useful. Some of our Hongkong friends, who have watched the course of proceedings from beginning to end, are doubtless in a position to enlighten us. If so much ignorance prevails at Shanghai, we may imagine how little is known elsewhere on the subject. Apart from its illustrating a curious chapter in the past, the experience gained is worthy of being recorded as an example for the future.

ARE WE TO HAVE A CATHEDRAL.

ARE we to have a Cathedral? It very rarely happens that an Ecclesiastical question forms the topic of conversation in Shanghai society, but during the past week the above enquiry has been very frequently made, and the *pros* and *cons* discussed with considerable interest. The reason is obvious. For once, a Church question involves a point of which the community are tenacious, viz., the rank of the Settlement. In spite of our supposed longing to return home—a feeling which is often more imaginary than real—the residents are as a body attached to the place, and take an honest pride in the position which it has attained. In spite of gloomy auguries, Shanghai is now, and is long likely to continue, the foreign capital of North China, and as such it deserves an ecclesiastical as well as a legal status. This Port is the Head Quarters of the Supreme Court; it is the most influential Consulate; and it certainly ought to be the seat of a Bishop. We can conceive no possible difficulty in carrying out the scheme. Technical objections, we are assured, there are none; and, indeed, the legal propriety of the step is guaranteed by the fact that the proposal to convert the Church of the Holy Trinity into a Cathedral, was seconded and recommended by Sir Edmund Hornby. Precedents, if such are required, can easily be found; but it is our impression that the present state of affairs is that which would be difficult to justify or explain; and, though it may not be in the strict sense of the term unprecedented, it is certainly anomalous. We may go further, and say that the proposition brought forward at the last meeting of subscribers to Trinity Church embodied an idea that has been long present to the minds of the residents. In our own columns, and in those of our contemporaries, the word "Cathedral" has often slipped in unconsciously for "Church," in paragraphs relating to the large and superb building which occupies such a prominent place in the Settlement; and, therefore, no violence would be done to the feelings of the community by the official and formal bestowal of that name to which the popular voice has already become accusomed. The present state of affairs is, we repeat, anomalous and perplexing; and though a Bishop may discharge his functions without a Cathedral, there is a certain propriety in his having one which has been recognized universally in those countries where Episcopal Churches exist.

The erection of our Church into a Cathedral may be regarded from two points of view. From the Bishop's standing point, it may be regarded as a recognition of the zeal and earnestness which induced the residents to provide a church superior, in an artistic point of view, to any structure devoted to Protestant worship in the East. The plans were adopted in days of prosperity, but it must not be forgotten that the design was carried through at considerable sacrifice, and that formidable difficulties had to be faced before the funds could be raised to complete the building. Such perseverance in a good cause cannot fail to be pleasing to the Chief Pastor of the English Church in North-China. On the other hand, the residents in Shanghai cannot but feel glad that they have it in their power to offer a tribute of respect to Bishop Russell. Long and diligent service as a missionary earned him the post he holds, and he has borne himself in his important office in a way which has secured him the personal regard of all those who have been brought into contact with him. It may seem strange that the proposal made at the last Church meeting was not made when the Bishop first came amongst us. This, however, is easily explained; regular Church meetings are only held once a year, and are regarded as matters of routine. Apathy, and an unwillingness to make changes, steal over dwellers in the East, and make them often omit obvious duties; besides, as has been suggested, some doubt existed as to the extent and character of Bishop Burdon's jurisdiction. All these objections are now removed, and we hope the necessary measures will be taken without delay, to give effect to the resolution adopted at the Church Meeting.

A COURT FAVOURITE.

THE case of Wang King-ki, in the Peking *Gazette* of the 11th February, exhibits a curious phase in Chinese character. Wang, the son of a distinguished scholar, became himself a man of considerable literary attainments in the Chinese sense of the word. An assistant Expositor of the Hanlin college, his reputation for learning was so well established that he was appointed, last year, Examiner at the provincial examinations for Honan. He was likewise employed about the palace of the late Emperor, where he raised himself to the position of favourite, and Chinese rumour says that he accompanied his young master on those midnight excursions, to which he seems to have eventually owed the infectious disease of which he died. That Wang-King-ki should, under these circumstances, have incurred the extreme displeasure of the Empresses is but natural, and it is equally natural that they should take the first opportunity of degrading and dismissing him from Court. Their procedure is, however, characteristic of the orderly manner in which the Chinese prefer, if possible, to execute such a punishment. Wang has good reason to be thankful that he is a Chinese, and lives in an empire whence all semblance of law and order has not yet departed. Had he had the misfortune to have served any other Asiatic potentate, he would most likely have been quietly strangled, or have disappeared in a mysterious manner, and none of his former friends would have had the boldness even to mention his name. Not so in China; whatever may have been his guilt, the Government will only proceed to punish him in the regular manner. He has been unfaithful to his trust, but this is a matter needing proof, and some prosecutor must come forward. The Censor Ch'en-I accordingly appears as the accuser. The matter of the accusation is equally characteristic with the manner of it. The surest blow to aim at a Chinese official, is to call in question his due observance of filial obligations. Wang's father, when going to preside over the literary examinations at Canton, died on the way. The son went forward to make the necessary preparations for the funeral, and probably insisted rather too strongly on the expenses being met out of the pockets of the mandarins of the province whither his father was travelling on important State business. For this, a black mark was evidently placed opposite his name, to be used as occasion served. He, however, did not apparently suffer in position or reputation at the time, for last year we find him following in his father's footsteps, as Examiner in Honan. Here, however, he is stated to have again offended against public manners. After he had finished the examinations, he, the Examiner, and therefore the example of good morals, went round to places of dissipation dressed in plain clothes. These two instances were held to be sufficient specimens of his life in general. Touching his Peking escapades, the *Gazette* is cautious. It does not care to trench on so delicate a subject as the private life of the late Emperor, but says enough to hint the substantial truth of the rumours which were current. The Censor had a firm belief that the divinely bestowed intelligence of his late Majesty would sooner or later penetrate Wang's real character; but the dignity of the State was concerned, and, therefore, for the time, he held his tongue. Now, however, that so great a calamity has occurred in his lamented decease, the time has come that none but men of good character should be employed about the Court.—Of course, the action of the Censor had been previously arranged, and only the pretext was needed for putting in effect the intentions of the Government. No one however will deprecate Wang's dismissal; and it would be well if the guardians of the new Emperor would learn a lesson from his rise and fall. Had his late Majesty been allowed to see a little more of the world, he would not have so readily fallen under the influence of a worthless favourite. Possibly, as the Censor suggested, his heaven-sent intelligence would in the long run have led to him to form a clearer judgment. But the sudden step from practical imprisonment to unrestrained liberty was too great. The education of a boy-monarch is always most difficult, but no system could be worse than the state of isolation in which the Empresses brought up the late Emperor. We can only hope that a more manly training will be given to the child who now occupies the throne.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

I have taken the opportunity of the publishing of the two following Decrees by the Regents, to make some further remarks on the position of the Ta-heo-sze, and the Chinese Ministers of the Cabinet. I am led by the succession of the son of the Prince of Chun to the Throne, to come to the conclusion that a new era of the Manchow Dynasty has commenced. Foreign relations on the Russian side of China, and on the seaboard, from where Corea touches it to the South-western extremity of the province of Kwangtung, are being every day closer entwined with Chinese political events; and every word touching on the political position of the chief ruling powers of China cannot but have some interest for every foreigner who pays attention to Chinese political affairs. I have, therefore, presumed in this letter to again refer to the subject of the executive officials of the Central Government at the metropolis.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 8th February, there are two short decrees, namely one announcing that Ying-kwei 英桂, holding the post of President of the Board of Civil Office, had been raised to the rank of Hee-pang-ta-heo-sze (協辦大學士) which I shall translate, "Assistant Privy Councillor"; and the other, that Shin Kwei-fên 沈桂芬, holding the post of President of the Board of War, a Keun-ke-ta-chin (which I translate, "A Minister of the Cabinet)" and a chief of the Tsung-le Yamun, had also been raised to the rank of Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, or Assistant Privy Councillor. Dr. Morrison, in his dictionary, translates Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, "Title of the 5th and 6th Ministers of State in China." Dr. Williams, in his dictionary, just published, translates the same characters, "An Assistant Cabinet Minister." Foreigners, who have been paying attention to Chinese official affairs at Peking of late years, are aware that Shin Kwei-fên has been for several years back a Keun-ke-ta-chin (軍機大臣) that is to say, that he has been a minister of the Keun-ke-choo (軍機處). These last characters are translated by Dr. Morrison, "Privy Council"; and by Dr. Williams, "The General Council of State." The four characters, Keun-ke-ta-chin, I prefer, for reasons given further on, to translate, "A Minister of the Cabinet," and the characters Keun-ke-choo, "The Cabinet."

Li Hung-chang (a Chinese) holding the post of Governor-general of the province of Chihli; Wănseang (a Manchow), a Minister of the Keun-ke-choo, and a chief of the Tsung-le Yamun; Paou-keun (a Manchow), a Minister of the Keun-ke-choo, and a chief of the Tsung-le Yamun; and Tso Tsung-tang (a Chinese), holding the post of Governor-general of the provinces of Shen-se and Kan-suh, are at present the four high officials holding the rank of Ta-heo-sze, translated by Dr. Morrison, "Ministers of State;" and Ying-kwei (a Manchow) and Shin kwei-fên (a Chinese) are the two high officials now holding the rank of Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, translated by Dr. Morrison, "Assistant Minister of State." Now, as Li Hung-chang is stationed at Tientsin, 80 miles from Peking; and Tso Tsung-tang is stationed at Sin-gan-foo, 845 miles from Peking, it is not possible for Englishmen, who are accustomed to see the ministers of state residing at the metropolis, near the Court, as advisers to the Queen, to view these two high officials as being advisers to the Emperor in the current affairs of State. The late Governor-general of Kwantung and Kwangse, Juy Lin, was a Ta-heo-sze, and when at his post at Canton, was 5494 *li*, or 1831 miles English, from Peking; so, as holding the rank of Ta-heo-sze, he could not at Canton be considered by us as an adviser to the Throne on the current political affairs of the Empire. Hence I have come to the opinion that, for foreigners to render the characters Ta-heo-sze and Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, as "Ministers of State" and "Assistant Ministers of State," or as "Grand Secretary," and "Assistant Grand Secretary," tends to mislead the foreign public, who peruse the news on Chinese political affairs published in the Shanghai and Hongkong Press, as to the real positions of the high officials holding these ranks. I am of the opinion that these titles, *at the present day*, are simply honorary titles; and that to avoid misleading the foreign public we ought to render them, "Privy Councillors" and "Assistant Privy Councillors." In England we have many Privy Councillors who are not Cabinet Ministers, nor even belong to the Ministry for the time being; and I am of the opinion that the positions of Li Hung-chang and Tso Tsung-tang, so long as they shall fill high appointments in the provinces, accord very closely with those of such English Privy Councillors. I do not suppose, when these officials are at the metropolis, simply to have audiences of the Throne, that they can attend the Cabinet Councils by virtue of their being Ta-heo-sze; but that they must wait to be specially summoned to appear. I am the more certain of this from late announcements in the Peking *Gazette* of the 30th and 31st days of January (and in the absence of a Chinese sage at my elbow, to instruct me otherwise on the point), that when Li Hung-chang was at the metropolis just at the close of last year, and when the Regents simply summoned the Ministers of the Cabinet thus 召見軍機, only the Prince of Kung, Wănseang, Paou-keun, Shin Kwei-fên, and Li Hung-tsaou—the five members of the Cabinet, which I have hitherto understood as such—attended the Council Room, and Li Hung-chang did not appear at it; but when they summoned the Ministers of the Cabinet and Li Hung-chang thus 召見軍機 李中堂, then Li Hung-chang appeared at the Council Room with the Ministers of the Cabinet.

Wănseang is a Ta-heo-sze, Paou-keun is a Ta-heo-sze, and Shin Kwei-fên is a Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, and they are all, also, Cabinet Ministers; but although Ying Kwei is now a Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, and is resident at the metropolis as General-in-Chief of the Nine Gates of the City, I have yet to learn that he is a Cabinet Minister and can attend at the Council Room by virtue of his position of Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze. What I mean to say is, that it does not follow that an official, holding the rank of Ta-heo-sze or Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze, becomes also, by virtue of such rank, a Minister of the Cabinet.

In former years, when the Ta-heo-sze and Hee-pan-ta-heo-sze were all residing at the metropolis, they, doubtless, actually filled the positions of advisers to the Throne, and would be considered then in the light of Cabinet Ministers; and I think they bore a close resemblance to the men who were selected by Queen Elizabeth from among her Privy Counsellors to be her Ministers of State; as, for instance, Sir Nicholas Bacon, the Lord Keeper; Sir William Cecil, Secretary of State; Sir Walter Mildmay, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir Thomas Smith and Sir Francis Walsingham—all doubtless considered by Queen Elizabeth the most able men amongst her Privy Councillors. On the Chinese Ta-heo-sze being stationed at the provinces, in the posts of Governors-General, they virtually ceased to be advisers of the Throne, and, consequently, Cabinet Ministers of State. We learn from the Peking *Gazette* that their positions at the metropolis as Cabinet Ministers came in course of time to be filled by officials holding the position of members of the Keun-ke-choo 軍機處 which virtually became the Cabinet. The Ministers of the Cabinet at present (at least up to the time of the death of the late Emperor) are the Prince of Kung, Wănseang, Shin Kwei-fên, Paou-keun, and Li Hung-tsaou, five in all; but it is very probable that ere long we shall hear of a change having taken place in the Cabinet, as Wănseang is not in good health, and is desirous of retiring from the cares of public life. In the statesman Shin Kwei-fên, the Imperial Regents have a very able man. At the conferences of the Tsung-le Yamun with foreign officials, even when the Prince of Kung is present, he takes a very leading part. He holds, as mentioned above, the post of President of the Board of War; and Chung-how, as Vice-president, acts with him cordially in the discharge of the duties of that important office.

I ought to mention that on Tso Tsung-tang, the Governor-general of Shen-se and Kan-suh, being raised to the rank of Ta-heo-sze—Privy Councillor—the Chinese literary men made the remark that he was, within the time of the present dynasty, the first man having only the literary degree of Keu-jin, who had been raised to that rank.

During the past week, I have heard of no particular news having coming here from Peking. At Tientsin we are enjoying tranquil times. The heavy mail, bringing our newspapers, arrived this forenoon, bringing us the *North-China Daily News* up to the 27th January, and London newspapers up to the 11th December, 1874. By the last Customs mail we received London telegrams up to the 25th January.

All yesterday we had a northerly dust storm. The thermometer at daybreak today stood at 20° Fahrenheit, and the river ice off the British Settlement was found to be, this forenoon, 16 inches in thickness.

15th Feb.

To-day, the ice in the centre of the river, off the British settlement, is eleven inches thick. The thermometer at dawn stood at 23° Fahrenheit inside the verandah and outside in the open at 20°. I am thus inclined to think that a week hence we shall see the ice break up, and that it will be possible for steamers to come up to Tientsin before the 1st March.

On the 25th instant, the coronation, as we would call the ceremony, of the young Emperor Kwang-seu, will take place. There has been a rumour here these last few days that Le Hung-chang had left Paouting for Peking, to be present at it; and that he would afterwards come to Tientsin, instead of again proceeding to Paouting. On the 19th instant, the twenty-seven days of mourning for the demise of the late Emperor came to an end; and on that day the local authorities used the red seals and red cards, and commenced again to wear their buttons of rank. On the 21st instant, his Excellency Sun Sze-ta, the Customs Taoutai, called on the Consuls at this port, being the first visit of a Chinese official in the reign of Kwang-seu.

In the Gazette of the 13th instant, we notice that the Cabinet Ministers and the Prince of Chun (the father of the Emperor) were together summoned to the Council room. It would thus appear that the Prince of Chun still continues to take part in the transaction of public affairs at Court.

The Chinese trading people are now all again following their usual occupations, after the new-year holidays, and as the crops were gathered in successfully last year all around here, the labouring classes are in fair circumstances, food and fuel being cheap. During the winter the inland and sea junks, large and small, have had

their usual yearly overhaul, and are all ready to be launched directly the ice leaves this river. It is said, however, that the inland traders will this year be fewer than last, as more of them will go to Hankow and the river marts for their goods. Besides other causes, this absence from the Tientsin market is attributed to political events which have taken place lately in the North of China.

22nd February.

During the past two weeks, large flocks of wild geese, ducks, and bustards were to be seen all day flying over here, in a northerly direction. On the 23rd ult., the tabogans ceased to run on the river to and from the city, the ice having become unsafe for bearing heavy weights, and having even in some places altogether disappeared. Two forces had been, for some days previously, at work to cause the wasting away of the ice—the heat of the sun directly upon it, and the friction underneath it of the warm water coming from the sea; hence it had been very rapidly disappearing. Although the thermometer had gone during the same period, from 8 to 11 degrees below freezing, each night, the cold had not apparently done much to counteract the heat of the sun during the day and the heat of the sea-water every flood tide. On the 25th ult., the river became open and free of fixed ice; and on the following day the ferry-boats were launched and began to ply.

At about 5 o'clock this morning, the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shanse* arrived off the settlement, being the first steamer from Shanghai of the year 1875. I was in bed and asleep when she passed, and by the time a servant had awoke me and I had got out on the verandah, she had gone on into the darkness. Being only in my sleeping dress, and there being a biting easterly wind blowing, I lost no time in getting back to my bed. Such was my experience of the arrival of the *Shanse* in the year 1875. When the first steamer of the year arrives at the Chinese audience hours of the day, a considerable portion of the brilliancy of the great event becomes lost to the foreign community. If she had arrived about 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., all the community would have been out on the Bund to welcome her; but at the uncivilized hour of 5 a.m., all the community were in bed and probably fast asleep.

The Shanghai steamers having, then, made their appearance, we consider that our Tientsin winter has come to an end. When we look back, we cannot mark it as having been a severe or boisterous one; but, on the whole, as having been moderately cold; and we have had throughout it many pleasant bright days. We have been assuredly highly favored, as compared with former winters, in regard to getting news from the outer world. Our letters from Shanghai have been received weekly with remarkable regularity by the Customs mail. For this inestimable favor, the Tientsin community have again to thank the Inspector-General of Customs. Our newspapers, we received pretty regularly about every 12 days through the Chinese bankers and merchants postal conveyance, as Mr. Solomon, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, had previously arranged. And in addition to the above, Messrs. Russell & Co., the Agents of the S. S. N. Company, in accordance with the progressive American spirit, furnished the community with the telegrams which had been each week received at Shanghai. For this considerate and generous favor, the Tientsin community have to render their best thanks to the head of that firm in Shanghai.

The Customs Taotai, [illegible] addressed the Consuls in regard to certain steps for establishing regulations for the future prevention of collisions on this river. The subject is now under consideration. In the meantime, we must say that the action of the Taotai is, without doubt, a move in the right direction.

From a number of petty mandarins who arrived here on the 24th ultimo from Peking, we learnt that H. E. Ying Han, the newly appointed Governor General for the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsee would arrive on the afternoon of the 26th ultimo, on his way to the south. He made his appearance accordingly, and took up his residence in the premises of the Chinese Steamer Company. Since then, the high civil and military officers of Tientsin have been calling on him, as also the foreign officials at this port. Yesterday, H. E. returned the visit of Dr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul, and he has since returned the visits of the other Consuls. I should think that he will be a popular man with foreign officials, as he is evidently meeting his new position amongst foreigners in a friendly spirit, and appears to be a man of great good sense and tact: saying the proper thing at the proper time. He declares himself to be a relation of Chung-how; and in his manners to foreigners resembles him a great deal. His Excellency, it appears, will leave here for Shanghai in the steamer *Hsiang*.

We learnt here, in due course, that the ceremony of the coronation of His Majesty Kwangsu took place early on the morning of the 25th ultimo (in the Tae-ho-tein) in the Imperial palace of the metropolis. On the same day, the foreign and Chinese vessels of war, lying in this harbour—namely, one British, one French, one Russian, and one American—dressed ship, and at noon fired Royal salutes of twenty-one guns, to celebrate the event which had taken place that day at Peking.

2nd March.

The *Appin* arrived here this morning about 5 o'clock, and was subsequently notified to leave for Shanghai *direct*, to-morrow morning. The C. M. Co.'s steamer *Fusing* arrived here a little after noon; and the *Shantung* and *Shingking* about 3 p.m. The steamer communication between this port and Shanghai has consequently got fairly to work for this season.

General Raasloff, the Danish minister, is expected here this evening from Peking, to go by one of the steamers in port to Shanghai.

I am not aware of any news of interest to foreigners having come here lately from Peking; beyond the talk that the Roman Catholic priests at Peking are going to erect a residence for the Belgian Envoy; and that as the present residence of the German legation is too small, it is going to remove to a larger building; and the Japanese legation are going to occupy the present building (which adjoins the British legation.) The steamer *Shingking* has just been circulated to leave here *direct* for Shanghai, to-morrow morning, and I hear that H. E. Ying Han and suite go in her to Shanghai. If we are really engaged with anything, it is with import news and not export news. The temperature is every day becoming warmer.

5th March.

PURITAN.

FOOCHOW.

The *Advertiser* understands that the native authorities contemplate dredging the river between Lim Poo and the Arsenal.—It is also said that Mr. Betts, of the Provincial Arsenal, has been recently employed in reconnoitring the inner limits of the bar, with a view to the erection of forts.—The [illegible] arrived on the 19th on her [illegible] and anchored outside the bar. [illegible] corvette was sent out to meet His Excellency and convey him to Pagoda Anchorage, where he became the guest of M. Giquel.—The Proprietor of the Foochow Printing Press is about to publish a Chinese newspaper. It will appear once a week. The subscription is to be $1 per annum.—It is said that the Local Government have offered to help the Telegraph Company to recover the property stolen from them. The offer would seem scarcely needed; it is their duty to do so. The *Advertiser* goes further, and suggests that it would have been better if they had prevented, or refrained from inciting, the outrage. "The whole affair will be referred to the Danish Minister at Peking, and we trust that His Excellency will be fully supported by the other foreign ministers—all of whom should, if they have the interests of their nationals at heart, assist in obtain a settlement of the Company's claims."—Publication of the Chamber of Commerce Circular will be discontinued for the present, and resumed on the opening of the New Tea Season.

HONGKONG.

Hongkong is intent on racing, so there is of course very little other news in Hongkong papers. We extract from the *Daily Press* a report of the proceedings.—The annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. was held on the 24th, when the report and accounts were passed.—News of the affray between Formosans and Chinese, which came here by the *Glenmistake*, has also reached Hongkong, but without further details.—A mutiny occurred on board the German bark *Suwa*, on the high seas, on her passage up, one of the crew attacking the mate, and the rest assisting.—The German Brig *Gazelle*, of 198 tons register, has been sold for $9,500.—Messrs. W. McGregor Smith and W. F. B. Sams passed their last examination in Bankruptcy on the 24th.—The *China Mail* also takes up the matter of official appointments to which we referred last week, and asks why Mr. Stewart's name is always omitted from lists of promotion. The answer is:—"He does his work so well that the Government is disinclined to move him." But, adds the *Mail*, "it is dangerous to establish the rule that marked efficiency in any one post, is a bar to promotion."—A shark 11 feet 9 inches long has been caught at Sowkewan.—H. M. S. *Audacious* arrived on the 2nd March. Admiral Ryder is following in the *Vigilant*, which was expected directly.—The *Hongkong Times* says:—Great fears are entertained as to the safety of the German bark *Eudora*. She left Cardiff for Singapore with coal, and from there was ordered to Bangkok with her cargo, having discharged which and taken in a cargo of rice, she left there on December 11th for Hongkong, and has not been spoken or heard of since that date.

NAGASAKI.

There is very little news from Nagasaki. A Japanese barque lies stranded at the entrance of Simonosaki Straits.—The barque *Ariel* arrived on the 20th February, after a passage of 18 days from Kobe.—Bad weather appears to have still prevailed on the coast about that time. Both the *Ariel* and the steamer *Yokopoma*, which arrived in Nagasaki from Yokohama on the 24th, report strong North-westerly gales.

HIOGO.

The *Hiogo News* says—Travellers from [illegible] report that the snow [illegible] in some places. This [illegible] unusual [illegible] and in some of the districts bordering upon Lake

Biwa.—A rather severe shock of earthquake was felt about 10 p.m. on the 19th. —The str. *Fuyo-maru*, engaged in the inland sea traffic, has been burned near Kobe. The scene is thus described by a foreigner who visited the scene of the accident. When he reached the vessel he found that her crew had run her ashore and that the terrified passengers had been landed, together with the captain, who was engaged in personally superintending the landing of a box of treasure. The crew were busily engaged in ransacking the baggage of the unfortunate passengers, stuffing the sleeves of the fine dresses which they had selected from their booty, with such unconsidered trifles as struck their fancy during their search for loot. With a view to making the best of a bad job, Mr. Taylor strongly urged the officer in command to scuttle the vessel, as being the only way to extinguish the flames, but all to no purpose. The fire was allowed to pursue its ravages unchecked, and in a short time nothing was left but the gutted hull of the ill-fated craft.

YOKOHAMA.

Arrangements have been made for the departure of the Royal Marine Battalion on the 1st March. The French troops will embark on the same day, in the contract mail steamer.—The Corps seems in the meantime to be going through a severe round of excitement. The Japanese Minister of War inspected them on Saturday. On Monday the officers of the Imperial Marines were present at an inspection of the Corps, and were subsequently entertained at dinner. A ball in honor of both French and English detachments was to take place on the 26th ulto., and a special train was to be run to Yeddo at 2.30 a.m., to carry back guests.—Mr. Wilkin has resigned the office of president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Winstanley has been elected in his stead.—Several fires have occurred lately in Yeddo. The *Japan Mail* says:—On Friday afternoon a fire broke out in the new "Ecole Militaire," erected in the grounds of the late Owari Yashiki, which was only extinguished after a considerable portion of the buildings had perished. On Saturday, at about 11 o'clock A.M., another fire occurred in the residence of Dr. Anderson, Chief Surgeon attached to the Naval Hospital, at Tokanawa, and within a quarter of an hour the house was completely destroyed, the owner failing to save any of his property. We regret to learn that Dr. Anderson's loss comprises a valuable library of medical and miscellaneous books and works of art, and that he was uninsured. The sparks from the burning house, carried in the direction of the wind, ignited a block of native buildings in the neighbourhood which were destroyed. At seven o'clock last night a fire was reported in the neighbourhood of the Nihon-Bashi, but appears to have been extinguished before much damage was done.

The *Mail* also says "It is rumoured that negotiations are pending between the Government and the Pacific Mail Company, for the purchase of the vessels which form the coast line between this and China. It has been generally understood that the Government promoted the formation of the Mitsu Bishi Company to utilize the many steamers they found on their hands after the settlement of the Formosa affair; and it must be a very serious question whether it is prudent to extend a risk already very large, by the purchase of a number of vessels which are so far obsolete that the work they do can be done by steamers of more economical construction, at far less cost. It is inconceivable that the purchase of these vessels by the Government might remove the only existing impediment to a competition of a very formidable nature."—But it is by no means clear from all this, whether the Government are negociating to buy out the Pacific Mail steamers, or the P. M. S. Co. to buy up the Mitzu Bishi steamers.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Feb. 5th.—No *Gazette* published this day, being the eve of Chinese New-year.

Feb. 6th—8th—(Court Circular). The Board of Astronomers report that the wind set to-day (6th) from the *Kén* 艮 quarter, presaging a year in which longevity and prosperous harvests will prevail.

(1 and 2) Decrees as follows: Let Shên Kwei-fên become Assistant Grand Secretary, in conjunction with his post as President of the Board of War;—Let Ying-kwei become Assistant Grand Secretary in conjunction with his post as President of the Board of Civil Office.

(3) A decree of the two Empresses, expressing their Majesties' sorrow on learning the news of the death of the Yung-an 榮安 Imperial princess (only sister of the late Emperor). Their Majesties will proceed in person to offer a funereal libation before the remains.

(4) A decree appointing Ch'ên Sze-kieh 陳士杰 as Judicial Commissioner of Shantung, in place of Ch'ang-kêng, who is granted leave to retire on the ground of ill-health.

(5) The Governor of An-hwei reports a rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking. It has no features of importance.

(6) En-si, Governor-General of the Grain Transport, reports the execution of eight of the prisoners taken in the expedition against the Turban brigands in northern Kiangsu, which was undertaken in August last.

Feb. 9th—10th—(Court Circular). The Governor of Shun-t'ien Fu memorializes, stating that a fall of snow of more than an inch in thickness has taken place at Peking.

(1) A Decree in reply to a memorial by the Censor Wang Yung-Kwan, with reference to sundry reforms he has to propose. As regards the redress of irregularities in the mode of official employment, provincial governors are bidden henceforward to be careful to make appointments from the staff of officials within their own jurisdiction, and not procure, without sufficient reason, the transfer of individuals from other provinces to their own, to the end that abuses, in the way of intrigue and machinations for personal advantage, may be checked. With reference to the representations made by the Censor on the subject of remissions of taxation granted in times of distress, to the effect that squeezes are levied by the official underlings from the inhabitants of distressed districts, before they will consent to report on the condition of the people requiring relief,—that the actual gravity of the circumstances is not truthfully represented—and that, after a remission of taxation has been decreed, the placarding of the edict is delayed until the underlings have exacted all they can get—such conduct as this, turning the Imperial beneficence to naught, in callous neglect of the sufferings of the people, is indeed most scandalous. The provincial governments are commanded to investigate the circumstances, and severely punish any who may be found guilty of acts of the kind. They are similarly directed to guard against illegal fees and extortionate additions to the authorized amounts of the tribute rice collections. The Governor of Shantung, in conclusion, is called upon to take whatever measures are needful toward guarding against further breaches in the embankment of the Yellow River, the waters of which, in the course of last year, flooded certain portions of Kiangsu; and to consider the propriety of deepening the bed of the Ta-ts'ing Ho, in order to provide an adequate means of outlet for the river.

Feb. 11th-12th.—(1).—A Decree directing that ten sticks of Tibetan incense be forwarded to Wên-pin, the Governor-General of the Grain Transport, to be reverently offered at the temple of the God of the Rivers, in thanksgiving for the safety of the banks of the Grand Canal during a period of danger at the autumn freshet.

(2) Ch'ên-I, superintending Censor of the Fin-kwang division, memorializes denouncing an officer of high literary grade, for unworthy conduct. Beginning with remarks on the necessity which is recognized in the most ancient classics, of employing only men of worth if the confidence of the people is to be obtained, the Censor states that Wang K'ing-k'i 王慶祺, an Assistant Expositor of the Hanlin College, is a man with whom good character has been habitually disregarded, and who has by his conduct exposed himself to no small degree of public comment. When, for instance, his father, Wang Tsu-p'ei, was sent in 1870 to preside over the literary examinations in Kwang-tung, but died in Kwang-si while on the road thither, instead of returning with all despatch in charge of his father's remains, as it was his duty to do, Wang K'ing-k'i went on to Canton, distant as that point is from Kan-chow where the decease of his father took place, and obtained subscriptions from the high officials there toward the expenses of the journey. It was only when urged by them to refrain from going about in public to pay visits, that he set out again on his unauthorized travels and returned to Kiang-si. The Censor remarks that, although it unavoidably happens from time to time that an official, if in embarrassed circumstances, may be compelled to ask assistance from his brother officers and friends, yet greed of gain such as was shewn in this instance, in utter disregard of the conduct proper to a state of bereavement, is what a person of the lowest station would scarcely condescend to. It is reported, moreover, that when Wang K'ing-k'i was sent last year as Examiner to Honan, he publicly frequented haunts of dissipation, dressed in plain clothes, after the examinations were over. This was known to many in the city of K'aifêng Fu. These two intances may taken as specimens of his conduct in general; whilst, with regard to the rumours which are current about him, but which rest on no actual evidence, the Censor does not venture to obtrude these on the imperial notice, although they clearly testify to the fact of his habitually unworthy character. The Censor has long been desirous of bringing his charges forward; but he was restrained by the consideration that Wang K'ing-K'i held employment about the Imperial person, and the dignity of the State was consequently involved in the matter. He felt convinced, moreover, that the divinely bestowed intelligence of his late Majesty would sooner or later penetrate the real character of the individual. Now, however, that loss has so unexpectedly befallen the State, and that in the tender youth of his present Majesty the employment of men of rectitude is of the highest importance, he no longer ventures to keep silence, and he has consequently brought forward the present charges. (N.B.—A rescript has already appeared stripping Wang K'ing-k'i of his rank and functions. As a member of the *Nan-Shu-Fang* or Imperial Studio he was in intimate personal relations with the deceased young Emperor).

Feb. 13—14—(Court Circular). It is mentioned that Kwoh Sung-tao 郭嵩燾 (a former governor of Kwangtung), has

arrived at Peking to pay his respects, and has had audience.

(1) A Decree. Let the Lieutenant-general King-jui be associated with the Commissioners in charge of the building works for the mausolea at P'u-t'o Yü 菩陀宮. (N. B. The mausolea in question are the sites which are being prepared for the future interment of the present Empresses Regent. A sum of six million taels is allotted to the construction of tombs, on a site selected by the Empresses at the Eastern Hills, on the occasion of their visit thither in April, 1873).

(2) The Governor-General of the Yellow River memorializes, forwarding the report given by one of his subordinates, the Sub-prefect of Siang Ho, respecting the supernatural protection to the embankment works, which was afforded in the Autumn freshet season by a deified being known as Wang Tsiang Kün 王將軍 or the [heavenly] General, Wang. At a time when the banks were in imminent peril from floods, he appeared in visible shape, upon which incense was burnt and prayers were offered, and the danger forthwith passed away. The Governor-General adds that Wang Tsiang-Kün was during life acting Sub-prefect of the Siang Ho division, and was named Jên-fu 仁福. He was precipitated into the river and drowned, in 1867, through the slip of an embankment, and since then, a temple in honour of his memory having been erected with the Imperial sanction, he has on repeated occasions supernaturally interposed for the protection of the works An application has now been received from the gentry and people of the locality, forwarded through the proper officials, for the bestowal by his Majesty of a title of honour on this divine being; and, in conformity with a statutory provision, the Governor-General recommends this for consideration. —Rescript: Let the Board of Ceremonies consider and report.

Public Meetings.

THE SHANGHAI MUSEUM.

Extracts from Minutes of Meeting No. 4 of the Museum Committee, held at the Asiatic Society's Rooms, 23rd February, 1875.

Present—Messrs. Medhurst, Cordier, Kingsmill, Quekett, and Hawtrey, and Pryer, Hon. Secy.

Minutes of last meeting were read.

The HON. SECRETARY read a list of contributions from Messrs. Harvie, Taylor, Milsom, Brandt, G. de St. Croix, Dumaresq, J. H. Mackenzie, Malteau, Hamilton, Walker, Russell, Ramsay, Hawtrey, Ballantine, J. Cooper, and W. Cooper, since the meeting of the 9th inst. Several birds, including one or two species fresh to the Museum, had been sent anonymously. One of the most interesting of the contributions was a hen pheasant given by Mr. Malteau, shot by him in the reeds by the Yeshing lake. It is believed to be identical with a pheasant discovered by Mr. Swinhoe at Ningpo, about three years ago. This is supposed to be the first instance on record of any pheasant but the common *P. Torquatus* having been obtained during a shooting trip from Shanghai. The cock bird (sent by Mr. Forrest about two months ago from the Ningpo lakes) is also in the Museum. Three specimens of the Chinese wild boar had been presented; two of them were in course of being set up, and one was going to be sent to England for examination. Mr. Hawtrey drew attention to the desirability of contributors giving exact information as to the precise locality from whence the specimens were obtained. Birds apparently of the same species, from localities so little apart even as the north and south of the Tai-Hu lake frequently varied in their plumage.

The present accommodation for specimens being so small, it was decided to have one large case the whole length of the back wall. There was some discussion as to whether the frameworks should be iron or wood, and the matter finally was left entirely in Mr. Kingsmill's hands.

Mr. MEDHURST drew attention to the rapidly increasing value of the collections, and suggested that they should be insured, which was agreed to.

The HON. SECRETARY mentioned that he had put up a collection of Shanghai snakes in long glass tubes, which had been made in Shanghai by a Chinaman specially for the purpose, and had named as many of them as he could; they would be round at the Museum in a day or two. The tigers' skulls which he had bought were being cleaned under the experienced superintendence of Mr. Schrider, and would also shortly be on exhibition. He (the Hon. Secy.) had opened communication with the village these tigers' heads were said to come from, and the Chinese had offered to send down a dead tiger entire, of not less than 400 lbs. weight, for $200. He would like to go up and find out for himself what truth to attach to these stories.

There was some discussion about the form of label to be adopted for the specimens, and it was decided that all well ascertained species should have their names attached at once, but that any there were the slightest doubt about, should be sent to England for identification.

THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY.

The annual meeting of subscribers to the above institution was held on Friday. Present, Rev. Canon Butcher in the chair; Dr. Macgowan; Messrs. Allum, Kent, Kingsmill, McClellan, and A. J. How, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

A letter was read from Mr. W. H. Medhurst, regretting his inability to attend the meeting, in consequence of having to be present at a meeting of the Church Trustees; also from Mr. Cordier, who was detained by other business; and it was stated that Mr. FitzGerald was prevented being present by indisposition.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said—I need not detain you long on the present occasion with words of preface and introduction. It is my pleasing task to draw your attention to a Report which shows that a favourable change has passed over the prospects of the Shanghai Library. Still, we must not imagine that our difficulties are finally got rid of. If this institution is to be preserved in a state of efficiency, and to prove equal to the growing literary wants of this increasing Settlement, we must all work hard and constantly to keep it up. Not only are the exertions of the Committee needed—the active co-operation of all subscribers is imperatively demanded. We have tided over a crisis, but in order that this crisis may not recur, we must endeavour to keep alive an interest in the Institution. And I must add, we must individually observe its Bye-Laws. The great secret of the success of a Library is a brisk demand, met by an adequate supply of books. Unless people get the volumes they want—feel that there is a necessity for reading them quickly, return them with promptitude and get more out, a Library stagnates. There is nothing so fatal as retaliation for not having the volume required, in. We have known the evils of a day of stagnation, but I hope we shall know them no more. Recollect, however, we still require more subscribers, and more subscribers will mean more books. In many departments of Literature our shelves are scantily furnished. Many standard books are wanted. French and Italian and German works ought to be ordered. In a word, we have done something, but there is a great deal more to be done before the Shanghai Library is as efficient as its well-wishers desire to see it. I will now request the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer to read the Report.

Mr. A. J. How read as follows:—

REPORT.

The Committee of the Shanghai Library congratulate the subscribers upon the improved condition and prospects of the Institution. At the beginning of the year 1874, there was a marked falling off in the income of the Library, and it seemed at one time probable that the valuable collection of books accumulated during twenty-six years would have to be sold. The Recreation Fund was applied to, but the Trustees did not consider that they would be justified in using their means for such a purpose, and the Shanghai Club refused to entertain the proposal of purchasing our collection. The residents were finally appealed to, and sixty-four new subscriptions had the effect of recovering the Institution from its apparently hopeless condition. At this critical period it became necessary to elect a Librarian, and considerable difficulty was found in choosing a suitable person for the post. The appointment was ultimately conferred on Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, and there is so far every reason to be satisfied with the selection. A new Record Book of all works issued and returned, modelled on the Register used in the best London Libraries, has been introduced. For the guidance and better information of subscribers, every volume will have a label with the Bye Laws, which have been lately revised, printed on it. Greater strictness in requiring the return of Books within the prescribed time has been observed, but except when the same book is required by numerous applicants, the greatest latitude in this respect is allowed to the subscribers, and their convenience only consulted. Advertisments of missing books have been inserted with satisfactory results in the daily papers. Messrs. Sotheran, the London agents, have been instructed to forward a liberal supply of new publications, and have been furnished with a list of approved writers in all departments of Literature whose books should be sent to the Library immediately on publication. Imperfect sets of standard works are being gradually filled up. The Committee trust that by these and similar means the wishes and requirements of the subscribers may be met.

Mr. How concluded by saying that he must omit the remainder.

The CHAIRMAN.—Oh, no, gentlemen; the remainder is this:—

They cannot close without thanking Mr. T. Payne, of the Comptoir D'Escompte, for auditing the accounts, and expressing their grateful acknowledgments to A. J. How, Esq., who in his double capacity of Secretary and Treasurer has been mainly instrumental in bringing about this favourable state of affairs, which the Committee trust the increasing support of the Community will render permanent. They have to add that they feel themselves justified in recommending the payment of 6 Debenture Bonds. (Hear, hear.)

The statement of accounts was as follows:

ACCOUNT OF THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY FOR 1874.

Dec. 31st, 1874. *Dr.*	Tls.
To Amount received from 156 Subscribers and [illegible]	1,415.46
,, Bequest by the late Francis Collison	76.13
Shanghai Taels	1,491.59

Dec. 31st, 1874. *Cr.*	Tls.
By Balance due Treasurer for 1873	31.92
,, Fire Insurance, Tls. 2,500 on Building..15.00	
Do. 3,500 on Books 28.00	43.00
,, Librarian's Salary 12 months at Tls. 45 per month	540.00
,, Amount remitted to London Agents, for Books and Periodicals £150 @ 5/3	533.33
,, Subscriptions to "Harpers' Magazine," for 1875	3.46
,, Sundry Expenses, viz.	
Advertising and Printing 40.67	
Coolie 61.00	
Gas 28.64	
Stationery, &c. 32.18	
Stamps for Collecting Subscriptions 20.00	
Petty disbursements..... 35.74	218.23
,, Interest paid Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	8.66
,, Balance carried for to 1875	112.99
Shanghai Taels	1,491.59

DEBENTURES.

To Credit.

Subscriptions for 1875.
Rental of the Upper Room to the Museum for 1874 and 1875.
Value of Maps.
Do. Black-wood Table.
Do. Building, Tls. 2,500 *a* 3,000.
Do. Books.

To Debit.

Current Expenses for 1875.
Debenture Bonds, 70 @ 25 Tls. each, Tls. 1,750, of which 6 are now to be drawn.

Mr. KENT moved, and Mr. KINGSMILL seconded, that the report and accounts be passed.—Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said they would now proceed to the drawing of six debenture bonds.

Mr. KINGSMILL said before proceeding with that part of the business, he thought it was only fair on behalf of the subscribers, to offer thanks to Mr. How for the care and attention he had shown in rescuing the Library from the parlous state into which it had fallen. It was to him alone that they owed its resuscitation. From some cause or other that he (Mr. Kingsmill) did not know, the Library had decayed very much, and some people said it was of no use subscribing; but the credit of rescuing it from that Slough of Despond was due to Mr. How; and now, when people saw that new books and periodicals were coming out from home, he thought it would be a great incentive to them to come forward and give the Library increased support.

Dr. MACGOWAN would also wish to say a word or two of thanks to Mr. How, for his labours as hon. sec. and treasurer. He had had much trouble in those offices—almost as much as the founders must have had; and it was due to his energy that a moribund institution had taken a new lease of life. The institution was now likely to become one of which Shanghai would not be ashamed.

Mr. How said he had demurred to that which the Chairman had read; and while he was much obliged to Mr. Kingsmill and Dr. Macgowan, he considered it somewhat hard that any invidious distinction should be made in a matter for which all had worked so well. He hoped the result of their labours would be to excite public interest in the Library, and that it would go on from good to better. The accounts for the past year were favourable, but there were from 20 to 25 secessions, caused by death, removals, &c., which they must try to make up. The work had been to him a labour of love; for he did not like to see the Library, which had been in existence for twenty-five or twenty-six years, and the accumulation of which had cost Tls. 40,000 or Tls. 50,000, sink without an effort being made in its behalf. If the books had been dispersed, he believed the sound of the auctioneer's hammer would hardly have been heard before they would have wished them back again. He hoped the Library would prosper still more.

Mr. MCCLELLAN asked how many subscribers were at present on the books?

Mr. How said that at the close of the year there were 156 names down, twenty-five of whom had seceded; but there were eighteen new subscribers to be added, so that there were nearly the same number to begin the year with.

The CHAIRMAN said they would proceed with the drawing of six debenture bonds.

The six numbers drawn were 51, 70, 65, 24, 69, and 1; the owners of which will be paid on application to the treasurer.

The election of the Committee was the next business, and

Mr. KINGSMILL moved that the old Committee, consisting of the Rev. Canon Butcher, and Messrs. W. H. Medhurst, Cordier, McClellan, Macgowan, FitzGerald and A. J. How, should be re-elected.

Mr. ALLUM seconded the motion, and it was carried.

Mr. How said the Committee would be glad to receive and attend to any suggestions from the subscribers.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 2 Février, 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents: M.M. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, secrétaire.

M. Lang, empêché, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France, informant l'Administration que par arrêté Consulaire le sieur Wéber, brigadier de la garde municipale, a été nommé sergent, et que le sieur Lesventes a été promu au grade de brigadier.

Le Président informe ses collègues que d'aprés l'opinion de M. le Consul-Général il ne pourrait être procédé à Shanghai à la formation d'un jury d'expropriation, et que dans le cas où l'Administration voudrait user du droit incontestable d'expropriation que lui donne le Règlement d'organisation Municipale, elle aurait à poursuivre devant ses juges naturels la partie qui refuserait de se prêter à une expropriation à faire dans l'intérêt public.

Lecture et approbation de la lettre adressée à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de France à Pékin, lui demandant la confirmation des droits de propriété de la Municipalité sur les rues de Ningpo et de Saigon telles qu'elles figurent sur le plan dressé en 1863 par ordre du Consul-Général de France.

Lecture et approbation d'une lettre adressée à M. le Consul-Général France, pour demander conformément aux désirs précédemment exprimés par le Conseil, le retrait des soldats Chinois cantonnés dans les limites de la Concession.

Demande d'un Agent de la Garde, sollicitant, en considération de 12 années de service, un emploi plus avantageux que celui de simple Agent. Le Conseil n'ayant aucun emploi à offrir à cet Agent pour le récompenser de ses services, exprime toutefois l'opinion qu'il serait désirable d'adopter une mesure générale qui permette de donner une prime quelconque à de longs et bons services dans la Garde, et il renvoie l'étude de la question au Comité des Travaux et de la Police.

Approbation des gratifications de fin d'année sollicitées par les Chefs de service en faveur du personnel Chinois.

Le Conseil décide de demander au Municipal Council quelles seraient ses vues sur les mesures à adopter pour remédier à l'encombrement et au danger que présente la circulations des brouettes.

Le Conseil renvoie à l'examen du Comité des Finances, les mesures à prendre pour que la taxe sur les sampans, atteigne les prévisions budgétaires.

Le renouvellement du dépôt fixe de Taëls 20,000, est approuvé pour un an avec intérêts à 5 %.

Transfert de licence pour débit de boissons.

Séance du 16 Février, 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents, M.M. A. Hennequin, W. Lang, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Ewald, absent de Shanghai, et M. Hitch, empeché, n'ont pu assister a la seance.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. Lang, annonçant son prochain départ pour l'Europe. Le Conseil exprime ses regrets de voir partir M. Lang, et de ne pouvoir plus compter sur lui pour prendre part à ses travaux.

Approbation des propositions suivantes émises par le Comité des Travaux et de la Police, dans ses séances des 5 et 16 Février.

Exécution en Régie des travaux de reconstruction de la muraille du quai du Yang-king-pang, entre le pont No. 2 et la rue Discry.

Exécution en Régie du montage des Consoles à Gaz.

Achat de 50 Tonneaux sable de mer, pour le jardin et le cimetière.

Achat de 7260 pieds de pierres, pour bordures et rigoles de trottoirs.

Application d'une couche de peinture sur le Garde-fou en fer du quai du Yang-king-pang.

Drainage d'un passage rue du Weikwé.

Vente de vieille ferraille.

Augmentation du nombre de coolies employés au balayage conformément aux prévisions du budget.

Arrangement à prendre pour l'entretien du télégraphe.

Exécution en Régie des travaux de reconstruction du pont No. 4.

Rechargement de la rue Touranne.

Et agrandissement de la Sellerie.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France, informant l'Administration que le petit détachement de soldats Chinois qui avait été laissé dans la Pagode Ningpo, vient d'être retiré. Par cette lettre M. le Consul-Général annonce aussi que la lettre qu'il a été chargé de faire parvenir à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de France à Pékin, lui a été transmise.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul Général de France, informant l'Administration que le nommé Civilini a été nommé agent dans la Garde municipale en remplacement du nommé Lesventes, promu brigadier.

L'Agent Voyer ayant trouvé la possibilité d'utiliser les verres pour lanternes à Gaz que l'Administration tenait à disposition de l'Expéditeur, le Conseil revient sur sa décision de les laisser pour compte de ce dernier, et charge le Secrétaire de remettre le montant de la facture dont ils sont l'objet.

Rapatriement du garde Mingaud, avec une allocation de Tls. 50, comme indemnité.

Dépôt du rapport annuel des Agents de la Hongkong Fire Insurance Company.

Transfert de licence pour débit de boissons.

Lecture et approbation de la lettre adressée le 1er Février au Municipal Council, pour l'informer de la décision prise à l'égard de la mise en place du pont en fer No. 4.

Communication d'une lettre du Municipal Council faisant savoir qu'il a reconnu, comme le Conseil, que la largeur de 40 pieds donnée par le plan de la Fairbairn Engineering Company au pont en fer proposé pour remplacer le pont en bois No. 1, n'était pas suffisante, et informant le Conseil que le plan qui lui a été transmis par l'Administration a été soumis à l'examen de l'Ingénieur Municipal.

En raison des bénéfices que réalise la Compagnie du Gaz, et de la possibilité d'une répartition de dividende de 12 % qui semble avoir été praticable, le Conseil décide de demander une réduction dans le prix du gaz fourni à l'Administration.

En attendant que l'Administration avise à la création d'une fourrière publique, les jin-rick-shaws et chevaux mis en fourrière seront reçus provisoirement par M. Charrier aux prix suivants:

Jin-rick-shaws ... .$0.05 par jour.
Chevaux.....$1.00 ,, ,,

indépendamment de l'amende à percevoir au profit de l'Administration qui est fixée á

$0.15 par Jin-rick-shaw.
$1.00 ,, Cheval.

Examen des rapports du Médecin.

Examen des rapports des Chefs de service.

Examen du rapport de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

Séance du 23 Février, 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents. M.M. A. Hennequin, F. D. Hitch, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Ewald, absent de Shanghai, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité des Finances, relatives:

A la démarche à faire auprès d'un contribuable pour obtenir la rentrée d'un bulletin en souffrance.

A l'encaissement à effectuer de Taëls 43.97, comme dividende sur la créance Glover, Dow et Co.

Le Conseil charge le Secrétaire de remettre f. 4,605.95 à l'expéditeur d'un envoi fournitures de bureaux, et d'un envoi livres à souches pour l'Exercice 1875-1876.

Le Conseil renvoie à la prochaine séance la discussion des mesures à prendre à l'égard de la taxe sur les sampans.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France, annonçant au Conseil, qu'en raison de son départ pour l'Europe, M. Lang lui a donné sa démission des fonctions de Conseiller Municipal.

Communication d'une lettre, en date du 16 Février, par laquelle le Président du Municipal Council exprime en son nom et au nom de ses Collégues, le desir de continuer à faire regler par une delegation de deux ou trois membres de chaque Conseil les

affaires d'intérêt commun aux deux Administrations, et par laquelle il fait valoir en même temps quelques considérations à l'appui de la réclamation faite contre l'empiétement du quai du Yang-king-pang.

Lecture est donnée de la réponse suivante à la dite lettre.

MONSIEUR,—Le Conseil, à qui j'ai communiqué la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 16 Février, me prie de vous informer qu'il avait cru devoir renoncer au système des délégués, dont il avait été le promoteur, parce qu'il avait conçu l'impression que votre Conseil, n'y ayant jamais eu recours, préférait un autre mode de discussion pour amener la solution des questions sur lesquelles les vues des deux Municipalités peuvent être différentes. C'est donc avec plaisir que le Conseil étant informé por votre lettre des désirs du Municipal Council, revient sur sa décision, et c'est avec empressement qu'il se prêtera, avant d'entrer dans une correspondance officielle, à la discussion préalable, par deux délégués de chaque Conseil, de toutes les questions qui pourraient amener une divergence d'opinion entre les deux Municipalités.

Afin de donner suite à ses intentions, le Conseil a confié à M. Hennequin, Président du Comité des Finances, et à M. Voisin, Président du Comité des Travaux, le soin de discuter, avec les deux délégués que votre Conseil choisira, les questions pendantes, et entre autres celle de réctification du quai sud du Yang-king pang. Il me semble, donc, inopportun de répondre ici aux arguments ayant trait à cette question que vous faites valoir, puisqu'ils pourront être soutenus et examinés dans une réunion des délégués des deux Administrations qui pourra être fixée aussitôt que vous aurez bien voulu me faire connaitre les intentions de votre Conseil.

"Il me reste à vous remercier des sentiments que vous m'exprimez tant en votre nom qu'au nom de vos collègues, et à vous assurer que le Conseil ne cessera de faire tout ce qui dépendra de lui pour maintenir les relations entre les deux Municipalités dans les terms de cordialité et de bonne entente qui sont pour lui une tradition et pour nos commettants un avantage.

"Je suis personnellement heureux que vous et votre Conseil ayiez partagé les idées que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous exprimer de vive voix, relativement à la correspondance échangée entre les deux Administrations sur des sujets importants, puisque cela me fournit aujourd'hui l'occasion de vous assurer des sentiments avec lesquels,

J'ai l'honneur d'être, Monsieur,
Votre très empressé serviteur,
Le Président du Conseil,
A. VOISIN.

Communication d'une lettre du Municipal Council informant le Conseil qu'il n'a aucune raison pour modifier la décision qu'il a prise pour discontinuer le partage par moitié de la taxe sur les brouettes.

Les délégués sont chargés d'examiner avec ceux du Municipal Council, s'il y a lieu de prendre des mesures pour règlementer la circulation des brouettes.

M. Hennequin, l'un des membres chargés d'examiner les faits signalés dans une réclamation en décharge d'impôts de M. Yates, étant empêché ; M. Voisin est chargé de le remplacer dans cette mission.

Le Président est chargé de s'entendre avec les R. Pères Jésuites, pour l'acquisition de parcelles de terrain necessaires à l'élargissement de la rue du Consulat.

Lecture et approbation de la lettre adressée à M.M. les Administrateurs de la Compagnie du Gaz, pour demander une réduction dans le prix du gaz fourni à l'Administration.

Accusé de réception d'une remise de f. 6,405.80, pour solve à un envoi roues et harnais de tombereaux.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de faire circuler parmi les membres du Conseil un rapport du Contrôleur sur la situation générale des impôts et les industries qui ne sont pas soumises à la taxe mensuelle.

Transfert de licence pour débit de boissons.

Examen des rapports des Chefs de service.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a Meeting held on the 1st March, 1875.

Present:—John G. Purdon (Chairman,) A. G. Wood, Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, Robt. Mackenzie, S. D. Webb and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

The Cash State for the 27th February was laid on the table.

Appropriation.—The sum of Tls. 600 was voted for making a new road from Soochow Creek to Tiendong Road, running along the line of Kingsmill Creek, and construction of drain therein.

Staff.—Agreements with Messrs. E. H. Oliver, Municipal Engineer, J. A. Pond, Accountant, and J. McMillan, Local Postmaster, were signed by the Chairman, and the seal of the Municipality affixed thereon.

French Municipal Council.—The following letter from the Chairman, French Municipal Council was read :—

[The French text is published among the minutes of the French Council meeting.]

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai, 25th February, 1875.

SIR,—The Council,—to whom I have communicated the purport of your letter of 16th instant, which you did the honour to address to me,—begs me to assure you that it came to the conclusion to abandon the system of Delegates, of which it had been the initiator, simply because it had received the impression that your Council, having never had recourse to it, preferred other methods of discussing questions on which the two Municipalities might hold different views. It is, therefore, with pleasure that the Council, being made acquainted with the wishes of the Municipal Council, revokes its decision, and agrees for the future before entering into official correspondence, to the previous discussion by two delegates from each Council, of all questions upon which difference of opinion may exist between the two Municipalities.

In order to put in practice its intentions, the Council has requested Mr. Hennequin, President of the Committee of Works, and Mr. Voisin, President of the Committee of Finance, to represent their body, and to meet the two Delegates whom your Council may appoint, for the purpose of discussing all unsettled questions, and amongst others that which treats of the rectification of the South bank of the Yang-king-pang. It seems, therefore, to me unnecessary to reply to the arguments put forward by you on this question, since every aspect of the case can be minutely entered upon and examined at the meeting of Delegates, the date of which can be fixed so soon as you have been good enough to make known to me the wishes of your Council.

It remains for me to thank you for the kind sentiments conveyed on behalf of yourself and of your Colleagues, and to assure you that the Council will leave nothing undone on its part to continue as hitherto the friendly relations and good feeling between the two Municipalities, the maintenance of which is of advantage to our Constituents.

I am personally happy to find that you and your Council should have endorsed the views which I had the honour to explain to you *viva voce*, regarding correspondence passing between the two Administrations upon important subjects, since it gives me the opportunity to-day of assuring you of the sentiments with which

I have the honour to subscribe myself,
Your very obedient servant,
The President of the Council,
(Signed) A. VOISIN.

Delegates were appointed to discuss with Messrs. Voisin, and Hennequin, the following questions :—

Division of Wheelbarrow Fees.

New Regulations for Jinrickshas.

Construction of Bridge No. 4 Yang-King-Pang.

Encroachment on Yang-King-Pang by French Council.

Bund Line.—Read letter from the Harbour Master, stating that the plan he is at present engaged in drawing, is simply a new survey of the present Bund and Wharves of this port, executed at the request of the Consular Body, to enable it to decide upon a proper Bund line for both banks of the River.

Volunteers.— Instructions were given to the Secretary to write to the Military Secretary at Hongkong, for a Drill-Sergeant to be sent up at once.

Yang-King-Pang Bridge No. 1.—Read the following letter from the French Municipal Council :—

Shanghai, le 1er Mars 1875.

Pont Yang-king-pang No. 1.

MONSIEUR,—En réponse à votre honorée du 15 Février, je suis chargé de vous informer que le Conseil n'a point altéré sa décision, que du reste je vous ai déjà fait connaître, de ne supporter qu'un tiers des dépenses occasionnées par les ponts sur le Yang-king-pang.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Le Secrétaire,
H. SAYN.

MONSIEUR E. B. SOUPER,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council.

[*Translation.*]

Yang-king-pang Bridge No. 1.

In reply to your letter of 15th February, I am directed to inform you that the Conseil has in no wise changed its decision—which I have already communicated to you,—of bearing but 1/3rd of the expenses entailed by the Bridges across the Yang-king-pang.

Accept, Sir, &c., &c.
(Signed) H. SAYN,
Secretary.

Consideration was deferred until after the meeting of Delegates had taken place.

Reports from Heads of Departments were read and considered.

The Minutes of last meeting were approved and passed for publication.

Amusements.

THE PAPER HUNT HANDICAP.

This, the final run of the season, came off on Saturday afternoon. The late rains had made the ground so heavy as to render it extremely unlikely that a cross country course could be selected, and it was at one time decided that the Handicap should be contested over the Steeplechase course. Two or three days of fine weather, however, induced the Stewards to alter this decision, and it being believed that the ground was sufficiently hardened, a course starting from a point opposite the Hermitage at Sicawei and finishing at the old jump near the Bubbling Well, was ultimately selected. The start was fixed for three o'clock, and shortly after that hour the five divisions of ponies were duly marshalled in position, according to the time handicap awarded to them. The number of starters was thirty-four, and included all the well-known cracks of the Settlement, besides some which were probably entered as much for the fun of the race, or in reliance on the chapter of accidents, as from any deliberate hope of success.

The start afforded a pretty sight to a large number of spectators, whom the fineness of the weather had brought out in every conceivable kind of vehicle, as well as on foot. Within a few yards of the starting post was a tolerably wide ditch, over and through which the successive squadrons scrambled at half-minute, one-minute, one-and-a-half minute, and two-minute intervals, and then away for the open country beyond. A brisk breeze was blowing, which carried away so much of the paper from some of the lays, as to make it difficult to find the course, and hence one or two checks occurred. But this was not the only difficulty the Nimrods had to contend with—in fact it was in one sense an advantage—for the ground was in some places so soft that the unfortunate ponies sunk in it to their knees, rendering the work hard to an extreme, and completely pumping many of them early in the race.

At the finishing jump, which under ordinary circumstances would have been easily cleared, a scene ensued unparalleled during the season. It was with considerable surprise that Mr. O. Brandt, (heavy-weight) on *Sea Bird*, was first seen coming home a winner by an unknown number of lengths. The plucky pony, after one refusal, took his final jump with an effort that just landed him safely ; and then the attention of the spectators was directed to the other approaching competitors, only a few of whom, however, were even yet in sight, so great was the tail. Mr. Hinckley (light weight) on *Choctaw* was second ; Mr. Tiefenbacher (light weight), on *Schwalbe*, third ; and Mr. A. J. How (heavy weight), on *Oriflamme*, fourth The gameness of these animals was manifest from the fact that *Sea Bird*, *Choctaw*, and *Oriflamme* gave time to all the others, and must therefore have passed through all the handicapped ponies ; while *Schwalbe* started in the fourth division, and passed everything in the remaining three divisions. The stragglers came in in wretched plight from mud and water, several of them so exhausted as to be unable to clear the last jump, and dropping with their riders souse into the water. Two of the ponies, *Dunraven* and *Forest King*, were with the greatest difficulty extricated, having for a time no power to help themselves. It was admitted, so far as we heard an opinion expressed, that the run had never been exceeded for severity. The distance covered was estimated at nearly six miles, and occupied the winner about thirty minutes.

The number of spectators at the finish was very great, the road for a considerable distance or either side being lined by traps

and other vehicles, in waiting for their occupants, who were scattered over the adjacent country. We regret that several accidents to vehicles happened during the drive home. In one case, a gentleman was thrown from his pony, made restive by the rapid passage of a dogcart which caught his flank, and caused the animal to cannon against a trap which was completely disabled; while in other quarters damage of less extent was done; but fortunately there was little injury to person. We are told that the driver of the dogcart above mentioned kept up his pace, without stopping to ascertain the mischief he had done.

MR. IBURG'S CONCERT.

We are very happy to be able to record that Mr. Iburg's audience last Tuesday evening was in point of numbers much more nearly commensurate with his merits as a musician than the rather scanty attendance which went to hear him last week. The fact is that Mr. Iburg was comparatively unknown here before his previous concert. He had, indeed, given concerts in Hongkong, and won golden opinions from the newspaper critics there. But it is not everybody, we fear, who reads the musical critiques with the regularity and attention which those valuable productions deserve; hence it is that none but the comparatively few who take a special interest in musical matters were cognisant of Mr. Iburg's high reputation as a *virtuoso*, and hardly any but these went to hear him. As, however, everyone who did go spoke in the very highest terms of what he had heard, it is not surprising that the second concert should have attracted an audience more worthy of Mr. Iburg's powers and of the musical reputation of Shanghai.

The first event of the evening was, as before, Schumann's deservedly favourite piano Quintett. This is one of those popular works, like Beethoven's and Hummel's Septetts, for instance, which are always welcome, and can never be heard too often. While sufficiently stamped with the composer's individuality, it does not contain any of those harsh and obscure passages which are to be found in his more characteristic compositions. We do not for a moment echo the reproaches of those who charge Schumann generally with wildness and unintelligibility; nor do we admit the claim of those who regard him as the founder of what is known as the Music of the Future. Schumann never broke with the traditions of Absolute Music, and no one was severer in his judgment of Wagner, as a reference to his critical writings will show. He must, on the whole, be classed among the followers of Beethoven—the greatest of them, perhaps; and, if he stands related to Wagner at all, it is as being, at the most, only the Precursor of the musical dispensation of which Richard Wagner himself is the Paraclete. As we have said, the Quintett is one of his most genial works, one of those most readily "understanded of the people," and its second performance was as successful as its first, and equally welcome to those, even, who were listening to it for the second time.

The second number of the programme was an Aria for Bass voice, by Haydn, but we hardly consider that the singer was fortunate in his selection, though with such a voice as his, anything sounds well, and nothing written by Haydn can be absolutely devoid of interest. Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto is only inferior to Beethoven's similar composition, and Mr. Iburg selected the slow movement for his first solo. Anything more beautiful he could not well have selected, and it was beautifully played. High as was our previous judgment of this artist, it was decidedly enhanced by this performance. He plays with the greatest execution, taste, and expression, and his second performance gave comparatively few indications of the single drawback which we had previously noticed. The magnificent *aria* from *St. Paul*, "For the Lord is mindful of his own," the finest inspiration, perhaps, in the Oratorio, and only surpassed as a sacred song by the "Oh! rest in the Lord" of the *Elijah*, was admirably sung by a lady amateur, endowed with a very rich and well-cultivated contralto voice. The effect would have been greater, had not some of our weaker musical brethren been (through a mistake of the programme) under the impression that they were listening to a song from an Opera of Gluck's; and thus a work which, properly announced, would have made a deep impression, suffered much by its false presentment as an operatic piece, and produced a sense of incongruity and bewilderment which the occurrence of such proper names as *Jerusalem* and *Paulus*, in the supposed Opera of "Orpheus," must have considerably aggravated. The applause was, notwithstanding, loud and long, and was, indeed, only stopped, at last, by the singer appearing again, and giving a pleasing German song, which she did with the greatest grace of manner, and the truest expression. The first portion of the entertainment terminated with the late Sir Sterndale Bennet's charming little programme-suite for pianoforte solo, which was carefully played by Mr. Fentum, who left little to be desired as regards mechanism, though his style lacks the grace, warmth, and colour necessary to do full justice to these finished and thoroughly Mendelssohnian little pieces.

The string quartett is a familiar form of musical composition, and it has been pronounced by so eminent a critic as Wagner to be the most perfect form which musical art has yet found for its expression. It is not a little curious that of late years this delightful combination has not been heard (publicly at least) in Shanghai. We have had piano quartetts and quintetts not unfrequently, but these hardly furnish the same pure enjoyment in the artistic point of view. The piano, as Mr. Haweis remarks, in his admirable work "Music, and Morals," is an intruder, its tone does not blend with that of the strings, and in later works of this class, the part given to it is often so preponderant in interest and importance as to produce the effect of a pianoforte concerto with accompaniment of small orchestra. Indeed in Schubert's posthumous quartett (*Adagio* and *Rondo*) the piano part is marked with the indications "solo" and "tutti," just as if it were a concertante instrument. We have to thank Mr. Iburg for the opportunity he has afforded us of hearing, once again, not indeed a complete string quartett, but a movement, at least, from one. The *Andante Cantabile* from Op. 18, No. 5, in A. (there are six numbers in this *Opus*), was probably selected as much for the prominence of the first violin part in it as for any other consideration. The *motif* is, for Beethoven, not remarkable, and, did we not previously know that the variations were his, we should have set them down at once to Haydn. Beethoven's earlier compositions of this class (the six alluded to), though beautiful and melodious to a degree, are in his so-called First manner, written when he was still under the full influence of his illustrious predecessors, Mozart and Haydn. It was not till after the lapse of a long period, during which his genius was gradually expanding, and working itself out in new and independent developments, that he again tried his hand at the quartett; and this time, in the immortal series Op. 59 (Nos. 1—3), he revealed himself as Beethoven in all his majesty. These three compositions, which Mendelssohn pronounced to be the most "Beethovenish" of all the great master's works, are, however, so difficult as to be beyond the skill of any but professional players. We cannot, therefore, blame Mr. Iburg for only attempting what he could reasonably hope to compass in a creditable manner with the time and resources at his command, and though we did not derive quite so much enjoyment from this piece as we had anticipated, we nevertheless consider it one of the most interesting items in the programme, and would greatly have preferred hearing the other movements than the violin solos which followed later. Mr. Iburg fairly dazzled his audience by his extraordinary display of *technique* in the Solo by Léonard (the Parisian Violinist, we presume). It is not uncommon for violinists of pretensions to make displays of this sort before a new audience, which accepts them as, in a manner, the artist's credentials; but no one knows better than the performer himself the worthlessness of these things, artistically regarded. Mr. Iburg's execution, the double stops, enharmonies, cadenzas, chromatic passages, &c., cleverly, beyond all doubt, as they were done, left us comparatively cold, or moved, at best, by the vulgar emotion of wonder, which would have been equally excited if the respected artist had chosen to stand on his head. A pleasing, if not very novel, effect was produced when both melody and accompaniment were given together on the Violin—a *tour de force*, we should imagine, which can be effectively achieved only by a thorough master of the instrument. Maurice Hauptmann's song, "Der Fischer" with Violin *obbligato*—a perfect gem, was, as music, *the* song of the evening. This admirable composer, to whom, it is said, Spohr used to submit his MSS. for revision, is now unaccountably neglected. His six Violin-and-piano sonatas (Opp. 3 and 25 especially the former), are, according to some critics, only inferior to Beethoven's famous ten.

English music was represented in this part of the programme by a song of Cowen's, the composer of the well-known (in England at least) Cantata "The Rose Maiden." The song, which was originally, we believe, written for a soprano, was transposed to the tenor register, and sung by an amateur who possesses a tenor voice (to quote from a contemporary) of "true ring." It was given with much taste and feeling, and we were glad to perceive that a certain tendency to mannerism which we noticed when first we heard this gentleman has almost entirely disappeared. A very warm re-demand elicited Balfe's well-known song, "Come into the garden, Maud," which, perhaps, has been heard often enough by this time. The concert concluded with the familiar Fantaisie on *Guillaume Tell*, by de Beriot and Osborne, a work which every amateur tries, and one out of a hundred learns. Notwithstanding Mr. Iburg's previous hard work—unnecessarily increased by an unreasonable, though well-meant *encore*—he "came up smiling," and attacked the Fantaisie with unexhausted *verve* and vigour, throwing the melody of the march, especially, off the strings with wonderful fire and *brio*. This closed what was, in the opinion of every one whom we have heard expressing an opinion on the subject (and we have heard many), one of the most enjoyable concerts ever given in Shanghai. It is consoling to think that a programme, made up exclusively of classical or quasi-classical compositions, should have achieved this success. As we should forfeit our critical character were we to conclude without discovering a fault somewhere, we would observe that the Concert was rather too long. The same criticism, it is true, applies still more forcibly to these remarks.

HONGKONG RACES.

(Daily Press.)

FIRST DAY.—FEBRUARY 25th.

1.—THE WONG NEI CHONG STAKES, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance $5 each, with $75 from the Fund. Half-a-mile.

Mr. Pye's *Coronet* 11st. 4lb 1
Mr. Fohkien's *Benachie* 11st. 11lb..... 2
Mr. St. Leger's *Zero* 11st. 11lb 3
Mr. Paul's *Tallapoosa* 11st. 8lb 0

Coronet and *Tallapoosa* were the favourites. It was believed that if *Coronet* got the start it would be difficult to pass him, and the supposition turned out correct. A good start was made. *Coronet* led, followed by *Benachie*, with *Tallapoosa* third, and *Zero* about an equal distance behind. This order was maintained for a short time, but on turning the corner at the straight *Benachie* came up slightly. He failed, however, to get ahead of his antagonist, but came in a good second, *Coronet* winning by only a neck. *Zero* managed to distance *Tallapoosa* before getting home, and passed the winning post a bad third. Time—1m. 1sec.

2.—ASHLEY CUP, presented by Mr. SASSOON, value $50, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Entrance $5. Weight for inches. One mile.

Mr. Fohkien's *Rouble*, 10st 12lb 1
Mr. Paul's *Schoolcraft*, 10st 12lb..... 2
Mr. Caledonia's *Chance*, 10st 12lb 3
Mr. Pye's *Recruit*, 11st 11lb 0

A very good start was effected. When passing the Grand Stand the first time, *Recruit* was leading. On making the sweep, *Rouble* shot to the front, followed closely by *Schoolcraft*. When the turn was reached they were about neck and neck, in which position they passed the Black Rock. Before the next turn was made, *Rouble* had taken the first position, but *Schoolcraft* still kept well up. On coming down the straight, it was evident that *Rouble*, who had been the favourite, would come in first. He won easily by two lengths. *Chance* tried hard to pass *Schoolcraft*, but it was no use, although the former came in a good third. *Recruit* was nowhere. Time—2m. 14sec.

3.—THE HONGKONG DERBY, Sweepstakes of $20 each, half forfeit if declared on or before day of closing Entries, with $100 added for 1st Pony, and $50 for 2nd. For all China Ponies *bonâ fide* Griffins at date of entry. First Pony, 70 per cent.; Second, 20 per cent.; Third, 10 per cent. Weight 10st. 7lbs. One-mile-and-a-half.

Mr. Sydney's *Cherokee* 1
Mr. Pye's *Pantagruel*..... 2
Mr. Marlborough's *Pioneer* 3
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula* 0
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*..... 0
Mr. Herbert's *Zephyr*..... 0
Mr. Canton's *Joint Account* 0

This was a large field, but nevertheless a fair start was obtained. *Cherokee* at once made to the front, a position which he kept to the last. *Tarantula* took the second place, which he managed to maintain nearly three parts of the distance. They passed the Grand Stand almost in a ruck, with the exception of *Joint Account* and *Zephyr*, who were considerably to the rear. On the last round *Tarantula* gave place to *Pantagruel*. Coming down the straight, *Cherokee* kept his position well, and won by at least a length. *Pioneer* was a bad third. The others followed at some distance. Time—3m. 20½sec.

The rider of *Pantagruel* claimed a foul against the winner, but the claim was disallowed.

4.—THE GARRISON CUP, value $200,—presented,—for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Four Ponies from opposing Stables to start or no race. Winner of the Ashley Cup, 7lbs extra. Entrance $10. Once round.

Mr. Fohkien's *Benachie*, 11st. 11lb. 1
Mr. Paul's *Tallapoosa*, 11st. 11lb. 2
Mr. Pye's *Gargantua*, 11st. 11lb. 3
Mr. St. Leger's *Zero*, 11st. 11lb. 0

The first start made was a false one, but on the second attempt the ponies got off well together. *Benachie*, who was the favourite and had the rail, at once made to the front, closely followed by *Tallapoosa*. *Gargantua* was some little distance behind, and *Zero* was still further back. This order was maintained all the way, though *Gargantua* made every endeavour to gain the second place. When the straight was reached, *Benachie's* rider was confident of success, and kept looking back at the rider of *Tallapoosa; Benachie* won easily by two lengths. A bad third. Time—1m. 58sec.

5.—THE CLUB CUP, value $150, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies, that have never won a Race (Canton Winners excepted), previous to this meeting. Weight for inches. Entrance $5. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Sidney's *Cherokee*, 10st. 12lb. 1
Mr. Pye's *Panurge*, 10st. 12st. 2
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula*, 11st. 11lb. ... 3
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*, 10st. 9lb..... 0
Mr. Forbes's *Buddha*, 10st. 12lb. 0
Mr. Marlborough's *Pioneer*, 11st. 4lb... 0

A good start was made. *Cherokee* of course was the favourite. For some time after getting away, *Cherokee*, *Panurge*, and *Tarantula* kept well together. Before the straight was reached, however, they parted and came down in the order that they passed the winning post, *Cherokee* winning hands down by three lengths. *Tarantula* was a bad third. Rest beaten off. Time—1m. 36½sec.

6.—THE FOOCHOW CUP, value $200,—presented by the Foochow Community,—for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance $5. Two miles.

Mr. Jediar's *Alexis*, 11st. 4lb. 1
Mr. Waxem's *Monitor*, 11st. 11lb. 2
Mr. Fohkien's *Caprice*, 10st. 9lb... 3
Mr. Lind's *Royalist*, 10st 12lb..... 0
Mr. Caledonia's *Chance*, 10st. 12lb..... 0
Mr. Annfield's *Dollar*, 11st. 11lb..... 0
Mr. Paul's *Marathon*, 10st. 12lb. 0
Mr. Kushan's *Fei Yuen*, 11st. 11lb. 0

This was the best race of the day. A very good start was made. On passing the Grand Stand the first time, *Royalist* was leading and promised well, although going rather fast. *Dollar* was second and *Alexis* third when the Black Rock was reached. *Monitor* was going well at this time, but *Chance* was entirely out. When the Black Rock was passed on the second round, *Alexis* was leading, with *Monitor* second, and soon afterwards *Royalist* was far in the rear. *Alexis* and *Monitor* kept their places coming down the straight, when a capital race ensued. *Alexis* won by a neck. *Caprice* was a good third. Time—4m. 43sec.

SECOND DAY.—FEBRUARY 26th.

1.—THE SCURRY STAKES, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies, being *bonâ fide* Griffins at the date of Entry. Weight for inches. Winners of one Race at this meeting 7lbs. extra, and of two Races 10lbs. extra. Entrance $5, with $100 from the Fund. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.

Mr. Pye's *Pantagruel*, 11st. 11lb 1
Mr. Sydney's *Cherokee*, 10st. 12lb 2
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula*, 11st. 11lb..... 3
Mr. Prior's *Lardy-Dardy*, 10st. 12lb... 0
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*, 10st. 9lb 0

Cherokee was undoubtedly the favourite for this race; in fact he was counted upon as almost a certainty if everything went well. After a couple of false starts, the ponies got off pretty fairly. *Cherokee* got well away. Before the Black Rock was reached, however, *Pantagruel* was leading by about a neck and a half. A little farther on, *Tarantula* was first and *Bar Silver* second. On passing the village, however, *Pantagruel* again shot ahead, and was followed by *Cherokee*. A good race ensued down the straight, and *Pantagruel* won easily by nearly two lengths. A bad third. Time—1m. 38 sec.

2.—THE GERMAN CUP, value 100 guineas,—presented,—for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance $10. Two miles.

Mr. Fohkien's *Rouble*, 10st. 12lb... 1
Mr. Waxem's *Monitor*, 11st. 11lb..... 2
Mr. Paul's *Tallapoosa*, 11st. 11lb..... 3
Mr. Pye's *Recruit*, 11st. 11lb..... 0
Mr. Jediar's *Alexis*, 11st. 4lb. 0

This was the principal race of the meeting, and was well contested. At the start *Rouble* got in front, but when the Grand Stand was passed *Tallapoosa* was leading, with *Monitor* second. On passing Black Rock, *Tallapoosa* and *Rouble* were neck and neck. On reaching the same place the second time, *Rouble* was first and *Monitor* second, and when the village was passed he had got a little ahead. For a moment after the straight was entered, it seemed to be a toss up between them, but *Rouble* kept well up, and came in easily by a length and a half. A bad third. Time—4m. 37 sec.

3.—THE VALLEY STAKES, of $100 with $10 entrance added, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Winners of one Race at the Meeting, 7lbs. extra, and of two or more Races, 10lbs. extra. Once round.

Mr. Paul's *Schoolcraft*, 10st. 12lb..... 1
Mr. Pye's *Coronet*, 11st. 4lb..... 2
Mr. Williams's *Tally-Ho*, 10st. 9lb..... 3
Mr. Fohkiens's *Caprice*, 10st. 0lb..... 0

There was some slight delay at starting owing to the restiveness of *Caprice*. They ultimately got off well together, and before the first turn was reached *Coronet* was leading. He was well ahead at the Black Rock. It was then seen that there was no chance for *Caprice*, who was considerably in the rear. *Schoolcraft* was third and *Tally-Ho* second. As the village was passed, the race seemed to lie between *Coronet* and *Tally-Ho*, but coming down the straight, *Schoolcraft* quite unexpectedly came to the front, and after a capital race came in first by a head. His victory was undoubtedly owing to his rider. Good third. Time—1m. 59½sec.

4.—THE LUSITANO CUP, value $150 for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Winners at this Meeting excluded. Weight for inches. Previous non-starters to carry 12st. Entrance $5. One mile and three-quarters.

Mr. Pye's *Panurge*, 10st. 12lb. 1
Mr. Caledonia's *Chance*, 10st. 12lb..... 2
Mr. Paul's *Marathon*, 10st. 12lb..... .. 3
Mr. Lind's *Royalist*, 10st. 12lb. 0
Mr. Fohkien's *Caprice*, 10st. 9lb. 0
Mr. Fohkien's *Souvenir*, 11st. 4lb. 0
Mr. St. Leger's *Zero*, 11st. 11lb. 0
Mr. Annfield's *Dollar*, 11st. 11lb. 0
Mr. Kushan's *Fei Yuen*, 11st. 11lb. 0

This was the largest field of the day. *Souvenir* seemed to be the favourite, and it was conjectured he would win if he ran steadily. A fair start was made, *Chance* leading off, with *Souvenir* behind. *Panurge* was second and *Fei Yuen* third. Before the Black Rock was reached, *Souvenir* got well up. When passing the Grand Stand, *Chance* was still leading, and *Panurge* had managed to reach the second place. On the second round, *Souvenir* seemed to make some headway, but failed to keep a place. At the Rock, *Panurge* had passed *Chance*, and there was no doubt then that the race lay between them. They took the straight wonderfully near each other, but *Panurge* maintained the lead and won easily by two lengths. A bad third. Time—4m. 6sec.

5.—THE CELESTIAL CUP, value $150, for all *bonâ fide* Griffins at the date of Entry. Weight for inches. Winner of the Hongkong Derby, 7lbs. extra. Entrance $5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Sydney's *Cherokee*, 10st. 12lb 1
Mr. Pye's *Pantagruel*, 11st. 11lb 2
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula*, 11st 11lb 3
Mr. Prior's *Lardy Dardy*, 10st. 12lb ... 0
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*, 10st. 12lb ... 0
Mr. Marlborough's *Pioneer*, 11st. 4lb... 0

A very bad start was obtained. *Tarantula* got off first, with the others pretty well behind, *Bar Silver* being far in the rear. When half way, *Cherokee* made to the front, and was for a short time closely followed by *Pantagruel*. As the straight was reached, however, he distanced *Pantagruel* by a long way and won easily by half a distance. Half a length between second and third. Time—2m. 52sec.

6.—THE WELTER STAKES of $5 each, with $100 from the Fund, for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight 12st. Half-a-mile.

Mr. Pye's *Coronet* 1
Mr. Fohkien's *Benachie*..... 2
Mr. Paul's *Schoolcraft* 3

Coronet got a good start, followed closely by *Benachie*, *Schoolcraft* being at least a length behind. This position was kept pretty much throughout. Coming down the straight, *Schoolcraft* seemed to make a spurt to the front, but he failed to overtake his competitors. *Coronet* won easily by two lengths and a half. Bad third. Time—1m. 1½sec.

Third Day—27th February.

1.—The Subscription Challenge Cup,—presented, value 100 Guineas, for China Ponies, the *bonâ fide* property of Hongkong and Canton residents of not less than six months immediately previous to date of Entry. Weight for inches. Entrance $5. To be won two years consecutively by a Pony or Ponies, the *bonâ fide* property of the same Owner. Two miles.

Mr. Sydney's *Cherokee*, 10st. 12lb. 1
Mr. Waxem's *Monitor*, 11st. 1lb. 2
Mr. Paul's *Marathon*, 10st. 12lb. 3
Mr. Annfield's *Dollar*, 11st. 1lb..... 0
Mr. St. Leger's *Zero*, 11st. 1lb. 0

Monitor was the favourite. At the start, *Dollar* led off with *Chance* second. Before the Black Rock was reached, on the first round, *Cherokee* was leading, *Monitor* being next the rails. The ponies passed the Stand the second time in pretty close order, *Zero*, *Cherokee*, and *Monitor* being neck and neck. *Monitor* and *Cherokee* were leading at the Rock, with *Zero* still third. All hopes of *Monitor* were not given up till the ponies were opposite the village, when *Cherokee* shot far ahead and won easily by three lengths. A neck between second and third. Time—4m. 56sec.

2.—The Ladies' Purse,—for China, Manila and Japan Ponies that have run at this Meeting, to be handicapped by the Stewards. Entrance for Ponies accepting $5. Once round.

Mr. Fohkien's *Benachie* 1
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula* 2
Mr. Paul's *Schoolcraft* 3
Mr. Jediar's *Alexis*..... 0
Mr. Marlborough's *Pioneer* 0

At the start, *Benachie* was somewhat in the rear but soon made to the front. After the course had been half traversed, it was seen that the race lay between *Benachie* and *Tarantula*. Coming down the straight, the former was first by a long way, and won hands down by four lengths. Time—2m. 7 sec.

At the close of the race, Mr. Gore-Booth, of Shanghai, who rode the winner, was presented with the Ladies' Purse by Mrs. Deane.

3.—The Canton Cup,—value $200, for all Ponies. Winners at this meeting excluded. Weight for inches. Entrance $5. Three-quarters of a-mile.

Mr. Kushan's *Caractacus*, 10st. 12lb... 1
Mr. Lind's *Royalist*, 10st. 12lb. 2
Mr. Pye's *Gargantua*, 11st. 1lb. 3
Mr. Fohkien's *Caprice*, 10st. 9lb..... 0
Mr. ,, *Prince Charlie*, 10st. 12lb 0
Mr. Caledonia's *Chance*, 10st. 12lb..... 0
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*, 10st. 9lb..... 0
Mr. Robison's *Maron Glacé*, 10st. 12lb. 0

This was a large field, but nevertheless the ponies got well away together. *Royalist* shot into the first place. A splendid race ensued down the straight, *Caractacus* winning by a length. There was a head between second and third. A capital race. Time—1m. 42½ sec.

4.—The Ke-Chong Cup,—value $200,—presented,—for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Three Ponies from *bonâ fidé* opposing Stables to start or no Race. From the Black Rock twice round and in.

Mr. Kushan's *Fei Yuen*, 11st. 1lb. 1
Mr. Fohkien's *Rouble*, 10st. 12lb..... 2
Mr. Paul's *Tallapoosa*, 11st. 1lb..... 3
Mr. Fohkien's *Caprice*, 10st. 9lb..... 0
Mr. Waxem's *Monitor*, 11st. 1lb..... 0
Mr. Pye's *Pantagruel*, 11st. 1lb..... 0

Soon after the start *Fei Yuen* got into the front, with *Rouble* second and *Monitor* third. This order was maintained when the Grand Stand was passed the first time, and all the way round. As the Black Rock was reached *Tallapoosa* made some way, but failed to keep his position, or to interfere with the order as above. A splendid race home ensued, *Fei Yuen*, who had been a little behind, coming up beautifully, and winning by a short length. Half a length between second and third. Time—5m. 27½sec.

5.—The Stand Plate.—A Steeple Chase for China, Manila and Japan Ponies. Weight 11st. Three Ponies from opposing stables to start or no Race. Entrance $5, with $100 from the Fund. Once the two mile post, twice round and in.

This race was postponed till Monday afternoon.

6.—The Champion Stakes. — A forced Entry for all China, Manila and Japan Ponies, winners at this Meeting; optional to beaten Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance $20, with $100 from the Fund. One mile and a half.

Mr. Fohkien's *Benachie* 1
Mr. Sidney's *Cherokee*..... 2
Mr. Pye's *Panurge* 0

At the start *Benachie* led followed by *Cherokee*. *Panurge* soon lost ground and continued to do so. *Benachie* and *Cherokee* passed the Grand Stand together the first time, and kept together all the way round till passing the village, when the former assumed the lead, and walked in by six lengths. Third pony beaten off. Time—3m. 36½sec.

7.—The Consolation Stakes,—for all beaten China, Manila and Japan Ponies at this Meeting. Catch Weights. Entrance $5, with $75 from the Fund. Once round.

Mr. Lind's *Royalist*..... 1
Mr. Pye's *Gargantua* 2
Mr. Paul's *Tallapoosa* 3
Mr. Caledonia's *Chance* 0
Mr. Waxem's *Tarantula* 0
Mr. Prior's *Lardy-Dardy* 0
Mr. Deacon's *Bar Silver*..... 0
Mr. Marlborough's *Pioneer* 0
Mr. Annfield's *Dollar*..... 0
Mr. Robison's *Maron Glacé* 0

This was the largest field of the meeting, and the start was perhaps as good as it could be under the circumstances. At the turn, *Chance* was leading, but was collared and passed by *Royalist* before the Rock was reached. *Gargantua* and *Tallapoosa* then struck out and got into their places, which they kept throughout. *Royalist* won by two lengths. A good third. Time—2m. 5sec.

Fourth Day.

Match between *Benachie* and *Rouble*.—The sport commenced with a private match between *Benachie* and *Rouble*, and resulted with

Benachie 1
Rouble 2

Rouble seemed to have the start, but the ponies kept well together the first round. When ascending the slope near the Black Rock, *Benachie* took the lead, and before the village was reached had shot right way. He won by two lengths.

Match between *Panurge* and *Caprice*.—Two miles. The result was

Panurge..... 1
Caprice 2

The ponies kept well together the first round, but *Caprice* failed in taking the hill at the Rock the last time, and *Panurge* won easily by several lengths.

The Coast Cup.—An extra prize, presented by Mr. Fohkien and Mr. Pye, value $200. For the beaten ponies.

Tallapoosa 1
Chance 2

Four ponies entered for this race—*Tallapoosa*, *Chance*, *Lardy-Dardy*, and *Monitor*. The ponies kept well together the first round, when *Tallapoosa* and *Chance* broke off, and the race lay between them. *Tallapoosa* won by several lengths.

The Cherokee Cup.—Extra prize.

Recruit 1
Gargantua..... 2
Zero 3

The following ponies entered:—*Dollar*, *Zero*, *Recruit*, *Marathon*, *Gargantua*, and *Tarantula*. *Recruit* won easily. A good third.

The Native Scramble, for China Ponies only; First Pony, $25; Second, $10; Third, $5; to be ridden by Chinamen. Catch Weights. One round.

Benachie 1
Rouble 2
Pantagruel 3

Seven started for this race, which was well contested, and very amusing.

The Steeple Chase was not run.

This concluded the meeting for the year.

Miscellaneous.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

As usual, the "Commercial Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls in China for 1873," only reach the hands of the public a year after their compilation. Consequently the greater part of the tabular returns of exports and imports are stale, after the publication of the Imperial Foreign Customs Reports in the early part of this year. Nevertheless, they contain much useful and interesting information regarding the fluctuations of external trade and native produce, which are not to be found in the rival returns; and, as they bear the official consular stamp, the statements they contain may be relied on. This is especially noticeable in the Blue Book just issued, now before me, where nearly all the Consuls make remarks, more or less, upon the increasing extension of opium-poppy plantations in China, and how it affects the import of Indian opium. Strange to say, in the List of Report, Shanghai becomes conspicuous from its absence, and so is the port of Chinkiang. Regarding your Settlement, this is not easily to be accounted for, as your experienced and active Consul has not the reputation of being dilatory in sending his reports to the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

In respect of general remarks free from "red tape" restrictions, the report of Acting-Consul Harvey at Newchwang is not only the most comprehensive regarding the opium question, but all branches of trade in China affecting British interests, which it would be well that his colleagues at other treaty ports should imitate. Under the heading, "Native Opium," he states: "There can be no doubt that the cultivation of the poppy is on the increase throughout the whole of Manchuria. The area under cultivation is considered to have been greater last year than it was in 1872. The extent to which it is cultivated in the immediate neighbourhood of this port town is inconsiderable, but the fact that small amounts were grown last year at Tien Chuang-tai, twenty miles to the North, and at Kaichow, thirty miles to the South of this place, shows that the cultivation is gradually extending from the north Southwards. The action of the Imperial and local authorities is very irregular and uncertain. Proclamations are issued from time to time forbidding the cultivation of the poppy; on the other hand, the existence of the native drug has been recognised in this place, and the *lekin* tax upon it is fixed at one-third less than that levied on the foreign article. In spite of this, however, no revenue seems to be derived from native opium. It is to all intents and purposes an underhand trade. It cannot be purchased here in larger quantities than a catty at a time. It is smuggled in, in small quantities, concealed about the person, or hid in bags containing grain and other produce. The want of uniform action by the authorities may afford the required explanation. Some officials wink at its growth, others are zealous to suppress it. Publicly recognized here, it is forbidden further North; but whether recognized or not, it is probable that the petty officials, tax-gatherers and the like, represent it as illicit, and exact bribes to refrain from interference." From these remarks one would infer that the increasing production of native opium will gradually drive the Indian drug out of the market. Such, however, is not the case, at least as far as Newchwang is concerned; for, although the imports decreased during the previous five years, in 1873 there was a small increase. Mr. Harvey states that the consumption of Indian opium has been but slightly affected by the increased cultivation of the native drug. "In Newchwang

and the surrounding district, the latter is only used for mixing with the former, generally in the proportion of seven parts of foreign to three of native opium. The number of those who only smoke the native article is extremely small, and they are to be found solely amongst the poorest of the population, or in the interior away from towns and the main highways of traffic, in spots where foreign opium may not have penetrated. Many, indeed, begin with the native drug, but as they become confirmed smokers they sooner or later adopt the Indian. There can be no doubt as to the superior estimation in which foreign opium is held." In the face of this statement it would appear that the large imports are not likely to decrease, if they do not increase; yet the cultivation of the poppy, according to the other reports, is spreading in all the Northern, Midland and Western provinces. In the province of Chekiang, and on the borders of Fokien, several districts are mentioned where poppy farms and opium manufactories existed, but the quality of the narcotic is inferior to the foreign article, excepting Persian, which is unsaleable at renumerative rates, so that some imports have been returned to their native country. Indeed, the Chinese opium can only hold its own against Indian on account of its selling price being about fifty per cent. less than Malwa, which is most in demand for mixing. "The whole future of the opium trade with China," Mr. Harvey remarks, "hinges upon the quality of that grown in China. As far as our present knowledge and experience go, it would seem that the inferiority ascribed to it is absolute and inherent, as being due to soil and climate; but if it can be accounted for by want of skill on the part of the producers, or by the practise of adulteration among the dealers, it is evident that improved cultivation and greater honesty must in time render it a serious rival to the Indian drug." Speaking of the effects of opium-smoking on the constitution, Mr. King, Vice-Consul at Kewkiang, furnishes some data from personal observation, showing that it is not injurious if practiced moderately by hard-working men. He says, "During my tour on the Upper Yangtsze and in Szechuen, I was thrown into the closest relations with junk sailors and others, almost every adult of whom smoked more or less, and I was much struck with the effect it had upon them. Their work was of the hardest and rudest kind; rising at four and working with hardly any intermission till dark, having constantly to strip and plunge into the stream in all seasons, and this often in the most dangerous parts. The quantity of food they eat was simply prodigious, and from this and their work it seems fairly to be inferred that their constitutions were robust. The two most addicted to the habit were the pilot and the cook. On the incessant watchfulness and steady nerve of the former, the safety of the junk and all on board frequently depended; while the second worked so hard from 3 A.M. to 10 P.M., and often longer, and seemed so independent of sleep or rest, that to catch him seated or idle was sufficient cause for good humoured banter. I do not imagine that the Szechuen drug differs sufficiently from the Indian to account for these instances of harmless smoking, nor, on the other hand do I wish to express it as my opinion that opium-smoking does no harm; but my opinion with regard to it has been modified, and I am bound to recognize the fact that the habit can, and does exist, without detriment to health or capability, merely affording a solace and a stimulant."

This is important evidence, and should the Opium question be discussed in the ensuing session of Parliament, will no doubt be availed of by those in favour of the existing British Opium Policy. Regarding the adjudication of the prize essays, I learn that it will shortly be given, as Mr. Edkins has finished the translation of those in Chinese, of which there are said to be about thirty out of a total of between fifty and sixty.—*Nous verrons.*

SAMUEL MOSSMAN.

Correspondence.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I observe by the report of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, that, with the view of restoring public confidence, the Directors declare that they have stated their unrealized assets at a considerable per centage under the value placed on them by their official valuer; and they appear to entertain the sanguine hope that this statement, combined with the appointment and arrival of Mr. Maclean as Inspector, will restore them to the position in the confidence of the public they used to hold.

Looking on the maintenance of a local Bank as essential to the proper development of the resources and energies of a port in which I am largely interested, and desiring above all things to see the Hongkong Bank flourishing and prosperous, I trust I shall be excused in saying that neither the appointment of one of their own servants as inspector, or any statement the ex-directors may make, will be sufficient to satisfy the pubilc that the actual position of the Bank is assured; and until the public is so satisfied, it is impossible that the conditions necessary to the satisfactory working of the Bank can exist.

To restore public confidence, it is needed that a perfectly independent commission should be appointed, utterly unconnected with the Bank, and not even holding shares therein; who would take actual stock of the Bank, examine books, &c., make personal enquiries, ascertain the actual value of the securities, and generally thoroughly look into everything.

If such a commission, which should consist of some high official, say, one of the judges of the Hongkong or Shanghai Courts, a merchant of high character and position, and a high-class accountant, were appointed, and after careful investigation of the nature of the securities in the Bank hands, of the amount of overdrawn accounts and their discountable value, of the actual present value of the goods and properties hypothecated to the Bank, (they might indeed require some three months to conduct their enquiry) the Bank would, if their Report were favorable, at once recover the confidence it is supposed to have greatly lost.

To open out the profitable fields for foreign enterprize the Chinese Empire affords, to develope the mines of wealth yet untouched and even scarcely thought of, a local institution like the Hongkong Bank is absolutely necessary; and it seems a pity its position should be endangered or its efficiency even temporarily crippled, for want of some such step as that I have sketched out, being taken.

Yours obediently,
MERCATOR.

Shanghai, 25th Feb.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, March 3rd.
Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.,

SING-FOW *v.* J. SNOWDEN.

Plaintiff sued defendant to recover $30.49, for wages and money advanced and expended. He said, however, that defendant lent him $5 at the China New Year, which reduced his claim by that amount.

It was stated that defendant, who is a pilot, had gone down the river with the *Northampton*, and had not returned.

Hearing adjourned in consequence.

Shanghai, March 4th.

HUGH CAMERON *v.* J. T. TAYLOR.

Mr. MYBURGH appeared for the plaintiff.
Defendant conducted his own case.

The parties to the action were pilots, and the plaintiff sought to recover $99, for loss sustained by him through the defendant's refusal to let him use a certain pilot schooner, the *Daniel Webster*, of which he was a co-owner.

Mr. MYBURGH said it was really a case to try the right of the plaintiff, as purchaser of a quarter share, to the use of the schooner. The facts were, that some time ago the schooner was sold by an order of the Court, and she was purchased by four persons, Messrs. Jurgessen, Taylor (the defendant) Vaughan, and Peters; and as far as he could understand there was no agreement made as to the sale of their shares to any other persons, but that they were to use the schooner jointly.

His HONOUR—Were the four men to go in the schooner together?

Mr. MYBURGH said he did not know. On the 25th of January last, Jurgessen sold his quarter-share to the plaintiff, and Peters, one of the part owners, witnessed the signatures. The deed was drawn up by Mr. Robinson, and after the sale, plaintiff asked for the use of the schooner, in common with the others, but was refused by Taylor, who wrote a letter, in which he quoted "Smith on Partnerships," to the effect that a man could not become a partner without the consent of all existing partners. He (Mr. Myburgh) contended that there was no partnership between the parties named as having purchased the schooner, but that it was only a tenancy in common, or co-ownership, and in support of this view he cited "Lindley on Partnerships and Companies." He thought there could be no doubt that Jurgessen, as one of the original purchasers, had a right to use the schooner, and that the plaintiff, as the purchaser of his share, had just the same right to the use of the vessel.

Defendant, on being directed to state his view of the case, entered into a lengthy statement, the gist of which was that in the Black Ball Pilot Company there were eight partners, one of whom (Simpson) had died. On the dissolution of that company, the vessels belonging to it were sold by auction. Jurgessen, Vaughan, and himself bought the *Daniel Webster*, and Peters was taken in as an apprentice-pilot, on the understanding that if he did not obtain his license at the end of six months, the others would buy his share of the schooner.

Mr. MYBURGH—Do you dispute the sale of Jurgessen's share to Cameron?

Defendant—I do; I know it is not a *bonâ fide* sale.

His HONOUR—Then you say that Jurgessen, Vaughan, Peters and yourself were partners?

Defendant—Yes, we were.

His HONOUR—What did you say about Peters? There are two points to be considered—you might have been joint owners of the schooner, but yet not partners in the business of pilots.

Defendant—The four were partners in the schooner to use her for piloting. Peters was taken in to be taught the business of a pilot.

His HONOUR—The plaintiff had better be sworn.

Plaintiff was accordingly sworn, and deposed:—I have been a pilot for three and a half years. Mr. Jurgessen had a quarter share in the *Daniel Webster*. I bought it of him. The agreement produced is that of the sale. It is signed by Jurgessen and myself, and was witnessed by Mr. Robinson and Mr. Peters. I bought the share on the 25th January last. Mr. Taylor was in possession of the boat, and I notified him on the 12th February, of the sale and of my desire to use her. That was the first time I could see him. I had no opportunity before, the schooner being outside. He told me, in reply to my application, that I could not come on board the schooner. I asked him why. He said, afterwards, that he had no objections to me, but to the party who sold. He refused to let me come on board. I made no further application, but a correspondence ensued, the first letter being from

myself on the 11th February. I took a letter on the same day I purchased the quarter share (a letter from my vendor), in order to give it to Mr. Taylor, but I could not see him until the 12th February. I had that letter in my possession all the time. My average earnings are about Tls. 200 per month.

By defendant—I am a shareholder in the *Daniel Webster*, to the extent of Tls. 1,000. I have given a note of hand to Mr. Jurgessen for the whole amount. I propose to pay the amount in twelve months out of my earnings, a certain portion of which will be set aside for that purpose.

Defendant—That means that, by being my partner, you hope to pay it?

Plaintiff—I do not hope to do it at all, I have arranged to do it.

His Honour—Why should he not put aside a portion of his earnings to pay this sum?

Defendant—He can't, unless he becomes my partner.

Mr. Myburgh—He does not necessarily become a partner. If Jurgessen chooses to sell his share in the schooner, he has a perfect right to do so. It is his own look-out whether he gets paid.

Defendant—We can't work in the schooner, or pilot ships, without being partners.

Plaintiff—We were to be partners in the expenses of the schooner. Have an agreement drawn up, and then there will be something solid.

Defendant—He must be a partner, because if there are two ships to pilot, I should keep one, and he would have the other; or I might be ill, and he would have to do the work.

His Honour—It is not because he buys a share in the schooner, that he becomes a partner with you as a pilot. When you have gone down the river one day with a ship, he might take the schooner the next day, and get another ship, and not divide your earnings. You might share the expenses of the schooner, but not divide your earnings at any time. You might both go down the river in the same boat, as being cheaper than two boats; one of you might get a large ship and the other a small one to pilot, but it does not follow that you would put your earnings together and divide them.

Defendant then renewed his questions to the plaintiff, but elicited nothing material to the point at issue. He also proceeded to read a number of letters that had passed, to which

Mr. Myburgh objected, as not being evidence.

Defendant said he could not make his case understandable unless His Honour would hear them. He was not assisted by legal advice, and trusted to His Honour's ideas of justice and equity.

His Honour said the letters had better be read—it would perhaps save time in the end.

Defendant then read the letters which had passed between the plaintiff and himself, the only material point contained in them being contained in his reply to the plaintiff's notification of his purchase of the share, in which he said, "No person can become a partner, unless by the consent of all the other partners. On this principle I intend to stand; otherwise I shall apply to the Judge for power to sell the property." That was his position to-day.

His Honour—The point upon which you are at issue is this—that there is no evidence as yet of any partnership existing. When defendant comes into the box, he will be able to tell how they stood together.

Defendant—I wrote to plaintiff, that he must establish his claim to be my partner, in a court of law, according to "Smith on Partnership."

Plaintiff was at this period questioned by his Honour, as to whether he had obtained the consent of the other partners to his purchase of Jurgessen's share. He replied that he had asked Vaughan and Peters, neither of whom had any objection. He did not ask Taylor's consent, because he was not in town. On being pressed to say if Taylor's absence was his only reason for not asking him, the plaintiff did not give very clear replies.

Mr. Myburgh said he did not see what Taylor's consent had to do with it.

His Honour said plaintiff evidently thought somebody's consent was necessary, else why did he go to Vaughan and Peters. Probably he thought they were willing, and that Taylor was not.

Plaintiff—No, that was not it.

His Honour—The $99 you claim, is it in respect of your loss of time between the 12th and 22nd February.

Plaintiff said it was.

His Honour—Is not the loss your own fault? You might have taken out the summons on the 12th, but you did not do so until the 22nd. The defendant is not to blame for your delay. He refused you permission on the 12th, to use the schooner; why did you not sue him then?

Plaintiff—I thought he might have written to me, saying whether he was willing for me to join.

Mr. Myburgh—He wished to give the defendant time to think over it.

Plaintiff—I did not wish it to come to such proceedings as these.

His Honour said Peters had better be examined.

Jordan Peters, said he was owner of a quarter share in the *Daniel Webster*:—I had no objection to Mr. Jurgessen selling his share to the plaintiff. There was no stipulation against either of the owners selling his share. I sailed six months as an apprentice-pilot, to serve my time. I have received no money from any others, nor have I paid for repair. I only paid for my food. I paid Tls. 1,050 for my share. I left it to the other pilots to make all arrangements. Mr. Taylor has sailed frequently in the schooner. So far as I know, neither Jurgessen, Vaughan and Taylor have put their earnings together, nor did I know of any agreement to do so. I do not know whether Vaughan or Jurgessen contributed to the repairs of the schooner.

By defendant—It was understood that no other partners were to be admitted, but that we were to keep the schooner among ourselves. It was not understood amongst us all that if I was unable to get my license, the other three owners were to buy me out. I never knew of it until my six months were expired. You did tell me afterwards. The other owners were willing that I should receive the money.

Defendant, sworn, deposed—The *Daniel Webster* was sold on the 23rd Feb., 1874, for Tls. 4,200. I purchased her, on account of myself and the three other persons named. There was no agreement drawn up.

His Honour—That is at the bottom of the whole thing, and has led to this confusion. I believe in no other place but Shanghai, would property to the value of Tls. 4,200 be purchased on account of four persons, without an agreement being drawn up to show the terms on which it was purchased, and the purposes for which it was to be held. What was the verbal agreement, if there was one?

Defendant said they trusted to each other's honesty. There was a verbal agreement, that Vaughan and Jurgessen should remain in Messrs. Siemssen's employ in which they then were; and that all expenses were to be shared. It was thought that I also would be employed by Messrs. Siemssen, and that we would then club our earnings. They, however, found they did not want three pilots, and things went on as before. That went on till October last. An amalgamation of all the pilots in Shanghai, was next proposed, but that also fell through, and matters still went on as before, Vaughan and Jurgessen piloting the Hongkong steamers as usual. I have been working the boat myself, and they have not joined their earnings to mine, although I have often asked to do so.

His Honour—Then, by your own showing, there was no partnership between you.

Defendant—But partnership in piloting is different to anything else,—at least Sir Edmund Hornby ruled so in the Black Ball case.

Mr. Myburgh—But they had articles of association.

His Honour—I do not remember Sir Edmund Hornby ever ruling in the way you say. Community of profits is the test of a partnership.

Defendant—In the case of the *Lucerne*, we helped to save the crew, and rendered other assistance, and then divided the money equally. As we were partners then, we are partners now. With all deference, I contend it is a partnership. It is very hard upon me to have to take this man in, when it will interfere with my business to do so.

His Honour—You are not obliged to take him in. There are two or three ways out of the difficulty. For instance, you can sell your own share.

Defendant.—We all wish to sell. But could we not sell the schooner by auction?

His Honour.—Yes, you can do that, if you choose. But there is nothing to prevent Mr. Jurgessen selling his share or giving it away. He might give it to anybody.

Defendant.—It will vitiate my share very much to take plaintiff in.

Mr. Myburgh—You want it altogether for yourself.

Defendant—No, I do not; but I want respectable men to join me, so that captains will give me employment.

His Honour—I now come to the question of damages. Plaintiff says his average earnings are Tls. 200 per month.

Both plaintiff and defendant were questioned as to their earnings in the months of December, January, and February, which from their replies appeared to be nearly approximating to the plaintiff's statement.

His Honour said it was clear from the evidence that there was no partnership in the piloting business. Four men had bought a schooner between them in common, and it was perfectly open to any one of them to sell his share to whom he pleased. The person who bought it, stood in the shoes of the seller. Consequently, the plaintiff being the new owner of the share, defendant was wrong in refusing him permission to use the schooner. By reason of that act, the plaintiff had suffered loss, which he assessed at $99. He appeared to have been idle from the 12th to the 22nd February—to have lain by on his rights; of course he was not disposed to encourage plaintiff in such a proceeding, because his right of action commenced on the day of the defendant's refusal, and the case could have been heard soon afterwards, and the point decided. Still plaintiff was entitled to damages in respect of the clear invasion of his right of property, and he would allow him $25.

Mr. Myburgh—And costs?

His Honour—I will not allow more than the ordinary costs of Court. This is the result of dealing with valuable property without some written agreement, which could be produced to the Court.

Defendant—There was a verbal agreement.

His Honour—Your experience should teach you that a verbal agreement is of no use whatever.

Shanghai, March 5th.

Le-Ta-Li *v.* Kate Jessop.

Plaintiff claimed $74.25 for wages and money expended, as cook in the employ of the defendant.

Through Heding, the interpreter, he said his wages were $16 per month, and were three months and twenty-five days in arrear. The remainder of the amount claimed was for money expended. He went into the service in October, and never received any wages, although he applied for payment monthly. He found all the provisions required, for $35 per week, for sometimes four, five, and six persons. There were five persons living in the house. In the first three weeks he was paid clear, after that there was always a balance. Plaintiff produced his account book in Chinese, and said he had also a foreign account book, but it was taken away from him. He could not read, and his accounts were kept by a friend. The $35 per week were not to include wages. On the food account, there were now $13 due. On the 30th day of the Chinese month, he applied for payment of $35, and was told a foreign bill was necessary. He supplied one and received $32, leaving $3 on that account. The other $10 were due before that time. He did not put it down altogether, because the bills were weekly. He went one day to get provisions, and when he came back he found another cook in his place. He did not take out a summons earlier, because he was sick for two weeks, and afterwards because $3 were wanted for the summons, and he had to get it from his friends. He did not apply for payment when he was dismissed, and not until after he recovered. When he used to apply for payment, he was threatened to be beaten.

Defendant said the plaintiff's statement, as to the amounts he was to receive, was true. He was not dismissed, but left on his own account; and she had not seen him since, until now in Court. She had paid him everything, through her boy, who had got a receipt from plaintiff in Chinese, and she did not owe him a cent.

Defendant's boy was called, and said he sometimes paid the plaintiff—and sometimes

the defendant did. When plaintiff left, he paid him $32, the defendant having cut him $3. Plaintiff took the money. (Witness produced a receipt from plaintiff.)

His HONOUR said this was written on Jan. 28th.

Witness said that was when plaintiff was paid $70. He did not usually get a receipt, but did on this occasion, because it was found plaintiff was always making mistakes. $70 were paid to plaintiff the week before the 28th January, by witness, for which he also got a receipt, but it was lost. When plaintiff was paid the $32, he did not say any money was due to him. Plaintiff was not paid $35 regularly,—sometimes more, sometimes less. When he received the $32, he left the house, and at dinner time had not come back. After dinner he came back. There was another cook there at that time. He said something about his money being in arrear, and went away again. Witness did not pay him any money on account of wages. The servants' wages were always paid to them, personally.

Plaintiff on being asked, said he had nothing more to say.

Defendant, sworn, deposed—I paid plaintiff at different times, sometimes so much for the table, and so much for wages. I was very sick, and when I got well I paid him all I owed him, $70, for which I had a receipt in English, which I cannot find. He left without my knowledge, and I was obliged to get another cook. He came back late the same night, took his things, and I have never seen or heard of him since.

Plaintiff recalled, and shown the receipt above mentioned, said he remembered nothing about it.

The boy, recalled, said plaintiff gave it to him.

His HONOUR said he was not satisfied that any money was due. All the circumstances of the case seemed to point to the fact that plaintiff had been paid. He received the sums of $70 and $32 without demur; and then was the time for him to have complained. He did not think it likely that he would be paid for the table allowance, and nothing for his wages from first to last.

Judgment for defendant.

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Shanghai, March 9th.

HUGH SUTHERLAND *v.* JONATHAN BRANTHWAITE.

Plaintiff sued to recover $99, for damage done to his pilot-boat (No. 8), through the ship *Belted Will*, of which the defendant is captain, fouling her as she lay at anchor, near the mouth of the Yangtze, at two o'clock on the morning of the 26th ult.

WILLIAM MCKAY, boatkeeper of the No. 8, deposed that, at the time named, the boat was at anchor about four miles from the light-ship, waiting for the plaintiff, who was expected to come down the river with a steamer. About twenty minutes past two, Macpherson, a pilot, who was on board, said there was a ship coming up, which he supposed wanted a pilot, and he afterwards ordered a Chinaman to get out a flashlight, to show the captain where the boat lay. Four or five minutes afterwards, he ordered the Chinaman to show another. Soon after that, Macpherson came to witness in his berth, and told him to look out for himself, as he was sure the ship would run the boat down. Witness heard the orders given about the flashlights. He did not stop to dress, but ran on deck, and noticed the lantern in the rigging was burning quite brightly. He had been about three minutes on deck when the ship, which he afterwards ascertained to be the *Belted Will*, came in collision with the boat. Her starboard bow touched the boat's starboard bow, then passed along, grazing the boat's side, to her quarter, carrying away a lanyard and also the masthead, and damaging the bulwarks. The weather was pretty clean at the time. The boat was brought up the river to be repaired. The mast was broken close to the forestay.

By Plaintiff—The lantern was carried away at the same time, and the step of the mast has since been found to have been broken. The boat leaks a little more than she did before, and is "started" on both quarters.

Plaintiff was then sworn, and deposed that he was the owner of the boat. After she was brought up the river, he examined her, and found her damaged as above described. He had called in a Chinese carpenter to estimate the cost of repairing her, which he set down at Tls. 100. (Estimate produced.) Plaintiff had spent Tls. 70 on the boat only a month before, strengthening and repairing her. Flash-lights were used to let ships know the whereabout of a pilot-boat, and also as a means of preventing danger.

JOHN MACPHERSON, the pilot referred to by the first witness, was also examined, and entered very minutely into details as to the boat's position, and also that of the ship when approaching her. He was under the impression that the vessel wanted a pilot, and therefore ordered the flash-lights to be burned, and ordered his crew to commence to get the boat underweigh, to save time in getting to the ship. He burnt a second flashlight, because he thought the ship was coming too close to him, but she still came on. He then hailed the ship, to put the helm hard-a-starboard, so as to avoid striking the boat, and heard some one on board ship cry out, "a light right ahead," but heard no answer. The ship's course was, however, slightly altered, and so avoided a direct collision. It was a clear morning, and Gutzlaff light was visible. The remainder of the witness's testimony was corroborative of that the first witness.

The defendant's statement was to the effect that, at about two in the morning of the 26th, he was on deck, near the man at the wheel. The pilot was also near at hand, and the ship was steering toward the lightvessel, when he suddenly heard the chief officer, who was on the forecastle securing the anchor, suddenly call out to starboard the helm, as there was a light ahead. The word was passed two or three times, showing the case was urgent, and he (the captain) ran to the wheel to assist the man to get it round quickly. After that he looked over the side and saw a small boat a little on the starboard bow, but no light. The ship was close to her, and as she passed, her foreyard caught the boat's mast and broke it. The people on board the boat were "singing out," and appeared in great confusion. All that could be done had then been done on board the ship, and it was a narrow escape for the boat's crew.

FRANCIS GRANDIN, the chief officer, and ROBERT DAVIDSON, the second officer, of the *Belted Will*, also gave evidence, which was in effect a repetition of the main facts contained in the captain's statement. The second officer, however, admitted that he heard the look-out man report a light ahead, and it was not till his second report (about a minute afterwards) that any order was given to starboard.

WILLIAM WITTHOFT, the look-out man on board the *Belted Will*, deposed that about two in the morning of the 26th ult., he saw a small light, "like a steamer's light far away," and reported it, but got no answer. He turned round to see if anybody was behind him to pass the word along, but there was a great noise of men bawling, and he turned to look at the light again, and then saw a flash-light, where he had seen the other, and reported it again. No notice was taken of this, and he turned round once more to see what it was. He then saw the flash-light moved backwards and forwards, and as he was reporting a light for the third time, he heard the mate calling out to hard-a-starboard the helm. Between the time of his first seeing and reporting the small light and the helm being altered, perhaps two minutes had gone, and witness thought if the helm had been starboarded when he first called out, the boat would have been cleared.

Plaintiff cross-examined all those witnesses, but elicited nothing more material than the facts above given.

His HONOUR said that however it might have been on the evidence of the captain and chief officer, it was quite clear, after the evidence of the second officer, and more especially of the look-out, that the ship was in fault. The fact was the officer of the watch was superintending the crew in the work of securing the anchor, and, consequently, either the report of the look out was not heard or was not attended to. It was no use having a look-out, unless attention was paid to his reports, and the steps necessitated by them taken. In the present case, there could be no doubt that, if the order had been given to starboard on the first report of the look-out, the boat would have been easily cleared, considering it was after a delay of about two minutes, she was all but cleared. It was not necessary to go into the question whether the boat had a proper light or no, because the evidence showed she was seen from the ship in ample time to enable those on board to avoid a collision. He (his Honour) believed that there was a proper light, and if not was not seen by the captain and officers, it was not seen till the flare-up light was being waved about, and the effect of that would be to obscure the smaller lantern light. Judgment would therefore be entered for the plaintiff on the point of the collision being ascribable to the ship. As to the amount of damages,

Defendant said he had reason to think the amount claimed was exorbitant.

His HONOUR said he ought to have gone and examined the boat, in order to be prepared with his view of the amount of damages. He had now better take his carpenter, and make an examination of the boat, with the plaintiff. If they could agree on the amount themselves, there would be no necessity for coming to the Court again on that point.

Plaintiff and Macpherson asked for Tls. 10 per day each, as compensation for the detention of the boat, as they had been unable to pursue their avocation as pilots since the occurrence.

His HONOUR said he was not trying that question now, and could not entertain it at that moment.

Clippings.

A correspondent writes from San Francisco under date December 24th :—

"We are here in the midst of a mining stock excitement and crisis unparalleled I believe in the history of the world; the advance in the last six weeks, representing hundreds of millions of dollars, and based on genuine developements of such bodies of ore as the world has never heard of before."

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One appointment deserves particular notice—that of Mr. Lister to the Post-Office. At all hands it is acknowledged that Mr. Mitchell has been a most excellent Postmaster, and his departure from us we shall sincerely regret. But Mr. Mitchell has essayed other offices—Magistrate, Auditor of several Companies, etc.,—and thrice in the last few years has, we believe, been upon a tour of inspection. During his absence at such times, and on all occasions, the control has devolved, as Assistant Postmaster upon Mr. S. Barff, who came out from England some six years ago, after probationary training at the London General Post-Office, through the influence of the Duke of Buckingham, upon the nomination of the then English Colonial Secretary, to fill the position he still holds. Ever attentive and indefatigable in his duties, he was led, by the countenance and recommendation of his superior, to look for recognition of his services, by promotion. Such has been withheld from him, and an entire stranger to the routine of a Post-Office appointed over his head. Mr. Lister we have not a word to say against. Our readers can judge for themselves how he has fulfilled the obligations of Coroner, Sheriff, &c., &c., &c., but this we do say, that it is poor encouragement indeed for a proficient man, striving his best, to be shelved in this manner. It must look as if he was not deserving of confidence and responsibility, and most certainly is calculated to damage his or any other individual's prospects in life. We trust the appointment of Mr. Lister is but temporary, and consider that for the mantle of Mr. Mitchell to fall upon Mr. Barff would, by the Colonists, be thought a graceful and deserved act by the Home Authorities. How to account for the selection of Mr. Lister, we know not, unless it is that at "Government House" *Kissing goes by favour!* We hope that it is not yet too late to move in the matter of this appointment, and should be pleased to note that a memorial in favour of Mr. Barff received a warm response, which, as the Governor is leaving for the old Country, he surely could not refuse to convey to Lord Carnarvon, upon whom, we presume, his first call will be made. Better still, and we suppose the finances of the Colony will admit of the trifling expense, for His Excellency to telegraph to His Lordship. It would, *palmam qui meruit ferat*, be one more proof that he has regarded the best interests of the Colony.—*Hongkong Times.*

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 10TH, 1875.

Arrivals from Europe, since 3rd instant, have been the steamship *Diomed* from Liverpool, and the London mails of 15th and 22nd January, per M. M. steamer *Hoogly* and P. & O. steamer *Avoca*.

Telegram.—That from London dated 5th March, quotes W. B. *Lead*, £23 per ton; *Iron*, £10 per ton; *Cotton* and *Cotton Goods*, unchanged. The export of plain *Cottons* to Shanghai, during last month, was reported as 19,000,000 yards.

PIECE GOODS.—Communication with Tientsin by sea has this year commenced about a week earlier than usual. The ice in the Peiho broke up on 25th ultimo, and the first steamer hence, the *Shanse*, reached Sze-Tchu-Lin on 2nd instant. She returned to this port yesterday morning, with advices a shade more hopeful than was expected. Sales of Common 7-lb. *T-Cloths* at Tls. 1.22 *a* 23 per piece, and of Dewhurst's best 64 Reed *White Shirtings* at Tls. 2.29, receding in the course of a few hours to Tls. 2.23 per piece, to arrive had been effected, and although business in *Grey Shirtings* had not been fairly resumed, there was a better feeling abroad, and the following are given as the probable opening rates, viz., *Globe* Chop Tls. 1.60 per piece; *Peacock* Tls. 1.61 *a* 1.62; *Two Lion* Tls. 1.66; *Double Cash* Tls. 1.56 per piece and so on. Common 7-lb. *T-Cloths*, *Drills* and *Jeans* were in good request, and "*Woollens* in strong "demand, especially *White Camlets*, for which almost any price can be obtained; Scarlet also wanted." The foreigners at Hankow have not been doing much by way of sales, and the quotations furnished in their latest letters compare unfavorably with what have been paid here by buyers for the river districts. Japan.—By last accounts the markets were very quiet. Nagasaki was the only place at which there was any business going on, and that was confined chiefly to the commoner makes of 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings*. These, however, were saleable in little lots at saving rates.

On this market there has been a large general trade in Piece Goods since this day week, and a strengthening tendency in the enquiry for several articles is apparent at the close.

Grey Shirtings.—Ordinary 7-lbs. have been in constant request at Tls. 1.36 *a* 1.39 per piece, but buyers have not been able to get many within that range. They have, however, secured a few of the better descriptions, paying for Mendel's *Horse and Jockey* Tls. 1.42, for *Red Pheasant* Tls. 1.43, and for Collie's *Spread Eagle* Tls. 1.45 per piece. Sales 12,000 pieces, and the lower qualities still wanted. 8¼-lbs.—Attention has been fixed on Dewhurst's *Eagle* principally, and there has also been a few transactions in good medium chops; but, until yesterday, when a faint enquiry sprang up, the market for the inferior classes was depressed. Holders of Dewhurst's *Eagle* chop have succeeded in establishing a further rise. On 6th instant, favorite letters realised Tls. 1.93 per piece, and on the 8th Tls. 1.93½ was refused for D. A. An improvement is also noticeable in the offers for Mendel's *Hand and Branch* which is worth again Tls. 1.96 *a* 1.97 per piece, while other passable chops, such as *Dog*, *Collie's Lion on Bale*, *&c.*, have found merchants at Tls. 1.70 *a* 1.74 per piece. A speculative parcel of Dewhurst's *Red Pheasant* has been on offer for some days, however, at Tls. 1.79 per piece and as yet no buyer has turned up. Sales 48,000 pieces. *Heavy Shirtings*.—A strong demand has prevailed throughout the week. Every piece of cloth in stock and most of the floating cargoes have been bought up, while buyers' operations have extended to Dewhurst's *Eagle* not yet shipped from home. A sale of the last character comprising 5,000 pieces at Tls. 2.65 was effected as last mail was leaving, and a like quantity to arrive per steamship *Nestor* was booked on 8th instant at Tls. 2.70 per piece. For *Tunsin* (Dewhurst's) Eagle, the retail figure is over Tls. 2.90 per piece. Collie's *Spread Eagle* has also been settled for distant arrival, the price being Tls. 2.62; and other chops have been disposed of on terms equally favorable to the sellers. Total business in *Heavy Shirtings* estimated at over 35,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—The enquiry for 56 *a* 60 Reeds has hardened a little, and rather more business in them has been done at quotations. There have also been some transactions in 64 Reeds at a slight improvement on former prices. Sales, 7,000 pieces.

T-Cloths.—8-lbs. 36 inch of the ordinary classes have been much sought after, and some chops have improved in value 2 *a* 3 c. per piece. The total of the week's sales is very nearly 30,000 pieces. The demand for Common 6-lbs. and 7-lbs. has also continued, and for some of Collie's *Lion-on-bale* quality, the dealers have given Tls. 1.28 per piece. The recent arrivals have not brought supplies of these low counts, and in the absence of stocks, or business, quotations are nominal.—Ordinary Mexican kinds have likewise received much notice, but holders, as a rule, demand higher prices than buyers are willing to give, and hence business in them has been smaller than it would have otherwise been. A few thousand pieces of the fine to finest makes have changed hands, and a sale of 5,000 pieces of *Chop Dollars* at Tls. 1.53 per piece is reported on the market. Estimated sales of 6-lbs. and 7-lbs. *T-Cloths*—47,000 pieces.

Drills, Jeans, and Sheetings.—For each of these fabrics some enquiry has prevailed, and trifling sales in them have taken place. 15-lbs. *English Drills.*—*Dragon*—have been settled to extent of 2,500 pieces at Tls. 2.36 *a* 2.39 per piece. Of *Jeans*, the settlements reach nearly 6,000 pieces at Tls. 1.83 *a* 1.88 per piece, and *Sheetings*—English 15-lbs.—figure in the market book at Tls. 2.95 for 1,500 pieces. The probability is that a larger trade in *Drills* and *Jeans* will now be done—the news from Tientsin regarding both being considered favorable. As for *Sheetings*, there are no more in stock.

Fancy Cottons.—*Handkerchiefs* have again been largely dealt in at Tls. 0.52 per dozen, and a stronger market for *Dimities* has resulted in a few cents advance. There have been sales of *Irishes* also at improved prices, and *Chintzes* have been more frequently asked for at rather better rates. The sales of *Fancies* reported are as follows:—*Dimities*, 2,000 pieces at Tls. 1.35 *a* 1.55 per piece. *Handkerchiefs*, 14,000 doz. at Tls. 0.49 *a* 0.53 per doz. *Muslins* or *Lawns*, 500 pieces at Tls. 0.90 per piece. *Irish Linens*, 500 pieces at Tls. 3.20 per piece, and *Chintzes*, assorted, 1,250 pieces at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.35 per piece.

Woollens.—The business of the week comprises—1,380 pieces *Medium Cloths* at Tls. 1.00 *a* 1.30 per yard; 1,100 pieces of *Camlets*, assorted, principally C.P.H., at Tls. 12.50 for black, and Tls. 13.25 *a* 14.00 per piece. 250 pieces of H.D.B., plain black *Lustres*, at Tls. 4.00 per piece; 1,000 pieces of black *Lastings* at Tls. 10.25 *a* 10.45 per piece; and 1,300 pieces of *Figured Orleans* at Tls. 2.89 *a* 3.20 per piece. *Spanish Stripes* are light in stock, and a slight speculative demand that has lately been making itself felt, has not resulted in any sales, offers being too low. In *Long Ells* there has been no movement.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	14.0.0	14.5.0	13.0.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.5.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.5	7.0.0	6.8.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.6.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.8½	0.5.4	0.5.9	0.6.0	0.6.0	...	...	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.6.4

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 4TH MARCH, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.	Brown
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	13.67½	13.35	13.97½/14.00	13.00	13.32½	...	.....	.....	12.85	12.65	...
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.52¼/13.62½	13.15/13.22½	13.90/13.95	12.97½	13.20/13.25	...	.....	12.10/12.12½	12.80/12.85	12.55/12.60	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.57¼/0.57¾	0.56	0.57¼/0.57½	0.60½	.....	0.61	0.57	0.60½/0.61	0.56¾/0.57½	.....	...
C.P.H. Long Ells, p. pce ,,	7.25/7.27	6.97/7.00	6.82	...	7.23	...	.....	7.20	6.60		6.10

Sales.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.55; S.S.G., 800 pcs., av. Tls. 13.45 per piece.
Long Ells, C.P.H., 460 pcs. av. Tls. 7.10 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 504 pcs. av. Tls. 0.57⅜; H.H. Scarlet, 120 pcs. at Tls. 0.59 *a* 0.59¼ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock chop, 2,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.59½ *a* 1.59¾ per piece.

		T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...	₱ pc.	1.3.6	to	1.5.2
8½ @ 8¾ lbs.	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.3½
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.1.5	,,	2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.....	,,	2.5.5	,,	2.7.0
Tun Sin	,,	2.9.5	,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₱ pc.	1.6.0	,,	1.7.0
60 reed	,,	1.7.3	,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ...	,,	1.9.0	,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
Best.....	,,	2.8.0	,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...		3.3.5	,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....		2.3.0	,,	2.4.4
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...		2.6.0	,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....		2.2.7	,,	2.3.5
JEANS, D'ch., 30 yd. 30in. 8¼lb...		2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...		1.8.3	,,	1.9.2
American ,, ,, ,, ...		2.7.5	,,	.....
SHEETINGS—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....		3.7.0	,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....		2.7.5	,,	3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.0.8	,,	1.1.2
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.2.2	,,	1.2.8
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.0	,,	1.3.0
7-lbs. ,, ...	,,	1.3.3	,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.5.8	,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX		1.8.0	,,	2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in.	₱ dz.	0.4.5	,,	0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White	₱ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.4.5	,,	2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.0	,,	2.7.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.4.0	,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.5.2
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.5	,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...		2.0.0	,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...		3.7.0	,,	4.2.5
T. REDS, 24 yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in.	,,	1.7.0	,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,		2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	₱ yd.	0.1.6½	,,	0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.4	,,	0.1.5
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.1
BLUE DENIMS	,,	0.0.3½	,,	0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	₱ pc.	1.2.0	,,	1.3.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.6.0	,,	0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S	,, ,,	13.0.0	,,	14.0.0
G G	,, ,,	13.5.5	,,	.....
S S G	,, ,,	13.4.5	,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	₱ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.5.7	,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.8	,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,,	.....
LONG ELLS—				
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom.	₱ pc.	7.2.5	,,	.....
,, C P H	,, ,,	7.2.5	,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,, ,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
,, C P H	,, ,,	7.0.0	,,	.....
,, G G	,, ,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds	,,	9.5.0	,,	12.6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES	,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black.....	,,	3.7.5	,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—Fair settlements are again reported of "M.M." and "Belgian" at Tls. 2.85 *a* 2.90 and Tls. 2.60 per picul respectively, importers being willing sellers at these rates. Arrivals of best Iron continue light, and prices remain firm, but common qualities are in over-supply and quotations are rather weak. *Lead.*—The additional decline of 7s. 6d. per ton has not strengthened the tone of our market, but at the same time foreign holders thus far have taken but little regard of the lower rates telegraphed from home, and few of them care to sell hard cargo at Tls. 6.10 per picul, which is the rate established for L. B. by resales amongst the natives. Transactions to arrive at Tls. 6.00 per picul for L. B. on foreign account have been entered into, and there are to-day rumours of business for delivery two months hence at lower rates. *Tin.*—The quietness prevailing at the close of last week has continued and quotations upon a very limited businss have fallen 2 to 3 mace per picul. *Copper.*—Enquiry has entirely subsided. Stocks of best *Copper* are exhausted, and quotations for *Ore* are purely nominal.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

			Tls. m. c.		
QUICKSILVER		per Pcl.	155.0.0	*a*	160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....		per Box	6.4.0	*a*	.....
Small ,, ...		,,	.....		.....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	nominal	per Pcl.	6.5.0	*a*	6.7.5
18 ...	no demand.	,,	7.0.0	*a*	.....
19/23		,,	7.7.5	*a*	8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom....		,,	20.0.0	*a*	.....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...		,,	19.3.0	*a*	.....
Common Chops... ,, ...		,,	13.7.0	*a*	.....
STEEL		per Tub	3.3.0	*a*	3.4.0
Bamboo		per Pcl.	4.4.0	*a*	4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...		,,	.....	*a*	.....
Slab, best ... ,, ...		,,	.....	*a*	... ..
Ore ..... ,, ...		,,	.....	*a*	.....
HOOP IRON		,,	3.3.0	*a*	3.4.0
PIG IRON		per Ton	30.0.0	*a*	31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—					
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.		per Pcl.	3.1.5	*a*	3.2.0
Belgian..... ,, ...		,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.6.5
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...		,,	2.8.5	*a*	2.9.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...		,,	2.9.0	*a*	3.1.0
Round		,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.		,,	6.1.0	*a*	.....
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...		,,	... ..	*a*	.....

		Tls. m. c.		
COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0	*a*	8.6.0
,, Medium	,,	9.0.0	*a*	9.6.0
,, Best.....	,,	10.0.0	*a*	10.6.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0	*a*	6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0	*a*	5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0	*a*	5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	*a*	5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0	*a*	4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0	*a*	4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	*a*	2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	8.8.0	*a*	9.0.0
—White	,,	15.0.0	*a*	18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	*a*	4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0	*a*	4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	*a*	2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0	*a*	3.7.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0	*a*	10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0	*a*	18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0	*a*	1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.8	*a*	0.5.5

FREIGHTS.—*Silver Eagle*, Br. sh., 895 tons, Shanghai to New York, no lay days—private terms; *Eaglet*, Br. bq., 391 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 18 lay days—$0.41 per picul; *Sally*, Br. bq,, 296 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 20 lay days—$0.41 per picul; *Lulu*, Am. sch., 388 tons, Shanghai to Tientsin, no lay days, $3,000 in full, and from Newchwang to Swatow, no lay days—$0.35 per picul; *Uranus*, Norw. bq., 486 tons, Newchwang to Whampoa, 25 lay days—$0.45 per picul; *Nadeshda*, Dan. sch., 185 tons, Newchwang to Hongkong, 15 lay days—$0.40 per picul; *Ocean*, Br. str., 970 tons, Newchwang to Whampoa, no lay days—$0.45 per picul; *Janet*, Br. bq., 215 tons, Shanghai to Tientsin and from Newchwang to Swatow or Amoy, 27 lay days—$0.66 per picul; *J. H. Jessen*, Ger. bq., 276 tons, Shanghai to Tientsin and from Newchwang to Swatow or Hongkong, 30 lay days—$0.65 per picul; *Foochow*, Br. str., 533 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, no lay days—private terms; *Swatow*, Br. str., — tons, Newchwang to Swatow, no lay days—private terms; *Estepona*, Br. str., 676 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 14 lay days—$0.40 per picul.

COTTON.—A smaller business has to be recorded this week, the delivering of former settlements having engaged most attention. Quotations for low and fair staples are nominally the same as those given last week, but prices for the lowest, or *refuse*, have gone up in consequence of orders from YOKOHAMA.

EXCHANGE.—Rates are again firmer, one of the Banks having sold a fair amount at 5s. 9¼d. At the close, however, the best rate quoted is 5s. 9⅛d. In Private paper there is not much doing. The business done has been at 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d. for Credits, and 5s. 9⅝d, for Documents. On India, business has been done at Rs. 306½ on Bombay, and Rs. 307½ on Calcutta. On Hongkong, 27 per cent. is offered by the Banks without meeting much demand.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7⅛d.		₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅛d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅝d.		,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.33¾		,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 307½	₱ 100	Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 306½	₱ 100	,,
ON HONGKONG.—Bank Bills, demand, 27 per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27¼ per cent. disc.		

INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.30 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.60 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 173 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,530 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 10th March are reported as :—

Stock on 24th February	Malwa,	2,890½	Chests.	Patna,	2,003	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	2,215½	,,	,,	65	,,
Total	,,	5,106½	,,	Total	2,068	,,
Deliveries from 24th February	,,	1493	,,	,,	453	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,613½	,,	,,	1,615	,,

Bargained Opium.....1,300 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New,...	Tls. 420	420	420
Old,	Tls. 435	435	435
Patna—New,...	Tls. 440	434	434
Old,	Tls. 440	434	434

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is :—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,374,704	lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	1,466,624	,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,042,788	,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	3,294,871	,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	51,684,532	lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,179,680	,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,384,342	,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	7,242,836	,,

Black.—There is nothing to report.

Green.—There has been a more general enquiry since our last, and prices for the finer qualities of country Teas are now firm at about last mail's quotations ; for common chops prices have been less firm, and some purchases have been effected at lower rates than have been current for many years.

The Stock is now moderate and is being rapidly reduced, Teas of good quality especially being scarce.

				Against 1874.
Settlements—Fychows, Moyunes etc.	16,400 ½-chests.	Stock,	38,000 ½-chests.	2,118 ½chests.
,, Pingsueys	2,150 ,,	,,	3,950 ,,	596 ,,
,, Shanghai packed	410 ,,	,,	3,540 ,,	1,500 ,,
	18,960 ½-chests.		45,490 ½-chests.	4,214 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	London, Freight, £3.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Moyunes etc.	Tls. 14 *a* 35	= /10 *a* 1/10¼	= 20½ *a* 47½ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 20½ *a* 22½	= 1/1¾ *a* 1/3	= 28⅝ *a* 31½ ,,
Shanghai packed	Tls. 17 ...	= 11¾ ...	= 24½ ... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,038,571 lbs.	58,663,867 lbs.	61,262,838 lbs.
Green	10,825,641 ,,	9,359,017 ,,	10,716,978 ,,
	75,864,212 lbs.	68,022,884 lbs.	71,979,816 lbs.

Export to United States and Canada—

Black	1,843,937 lbs.	801,149 lbs.	1,277,804 lbs.
Green	16,783,241 ,,	20,078,112 ,,	22,849,569 ,,
	18,627,178 lbs.	20,879,261 lbs.	24,127,373 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows :—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	75,864,212 lbs.	68,022,884 lbs.	71,979,816 lbs.
,, Foochow to 13th Feb.	61,581,299 ,,	55,448,663 ,,	52,937,142 ,,
,, Canton to 1st Mar.	19,863,912 ,,	15,383,512 ,,	20,178,078 ,,
	157,309,423 lbs.	138,855,059 lbs.	145,095,036 lbs.

SILK.—By last public telegrams the London silk market is reported as "Flat and little doing." Fair No. 5 Tsatlee is quoted at 12/6 ; Hangchow Tsatlee at 12/6 ; and inferior Kahing Taysaams at 11/6 per lb. ; and the deliveries of Chinas to the 9th instant, are given as 1,000 bales.

The M. M. steamer *Ava* which left on the 4th instant, took 933 bales, of which 467 were for London, 455 for the Continent, and 11 for the Coast, and the following prices were paid for well known chops.

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Koo-fong-sing Chop No. 3 Tsatlee	Tls. 415	20s. 6d.	Frs. 57.30
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and "Kin Hock" Tsat.	Tls. 340 & 310	16s. 10d. & 15s. 4d.	Frs. 47.10 and 43.05
Pagoda Chop No. 2 Tsatlee Beautiful Woman Chop No. 2 Tsatlee Buffalo Chop No. 2 Tsatlee	Tls. 325	16s. 1d.	Frs. 45.10
Blue and Yellow Elephant	Tls. 325 & 300	16s. 1d. & 14s. 11d.	Frs. 45.10 and 41.70
Red Peacock	Tls. 320	15s. 10d.	Frs. 44.40
Bird Chop "King-ling"	Tls. 307½	15s. 3d.	Frs. 42.52

Settlements this week reach 900 bales, giving a total of 1,700 for the fortnight, amongst which the most notable purchases are :—Chick Chop, Nos. 3, 3½ & 4 Tsatlee at Tls. 417½, 397½, 377½ per picul ; Pang-e-tai's, "Ting-how" and

"Tay-or" Tsatlee, at Tls. 332½, and 312½ per picul; Beautiful Woman, No. 2 Tsatlee, at Tls. 322½ per picul; Red Peacock, at Tls. 320 per picul; Fatmow's chop, No. 2 Haining, at Tls. 312.

A few purchases of re-reeled Tsatlees are reported for the American market, at prices showing *a slight advance*, on those paid for last mail.

Arrivals continue very insignificant, and the unsold stock is reduced to 2,800 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 8th March, 1875 compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 46 @ 51, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	5,800	17,720	6,350	26,649	5,600	82,550	...	850	250	4,700	250	...	...	10,450
T-Cloths..... ,,	3,780	10,600	4,060	8,970	3,465	72,804	...	1,250	...	1,100	900	...	...	13,560
White Shirtings ..... ,,	330	850	100	4,850	1,048	49,194	...	50	...	30	300	500	100	3,780
Drills ..... ,,	300	120	...	60	210	40,070	...	...	75	930	1,860	...	...	1,560
Jeans ..... ,,	210	30	...	1,470	200	30,878	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	600	3,165	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	100	...	99	746	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	50	50	50	300	1,570	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	200
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	120	212	680	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Chintzes ..... ,,	170	785	110	1,282	60	4,185	...	110	833	...	...	...	480	2,150
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	100	250	...	...	1,170	5,198	...	...	...	...	500	...	...	50
Velvets ..... ,,	20	48	78	270	60	180	...	...	...	120	288	...	...	180
Velveteens..... ,,	72	...	24	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	900	850	1,000	...	1,160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	196	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Dimities ..... ,,	...	..	100	...	...	370	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	30	162	102	330	66	942	...	72	24	...	36	...	120	306
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	36	159	28	192	6	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Camlets ..... ,,	150	310	280	1,200	100	740	...	20	310	...	20	...	90	160
Long Ells ..... ,,	40	180	180	820	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	60	60
Lastings..... ,,	60	20	40	520	60	1,178	...	40	20	100	...	...	40	80
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	40	...	...	40	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	..	50	...	...	...	200	200	...	...	50
,, Figured ..... ,,	420	569	170	1,350	160	3,258	...	...	370	210	60	...	6	560
,, Crape ..... ,,	30	80	50	750	100	1,800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	353	1,126	...	...	....	...	...	...	...	424	...	840	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	112	359	1,243	840	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 10/3/74.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	161,169	536,422	153,549	732,170	1,418,700	853,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	120,489	289,827	44,187	197,306	513,000	1,184,000
White Shirtings..... ,,	61,132	95,831	27,634	124,688	124,700	94,400
Drills ..... ,,	45,185	64,797	7,689	50,082	229,300	457,200
Jeans ..... ,,	32,938	45,658	14,020	54,828	37,700	103,800
Sheetings..... ,,	600	680	600	10,600	11,600	54,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	3,765	7,841	4,045	14,253	9,300	3,400
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	.....	350	2,560
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800
Brocades, White ..... ,,	1,095	2,690	2,449	4,738	4,300	708
,, Dyed ..... ,,	2,370	7,090	499	10,782	32,900	26,200
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	1,092	1,576	638	4,720	10,200	6,200
Chintzes ..... ,,	10,165	19,785	3,211	13,753	82,600	128,000
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	7,268	16,116	907	22,615	33,300	38,000
Velvets..... ,,	1,244	7,882	2,796	11,627	11,400	14,900
Velveteens ..... ,,	204	1,128	750	2,186	2,300	8,200
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	3,910	24,690	4,200	11,502	59,600	143,000
Muslins .....Pcs.	896	1,602	.....	700	10,200	24,400
Dimities ..... ,,	870	1,820	.....	230	13,100	10,300
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	2,190	7,304	1,272	8,738	12,200	36,100
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	609	2,730	274	2,938	10,600	21,000
Camlets ..... ,,	3,380	11,760	1,870	13,603	24,700	25,300
Long Ells..... ,,	1,360	11,760	2,040	9,720	7,000	12,700
Lastings ..... ,,	2,158	4,628	660	4,920	12,700	8,700
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	240	1,040	100	1,900	10,000	4,300
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	500	3,950	600	3,149	3,200	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	7,133	19,439	3,400	11,200	120,300	138,500
,, Crape ..... ,,	2,840	4,450	500	2,500	19,200	12,700
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	2,618	13,120	.....	10,633	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,743	14,394	3,360	30,294	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Sunda, Corea, Egeria, Glenartney, Belted Will, Glamis Castle, Foochow, Avoca, Hoogly, Diomed,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

March 11, 1875.

Arrivals.—March 9th, American barque *James S. Stone*, from Newcastle, N.S.W., and British ship *Her Royal Highness*, from Singapore; 9th, British s.v. *Dilpussund*, from Sydney.

Departures.—None.

The English mail steamer *Sunda* takes about 680 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers 5s. 9⅞d. *a* 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 10d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.30. Private, Frs. 7.35 *a* 7.37½. On India—Bombay Bank demand, Rs. 306½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 307½ *a* 308. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅝. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.175 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.50 per 100. Copper cash, 1,540 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

S. S. N. Co.—There has been a considerable business done since our last report at rapidly improving rates. The market opening at Tls. 70, and closing with sales at Tls. 83 for cash, and Tls. 84½ for 30th April.

H. & S. Bank.—The improvement noted in our last, continued till 5th instant, when the rate touched 10 per cent. *dis.* and Exchange 73½; after that rate the demand fell off, and quotations were nominal till yesterday, when a fair business was done at 16 per cent. *dis.* and Exchange 72½. There is now some enquiry at better rates.

Fire Insurance Shares.—*Chinas* and *Victorias* have been in fair demand, and rates have improved to $133 for the former, and $124 for the latter, but little business has transpired owing to the scarcity of shares. There has been no business reported in *Hongkongs*, which are obtainable at $490.

Marine Insurance.—No business reported, all shares firm at quotations.

Hongkew Wharf Co.—Pending consideration of the proposed amalgamation with Jardine's Wharves, there has been very little enquiry for shares. Sales were made yesterday at par ex. div.

The Weather continued fine till Sunday, when rain began to fall, and it has since been damp and warm. The thermometer has fluctuated between 33 and 70, the maximum having been attained on Saturday. It has since fallen to (yesterday) 55.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 % disct. ex 72½
Steamer Cos.			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	8 p. c.	Tls. 83 Cash, 84½ April
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½ nominal
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	215
Peotung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd).	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	200 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 86½
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	490 ex div.
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	124
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal.
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	4 p. c.	100 ex div.
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£98 ex 5/7

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J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, for Nagasaki—Mr. K. Y. Nambue; 6 Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mrs. Jamieson; 8 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Mr. F. M. Smith; 8 Chinese in steerage. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Takasaga Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. C. H. Nail and W. Spence. For Yokohama—Captain Mooney, Messrs. P. V. Grant and Acherboy.

Arrived.—Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, from Japan Ports—Captain Marstan, Messrs. Wheeler, E. Rogers, John Thorne, L. Pfaff, and 10 in the steerage. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Bell and European servant, Captain Saunders and child, Mr. Layton; 48 Chinese in steerage. Per Mitsu Bitshi str. *Takasago Maru*, from Yokohama—Mons. Pelichon, French Consul for Hongkong. From Kobe—Messrs. H. Reynell, Ed. Voigt, Capt. C. F. Pope. From Nagasaki—Mr. R. Johnston; 5 Chinese in steerage. Per str. *Diomed*, from Hongkong—Mr. Walker; 100 Chinese in steerage. Per P. & O. str. *Avoca*, from Southampton—Mrs. Haselwood, Mrs. Farr and child. From Hongkong—Mr. Bromley; 66 Chinese. Per M. M. str. *Hoogly*, from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Lepper and child, Messrs. Rahl and Hum. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Miss E. Caval, Miss Mansfield, Miss Black, Messrs. Rougelot, Dupuy de l'Orne, Ewald, Bigsby, T. T. Kneglh, Wuick Lieig, H. Wuick Ling, Seymour, D. L. Tata. E. W. Mala, S. Veslongie, Yu-Tchong-choy, P. H. Sichel, O. Sichel, Gore-Booth. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—102 Chinese. Per str. *Formosa*, from Hongkong—Mr. Hillier. Per str. *Shanse*, from Tientsin—Seven passengers. From Newchwang—Mr. Cylatt. Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—7 Chinese. Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Mr. A. Smith. From Chinkiang—Mr. McNutt.

Leaving.—Per *Sunda*, for Venice—Messrs. W. A. Turnbull, Oscar Eschke, F. Deichmuller. For Brindisi—Dr. Valentiner. For Southampton—Messrs. F. A. Shepherd.

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

The China Fire Insurance Co. (Limited.)

Head Office—Hongkong.

Capital.....$2,000,000
Paid up $400,000
Reserve Fund 1st Jan. 1873, $116,96

THE undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Risks on Buildings and/or their Contents on the usual terms and conditions, to the extent of Tls. 75,000 on any one separate risk. Twenty-five per cent. (25%) of the net profits distributed annually to Contributing Shareholders.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

tf 2054 Shanghai, 17th July, 1873.

INSURANCE.

THE undersigned, as Agents for the British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (Limited), are prepared to issue Policies on Silk and Tea by Steamers of The P. & O. Co., Messageries Maritimes and Ocean Steamship Co., at the following premiums:—

	All Risks.	Free of Particular Average.
Shanghai to London, Silk,	1½ %	1¼ %
Shanghai to London, Tea,	2¼ %	1½ %
Hankow to London, Tea,	2¾ %	2 %

Subject to a Discount of 15 %.

Risks accepted on other first-class Steamers and sailing vessels at current rates.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents.

19my 2084 Shanghai, 20th May, 187

The London Assurance Corporation.

Established A D. 1720

THE undersigned Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to issue policies covering *Fire and Marine risks* at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

tf 2055 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 187

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 410. SHANGHAI, MARCH 18, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Jan. 29	Hankow,	Mar. 14
San Francisco, ...	„ 15	Yokohama,	Feb. 9
Hongkong,	Mar. 13	Nagasaki,	Mar. 16
Tientsin,	„ 13	Foochow,	„ 12

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
Hongkong, ...Dec. 24 } Received 20th Jan.
Shanghai, ... „ 18 }

BIRTHS.

At Ningpo, on the 13th instant, the wife of GUSTAV DETRING, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 12th March, at Chefoo, the wife of Mr. A. MOLESWORTH, of a son.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force	Wind. Direction.
Mar	° ′	°	°	°					
11	29.950	58.0	59.0	51.0	8	f	2	0	Z
12	29.952	54.0	58.0	47.0	8	o	11	3	South.
13	29.900	57.5	59.0	49.0	9	c		5	N. N. W.
14	30.050	54.0	56.0	46.0	8	c	2	6	E. S. E.
15	29.900	52.5	54.0	47.0	8	r	6	6	E. N. E.
16	30.255	50.5	52.0	45.0	8	o	4	6	N. E.
17	30.204	49.0	51.0	41.0	8	o	4	3	E. N. E

EXPLANATION.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy). o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm; Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, MAR. 18, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

General. It would be an omission not to note the marked recognition which the Chinese have twice shown, during the year, of the growing influence of the Press. The first occasion was in connection with the famous Yang yeh-liu trial. Our readers will remember the brutal torture to which this man was subjected by the Che-hsien because he, an actor, dared to marry a Canton lady. Cantonese society was outraged, and the Che-hsien, also a Canton man, lent his willing aid to vindicate the proprieties. The girl was flogged for presuming to say she liked her husband. The husband was tortured to make him confess he had abducted his wife. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the tortures he was subjected to; nor to say that he was eventually sentenced to imprisonment and banishment. How could one actor resist the influence of the Cantonese Guild, backed by the sympathy and power of the Che hsien! Suffice it to say that the whole procedure excited the indignation of the Northern Chinese, and that the *Shunpao* frankly and fearlessly echoed their opinion. The Che-hsien was furious at its strictures, and the Cantonmen threatened demolition of its office as among the mildest punishments to be incurred. Perhaps a conviction that any such effort would meet a dangerous opposition from foreigners checked their ardour. An attempt was made, instead, to bring to bear on the Chinese writers of the *Shunpao*, the same pressure which had crushed the unhappy actor. But the editor of the *Shunpao* is an Englishman, and the English Consul threw the ægis of the Treaty over his employés. Mr Major was responsible. If cause of complaint existed, they might sue Mr Major in an English Court! The Cantonese wisely spared themselves the waste of time, and sought revenge in starting a rival paper, which was to extinguish the *Shunpao* utterly. The new journal, the *Wei-pao*, has distinguished itself by an insolent tone towards Foreigners, which appears to hurt them about as badly as its competition has hurt the *Shunpao;* and, we believe, the latter has rather benefitted by the rivalry.

The second instance to which we have alluded, of acknowledgment of newspaper influence, occurred in February (*N.-C. Herald*, Feb. 12); when the Chinese merchants of Shanghai advertised, in the *Shunpao*, a petition to the Taotai against the extravagant Li-kin taxation, explaining that they did so in order that "the subject might gain publicity far and near." The petition itself is a striking instance of the discontent prevalent; and the recognition of the force of public opinion implied by the publication of the memorial, is noteworthy.

In connection with this subject, we may mention that a Reading-Room and Polytechnic Institution for Chinese has been got up, in Shanghai, and promises to have considerable success. The conception is, we believe, Mr Medhurst's, and his energetic efforts to carry out the idea have been ably seconded by the committee.

A similar energy has also been thrown with success into the working of the Foreign Library. This venerable institution, which was almost condemned as moribund at the beginning of the year, has been revived and re-invigorated, and launched, apparently on a new lease of life, greatly through the exertions of the Honorary Secretary, Mr A. J. How.

The Museum, which we have so often recommended as an addition to the Library, has become an accomplished fact, and promises to prove a great success. The numerous foreign sportsmen who make so frequent up-country excursions during the Shanghai winter, have contributed largely; and an interesting collection is being rapidly arranged.

From a Municipal point of view, the year has been quiet; without inaugurating any startling policy, the present Council have administered our affairs

carefully and well. They have at last taken up the question of widening roads, on the importance of which we have so often insisted. Several improvements in this respect have been made, and we trust the policy will be energetically followed up.

Two important points were raised at the Ratepayers' annual meeting, and seem to have had less attention. The need for revision of the Land Regulations has been often urged, and is generally admitted. A committee was appointed for the purpose, in 1873, but did nothing. Another was appointed in May last, but seems to have been equally inactive during the past year. We have often said that the form of revision that is chiefly needed, is entire re-writing. Additions are wanted to the present code; but its great fault is obscurity, resulting from the patchwork manner in which it was compiled, altered and amended in Committee and at public meetings. The groundwork is good, if the meaning were clearly expressed; whatever additions are needed may be well noted in Committee; but the only way to attain to a satisfactory code, will be by handing over the whole thing to a man who can write lucid English, to remodel. The second matter to which we have referred, is proxy-voting. The principal that ratepayers who are present in Shanghai, but do not care to attend Ratepayers' annual meetings, may still be represented by proxy, has been objected to from the beginning, and has been found to work badly in practice. It is right that absent land-owners, whose interests are permanent, should be represented by their attorney; but it is not right that a man who votes in virtue of a tenancy—whose interests are essentially present—should have the same privilege. A man who is in Shanghai should be required to register his vote personally. A resolution in favour of this view was passed by a large majority at the last Ratepayers' meeting, and an able letter was subsequently addressed by Mr Carter to the Treaty Consuls, setting forth the reasons for the resolution he had proposed. We have not yet heard that the Treaty Consuls have taken any action in the matter.

Another Municipal matter which has been much discussed, is the annoying presence of the Opium Guild runners in the Settlements. We have no sympathy with the opium trade, and would not interpose a word to prevent its extermination; but the exaction of petty taxes on a few balls of opium as they are moved from hulks to opium shops neither will, nor is intended to have, any deterrent effect; it is a simple case of petty exaction; and it should be our policy to oppose stringently the levy of these petty taxes on trade within Municipal limits. Opium is not the only article so harrassed; and to admit opium tax-gatherers within our limits, is to admit an intrusion and an organisation that cannot be too strongly condemned on principle. The limits of the Port should be at least identified with those of the Settlement. Foreign goods, of whatever description, do not pay import duty for the mere privilege of coming up the river; additional dues cannot in reason be exacted for the privilege of passing over 100 yards of road. Whatever right the Chinese may have to tax opium in its subsequent adventures, that right can hardly begin in the port itself—or the tariff rate had better be struck out of the Treaty. However, we are not writing to defend opium, but to protest against the innumerable exactions of which the Opium Guild runners are a type; and which, we contend, should not be allowed in our midst.

The Law business during the year has been considerable, as our records will show. But, perhaps, the only case of historical interest is the action entered by the Race Club against the Recreation Fund Trustees, to prevent the erection by the latter of any buildings within the interior of the Course. In an elaborate judgment (*N.-C. Herald*, June 20), which had the sympathy of the community, Sir Edmund Hornby sustained the Race Club in their objection.

Several new buildings have been erected during the past year—notably the handsome structure of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which is nearly completed, on the site of Messrs. Turner and Co.'s old hong, on the Bund; and a new Chinese Hospital, which has been constructed on the site of the old one, in Shantung Road.

The usual talk has taken place about a Sanitarium, with the usual result. We seem to be no nearer having one now than when Messrs. Hanbury, Coghill, Henderson, and Cunningham first went to Pootoo in 1863, in search of a suitable site. As a matter of fact, there are any number of suitable sites. The Saddles, Pootoo, Chusan, would all answer the purpose well. But the thing will never be settled by committee reports. It could be settled at once by any person or any company who would establish an hotel on either of the islands, and make arrangements for transport. We suspect the real hitch is, that there is not sufficient demand to make such an establishment pay. The tide of summer emigration has set towards Chefoo; and an island hotel, depending as it would entirely on summer visitors, could not exist on half-support.

Another matter of prime importance, in which we regret that no steps have been taken, is that of harbour conservation. We pointed out last year, in protesting against the construction of the C. N. Co.'s wharf off the French Bund, how the course of a sluggish river had been interfered with, to the serious detriment of its channel; and how usefully a dredger could be employed in conserving the whole seaward course of the Hwangpoo, as well as dredging the Woosung bar. Not only, however, has the completion of this wharf been allowed, but no step has yet been taken towards defining the Bund line, as a protection against future encroachment, or applying machinery for the conservation of a deteriorating channel. What we think has to be realised, is that our river, although draining a large extent of country, has a force of current so slight as hardly to overcome any adventitious obstacle: and that it needs mechanical assistance to enable it to hold its own in the face of the mechanical and natural difficulties that have been placed, and are often arising, in its way.

Various changes have taken place in the fortunes of the steamer companies running from this port. The year has witnessed the demise of the U. S. N., which [illegible] better have wound up its affairs [illegible] adventured on the coast, after it [illegible] been bought off the Yangtze. The new line which had been started to compete with the P. M. S. Co. for the trade between China and America, has also died, and its vessels are being run [illegible] its older rival. The China Merchants' Steamer Company thrives by the aid of its great subsidy; but the "Shanghai Steam" and "China Coast" Navigation Companies seem to hold their own against it notwithstanding, on the Northern line. On the River, it has not yet made any serious invasion; but the two great companies which now have the Yangtze virtually to themselves, may expect it to encroach more and more, and to cut down ordinary freights with one hand, while carrying "tribute-rice" at inflated rates with the other.

Summary of News.

The American mail of the 1st February arrived on the 13th inst., by the P. M. str. *Nevada*.

The French mail of the 29th January arrived yesterday by the M. M. str. *Iraouaddy*.

A mail will leave to-morrow for Europe, by the M. M. str. *Hoogly*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

The cargo of the *Ulysses* has been landed damaged.

The following is the arrangement of the new French Ministry:—Interior—Buffet; Justice—Dufaure; Finance—Say; Instruction—Wallon; Commerce—Meaux; Others unchanged.

The Emperor of Germany is ill.

The stoppage of Messrs. J. C. Im Thurn & Co., of East India Avenue, is announced. The liabilities are stated to be two millions.

A meeting of shareholders in the China Coast Steam Navigation Co. was held on Friday. The accounts showed a profit of Tls. 61,349. A dividend has been paid at the rate of 10 per cent., and Tls. 42,599 carried to Reserve.—Messrs How, Wilson, and Tong-king-sing were re-elected directors.—A change, providing for the rendering of the accounts yearly instead of half-yearly, was made in the deed of settlement.

The annual meeting of shareholders in the S. S. N. Co. was held on Saturday. The report and accounts showed a net profit on the year's working, of Tls. 183,372; be[illegible] securities. A dividend has been paid at the rate of 7 per cent., absorbing Tls. 157,500; Tls. 40,500 have been returned to contributors, and Tls. 27,323 are carried to reserve. Material changes have been made in the figures under Capital Account the Company's property having been written up to a value nearer its real worth, and the steamers having been written down undoubtedly below theirs.

The A. D. C. gave their third performance for the season at the Lyceum, on Friday. The pieces selected were T. J. Williams' comedietta "I've written to Brown," and George Colman's comedy, "The Heir at Law." The performance was an undoubted success, and attracted a full house.—[illegible]

was repeated on Tuesday, and was again well attended.

Saint Patrick's day was celebrated by a dinner at the Club last evening. About five-and-twenty Irishmen assembled and, with characteristic hospitality, entertained an equal number of guests. The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens and shillelaghs, and the table spread with shamrock. Dr. Jamieson occupied the chair, supported by Mr. J. I. Miller as Vice. A very pleasant evening was spent, and song and toast were still rapidly succeeding each other, under the seductive influence of the punch, when we left at 1.30 a.m.

Another Paper Hunt Handicap was run on Saturday afternoon, twice round the Steeple Chase course. It was won by Mr. E. H. Gore-Booth, on *Furore*, Mr. Morriss on *Southdown* coming in second. The Grand Stand was thrown open to enable ladies to view the race, and was largely availed of.

A rather curious claim for brokerage, brought by "Mr. R. H. Gore-Booth *v.* Little and Company," has been tried before the Supreme Court. It was an action to recover Tls. 3,500, for work done and services performed, as broker, in the sale of a steamer to the C.M.S.S. Company; the said sale however having been never completed. We give, elsewhere a full report of the proceedings. It will be seen that, while deciding against the Plaintiff, the Judge held there was sufficient doubt to justify the plaintiff in bringing his action, and decreed therefore that each party should pay his own costs.

The Court of the United States Consulate-General was again occupied on Tuesday, from ten in the morning until six in the evening, with the case "Municipal Council *v.* W. H. Fogg." Judgment was reserved.

A correspondent calls attention, in a very practical letter, to the question of water supply. The need for steps being taken to provide a supply of pure water has been urged often enough, and we lately referred to a scheme which was under consideration, for getting up a company to erect the necessary works at Loonghwa. Our correspondent objects that this is too expensive, and suggests a plan for raising water from the Soochow creek. The question seems to be one of money. If the Loonghwa scheme could be started, it would be preferable, both as regards completeness and quality of water; and it must not be overlooked that the pipes would pass through the city and suburbs, in which a great quantity of water could be sold, from fonts to the erection of which the authorities are, we believe, favourable. If the necessary capital cannot be raised, the Soochow creek plan would be a practicable alternative.

As the question of Water supply is now under discussion, Mr. H. Evans has shown us a plan of a scheme which he conceived some time ago, for supplying the settlement with water from the Defence Creek. He would convert the whole of this into a reservoir. 800 ft. (A) of the space nearest the Soochow creek, to hold water admitted at a certain stage of the tide; the water to be pumped from this into a raised reservoir and filter, which would occupy the adjacent sections (B & C). The water so filtered would run out into the next (800 ft.) section (D)—which would form the supply tank of pure water. A steam engine to pump the water from the first section into the filter; and a second engine to pump the pure water through an arched pipe 150 ft. high, so as to create the necessary head for forcing a supply into the Settlement.—There would still remain 800 ft. of the Defence creek, which could be utilised as a swimming bath, to be supplied by conduit pipes from A. The estimated capacity of A (the first reservoir) D (the pure water tank), and E (the swimming bath), is each 1,016,800 gallons; while the filtering capacity of C is estimated at 306,600 gallons in 24 hours. —A further suggestion is the construction of sluice pipes in A, for the purpose of flooding drains and providing a supply of water in case of fire.—Suggestions are always valuable when a project is under discussion, and we are glad to give publicity to that which Mr. Evans has explained to us.

H. E. the Danish Minister arrived from the North on Tuesday. General Raasloff will stay a few weeks in Shanghai, and then return to Peking.

The intention to close the Shanghai Branch of the Deutsche Bank was known here some weeks ago, and instructions were received yesterday, by the *Iraouaddy*, to close the establishment by the 30th of June next.

H. M. S. *Dwarf* will leave Shanghai, on Sunday morning next, for a cruise to Chefoo and Tientsin.

Reuter's telegram about the *Ulysses* is slightly more disconnected than that about "the missing boat of the *Hongkong*." The courtesy of the agents enabled us to explain, a week ago, what had happened to the *Ulysses*, so Reuter's effusion becomes intelligible; otherwise—so far as it is concerned—the *Ulysses* might be just wrecked in the Channel.

Some of our readers may remember that a pair of crows selected the P. & O. flag staff, last year, for their nest. They were not disturbed; and it is curious to note that they have come back and begun to build again, this year, in the same place.

At the sale by auction at the Horse Bazaar on Tuesday, the whole (25) of the ponies offered were sold, at prices ranging from Tls. 35, 50, 75, 90 up to Tls. 120. The ponies were a good-looking lot, and the bidding was spirited. Two ponies realised the top price.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 15th-16th February, contains an interesting batch of edicts in regard to Formosan affairs. It is rather amusing to find military rewards given in connexion with the late difficulty; and rather remarkable to find the famous Koxinga dragged again into notice, and canonised.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 23rd February describes the programme observed on the occasion of the young Emperor's accession. He was first to offer homage before the remains of the late emperor, then receive homage in the Chung-ho throne-hall, and afterwards pass to the Tai-ho throne-hall to promulgate the manifesto of accession.

The *Gazette* of the 24th February contains an edict on the subject of finance, which would be satisfactory, if we could hope it will take effect. The Board of Revenue is directed to compute the total amount of receipts in all the provinces, from the land and salt taxes, rice-collectorates, and also likin taxes, and sale of titles and offices. This having been done, expenditure is to be so ordered as to come within the limits of income. A return of all likin tax stations is also to be required from the Governors of Provinces.—It is evident from all the memorials and edicts that have been lately appearing, on this subject, that the attention of the government is being seriously called to the state of the national finances. Whether the will and the power exist, to effect reform and retrenchment, remains to be seen.—One paragraph in the edict creates a suspicion that it is pure verbiage. A return to the old system and prices is to be effected, in the matter of war *matériel*. In its full meaning, this would imply abandoning arsenals and a return to jingals and Chinese powder—which will not happen. If retrenchment had been spoken of simply, it would have implied a better appreciation of actual facts.

We publish on another page an interesting narrative of an overland journey from Newchwang to Peking. It would seem that floods in Chihli have been more destructive than even robbers in Manchuria. The picture of the two provinces is, on the whole, far from brilliant.

We hear that the Bund in front of the British Concession at CHINKIANG has partially given way, in consequence of the deepening of the river in front. The bunding in front of the Custom house gave way some few weeks since, and was partially restored by the native authorities in a haphazard sort of way. We learn that the late wet weather has been too much for this also, and that the new erection, only finished within the last few days, has again collapsed.—Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write, 15th instant:—Imports of cotton goods during the past week have been rather heavy, and the demand has scarcely been equal to the supply; we cannot, however, complain considering the unsettled state of the weather. The enquiry for the better marks of 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* has shewn an improvement, while Common chops do not demand so much attention. 7-lbs. *T-Cloths* are rather quiet at quotations. *Metals*—dull.

The *Daily Press* has some particulars about the late disaster to Chinese troops in FORMOSA. The origin of the trouble seems to have been the murder of two Chinese officers in January. 200 men started to punish the village in the neighbourhood of which this happened. They found the village almost deserted, and gratified themselves by burning it and massacring the old women and children [illegible]. They, however, captured an [illegible] on the way back, and killed half their number, including their leader.

Editorial Selections.

THE CHINESE LOAN.

A humourous picture was drawn in an English paper, at the time of the first Turkish loan, of the delight and astonishment of the Mussulman at finding such a mine of wealth in the easy confidence of the Giaour. It was only in 1854, at the time of the Crimean war, that the first Turkish loan was contracted—under, we believe, the joint guarantee of England and France; and the subsequent course of Turkish finance has fully justified the satire we have quoted. In 1858, 1862, 1863, twice in 1865, in 1869, 1871, and 1873, the Turkish Government has appeared again and again as a borrower, in the European market. What can be simpler? they have only to ask, and the money comes. True they have now to pay the high rate (for Europe) of 11½ per cent; but they can borrow afresh if they go in arrear. Ministers do not hold office long in Constantinople. Each one says *après moi le deluge*, and gives the ball another roll. There must be a limit; it will reach a size one day, when all the strength of the Finance Department will fail to give it another turn, and it will be very apt then to roll back and crush those who make the effort; but in the meantime it moves with comparative ease. We should be sorry to think China will, twenty years hence, have landed herself in the same financial slough; and we have recalled the experience of Turkey chiefly because we imagine the feeling at Constantinople in 1854, is paralleled twenty years later at Peking. What a relief must it be to a Government embarrassed by the legacies of foreign and civil wars, its revenue checked by oppressive taxation, and its resources drained by unprofitable expeditions, to find an outlet from embarrassment in the wealth and generosity of the Barbarian. Was it embarrassed by the result of the Formosa muddle? A loan of a million sterling at once smoothed the difficulty. Do the troops in the North-west ask for pay and provisions as an inducement to march on Turkestan? A loan of three million taels will send them on their way rejoicing. And if it should occur to Li Hung-chang that another three millions would be usefully spent in armour-plating the Taku forts, no doubt the money could be at once obtained. The sums are small, in comparison with European loans, but they must be a great relief to embarrassed financiers; and their very smallness suggests how real must be that embarrassment. China is not like other countries, where a man's money is recognised as his own, and he can only be made to contribute to the wants of the State by taxes imposed with popular sanction, or by loan offered in the open market. The paternal Government of China claims a profound interest in the property of its subjects. The only limit to taxation is the rebellion of the taxed, or the attainment of a point at which taxation chokes the sources of revenue. And do not memorials in the Peking Gazette indicate that each limit has been attained, in several provinces of the Empire? And does not the resort for money to extraneous sources seem to confirm the tale? Besides, what could be more simple? Foreigners supply both principal and interest. Foreigners lend the money, and taxation on Foreign Goods supplies the necessary interest. We can imagine this is exactly the specious way in which the transaction commends itself to the mental vision of Chinese statesmen. That taxation on trade impedes trade, and thereby hinders the prosperity of their people, is a fact of which they are ignorant or careless. And, really, a loan of two millions sterling would be a very trifle to such a country as China, if it were not for the indications we have noticed, of grave financial embarrassment. The resources of the empire are enormous, if only they were allowed to be developed. Its mineral wealth and commercial capabilities are practically unlimited, if only it were intelligently governed. That such a country should be reduced to borrowing so paltry a sum, is the strongest possible commentary on the incapacity of a Government which we persist in treating as an equal. Properly governed, China could support a great debt with ease, and it would be an intelligent act on the part of her Rulers, to borrow largely for the purpose of developing her resources. Any movement in this direction would facilitate her operations by the greater financial promise it would open up, and by the greater confidence it would give in a Government that showed an intelligent appreciation of its duties. But loans contracted to replace money squandered on Arsenals, and to supply funds for profitless expeditions, only go to increase embarrassments. Already there is a rumour of a third loan, to be brought out on the London market, and we should not be surprised at any moment to hear the report confirmed. One good effect may possibly ensue. Attention will be drawn to China. People will want to know what she is doing with this money; and may urge their Rulers to demand some guarantee in the shape of progress, for the money which she asks them to lend. If the result of these loans should be to impart some vigour to our relations with Peking, the gain will be great to both foreigners and Chinese.

II.

If the rumour is true, that a new Chinese Loan is to be placed on the London market, it will be interesting to see at what rate it can be floated, as compared with the two loans contracted by Japan. The small portion offered in London, of the loan made lately through the Hongkong Bank, hardly affords a criterion. Otherwise, the public seem to have fixed the interest in that case at a little over 8 per cent. The difference between this rate and that of the more recent loan from the Oriental Bank, which is reported to be 10½, seems at a first glance to be startling; but it is, we believe, as regards the rate paid by the Chinese Government, more apparent than real. The high rate of exchange which was charged by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank fully covers the difference between 8 and 10½%, as a total charge on the loan. What we have now to do with, however, is the market value of the stock, and it is curious to note that the Chinese 8 per cent. stock is quoted here at exactly the same rate which the Japanese 7 per cent. stock commands in the London market. Unless, therefore, we assume that a higher value will be eventually put upon the Chinese stock in London than it commands here, we may take it that Japanese credit is 1 per cent. better than the Chinese, in the money market. The comparison is hardly flattering to China, and it remains to be seen how her apparent inclination to increase her debt will affect her future credit. She is actually paying now, at the outset of her career, very nearly as much (10½ p. c.) as Turkey, which is thought to be nearing the end of its financial tether. The public are apparently willing, as yet, to let her have money more cheaply. But the loans are thus far secured on the revenue of the Foreign Customs, and if the Government goes on much longer at the present rate and in its present mood, all available receipts from this source will be soon completely pledged; and we may be sure that, this limit once reached, a much higher rate of interest would be at once required. It would not be a little strange, if the result of the so-called patriotic agitation in China should be to turn all the direct income derived from duties on foreign trade, back into the pockets of the foreigner himself.

At the time of the threatened difficulty with Japan, the Chinese professed to look down with contempt on the little State which was galling them. Rightly judging money to be the sinews of war, it seemed surprising that a country undeniably possessing considerable financial resources, should not be able to make a better show in that transaction than did their own. We have recently shown what have been the true reasons of the collapse of China, in both its military and financial aspects. In neither has she that confidence in herself without which a nation cannot be prosperous. Rudely disturbed in its dreams of universal pre-eminence, the Chinese Government discovered that its troops, armed with the antiquated weapons of the Middle Ages, were no match against European levies. It saw the necessity of reform, but commenced the reform at the wrong end. It endeavoured to imitate the external aspect of those forces to which it had to succumb, but left out the fundamental principles of action by which such forces are regulated. So in finance. Finding that its revenues from trade, in place of displaying the elasticity which the return of the Empire to a state of internal tranquillity would have naturally produced, were actually falling off, it took the course, not of alleviating the incidence of those taxes, but of endeavouring to increase their amount. Warnings have been given from all quarters, of the effect of those measures. One Province after another has protested against the manner in which it has been forced to increase the burdens upon the resources of the people. To all this, there has been but the one stereotyped reply, desiring the provincial officers to see that their subordinates do not squeeze. As it is necessary, in order to meet the demands upon them, that the higher officials should exact as much as they possibly can from those below them, and those in return have recourse to their own inferiors for a similar purpose,

—it needs no special prescience to foretel the result. We do not mean to say that there are no well-meaning officials in China. The occasional able and straightforward memorials which appear in the Peking *Gazette*, are sufficient proof to the contrary. The best of men, however, works with the millstone of an utterly corrupt system round his neck, and in some respects, the higher the office, the more corrupt does the system seem to become. In nothing does this position of affairs appear in more unenviable light, than in the rescripts to the memorials which from time to time appear in the Peking *Gazette*. Possibly an utter want of power to grasp the true bearings of the subjects submitted, is at the bottom of the unmeaning verbiage with which important memorials are quietly shelved. If a memorial be of too important a nature to be thus quietly put to one side, the device, not unknown indeed in other quarters, is adopted of referring it to one or other of the Boards. Thus it is, that the memorial of Hu Ting-kwei, to which we referred some time ago, is delegated to the Board of Revenue. Hu, our readers are aware, requested that the revenue and expenditure of the various Provinces should be stringently audited, and that a travelling commission to enquire into abuses be formed. We doubt if the Board of Revenue, or the Government in its present state of comparative feebleness, could give effect to such a sweeping proposition. It could, however, do much. At all events, it could commence reforms near home; but there is no symptom of the purpose or the will to do even this.

THE MONEY MARKET.

A HIGH rate of interest is, in many men's minds, considered indicative of a crisis in trade; and that a high rate is generally a resultant of such a state of affairs cannot, in the face of the panics which within the century have interrupted the even flow of commerce, be denied. It would, however, be nearer the truth to state that a brisk demand for money indicates a wholesome condition of trade; and as this brisk demand has the effect of raising the charge at which money can be obtained, we generally find that times of commercial prosperity are those at which money fetches its fair price in the market. In times of depression, on the other hand, money, like other commodities, becomes a drug on the market; it cannot be safely employed to the same extent as when business is in a more wholesome condition, and hence the amount to be lent out on really safe security is so much in excess of the demand, that the rate of interest obtainable falls to the lowest point. China is at present passing through such a condition of affairs. An unwholesome state of trade is accompanied by a low rate of interest, because no profitable use can be made of the sums of money usually available for commercial purposes. It is not only in the case of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, that this want of power to make a profitable use of capital is experienced; native capitalists are suffering from the same plethora, and the money lying in native banks is but little more serviceable to its owners than have been the stocks of unemployed silver which remained during the past season in the treasuries of the foreign banks. There is no doubt that a great deal of this stagnation is directly due to the artificial impediments imposed on native trade by official exactions. They have made the cost of trading so dear that it could not survive the infliction, and hence, in the face of cheap money and the well known passion of the Chinese for trade, it still refuses to respond to the natural demands of the country. In the Settlements, this stagnation is telling severely. The lines of untenanted Chinese houses, looked on with satisfaction by a portion of the community, bespeak only too truly the decadence of native trade, and with that decadence is intimately connected the present unsatisfactory condition of that portion of the trade of China in which foreigners are directly interested. The first effect of such a depression as we have noted, is very frequently to cause an apparent rise in the value of real property. Some two years ago, we drew attention to the then apparent tendency to enter on another land speculation, such as was found so ruinous in the years 1862-64. Though no such rash speculation as then took place did happen, it is certain that the market for real property in Shanghai has, through the want of other openings for capital, been unduly elevated. At all events, it has not followed the evident depreciation occurring in rentals. The same want of a more legitimate outlet for capital was greatly instrumental in producing the share mania of two years back. Capital, owing to the taxes levied on trade, could not be profitably employed in ordinary commercial undertakings. Trade, though it had commenced to feel the effects, had still enough of apparent vitality left to raise the hopes of those who trusted in the ultimate results of enterprises suited to a different position of affairs. Although capital could not be safely invested in commodities themselves, it seemed to those who had the capital to expend, that the interchanges of those commodities would still be maintained; a result which, in the nature of affairs, could not and did not happen. Hence the dissipation of a vast amount of capital, yet not enough to restore the money market to its normal state. Had the Chinese Government, in going into the market to borrow money, had any intention of using the money so obtained for reproductive works, the recent loans would have been an encouraging feature. As it is—being merely taken to make up for revenues lost through undue exactions, and affording the promise of an increase of, rather than a relief from, those burdens—the present position of affairs offers little cause for congratulation. A Government which would set itself heartily to reform the abuses of the last ten years could effect wonders; but although the present Government of China has, by the force of circumstances, been made to see the impolicy of the course it has been pursuing, it does not by any means follow that it will have the energy to take the requisite measures to amend that course. It has apparently hit on an easy device for throwing on its successors the responsibility of introducing measures distasteful to itself, and is content, so long as it is unmolested—to let matters take care of themselves. It can of course plead, in extenuation, that it is not singular amongst governments in this disposition; yet, at most, this is an extenuation, not a defence. Sooner or later the collapse must come, and of necessity will be the more severe, the longer reform is delayed. For outsiders, a lesson however, remains to be learned. If those who filled the treasuries of the banks in China with sycee, for which no outlet could be found, had duly pondered over the condition of China two years ago, they would have seen how hopeless would be the attempt to alter the condition of matters. The very activity with which joint-stock schemes were being taken up, was an indication that something was at bottom wrong with the condition of mercantile affairs. Exchange had been going hopelessly down from the accumulation of capital, of which no use could be made; but in the face of these facts, the treasuries of our local banks were filled to more than overflowing with sycee, some of which at least had been picked up at extravagant rates. These indications were unobserved by those who were floating with the stream. To them, everything wore a *couleur de rose;* and the result has been a collapse, felt widely and keenly by the whole of the foreign community.

THE DEADLOCK AT TIENTSIN.

Our Tientsin letters describe a curious deadlock that has lately occurred at Tientsin. On the 8th March, the Customs Taotai issued a proclamation, laying down certain rules with regard to the collection of duties on native merchandise:—

Tientsin, 29th of 1st Moon.

"The Customs' and Foreign Affairs' Taotai, &c., of Tientsin, issues a Proclamation:

Whereas, according to law, it is incumbent on Chinese merchants when importing native goods from steamer or sailing ship, after payment of duties at the Foreign Customs, to apply to the Hou Kwan (Native Customs) and then hand in *li-kin* duties; the previous Taotai, Tsung, fearing that cargo would be smuggled through, after passing the Foreign Customs, laid down regulations, as reported by memorial to the Throne, to the effect that the Foreign Customs should draw up, in triplicate, schedules of native goods passed, for the guidance of the Native Customs. These regulations, however, have degenerated by length of time into an empty formula, and native merchants no longer make application to the (Native) Customs in conformity with the schedule. Still worse, they craftily declare the cargo to be Foreign property, give false marks, return less weight, falsify quality, change packages, and are guilty of all species of malpractices. Since the opening of Foreign commerce, native goods, coming formerly by internal water routes, now arrive by sea, and the Hou Kwan (Native Customs) at present depends entirely on *li-kin* duties to make up the deficiency in its proper duty receipts. Therefore, in view of the loss arising from the smuggling practices of merchants, it behoves the Taotai to at once carry into effect the regulations referred to, and to take strong measures to suppress recent practices, and in addition to deputing officers to take stringent and coercive measures, it is proper that this admonitory proclamation be issued.

Let, therefore, all merchants and shop keepers, concerned with entering Impo at the Customs, know that, hencefo

Imports of native cargo, after passing the Foreign Customs, must at once, in accordance with the schedule made by the Foreign Customs, give particulars to the "Hou Kwan" of marks and contents, name of lander and date of entry, and pay dues in conformity. In this way, when the cargo is transferred to other Godowns, or sold and sent away, there will be means of identifying the packages. Passes can be issued, and attempts at nefarious gain and smuggling will be suppressed. Therefore, from this date, let all conform to these instructions by at once handing in at once to the (Native) Customs specific particulars of their imports. And, in the event of any one being detected in the design to violate these orders, they will be heavily punished. Let all trembling obey."

A report immediately got abroad that foreign goods were to be also subject to the same regulation, and the native merchants one and all refused to take delivery of their Shanghai consignments. The steamers of course could not keep the goods on board, so they were discharged on to the Bund, which was soon laden and blocked with merchandise. Foreign merchants appealed to their Consuls to protest against the innovation which was causing the stoppage, and the Consuls remonstrated with the Taotai. But the Taotai repudiated any such intention as that imputed, appealed to the language of his first proclamation, and issued a second, emphasising the distinction between "native" and "foreign"—which terminated the difficulty :—

Tientsin, March 9th, 1875.

Sun, Customs Taotai, &c., &c., makes the following proclamation :—

Chinese merchants who receive consignments of native imports have of late been disregarding the Regulation established by H. E. Chung-how, ex-Superintendent of Trade, which requires that after duty has been paid at the Foreign Custom House, the triplicate certificates there given shall be taken to the Revenue office for payment of the Revenue taxes ; and the result of this has been that smuggling has been carried on at pleasure. For this reason the existing Regulation was promulged in a special proclamation, wherein it was distinctly stated that native goods belonging to Chinese merchants, and not Foreign goods, were referred to.

It has come to my knowledge that unprincipled native merchants have been circulating canards to the effect that all foreign goods, whether intended for local consumption or transit to the interior, after paying duty at the Foreign Custom House, must be reported at the local Revenue office and pay the duties there. These people presume to take it upon themselves to leave all their foreign goods on the bund, and refuse to take delivery ; and they designedly instigate foreign merchants to take action, hoping in this way to resist payment of taxes on native goods. Such malignity is utterly detestable. I have sent police to vigorously, but secretly, track out and arrest such offenders, and have also communicated with the Foreign Consuls on the subject. This proclamation is now issued for the information of all merchants concerned. Hereafter, when native goods imported per foreign steamers or sailing vessels have paid duty and been cleared at the Foreign Custom House they must, according to the Regulation for triplicate certificates, be reported the same day at the head Revenue office for payment of Revenue taxes.

Should any one presume to secretly engage in smuggling, he will on detection be unrelentingly punished according to law.

Obey with trembling !

&c., &c., &c.

The impression seems to be, among foreigners in Tientsin, that the Taotai did purpose collecting from foreign goods as well as native ; and it is possible the native dealers may be aware that such is actually the case. The Taotai, however, distinctly denies any such intention. He says he was simply re-inforcing certain old regulations, established by Chunghow some years ago, but allowed to fall into abeyance ; and he implies that the Chinese merchants were mis-reporting the case to foreigners, in order to enlist their aid in fighting a false battle. It must be admitted that the Taotai's assertions are borne out by the language of his proclamation ; and we are inclined to believe him. In that case, if our Tientsin correspondent is well informed, there would seem to have been a huge mistake made at the Foreign Customs.—At any rate, the second proclamation distinctly settles the matter, and after its appearance the Chinese at once took delivery of their goods

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

The S. S. N. Co.'s str. *Shingking*, with his Excellency Ying Han, the new Governor-General of Canton, and suite, passed through this anchorage about 3.30 p.m. The crew of the Chinese gunboat *Chin-hai*, moored at the bottom of the anchorage, manned yards, and the band played some sort of tune (presumably the Chinese national anthem, whatever that may be), and after the *Shingking* had got about three yards past her, she fired a salute of three guns.

This morning, we had seven merchant steamers lying off our Settlement Bund, and if the steamer *Taku* had arrived three-quarters of an hour earlier, we should have had eight. This is a wonderful change from ten days back, when the river was covered with ice and not a single merchant steamer was in port. The Bund was also without a single package of merchandize upon it ; and to-day it is almost covered with foreign and Chinese goods.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 1st March, there appears another memorial relative to the retention of Ting Show-chang, late territorial Taotai at Tientsin ; and it concludes by saying that if it be of national importance that he should be retained in Chihli, then he shall be so retained ; but his case must not in future be quoted as a example.

The barometer has been falling these last three days, and I fancy we are going to have rain with a gale. The wind to-day is North-east. The wild geese are flying over in great numbers to the North-east. The thermometer at daylight stood at 29° Fahr.

6th March.

H. E. General Raasloff, the Danish Minister, arrived from Peking yesterday, and leaves at noon to-day in the *Paouting*, for Amoy and Foochow—I hear of no news from Peking, and here all is quiet. Li Hung-chang is expected shortly.

7th March.

The Bund, about the third of a mile in length, is pyramided from one end to the other with foreign imports and import merchandize generally, the Chinese owners refusing to take delivery of them from the foreign steamer agents. This arises from the Chinese Government having demanded from the Chinese Shanghai importers a *likin* tax upon them, *directly* on their passing the foreign or sea Custom house. Hitherto all *likin* taxes were exacted on the goods on their being either sent into the interior, or on being sold for consumption on the spot. A proclamation was issued to-day on the subject, but as I only heard of it this evening, I have not yet seen it nor obtained a copy of it ; so as yet I do not know precisely the terms of the present exaction. I am told generally, however, that it is to refund the disbursements for the Formosa occupation, and the warlike preparations thereby called into action on the part of the Government of China. By the last steamers departed for Shanghai, the Chinese merchants, here called in common parlance "brokers," wrote to all their mercantile friends in the South, Shanghai, &c., &c., not to send them any more goods, as they could not meet the claims of the Chinese Government here as to the *likin* exactions on such. I do not suppose that any one ever saw such a sight as our Bund at present offers—hills of merchandize from one end of it to the other. A stranger coming here, and looking at the scene from the deck of the steamers, would undoubtedly exclaim, "Rain must never fall at Tientsin, at this season at least, and thieves must never have any existence in the British Settlement." In other places the goods would have to be placed in warehouses, under cover, to protect them from the weather, and under lock to protect them from thieves. I hear that the Consuls have addressed the Customs on the subject, protesting against the exaction. The matter will no doubt have to be referred to the Governor-General of Paouting, by the Customs official here, for instructions as to giving a reply to the protests.

There is naturally, just on the commencement of the season, great excitement amongst all business classes of the Chinese about this *likin* exaction. We hear that some of them have closed their doors, and have prepared for troubles here with the Government.

A couple of days back, I heard a rumour of disturbances having broken out amongst the people of Tzechow, the district where the China Merchants' Steamer Company intended, we heard some months back, to work the coal mines by foreign machinery. This evening the report has become more general, and is that the people are opposed to the working of the mines with foreign plant.

In my next, I shall have more information to send you on the *likin* exactions, and on the disturbances at Tzechow.

His Excellency Herr von Brandt, the new German Minister to the Court of Peking, arrived here from Shanghai this morning, in the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chihli*, on his way to the metropolis. Mr. Brandt is no stranger in Tientsin, having, as Secretary of Legation, resided here several weeks when, in 1861, the German treaty was being negotiated with China. His Excellency Li Hung-chang, not having yet returned to Tientsin, there is at present no high Chinese official on whom Mr. Brandt can call during his stay. This fact shews the necessity of a Chinese high official being always stationed at this place, the port of Peking, with whom foreign Ministers could meet on equal terms for the transaction of business or on visits of courtesy. Mr. Brandt will leave to-morrow for Peking, going by boat.

The thermometer this morning stood at 28° Fahrenheit. We are having charming Spring weather. Wild geese still continue to fly over to the North.

8th March.

On the evening of the 8th instant, I wrote to you hurriedly and briefly, that a total stoppage had taken place in the usual mercantile and shipping traffic of this port, in consequence of the Customs Taotai having demanded payment, from the Tientsin native dealers, of interior *likin* taxes

on the importation of merchandize from Shanghai by steamers and sailing vessels, instead of waiting to collect them on the transmission of the merchandize into the interior. I have since had handed to me copies of the Taoutai's proclamations. In the first proclamation, bearing date the 5th instant, the Taoutai informs the native merchants that he will hereafter demand from them the payments of the whole of the Barrier taxes 卡稅 on all imported native merchandize 土貨 coming here in steamers or in sailing vessels, at the time of the payment of the import Customs' duties.

The foreign public here were subsequently told that, after the Tientsin native dealers had perused the proclamation in question, they repaired to the Custom house for further information on its tenor; and were then informed that all the Barrier taxes would be levied on all their imported merchandize, both native and foreign, at the time of paying the import Customs duties on them. The proclaimed Customs information, and the verbal Customs information, it thus became obvious to the native dealers, differed very materially. As they were not inclined to acquiesce in the new regulation of the Customs, they consulted together, and came to the determination not to take delivery of their goods, come by the steamers; but to allow them to be discharged on the British Settlement Bund by the steamers, and to remain there under the charge of the steamer agents till they could come to a satisfactory arrangement with the Taoutai on the subject. They, besides, wrote to their agents at Shanghai by the out-going steamers, to stop sending any more goods to them at Tientsin; and they even came to an arrangement with Mr. Moore, the agent of the S. S. N. Co., for the *Chihli* to take back to Shanghai their goods still on board her, rather than land them and incur the payment of the Barrier taxes.

On the 8th instant, the British, American, and German merchants of this port, addressed their respective Consuls on the position of affairs. Mr. Mongan, H. B. M.'s Consul, exchanged letters with the Customs' Taoutai about the new regulation, and respecting the complaints of the British merchants; and afterwards sent a despatch to H. B. M.'s minister at Peking on the subject and on the situation generally. Mr. Bismark, Consul for the Emperor of Germany, and Mr. Sheppard, Consul for the U.S. of America, during the afternoon of the 9th instant, had a personal interview with the Taoutai at his yamun, respecting the state of affairs. About nine o'clock in the evening of the same day, the Taoutai issued a second proclamation, which was posted near the gates of the different foreign Hongs in the British Settlement, stating distinctly that the Barrier taxes would only be levied at the Custom House on native merchandize and not on foreign merchandize. On the 10th instant, the Tientsin dealers commenced taking delivery of their goods from the Bund and the *Chihli*, to lighter them up to town to their warehouses. The traffic here to-day is going on as formerly.

Five days ago, I was told that disturbances had broken out in the district in this province about 1,000 *li* south from Tientsin, called Tsze-chow (磁州), the people being dissatisfied with the local authorities, in consequence of these latter having taken possession of some lands. Two days back, the same news was told to me by other Chinese, so I fancy there must be truth in the rumour. I have hitherto understood that the Chinese Steamer Company intended working coal-mines in that district by aid of foreign machinery. Whether or not this news has reference to steps which may have been taken by the local authorities in relation to the working of the coal-mines, I am at present unable to say.

Yesterday, a French barque, the first sailing-vessel of the season, arrived off this settlement. The second sailing-vessel of the season, a German barque, arrived to-day. I should mention that we have two steam-tugs—old British gunboats—belonging to the Taku Pilot Company, working on this river; so sailing-vessels, now-a-days, can come up to this harbour and go down to sea from it easily, in one tide. The S. S. N. Company and the Chinese Steamer Company have each a steam lighter to bring up cargoes from outside Taku. The steamers have commenced to take ice away from here; and I suppose will continue to do so every trip for some time to come.

On the evening of the 9th instant, H. E. Herr von Brandt left here by the river for Peking. Having been here while the stoppage of the traffic existed, he will, on his arrival at the metropolis, be able to inform his colleagues of the aspect of the Settlement on the occasion.

The members of the Tientsin Race Club held a meeting at six o'clock yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of electing stewards for the year, and of setting other matters in connection with the spring meeting, which, I may say, it was decided will take place on the 13th, 14th and 15th days of May. Messrs. Bismark, Cordes, Jackson and Meadows were elected the stewards for 1875.

Small-pox has, this last winter and spring, been very rife in Tientsin and the surrounding districts, and numbers of Chinese children have died and are yet daily dying of it. Four deaths occurred this winter amongst the men of the foreign vessels-of-war in port. At present, two of the Settlement residents are ill of small-pox.

There is a rumour to-day that the Governor-General would start yesterday for Tientsin, from Paouting

The thermometer at daylight to-day stood at 33° Fahrenheit; yesterday, wild swans, bustards, and geese were still seen flying over in a northerly direction.

PURITAN.

11th March.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* says the dredging of the river Min between Limpoo and the Arsenal has been fully determined, and that powerful steam dredges will be ordered from Europe. It is not to be supposed the officials are doing this from any desire to facilitate commerce, but because "the river is fast filling in front of the Arsenal, and if matters are allowed to go on at the present rate, that establishment will have to be given up, and millions of Taels written off as useless expenditure. So long as foreigners alone complained of the inconvenience and injustice of being deprived by this barrier of easy access to their ships, at a Treaty Port, nothing was done or even attempted; but now, when it is found that an establishment belonging to the Imperial Government is in peril, through causes that should never have been permitted, the officials are rousing themselves to a sense of their duty." The origin of the trouble does not appear to be "heaven-sent," in the present case. It consists of a mass of granite laid across the channel at Limpoo in 1842, to prevent foreign vessels coming up in time of war. There is some hope, therefore, for the Hwangpoo. When, therefore, the approach to the Kiangnan Arsenal threatens to become closed, perhaps the officials may see fit to order out dredgers. Of course, it is not at all worth while doing this for the sake of commerce; but Mr. Hart will admit that it would be a pity all the money spent on the Arsenal should be wasted.—Mr. Giquel is going home.—It is rumoured that Captain Tracey will soon arrive to take command of the Chinese corvette *Yang-woo*, which will be despatched on a cruise round the world.—The Racket Club has not flourished so well as usual during the year, owing to the absence of many players.—The *Herald* also says reinforcements are being despatched to Formosa to avenge the defeat lately inflicted by the savages upon the Imperialist troops. "A few days ago, we (*Herald*) witnessed the embarcation of some of these embryo heroes. They were well armed—with umbrellas."

HONGKONG.

A curious case has been tried before the Hongkong Court, arising out of the late Macao coolie traffic. A Dr. Fabregas, who was interested in the coolie trade, sued Mr. Espantoso, who was also actively engaged, for $19,500. In the halcyon days of the trade, there used to be an Emigration Agents' Association, in which each member deposited $25,000. Fabregas wished to retire, and Espantoso took his place. $18,000 of his deposit were repaid and Espontoso became responsible for the remainder, but has never paid it: $7,500, money lent, made up the total claim A jury gave a verdict in favour of plaintiff. The *Hongkong Times* regrets that, because two Macao coolie-brokers squabble over the terms of their agreement, the aid of a British Court should be invoked in setting their disputes.—The same paper tells an amusing tale of a Chinawoman (resident in Hongkong) who was supposed to be dead, and whom her friends were busily "wakeing," when she came to life and remonstrated against the unearthly row.—Tableau, horror of mourners, and disappointed relations! The occasion is taken, of urging that no interment should be allowed without medical certificate—a point which the Municipal Medical officer is, we believe, urging as respects foreigners in Shanghai. —The Hongkong Museum has had a valuable collection of birds of the Pellew islands presented to it, by Mr. H. Cohen. —The Registrar and Referees are still struggling with the *Ava-Rona* case.—A meeting of shareholders in the Indo-Chinese Sugar Company was held on the 8th instant, for the purpose of closing the Company. A report submitted by the Directors said—The proposed alterations and repairs to the Factory were satisfactorily completed in November last, the new machinery purchased by Mr. Homan at Mauritius, consisting of two batteries, a vacuum pump and engine, arrived safely, and have been satisfactorily erected under the superintendence and with the assistance of a staff of employés who were engaged for the Factory and brought on from Mauritius; and early in the month of January last, the Administrator reported the Factory ready to begin crushing the crop. The financial arrangements by which the Directors were enabled to carry out the above were made with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in March and April, 1874, and naturally contemplated the supply of the necessary funds for the working of the present season, the results of which it was understood were to determine the future of the Company. In furtherance of this, every preparation was made by the Directors for the crop 1874-75, advances were obtained from the Bank for the purchase of the necessary outside cane, fuel and other material, and in fact since the 9th of January, the Factory has been in full operation and the last advices received from the Administrator at Laconchaisee were of a satisfactory nature. It was therefore with no little surprise that the Directors received on the 13th of

February last, a formal demand from the Bank, for the immediate payment of the entire sum due, and at the same time read in the published Report of the Bank Directors that "steps had already been taken to realize this Company's property with all despatch."—The Chairman said that the action taken by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank would necessitate the sale of their property, which would not, at a forced sale, cover the amount due to the bank. The only thing left for them to do, therefore, was to go into voluntary liquidation. A resolution to this effect was carried.—The *Hydaspes*, which took away the mail of the 12th Feb. from Shanghai, broke down between Hongkong and Singapore. At 4 A.M. of the 23rd-Feb., when about 275 miles from Singapore, the piston on the high-pressure cylinder was found to be loose. The engines were at once stopped and the head of the cylinder lifted; after the engines had cooled sufficiently, the nut at the piston was removed, when it was found that the thread had worn away. The wind being very light, the steamer could do nothing under canvas, and so was obliged to lie-to while the engineers and machinists repaired the damage. It was found necessary to fit a "cotter" through the piston rod, over the nut at the piston, which was accomplished at 0h. 40m. p. m. of the 25th, after a delay altogether of 56 hours, after which the vessel was able to steam ahead at full speed.—The *Patroclus* left Singapore for Hongkong on the 5th.—Two Chinese gunboats have been ordered to go to Hongkong to meet the new Viceroy, Ying Han, —who it will be remembered arrived here on Tuesday in the *Shingking*.—M. Plichon, now at Yokohama, has been appointed French Consul at Hongkong.—The villagers at Yow-mah-tee have shewn remarkable public spirit. They have made a collection of $208.03, which they forwarded to the Superintendent of the Government Fire Brigade, begging that he would lay their request before the Government to have a small fire-engine stationed over there and a fire brigade formed, the sum forwarded to assist in defraying expenses. This petition is to be granted, and an engine has been sent over, hose and all complete.—The *Daily Press* records a series of incidents in natural history. The shark caught at Show-kewan had in its inside a pig weighing 13 catties. Two sea otters took into their heads the other day, to walk up the Praya steps into the road. Chase was given after them, but one got into the sea a ain; the other was caught by a Chinaman, when a stranger came deliberately up and claimed half of $2 offered for it by a shopman close by. The captor being exasperated at this, decided the claim by setting the other at liberty again, throwing it into the sea.—Two wild boars have been shot (by foreigners) at Kowloon, one weighing 127 and the other 165 catties.—A public market is to be erected at Shek-tong-tsui.

NAGASAKI.

A new paper has been started in Nagasaki, called *The Cosmopolitan Press*. Among its news items we find mention that anxiety is felt about the *Britain's Pride*, which had left Yokohama for Nagasaki 43 days.—The *Rising Sun* records a good deal of boisterous weather.—The men-of-war in harbour were decorated with flags on the occasion of the Emperor of Russia's birthday.

HIOGO.

The Kioto Exhibition was supposed to be opened on the 1st March, but no details have yet come down.—The *Hiogo News* records the upset of a steamer in Lake Biwa, and the loss of 50 lives. A small screw steamer called the *Mame-maru*, which was engaged in conveying passengers between Shiotzu and Otsu, capsized on Friday last, when within a few miles of the latter town. There were about sixty people, mostly fishermen, on board the boat at the time of the accident, and according to the account given by the survivors, three of the passengers went at the same time to the side of the vessel to look overboard, or for some other purpose, and so crank was the boat that this simultaneous movement was sufficient to make her list. This caused an alarm, and a rush of passengers to the opposite side to right her; the strain proved too much, and in a moment the wretched craft canted over, and turning bottom upwards, precipitated her living freight into the lake. The scene must have been an awful one, for out of the sixty persons on board no less than fifty are reported to have perished. Searching parties were out seeking for the bodies of the missing men.—A heavy fall of snow occurred at Osaka on the 21st ulto.

YOKOHAMA.

The ball given to the English and French Marines on the occasion of their departure, seems to have been a great success. The *Japan Mail* says more people were assembled than on any previous occasion in the Settlement. The officers of both corps had farewell interviews with the Mikado. They have also been entertained at dinner by General Saigo and other chief officers of the War Department. It is reported that the English Marines are to go to Natal.—A heavy fall of snow occurred here also, on the same day as at Osaka.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Feb. 15th-16th. (1.) A decree in reply to a memorial by Shên Pao-chên, soliciting rewards on behalf of the officials who have distinguished themselves in the opening up of the mountains in Formosa.—The officials who have served under the direction of Shên Pao-chêng in successively throwing open the territory occupied by the savages in Formosa, have achieved a degree of meritorious exertion for which it is fitting that rewards should be bestowed. In the case of Lo Ta-ch'un, naval general of the province of Fuhkien, let the sentence heretofore recorded against him, of deprivation of rank with retention of office, be remitted, and let a distinguished mark of approbation be submitted for sanction by the Board. [Here follows a list of civil and military subordinates who are accorded advancement in different degrees.] With regard to the supplementary memorial, in which it is stated that general T'ang Ting-kw'ei 唐定奎, invested with the command-in-chief of the Ming, Wu, 銘武 and other divisions, who, since his arrival in Formosa, has taken his military measures with minute care and has maintained a strict and enlightened discipline, it is ordained that he be honoured with the distinction of the Yellow Jacket.

(2) A decree in reply to a memorial by Shên Pao-chêng and his colleagues, requesting the bestowal of a posthumous title of dsitinction on a hero of the times of the Ming dynasty, and the erection of a temple in his honour. The feudatory of the Ming dynasty, Chu Ch'êng-kung, had a temple erected to his memory at Nan-ngan by imperial command, during the reign K'ang-hi; and as it is now reported in the memorial received that the departed chieftain, already illustrious through his heroic virtues and steadfast loyalty, has given ear to supplications whenever addressed to him in times of flood or drought, thus adding to the benefits for which Formosa has to thank him, We ordain that the request b egranted, and that a memorial temple be erected at T'ai-wan Fu, and a posthumous title of canonization be conferred upon him, in gratification of the public wish. Let the proper Board take note. (Note.—The deceased hero referred to above was the celebrated freebooter Chêng Ch'êng-kung, 鄭成功, who, for his services in the cause of the Ming dynasty in its last struggles against the invading Manchus, was honoured by the bestowal of the surname of the imperial family, in exchange for his own. He is consequently spoken of above as Chu 朱 Ch'êng-kung; and from the fact of his investiture with the *Kwoh-Sing* or surname of the rulers of the state, he was designated among his adherents by the title of Kwoh-Sing Yeh 國姓爺, which was rendered by the Portuguese as Koxinga or Koshinga. Beside waging a bitter warfare against the Manchus, he undertook, for his own benefit, the expulsion of the Dutch from their settlements in Formosa, which he successfully achieved in 1661-1662. He died almost immediately after victory had rewarded his efforts in this direction; and his achievement tended only to the foundation of the Manchu Sovereignty over the island, which was surrendered in 1683 to the Manchu authorities of Fuhkien, by his grand-nephew Chêng K'êh-shwang).

(3) A decree in reply to a memorial by Shên Pao-chêng and his colleagues, requesting that the ancient interdict upon the cultivation of lands in the interior of Formosa, be removed. From the time when the whole island of Formosa became part of the Imperial dominions, in view of the alien customs prevailing among the various savage tribes of the interior, Chinese subjects of the mainland have been prohibited against crossing over to Formosa, and likewise against illicit entry into the savage territory, to the end that disturbances might be obviated. Now, inasmuch as Shên Pao-chêng and his colleagues have taken steps to throw open the interior, it is eminently necessary that cultivation of the lands lying waste should be encouraged, and the existing institutions should be modified in consonance with the requirements of the present time. The removal of all prohibitions heretofore in force, restricting Chinese subjects from crossing over to Formosa, is hereby granted, and the interdict upon trade in iron and bamboos is at the same time rescinded, with the object of affording encouragement. Let the proper Board take note.

(4) A memorial by the Censor Wu Hung-ên, dwelling upon the importance of placing none but persons of staid and correct conduct in attendance upon his present Majesty. (For rescript of the two Empresses, see *Gazette* of Jan. 30th).

Feb. 17th-18th. Ting Pao-chêng, Governor of Shantung, memorializes reporting the measures undertaken for the repair of the breach in the embankment of the Yellow River at Shih-Chwang-Hu 石庄戶. He has already transmitted plans and specifications for the work which it was deemed advisable to carry out, in consequence of this occurrence, at Kia-Chwang 賈庄 in the Ho-tsêh district (in Ts'ao-chow Fu, on the Western border of Shantung). Imperial orders for the execution of this undertaking, as a matter affecting the interests of several provinces, were received on the 29th December; and steps were immediately taken to urge on the work, preparations for which were already in hand. The labour of constructing the necessary embankments has been greatly impeded by the downrush of ice which has swept over the flooded district, and also by the frozen condition of the soil;

but it is hoped that before the month of March the dykes which are in process of construction from North to South, and *vice versâ*, will have been brought together, and the further egress of the river water Southwards be thus prevented.

Feb. 19th-20th.—The whole of this day's *Gazette* is occupied by the memorial of Li Hung-chang and his colleagues of the Grand Secretariat, in response to the Decree, dated the 15th January last, in which the determination of the posthumous titles of the late Emperor was enjoined. (See *Gazette* of January 15th). The Grand Secretariat proceeds hereupon to extol the virtues and endowments of his late Majesty in a strain of fulsome adulation, its memorial consisting in a prodigious concatenation of phrases extracted from the ancient classics, by means of which his late Majesty is compared to the most illustrious sages of the ancient world. (For the titles by canonization adopted in pursuance of the recommendations of this memorial, see *Gazette* of January 23rd.)

Feb. 21st—22nd. (1) A decree of the two Empresses, referring to their decree of the 12th January, in which they ordained that on the birth of a son to his late Majesty's adopted successor, the child shall become the adoptive heir of the deceased Emperor. A memorial has now been addressed to the Throne by Kwang-an 廣安, Assistant Reader of the Grand Secretariat, requesting that the high officials of the Court be directed to deliberate respecting the issue of a Warrant inscribed on iron (in token of unchangeableness) to this effect. This ill-considered and offensive suggestion gives occasion for a feeling of the utmost astonishment. Let Our message of reprimand be communicated to Kwang-an.

(2.) A Decree. Let Ts'ung-shih (President of the Board of Punishments) and K'i-yüan proceed by post—relay to Moukden—to hold an investigation. Let the Secretaries who accompany them travel similarly.

(3.) Memorial by the Censor Li Kwei-lin, representing the popularity of the ex-Taotai of Tientsin, Ting Show-ch'ang, among the people under his jurisdiction, and transmitting their entreaty that, although compelled by the death of a parent to resign his office, he may still be left, by a stretch of the Imperial prerogative, to discharge official functions among them.—(See *Gazette* of February 3rd-4th.)

Feb. 23rd-24th.—(Court Circular, 24th.) His Majesty will proceed to-morrow at 4.15 a.m., to offer homage at the Kwan-têh Tien [before the remains of his late Majesty], and thence return to the Imperial apartments. At 6.15 a.m., His Majesty, issuing from the K'ien T'sing gate, will ascend the Chung Ho Throne-hall from the folding doors at the back, and receive homage, passing thence to the T'ai Ho Throne-hall, to receive congratulations and promulgate the manifesto of accession, and thence return to the Imperial apartments.

(1). A Decree. On the removal this day of the golden coffin of Our elder sister, the Princess Yung-an, to the (temporary resting-place) at Tsing-an Chwang, let the Beilêh Tsai Ch'êng proceed thither and offer a funereal libation, as a token of our affectionate remembrance. (Note—the decease of the princess Yung-an, daughter of Hien-Fêng, and only sister of the late Emperor, who died in childbed at the beginning of this month, was recorded in the *Gazette* of the 6th inst. By his adoption, the present Emperor became placed in the relation of a brother to the deceased lady, though in reality only her cousin.)

(2) A decree in reply to a memorial by the Censor Wang Chao-lan, who has submitted his views on financial administration, civil government, and military efficiency. All these are acknowledged as deserving attention. On the subject of revenue and expenditure, the Board of Revenue is directed to compute the total amount of receipts in all the provinces from the land tax, salt and rice collectorates, as also from the *li-kin* tax and the sales of titles and offices. This having been done, expenditure is to be so ordered as to come within the limits of income. The governors of provinces are further directed to require from the commissioners of Finance a return of all existing *li-kin* tax stations, to be transmitted to the Board of Revenue, as well as returns of the annual receipts and disbursements. Should delays in this respect be wilfully indulged in, as heretofore, the offending officials are to be denounced for punishment. The Board is likewise to scrutinize the expenditure which is resorted to under the head of military requirements in the provinces generally, and to effect a return to the old system and prices in the supply of *matériel*. As regards the government of the people and the selection of trustworthy officials, scrupulous care is enjoined on the high authorities.

(3) A memorial by the Vice-director of the Sacrificial Court, Chow Jui-ts'ing, panegyrising the deceased high official Tsiang Yih-li, formerly Governor of Kwang-tung, and asking that his name be included among the state biographies. (For rescript see *Gazette* of 3rd instant.)

(4) A further memorial by the same writer, protesting in strong terms against the continuance in public employ, under the orders of the Governor-General Li Hung-chang, of the late Taotai of Tientsin, Ting Show-ch'ang, who has been placed in mourning by the death of his father. (For rescript see *Gazette* of 3rd instant.)

(5) The Censor Li Hung-mu memorializes, in virtue of the Decree calling for unrestricted counsels, to entreat that men of worth be rightly appreciated and the untrustworthy be put far away. Referring to the terms of the decree, in which the Empresses have called for advice from all officials who have the right of address, and to the paramount importance which the character of its servants has for the interests of the State, he recalls the time when, in the first year of T'ung-che (1862), their Majesties the Empresses undertook the regency on behalf of his late Majesty, then a child. The policy they ever pursued was that of surrounding themselves with Ministers grave, respected, and of tried capacity, whilst in the case of those who were leagued together in the execution of evil designs and whose ill repute was notorious, such men, if not sent to undergo the highest penalty of the law, were banished in disgrace. Now that once more a youthful sovereign has commenced to reign, and a regency is again inaugurated, the character of those who serve is more than ever the point of most urgent importance. Among individuals, who at the present day are by common consent acknowledged as men of worth, there is Kwei-ts'ing, holding the office of Vice-president of the Board of Works at Moukden; and among those who are universally pointed to as evil men, there are none more conspicuous than the Comptrollers of the Imperial Household, Wên-si and Kwei-pao. According to the accounts the Censor has heard, Kwei-ts'ing, when in office as Comptroller of the Household, discharged his duty with stern integrity, without fear or favour, and made himself the terror of self-seeking underlings. If the sacred favour be moved to recall him to employment in the Palace, an incentive will be applied to due exertion and a public wish be gratified. On the other hand, Wên-si, when employed as assistant Comptroller, relying upon the fact of his father, Ming-shan, being one of the Comptrollers, made himself the object of loud animadversion by the lavish expenditure he contrived for his own illicit advantage. Kwei-pao, again, intrigued dishonestly in connection with the fraudulent proposals of Li Kwang-chao for the supply of timber for Yüan-ming Yüan. The dismissal of these two officials from their posts in the household is solicited. (For rescript, dismissing Wên-si and Kwei-pao, see *Gazette* of 1st inst.)

Public Meetings.

THE CHINA COAST STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

A Meeting of Shareholders was held at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., on the 12th March.

Present:—W. Keswick (in the chair)—A. J. How, J. Wilson, M. S. Gubbay, W. Jaffray, E. Ward, E. Gippnerich, C. Rivington, F. G. White, J. MacGregor—representing 3,512 votes.

The CHAIRMAN read the report and accounts as follows:—

REPORT.

The directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the accounts of the Company to the 31st December, 1874, and in doing so have pleasure in referring to the earnings of the Steamers during the six months then expired. It will be observed that the net profit on the 61,349.28 including Tls. 1,379.08 brought forward from the previous half year's account. Out of this sum a Dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum has been paid, and the balance, amounting to Tls. 42,599.28, has been carried to the Reserve Fund which now stands at Tls. 62,522.10.

The Company's Steamers have been overhauled and put in thoroughly efficient order during the close of the Northern Ports.

The Directors have purchased for the Company a new Steamer adapted to the requirements of the Northern trade, and expect she will arrive towards the end of the present month.

The present Directors and Auditors now retire, as provided by the Deed of Settlement, but are eligible for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Dividend for half-year ended 30th June 1874	16,250.00
,, Balance of Interest Account to date	1,723.95
,, Balance of Charges Account, including Directors' and Auditors' Fees	2,278.05
	20,251.98
To Balance at Credit	61,349.28
Shanghai Tls.	84,601.26

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance from half-year ended 30th June 1874	17,629.08
,, Net Gain on working of Steamers for half year to 31st December 1874	66,593.97
,, Gain on Exchange Account	378.21
Shanghai Tls.	84,601.26

Liabilities.	Tls.
Capital	499,760.00
Reserve Fund	19,922.82
Underwriting Account	1,[illegible]
Accounts Payable	[illegible]
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	[illegible]
Profit and Loss	61,349.28
Shanghai Tls.	[illegible]

Assets.	
Cost of Steamers	381,[illegible]
Cash in Chests of the Agents and in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	91,[illegible]
Freights, Hire, Coals, and Balances due by Agents at Ports	[illegible]
Accounts Receivable	780.00
Ships' Stores	3,[illegible]
Shanghai Tls.	[illegible]

The report summarised everything that need be said of the Company. He considered the results shown had proved as satisfactory as the Directors anticipated when they last met, and he looked forward hopefully to the next report being equally favourable. There would be increased earning power, he hoped, in the addition which was announced to the fleet. The new steamer was named the *Conquest*, and was in capacity similar to the *Appin*; and from the reports received of her, he believed she would be found an economical and profitable boat. Captain Hutchison is bringing her out, and it is expected she will be here in a fortnight or three weeks.

Before proposing the adoption of the report and the passing of the accounts, he would remark with particular satisfaction that the Company is much indebted to the skill, energy, and attention to their duties, of the commanders, officers aud engineers of the fleet, for the successful work which the accounts exhibit. He now proposed—

That the Report and Accounts of the Directors of the Company for the half-year ended 31st December, 1874, as printed and circulated, be accepted and passed.

Seconded by Mr. Gubbay, and carried *nem. con.*

The Chairman said the next business was the re-election of the Directors. It was not clear that their re-election was quite necessary; but in view of the changes about to be proposed, it would be better to have the Directors re-elected for the full period.

Mr. Gubbay thought that, as the Directors had done so well, they could not do better than re-elect them. He proposed—

That Messrs. A. J. How, John Wilson, and Tong King-sing be re-elected Directors for the current year.

Seconded by Mr. F. G. White, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. MacGregor next proposed, and Mr. Ward seconded.

re-appointed auditors for the current year

Carried.

In reply to Mr. Ward, the Chairman said the *Conquest* had left London on the 24th January and had passed the Canal on the 14th ulto. She ought now to be near Singapore.

This closed the business of the half-yearly meeting.

The meeting then resolved itself into an extraordinary one, to consider certain proposed changes in the Deed of Settlement.

The Chairman said he had explained at the last meeting, that inconvenience arose from the terms of the articles of association requiring that the accounts of the Company should be made up half-yearly, and that the Directors considered it would be necessary to propose, at an extraordinary meeting to be held at the same time as the general meeting, in February or March, an alteration in Clauses 14 and 54, making the accounts annual and the year to end on the 31st December. The present rule that dividends fell due on 30th June and 31st December, the Directors would not change, but the rendering of the accounts annually would enable the working of the Company to be more intelligibly given than when the year, as at present, was unnecessarily divided. Notice of the proposed resolutions had been thus given, and they had been published in the papers for the information of those interested. The Directors did not propose any change in the payment of the half-yearly dividend, only that the accounts should be rendered yearly, instead of half-yearly. It was unnecessary to say anything more in favour of the change, the advantage of which must be patent to every business man. He would now propose that Rules 14 and 54 of the Deed of Settlement of the China Coast Steam Navigation Company be altered to read as follows:—

"14.—The General Agents shall render "to the Company once in every year, that "is to say, on or before the 31st day of "March in each respective year, an account "of the business transacted by the Com-"pany, and of the profit or loss arising "therefrom, and generally of the financial "state of the Company, (so far as can fairly "be ascertained) and also a general balance "sheet for the twelve months terminating "on the 31st day of December in each "year."

"54.—A General Meeting of the Share-"holders of the Company shall be held "once in every year, at such time and "place as the Board may from time to "time determine, but such meeting shall "take place not later than the last week "in April in each year."

The Deed of Settlement provided that the Rules might be altered by the shareholders at an extraordinary meeting, after thirty days' notice, if 2,000 registered shareholders were represented. There were 3,512 represented at the present meeting.

Mr. Wilson seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

This concluded the business, and the meeting broke up with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE S. S. N. CO.

The annual meeting of shareholders was held on the 13th inst. Present:—Messrs. John Dent, (Chairman); A. G. Wood, F. D. Hitch, E. Cunningham, (Directors); F. H. Bell, W. S. Fitz, Koo Fong Sing, Peter Maclean, E. W. Rice, D. Weld, Dr. G. K. Barton, N. B. Hinckley, W. W. Lovett, G. H. Noetzli, H. Overbeck, Sep. Daly, G. H. Wheeler, G. Rohl, J. B. Tootal, J. P. Bisset, J. Hart, A. White, J. F. Rodewald, G. A. Butler, F. G. White, E. Seligmann, J. F. Goodfellow, H. Cordier, D. Brand, Choping. Representing 16,277 shares.

On the motion of [illegible], Mr. Dent was called to the chair.

The Chairman said the meeting was called in accordance with the notice which had been advertised, to present the Report and Accounts of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. for the past year. The Report had been in the hands of the shareholders for many days, and all had had an opportunity of examining it. To the Directors it appeared satisfactory, and they hoped it would appear equally so to the shareholders. He had no further remark to make, except that if any shareholders wished any further information, the Directors would be happy to supply it.

Report.

The net gain for the year was Tls. 188,372.21. After allowing for the declared dividends of 7 %, there remains Tls. 27,323.96, to be carried to the credit of Insurance and Depreciation Fund.

The casualities of the year are confined to the loss of the *Chusan*, insured for the cost of the hull and new work, but not for the engine from the old *Chusan* which was valued at Tls. 30,000, and is written off. The vessel can probably be replaced at a saving in cost equal to the amount lost, and the chief cause for regret in this disaster is the untimely death of Captain Johnson and eight of the crew, whose loss is deeply to be deplored.

The companion hull, for which the *Kiangloong's* engine is intended, is to come out in sections by steamer from Glasgow. She will not be in service for a year, but as these vessels were ordered well in advance of their need, to allow for accidents, the delay is no inconvenience to the Company.

In order to convey to distant shareholders as close an estimate as possible of the value of the Company's property, it has been re-valued, and the steamers are written down, not only to cover present depreciation, but in the case of the wooden steamers depreciation in the future. Three of these, being perishable property, are reduced to a nominal value, though still sound and efficient and as good for present service as new vessels. The *Nanking*, *Hirado* and *Fusiyama*, for all practical purposes, are the same as iron hulls, their frames being imperishable, and the only peculiar repairs beyond those required by iron vessels being the occasional replanking above the water line. The amount thus written off is Tls. 390,737.16. A list of the Company's steamers at the new valuations is added to the usual statements, and a perusal will show the sound and efficient state in which the fleet now stands.

The re-valuation of real estate was based on actual sales of other property in close proximity, and was made with much care. It is intended and is believed to be, still below its actual value as well as cost; it having been added to, through successive years, without increase of cost in the accounts. Besides their steamboat dock, the Company possesses three extensive estates, situated at nearly equi-distant points on the river, and commanding the best frontages in the port, aggregating nearly half a mile of river bank. Their dock is the only one here capable of receiving river steamers of the dimensions now built. The enhancement of the property in the books is Tls. 337,662.00, and it now stands at Tls. 763,600.

The agreement entered into in March with the China Steam Navigation Company has proved successful in its arrangements, and the Companies work in harmony with only such degree of friendly rivalry as secures to the public the most efficient service, and to the Companies the most careful economy.

The directors think the promise is good for a prosperous business in the ensuing year. The interior is reported to be in a peaceful and flourishing condition, which should react favorably upon the carrying trade.

Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.

To Dividend for six months ending 30th June 1874		90,000.00
,, Items belonging to former years		1,070.14
,, Loss on Str. *Chusan*		
Cost	163,878.31	
Insurance	163,500.00	378.31
Shanghai Expenses shipping Engine, etc.		1,138.85
		1,517.16
,, Balance of interest account with Russell and Co.		144.86
,, Dividend for six months ending 31st December, 1874		67,500.00
,, Returns to Contributors		40,500.00
,, Balance transferred to Insurance and Depreciation Fund		27,323.96
	Taels	228,056.12

Cr.

By returns and Dividends from the Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company		4,030.24
,, Interest on United States Bonds to January 1st 1875 and interest		31,590.10
,, Balance interest on *Manchu* Mortgage,		4,063.57
,, Net gain on running accounts of Steamers, Godowns, etc., for year ending 31st December, 1874		188,372.21
	Taels.	228,056.12

Insurance and Depreciation Fund.

Dr.

To amount written off for estimated depreciation of Steamer Property	390,737.16	
,, amount written off for value of the Machinery of the *Chusan* and estimated depreciation of Machinery of the *Kiangloong* and *Moyune*	38,177.72	
	428,914.88	
Less enhancement in value of Real Estate, etc.	350,780.69	78,134.19
To Balance		650,803.63
	Taels	728,937.82

Cr.

By Balance December 31st, 1873		701,613.86
,, Balance of Profit and Loss Account transferred		27,323.96
	Taels	728,937.82

Capital Account.

Dr.

Liabilities.

Stock	2,250,000.00
Insurance and Depreciation Fund	650,803.63
Taels.	2,900,803.63

Cr.

Assets.

Hulls of 17 Steamers as per Memo:	1,300,000.00
Steam Tenders and Floating Fire Engines	18,000.00
Iron Lugs, Iron Coal Barges	10,000.00
Real Estate in French Settlement Hongkew and Pootung	763,600.00
Property at Ports	15,200.00
Stock in Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company	4,250.00
Spare Machinery, Anchors, Chains, Buoys and Smith Shop	45,979.01
Stocks of Ship Stores, Provisions, Wines	68,782.99
Stocks of Coals at Shanghai and Ports	24,300.51
Lumber on hand at Shanghai	13,017.11
Value of Machinery and Materials ex *Kiangloong* and *Moyune*	40,000.00
Investment in United States Bonds	436,210.00
Russell and Co.	100,444.02
Taels	2,900,803.63

Mr. P. Maclean proposed—

That the accounts for the year 1874, as presented to the meeting, be accepted and passed.

And in doing so, he congratulated the Directors and Shareholders on the very satisfactory position of the Company.

Seconded by Mr. NOETZLI, and carried unanimously.

Mr. D. BRAND then proposed, and Mr. RICE seconded, the following resolution.

Mr. Dent retiring from the board, it is proposed that Mr. W. Scott Fitz be elected President, and Messrs. F. H. Bell, F. Nissen, F. D. Hitch and A. G. Wood be elected directors, and Mr. Rowley Miller auditor to same, until the next general meeting.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said the Directors had no other business to lay before the meeting. If any shareholder had any proposal to make, or question to ask, they would be happy to hear it.

Nothing offering, Mr. CUNNINGHAM proposed that the thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Dent for presiding, and also for the efficient assistance he had given to the Company through a series of years, during which his advice had always been of great value to the agents in the management of the Company's business.

Mr. HITCH seconded the proposal, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. DENT briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting broke up.

Amusements.

THE PAPER HUNT HANDICAP.

The Paper Hunt Handicap on Saturday, twice round the usual Steeplechase Course, attracted such a crowd of ladies and gentlemen that the Grand Stand enclosure looked quite as if it were a Race day.

Fears had been entertained that the sport would have to be po tponed owing to the recent heavy rains, but it was decided by the stewards, and wisely as the result showed, that unless it actually rained the Handicap should come off. The ground was of course very heavy, and in some places actually under water for a few yards, but this did not prevent the appearance of a first rate field ; there being no less than 17 or 18 starters out of nineteen entries.

After a slight delay, during which an energetic photographer took a view of the restive and quiet, the word *off* was given. Messrs. Hunt and Nickels, riding *Maloo* and *Sky Pilot*, emerged from the ruck and crossed the *Double* simultaneously. The allotted 15 sec. having elapsed, the second batch came forward, prominent amongst whom we noticed *Oriflamme*, ridden by Mr. How, and *Gameboy* by Mr. Daniell. Quickly followed the 3rd batch, and last of all came the scratch ponies, they being 45 sec. behind those handicapped. Now the race waxed warm, and *Furore*, ridden by Mr. E. H. Gore-Booth, was seen to be working his way through the crowd, and was the first to cross the Wall, followed by *Southdown*, *Gekko*, *Schwalbe* and *Gameboy*. The Double was crossed a second time without any serious mishap, *Furore* not having once refused. Of the handicapped lot little was to be seen, as all attention was centred in the leading four ponies, which passed and re-passed most of their opponents. Opposite the Stand, *Furore* led by 200 yards, splendidly ridden. He eventually won, hands down, crossing the Double for the third time equally as well as the first. A good race ensued for 2nd place, which was gained by *Southdown* closely followed by *Schwalbe*. Owing to *Gekko's* eagerness in an attempt to secure second honour, he slipped, and placed himself and rider at the bottom of the Double instead of over it.

Nearly the whole of the ponies went unusually well, although the croppers were by no means like angels' visits, as the take off at most of the jumps was so slushy and slippery that the ponies were unable to collect themselves properly before leaping. It is impossible to give any detailed account of the Handicap, as to do so one must have been ubiquitous ; suffice it to say that no accidents of a serious nature occurred, the occasional duckings only adding to the excitement of the sport and the amusement of the spectators, and that the Steeplechase was one of the very best that has ever taken place over the Course. So many ponies went straight and well, that it would be invidious to make any comparisons. The two first in, *Furore* and *Southdown*, thoroughly deserved the honour they won, having jumped magnificently throughout.

THE A. D. C. PERFORMANCE.

The third performance of our Amateurs at the Lyceum, on Friday, was unquestionably the success of the season. There had been some doubt as to the wisdom displayed by the Committee in selec ing the "*Heir at Law*," but after the first act, no hesitation could exist as to the propriety of the choice or the ability of the corps to carry out the parts assigned to them. We shall not attempt to follow the plots of the two dramas presented ; as "*I have written to Brown*" is far too slight and absurd to bear a serious process of investigation, and the sturdy old comedy by Colman is so well known that the critic is absolved from the necessity of analysis. With regard to the first piece, we may give great praise to Messrs. Thomas Hawk and Barkins. The former actor is the best representative of Charles Matthews' parts, we have ever had on the Shanghai stage. He is full of life and animation—easy and natural in his by-play, and, besides, he has the great advantage of being always distinctly audible. His entrance after the supposed robbery was capital, his prompt changes of policy to meet the varied requirements of constantly changing circumstances were assumed with great spirit and effect, and his mastery over the mind of the unhappy *Dotts* was as complete and farcical as one could desire. Miss Castor played well and looked well, and the new actress, Miss Edmunds, promises to be a great acquisition to the corps. If Mr. Waffles exhibited a tendency to over-act, it really did not much matter, as the more absurdity that was crowded into the piece, the better. Those of the audience who came late wanted time to get settled in their places and to look round the house, and those who came early were none the worse for a hearty laugh at whimsicalities which formed a good introduction to the old-fashioned humour and conventional construction of the comedy that was to form the *pièce de resistance* of the evening's entertainment.

The "*Heir at Law*" is a good specimen of the old comedy. It ranks with "*John Bull*," "*Speed the Plough*" and "*The West Indian*," but though cast in an antique mould it is still rich in knowledge of stage effect, and abounding in capital characters. There is always considerable risk in putting on a piece which hinges on one actor, but here we have at least four parts of striking prominence. If *Pangloss* fails, the success of the drama may be retrieved by *Zekiel Homespun*, and if *Zekiel Homespun* is not all one can wish, a *Dick Dowlas* who is in earnest, will do wonders to keep the audience in good humour. On Friday all the leading parts were admirably filled. Mr. Walbro' thoroughly appreciated the character of the Gosport chandler turned Lord. There was a completeness and a finish in his version of the *pseudo* Baron Duberley that we do not often find. The voice, the gait, the uneasiness in his fine clothes, were all true and unexaggerated traits, and perhaps the best scene of the evening was that in which he comes out with homely proverbs suited to a retail tradesman, when *Stedfast* is expecting the stilted periods of a Parliamentary orator. *Dick Dowlas* is not a gracious character to play, and yet it is second to none in difficulty. Mr. Montressor has never acted so well, and indeed in the first act he could not have entered more thoroughly into the spirit of the scene than he did. His altered manner to the honest friend of his boyhood, when he hears he is a Peer's son, was very well rendered, and if his subsequent repentance was less favourably received by the house, he must console himself by the reflection that it was getting late, and the audience were tired of applauding.

Dr. Pangloss, the typical charlatan tutor of a past generation, is, we presume, the favourite character in the play, and the remarkable success which has recently attended the revival of the "*Heir at Law*" in England, is to be attributed to the excellence of Mr. Clarke's impersonation of the classical quack. Mr. Carpenter gave us a careful and level rendering of the Doctor. He attempted no varieties of facial expression ; he did not make all the usual points, nor give the accustomed grotesque emphasis to the classical quotations, but he had evidently studied the part with the greatest care, and his exit at the end of Act 2 excited hearty laughter. But the event of the evening was the debut of Mr. Kidnapper as [illegible] remembered by Shanghai Playgoers for many years. The new actor has the one quality which insures success. He has *earnestness*. Directly he spoke, he carried the house with him. Sympathy was at once established between the audience and the actor, and whenever he was on the stage his presence was felt. The part of the honest countryman, with his friendship for *Dick*, his loyal love for his sister, and his grateful tenders of aid to her patroness, *Miss Dormer*, when he finds himself suddenly affluent, is a part calculated to enlist the interest of the spectators, and the generous sentiments, in spite of cynic criticism, are always favourably received. Mr. Kidnapper will we hope appear often again. He is a valuable accession to the company, and will strengthen any cast to which he contributes his aid. We must not forget, however, in our eulogy of the brother, to accord a large measure of praise to the fair *Cicely*, who found a charming representative in Miss Castor. She looked exceedingly pretty, was most becomingly and appropriately dressed, and presented a picture of a Somersetshire country lass that Gainsborough might have painted.

We are compelled to dismiss the other characters with a shorter notice, but we may say generally that all were well filled. The *Stedfast* of Mr. St. Aubyn was sententious and emphatic. *Deborah Dowlas*, alias *Lady Duberly*, and *Caroline Dormer* were not easy parts and require practised performers, but considering the difficulties that they had to encounter both Miss Jenny Rickshaw and Miss Robin deserve to be commended. The *Henry Morland* of Mr. Doolittle was perhaps a trifle too ponderous, but a man who had undergone the various misfortunes that *Morland* is supposed to have suffered, may be pardoned for being somewhat sombre in demeanor. *Kenrick*, the comic Irishman, was given to Mr. Tristan d'Acunha, and was played *con spirito*. In a word, we must congratulate the A. D. C. on the general effect of their third performance. It was a marvel of good management. The actors were well up in their parts, the scenery was charming, and everything worked without a single hitch. The feeling that all is not right behind the curtain very soon communicates itself to those in front, and when all is going well on the stage, the audience are easy and in good humour. Last night Actors and Audience were thoroughly at one with each other, and though the entertainment did not end until after 12 o'clock, the interest never flagged.

The orchestra was very strong, and played the following selections with brilliancy and effect.

Debatten Waltz—Gung'l.
Selection from les Huguenots.
La périchole Quadrille.
"Spring Gentle Spring" Waltz.

Miscellaneous.

THE FIRE ON THE FRENCH BUND.

The premises on the French Bund occupied by the Mitsu Bishi Steam-ship Co. were burned down yesterday morning. The fire-bell rang out the alarm about 6 a.m.; and the several Companies of the Fire Brigade were quickly on the spot, and in a very short time twelve streams of water were brought to bear upon the burning building. The men-of-war in harbour also landed detachments with great promptitude, who were active in saving merchandize and such moveables as could be got at. Nearly all the office furniture, safes and books were thus saved. The flames spread, however, with great rapidity, and in an incredibly short time the whole building was ablaze. The efforts of the firemen were greatly directed to saving the adjoining premises of the Messageries Maritimes Company, in whose godowns some 370 bales of silk were stored; and their efforts were successful. The danger at one time seemed imminent that these also would catch, and the heat was so great that several windows were broken.—By 8 a.m. the fire was so far got under that all danger of its spreading was past; but the buildings in which it originated were destroyed—with the exception of one room, which seems to have escaped almost intact. A bedstead standing in it was apparently uninjured, and a small dog was found under it none the worse for his adventure; though he was so thoroughly frightened that it was with some difficulty he was persuaded to leave his post.

The origin of the fire has not, so far as we can learn, been ascertained; but we are informed that a smell of burning wood was perceived about 3 a.m., and our informant went round the godowns under his charge, but could not ascertain whence it came. Several streams of water were kept playing upon the ruins till late in the day, to secure the complete extinction of the embers, and prevent a fresh outbreak. The accident does not involve a heavy loss to the Insurance Companies.

NOTES OF AN OVERLAND JOURNEY FROM NEWCHWANG TO PEKING.

On the morning of 12th November, 1874, a "large" clumsy cart with straw mat-awning, drawn by two horses and a mule, came to my door. In this I journeyed to Peking and back. The axle of this "large" or goods cart, is firmly wedged into the wheels and revolves with them. The cart is mentioned in the "Lwun Yü," along with the "small" or travelling cart used all over the North and in the streets of the capital. Confucius may have often sat in one on the opposite side of the ferry. Clad in a fur suit and with abundance of wrappers, 10° below zero could be looked calmly in the face. In this large cart one can recline at full length or sit up at pleasure. Jolting in ruts on the plains, bumping against rocks in the mountains are some of the minor evils inseparably connected with all cart travelling, for the luxury of springs is unknown, and I fear impossible before the construction of something worthy the name of roads.

As it was full mid-day before the team was got in motion, we got no further than 60 *li* the first day. By the time we arrived at the bank of the deep, wide, swift-flowing Liao, the sun had gone down, and all attempts to summon the boatmen from Tien-jwang-tai were futile.

We knocked at the gate of the largest compound in the small hamlet on the East of the river and, after some parley, were admitted. The landlord turned out, throwing over his shoulders an outer garment which had known better days. Never did I see a Chinaman with a more listless, spiritless expression than this man wore on his face, pale and thin from want of food. "No," he said, "there is no business. Those robbers have driven it all away." On my return homewards it was reported that the robbers had crossed the river, plundered the desolate inn of its few possessions and taken the poor man's life.

Next morning by sunrise we were at the river-bank expecting the ferry boat. At seven o'clock she still had not come. At eight I became impatient and sent the carter across in a "sanpan." At nine I could stand there no longer, and in no very peaceful mood summoned a small boat to take me across to the ferry-house. A very obliging, respectable Chinaman accosted me by name;—had supplied me with beef, etc. in Newchwang, and readily conducted me to the ferry-house. He was most frank and friendly, and by the time we approached the ferry-house my wrath was evaporated and he was quite ready to acknowledge that the ferry was his! It was about mid-day before the cart was got fairly across. I mention this man, who was an intelligent Mahommedan, because in the course of a long conversation as to the origin and progess of his religion in China, I happened to say that a gentleman had informed me of a belief common among Chinese, that the present dynasty was about to expire, and that the next would be a Mahommedan. "No," said my friend with a most thoughtful, serious countenance looking to the ground, "No, we do not wish that, we do not desire to see a Mahommedan, lord of China. Our sacred books declare that immediately upon the accession of a Mahommedan dynasty there will break out a period of two hundred years anarchy, universal confusion and war. And this period over, comes the last day, when the earth shall be destroyed. No, we dont want that." At Tienjwangtai commences the "robber-producing" country" as my man called it. This robber tract took us five days to pass through, on account of the bad roads. It is about a hundred miles from E. to W., with a number of goodly sized villages, though not so populous as the region to the W. of it, nor as that to the E. of the Liao.

Early one morning, as we were about to pass before a village inn, a carter coming from the west whispered, "They are taking money in there." My carter hurriedly drove his team to the left, in order to pass through the village by another road. The meaning of the words turned out to be, that there were three armed robbers in the inn, levying black-mail of ten taels on each empty cart, in default seizing horses or mules, and taking what they would find useful from other carts. There were twelve carts, representing at least fifteen men, detained then. The three men went up on the house-top and looked after our cart as long as it was in sight, seemingly undecided whether or not to attack it. In the evening it was reported there were seven "white wolves," but they feared foreign arms. When some miles away we observed a large white cloud behind us, and ascertained it was a stock of winter fuel fired by those robbers, because the owner would not or could not pay the sum of money demanded.

The robbers of Manchuria have not a particle of the generosity ascribed to the Robin Hood class. The poor foot-traveller is stripped of his cotton-wadded garment as readily as the wealthy of his fur-robe. The innkeeper has to furnish the best in his store in abundance, and of course "without money," while the wives and daughters of the poorest are ravished, and any woman remarkable for beauty is forcibly dragged to their mountain dens. The knight errant has yet to be created. The great majority of these robbers are Mahomedans, proudly claiming descent from the Arab bandits of the far West. Mahommedans are however plundered with the same impartiality as Buddhists. There is no sign of connivance or secret understanding of innkeepers and carters with the banditti, for these classes suffer most.

In those districts which are their haunts, one robber is as powerful as twenty. The carters at the above inn, though a hundred strong, would not dare defend their property for fear of vengeance; in less than twenty-four hours an inn or village would be burned to the ground, where any of the gang has been attacked.

One afternoon we put up at a large and good inn under the supervision of a jolly friar of the Buddhist order. He has a small temple with two disciples, but his heart is in the inn, where he employs from seventy to eighty men. He looks the rotund land-lord rather than the ideal abbot. His left eye is a large round one, looking a great deal too much to the left, and is always weeping, not I fear from religious emotion. His right is a very small, scarcely perceptible eye, but is large enough to look after the main chance. It was commonly reported that robbers dared not attack this inn, nor come within 20 *li* of it; not from religious motives but because of the 80 men. Unfortunately for him this belief was belied, for just before my return a party of fully one hundred robbers attacked and pillaged his premises.

About 100 miles West of Tienjwangtai is the busy village of Shŭsanjantsŭ, where the road viâ Tienjwangtai converges with the high road from Moukden to Jinchow and Peking. Once here, it was said there was no further danger from robbers, as the road was so much frequented, bands of soldiers passing over it almost daily. On the way back the heroic conduct of a band of 50 soldiers from Jinchow was much praised. This band were sent Eastwards to punish or check the robbers who had pillaged "Abbot's" inn. They came upon a party of 50 robbers, while the latter were enjoying their opium pipes in the largest inn of Shŭsanjantsŭ, killing 4 of them and driving the rest Eastwards as far as the hills to the South of Moukden. Arriving at the above village, I found this story considerably modified. Fifty soldiers were on their march into the robber district, but found it pleasant to sleep in the inn above mentioned, before beginning their campaign. During night a party of 50 robbers, who had heard of the movement of the soldiers, rushed upon the inn, fired it, killed 3 men and got one killed, putting the soldiers to flight. I saw the inn with scarcely half the wall standing. So much for Chinese veracity. Chinese soldiers cannot root out this pest, for they dare not attack the mountain retreats.

Nearing Jinchow on our way home, we saw a number of heavily loaded carts turning back, many others standing undecided. The reason of this was, that the Jinchow authorities had given orders to hire a certain number of carts to transport soldiers to the seat of war in the East. Very few carts were needed, but the "yayi" pounced upon all the empty country carts in the city. The hire given by the Jinchow authorities is pocketed by the yayi, the innkeepers being compelled to feed soldiers, drivers and teams. But there were no soldiers to act the paymaster for the carts returning, hence the great reluctance of drivers to enter the city. But why seize so many carts? Because all who had some spare tiaos gladly paid a ransom to be freed from the "press-gang." And the process of "pressing" carts is continued long after all the soldiers are gone. It is one of the many ways in which

the half-paid or unpaid Yamun attachés find their wages.

On the way from Jinchow to Moukden, the roads were such as to remind one forcibly of the bye-gone ages in the West, as described by Sir W. Scott. From every cart were flags flying of various devices, from the yellow, falsely pretending to wave over imperial goods, to the red of the common guard, called "Bao Biao;" also spears, swords, bayonets and muskets, not "gleaming," for they were all rusty, for show not for use. We met one long train of travelling carts with these accompaniments and a rear-guard of 50 "Bao-biao" besides. Except my own, there was no solitary cart.

We travelled two stages per day, the first commencing from two to four a.m., ending at from eight a.m. to one p.m. for breakfast; the second from breakfast time till four p.m., sometimes till dark; going over 80 to 120 *li* per day. The mode of conveyance is no more different from that of the South than are the food and habits of the travellers. The tea of the South is replaced by boiling water in the North, the native traveller drinking a considerable quantity on arrival at his inn. His brick sleeping kang is comfortably heated by a fire of the stout millet stalks which form ninety-nine hundredths of the native winter fuel, as does the millet grain of the native food.

After passing Jinchow to the West, I observed that the common kettle was displaced by a copper tube 3ft. long and 3in. in diameter, its handle just at the mouth. This is thrust in among the millet stalks under the kang, and the traveller's hot drink speedily prepared.

At their meals, all the natives drank heated undiluted samshoo, without charge. Yet among the thousands I saw drink this strong spirit, only one was uproarious. Drunkards I have not met, though instances of men and women becoming drunk are not uncommon. At certain seasons of the year it is the custom to get drunk, but this is inside the house. There are enormous quantities of raw spirit consumed; drunkenness is however, not a Chinese vice.

For 400 or 500 *li* East of Shanhaigwan (mountain custom house), the border town between Chihli and Manchuria, or "Gwanli" and "Gwandoong," the high road intersects range after range of mountains, separated by valleys which as a rule are very narrow. In this part of the road there is probably as much artificial cutting as I have seen in all my travels. It reflects far greater credit on the perseverance and wealth of the Tang (or other) dynasty, than on their engineering skill. There are many hundreds, perhaps thousands of clay hillocks cut right in the centre, while a tithe of the cost would have sufficed to cut a good road on the face of the hill. The engineers seem to have been more afraid of curves than even the old railways. Another advantage they would have gained by this slight detour is that they could easily make a road broad enough for two carts to cross, while at present the carter entering a cutting from one side, has to use his lungs unsparingly to prevent the entrance of carts from the opposite direction. Occasionally, however, even carters' lungs are insufficient to warn, and two carts or two lines of carts going in opposite directions are inside; and then what a waste of words and loss of time! Chinese draught animals are taught to draw only, as a rule they cannot "back"—hence the cart has to be dragged backwards outside the narrow cutting by the drivers. There is also a good deal of cutting in solid rock. These mountain ranges all run from N.E. to S.W., parallel with the great mountain chains, nearly two hundred miles to the East and extending into Corea; the rich and populous plain watered by the Liao and its numerous tributaries, lying between. It is rare to find any exception to this South-westerly course. The "Chien Shan," presenting mountain scenery as grand as any country can produce, lies at right angles to the Eastern range. Like the Eastern, by far the greater proportion of those mountains consists of very coarse-grained granite; white prevailing in the Eastern, red in the Western. Limestone is not scarce, and is pretty extensively burnt in both the East and the West. Gneiss and several kinds of trap occur, but are far from common.

We came across three coal-producing districts between Tientsin and Jinchow. About a day's journey West of Shanhaigwan, very early one morning, with thermometer about zero, I came up with a farmer, busy collecting horse manure for his fields, and said, "You get coal here, do you not?" "Yes," he replied, "at the distance of a few *li*." "I thought so," I said, "for there are so many trees standing." Beyond Shanghaigwan, I found the province of Chihli ("Gwanli") very poor. Many houses in the towns are crumbling to ruin, more standing in much need of repairs the means for which seem wanting. A few villages are virtually deserted. No new ones building, that I can recollect. This state of matters appears to be the result of perpetual floods. Last year's was a good season, yet provisions of all kinds cost 50 per cent. more than in Manchuria ("Gwanwai"). If they have two good crops in seven they consider themselves wealthy, if only one, they can barely exist.

There are two things remarkable by their absence, fossils and black earth. Over two thousand miles of country, N., S., E. and W., I have not come across a single fossil more interesting than lignitic coal and some quartz crystals in granite rock. Strange that plutonic rock should be so universal! Possibly coal mines and lime quarries may yet produce some fossils. How account for the absence of black soil? I have not yet crossed over 200 yards of black earth. All the earth is of a clayey consistency, except in the wide river beds, which are sandy and sometimes gravelly. Red clay is not uncommon, but a pale grey is the general colour. In all the plantations known to me at home, the earth was black, and black in proportion to the thickness of the trees and shrubbery; in almost all marshy ground—in all bogs, it was black, and peculiarly so in old graveyards. Is the blackness the result of, and in proportion to the amount of, animal or vegetable decomposition? Chinese use up all straw—even roots—for fuel.

The people have a saying, "Every five *li* a '*dwun*' 墩, every ten *li* a '*tă*' 塔;" the *dwun*, a square brick fire-beacon is there in excellent preservation, but there is only one *tă*, and it occurs just outside Shanhaigwan, a hundred feet square. The remains of ancient earth-works lie round about it, for here, it is said, the ancient Chinese warriors used to marshal their hosts in order to meet the Corean foes who held Jinchow, and who have left two Corean towers to the west of it. Many must have been the battles before the Coreans where driven first beyond the Liao, and finally the Yaloo, where they are all but inaccesible to any army marching through Chinese soil.

At every two and a half *li* is a small house, neat and clean, for it is yearly white-washed and painted South, East and West with large black characters, intimating that inside is the catcher of thieves, and giving the names of the district town and the nearest inns east and west of it. In each is supposed to reside a Manchu soldier, to protect the trees which should grow at each side of the road as "guides;" but there are more empty than occupied houses, and nearly as many houses as trees.

The thin edge of the wedge has got pretty far into the tree of Chinese practices and customs in the North. In the vicinity of Tientsin is a large number of tall chimneys, regardless of "Fungshuy," used in the manufacture of war-stores.

In Tientsin, I was particularly interested in the scene of the murder of the French nuns. From the rumours current, I fear there was some basis for the fury of the populace, in a want of prudence on the part of those who paid so dearly. We know to what a pitch of fury the people of the West could be roused by tales of the "resurrectionists;" and however groundless and absurd the calumny that children's eyes were used for the preparation of foreign medicines, it was the part of prudent people to allow and even invite all needful examination to remove that calumny. Roman Catholics object to throw their nunneries open to government inspection. They carried out this policy in China, and, as in the West, people believed there was something evil to conceal. This missionary question is difficult, only because of the open or secret opposition of most politicians to all missions of every kind. If politicians went calmly to work to check imprudence on the part of such men as are imprudent, they would gain the hearty support of the best missionaries; but, as long as they lump all missionaries together, as more injurious than drunken soldiers or licentious clerks, they need surely not expect the co-operation of any missionary worthy the name. Protestant missionaries may be, and perhaps sometimes are, guilty of indiscretions, for which, if serious, they should be called to account; but there are some practices (not acts merely) common among Roman Catholics which should be put down by those who have or ought to have the power.

The Chinese officials are correct in stating that the people do not know the distinction between Protestant and Roman Catholic. Where contact with Protestant missionaries is frequent, the existence of the difference is known, but the great majority of the natives are ignorant of it.

Experience tells me that missionaries should be encouraged as much as possible by our authorities to visit the interior. On my journey Westwards, it was often with difficulty and always with grumbling we found entrance to the inns; we were received with open arms whenever, on our return, we fell in with the track already passed. I do not think anything will open up the interior so readily as the frequent visits of the missionary, who should, as a rule, speak the language better than the merchant, and who presents the Chinese with a side of Western life not always found accompanying cotton and opium

In regard to the future of trade in these parts, much cannot be said. North of Tientsin, Newchwang is and shall long continue to be the principal outlet for the export trade. It is the most accessible to carts from the great grain-producing north, and its deep river throws it open to shipping. There is some coasting trade carried on by Jinchow and Shanhaigwan, both of which cities border the sea, but the gulf is shallow. It is my impression that a fair amount of import trade to Jinchow might be carried on by flat-bottomed steamers. Land carriage adds largely to the expense of cheap goods. Grain, which sold in Jinchow at 26, was selling in Moukden at 15, the difference, principally, showing cost of land carriage over 500 *li*. Cottons, too, are both heavy and bulky in proportion to their value; hence every hundred *li* makes an appreciable difference in the price, and the supply of cottons rapidly decreases till at last they disappear. This is true of Jinchow, which is nearly 500 *li* from Newchwang, and goods carted thither have to pass over a road very expensive in horse feed. Opium is the only thing which heeds not cart-hire, being expensive in proportion to its weight and bulk. Hence it is found everywhere.

Jinchow is without exception the busiest Chinese city I have seen. Its population

should number not much less than 150,000; its streets are lined with good shops, daily thronged by thousands of country customers. It is much superior to the lines of booths forming the Capital. Its streets, like those of all Manchurian cities, are well paved. To the North, on the way to Moukden, are two good cities of about 50,000 souls each, besides some large villages; one needing only a wall to be called a city. To the West are several cities besides Shanhaigwan, some of which are very busy. Upon the whole, I think Jinchow would become a pretty good centre for foreign trade, provided the gulf would be found deep enough.

As a mission centre, it presents the same advantages as for trading. The Irish mission located here have taken that route, as we learn from an Irish paper. We wish them all success.

Newchwang, 30th Jan.

Correspondence.

MANCHURIA.

To the Editor of the
North-China Herald.

Dear Sir,—Perhaps you may think it worth while to insert a few lines, which may help to clear up some of the obscurities caused by the very peculiar spelling for Chinese names, which your correspondent has adopted in his interesting account of his overland journey from Newchwang to Peking.

The large city of *Jinchow*, of which he gives a description, is no other than the well known *Kinchow-fu* 錦州府, the chief city of the smaller of the two *fu* or departments into which Shêngking or Southern Manchuria is divided,—Moukden being the chief of the other. Your comspondent's estimate of its population is, it is certain, very greatly in excess. The walls of the city are only about a mile and a half in circuit, and the suburbs, with the exception of the Eastern one, are insignificant. It does not cover one-fourth of the area that Moukden does, and three independent estimates of the population of Moukden agree in placing it at about 200,000. It is scarcely possible that Kinchow-fu contains as many as 50,000 inhabitants, and it is much more likely that the population is under 40,000. Its principal industries are the manufacture of felt and leather articles of all kinds, the raw materials for which are obtained from the extensive grazing tracts in its vicinity, and from the plains of Mongolia to the North. Besides these, its trade is comparatively unimportant, as it is not the centre of a large agricultural district. The city itself lies twelve miles inland, north of the North-western extremity of the Gulf of Liaotung, which is here so shallow that junks drawing six feet of water lie at anchor in an open roadstead eight or ten miles from the small town which answers for the port of Kinchow-fu.

The region which your correspondent disguises under the spelling of *Gwandoong* is Kwantung, a very commonly used popular name for Southern Manchuria; and his *Shanhaigwan* will be recognized as Shanhai-kwan, the important point where the Great Wall terminates in the sea. So his Shŭsanjantsŭ is *Shihsan-chantze* 十三站子, a large village at the junction of the highroads running from Newchwang and Moukden to Peking. His picture of the robbers which infest the province only too strongly confirms what we have been told of their doings of late years.

Yours very truly,

T.

Shanghai, 12th March.

WATER.

To the Editor of the
North-China Herald.

Dear Sir,—The chief objection to the plans recently proposed for supplying the Settlement with water, seems to be their great cost. Those who take the pains to consider them, after dwelling upon their agreeable completeness, come to the distressing total of cost, put their hands into their empty pockets and sadly walk away.

The general outlines of the proposal are—water drawn from the river at the Pagoda, brought here in large mains, pumped up to raised reservoirs, and, finally, a distribution through the Settlement extending to the foreign houses and possibly the native also.

This elaborate plan is on the principle of "Let us do the thing well while we are about it." But when the want is pressing for a simple supply of good water, why should we care to go beyond the need, at the hazard of preventing all action for a long time to come?

It is not increased luxury that we want, which term may be applied to carrying water over our houses, but the supply of one of the first needs of life in the simplest manner in which it can be brought to us.

The first extravagance in the plan is the drawing the water at the Pagoda, involving the cost of two reservoirs and two sets of pumping gear, in place of one, and some miles of very expensive pipe. We already know by experience that there is no practical difference in the quality of the water drawn at the Pagoda and at points near the Settlement, including the Soochow Creek, the fact being that the earthy sediment, which fills and colors all the running water here, helps to precipitate impurities, and the water clears itsef in a remarkably short time. I believe we may safely take it for granted that water drawn from the middle of the Soochow Creek, at half tide and upwards, somewhere near the outlet of the Defence Creek, and properly settled, would be good enough for the purposes of the community, and vastly better than any we get at present.

Proceeding upon the economical principle—having determined upon a point near the Settlement, a piece of land of about 25 to 30 *mow* must be bought, say of a size sufficient for two capacious ponds, or ground reservoirs, and the space required for a raised reservoir of more moderate dimensions.

The ponds could be simple excavations, with sloping sides, of as great a depth as possible without taking water from the percolations through the subsoil, say, perhaps 8 feet deep, and say 400 by 100 each. These ponds would fill at above half tide in the creek, by mains which would admit the creek water through sponges and coarse gravel. As one pond settled, the other would be drawn from by the pumps, which would throw the water into the raised reservoir. This last could be built of brickwork and cement on a mound of earth, provided by the excavation of the ponds. I do not know the head that would be required, but I suppose that 40 feet would force the water to all parts of the Settlement, on the level of the streets; and that height could be got partly by the mound of earth and partly by arches, without extreme expense. The raised reservoir, however, is the costly portion of the arrangements, and, whatever the cost, must be made as substantial and perfect as possible. Next comes the distribution. There are about 27 miles of streets, and water fonts should not be more than 800 feet apart. Allowing for the streets crossing each other, and for some fonts thus answering in four directions, the number of fonts would be about 150. The fonts should have springs, so that the water would not run without the hand upon the spring, in order to prevent waste.

Supposing it necessary to raise a revenue from the water, either to recompense a private Company or pay interest upon a Municipal water debt, it could be done by farming out the various water stations to Chinese contractors, who could keep them locked except at stated hours, and whose charge would be checked by the fact that anyone who preferred could supply himself from the present water courses, as now. Where the labor of water carriers is so cheap as in China, and the mode of life makes such a method of supply almost as convenient to foreigners as pipes in the house, it seems a needless extravagance to contemplate any more perfect supply than one which will be within 400 feet of everyone's gate. Indeed most of us would prefer the water carrier to the pipes, considering the imperfect nature of such work here, the carelessness of our servants, and the consequent danger to our interiors, if our houses were filled with pipes, tremulous with a pressure of water.

Will not some one of your clever readers and contributors give his opinion upon this simple scheme, and perhaps also the approximate cost? Until that is given I venture to sign myself (comparatively).

Cheap Water.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 10th March.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge*.

In re the bankruptcy of Michael Martin.

This was an application by Mr. McLoughlin, the Trustee of the estate, for his discharge.

Mr. Robinson appeared for the trustee.

Mr. Robinson said this was a simple application that, the bankruptcy having been closed in the regular way by order of the Court, the Trustee be granted his release. To entitle him to this release the Act provides that he should call a meeting of creditors, lay before them a statement of accounts, and a report showing the manner in which the business had been conducted, and inform them of his intention to apply to the Court for his discharge. The meeting of creditors had been held, and the accounts had been rendered, with the unfortunate result that the estate owes the trustee $89. The only outstandings were a promissory note by Mr. Ritchie, and whatever accounts might be collected by Mr. Smidt in the estate of Compton & Co., of which this estate claimed ¾. The Trustee had attempted to collect what he could, and had succeeded in getting $14. The Committee of inspection considered the remainder practically valueless. At the meeting of creditors, a resolution in favour of granting the Trustee his discharge had been proposed by Mr. Silverthorne, and seconded by Mr. Sayle, both members of the Committee of inspection; 6 votes had been given in favour of it, and 1 creditor (for $169) had abstained from voting. The resolution was as follows:—

1. "That the thanks of the creditors be "and they are hereby tendered to Eugene "McLoughlin, Esq., the Trustee of the estate "of Michael Martin, the above named bank-"rupt, for the time and trouble which he "has expended in investigating the affairs of "the bankrupt and at his own personal "expense."

2. "That the statement of the accounts "of the bankrupt's estate laid before this "meeting be approved and passed, and that "the release of the Trustee is recommended "to the Court."

He did not think it was necessary to lay any other facts before the Court; the creditors were the best judges of their own interests, and Mr. McLoughlin being himself a heavy creditor would satisfy the Court that the best had been done—and done at his own expense,—he would therefore simply ask for his release.

The application being unopposed, it was granted.

Shanghai, March 12th.

ROBERT HENRY GORE-BOOTH *v.* ARCHIBALD JOHN LITTLE and ROBERT WILLIAM LITTLE (trading together as "Little and Company.")

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT for the plaintiff.

Mr. ROBINSON for the defendants.

The action was brought to recover the sum of Tls. 3,500, for work done and services rendered as a broker.

The Plaintiff's petition was as follows :—

Petition.

1.—The plaintiff is a Commission Agent and Broker, carrying on business at Shanghai, and the defendants are Merchants carrying on business at Shanghai.

2.—In or about the month of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, the defendants applied to and requested the plaintiff to act as their broker or agent, in finding a purchaser for a steamship which they were about to get out, or in the event of a purchaser being found, would get out, from England for sale; and the plaintiff agreed to act as such broker or agent, at the same time informing the defendants that his commission or brokerage would be five per cent., and this the defendants gave the plaintiff to understand they would pay.

3.—The plaintiff accordingly made enquiries, and in the course of a short time introduced the defendants to certain persons, or a certain person, in Shanghai, representing a certain Company or partnership known as the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, which said Company was desirous of purchasing a steamship to be used for the purposes of their business.

4.—The defendants and the said representative of the said Company, thereupon entered into negociations, which resulted in the latter, on behalf of the said Company, agreeing verbally to buy from the defendants a certain steamship, and, in payment for the same, to transfer to them a certain other steamship called the "*Aden*," which was valued at thirty-five thousand Taels, and to pay to them the sum of thirty-five thousand Taels, in cash. In the negociations aforesaid, the plaintiff took an active part.

5.—A written contract was prepared in the Chinese language by the said intending purchasers, embodying the terms referred to in the last preceding paragraph, and was sent to the defendants for signature.

6.—The defendants then, for the first time, objected to the amount or rate of the Commission which the plaintiff had stipulated for, and refused to sign the said contract, unless the plaintiff would reduce it. The plaintiff refusing to do this, the defendants did not sign the said contract, and by reason thereof the said sale went off.

7.—The plaintiff alleges that he did all things necessary on his part to entitle him to his Commission of Five per cent. on the sum of seventy thousand Taels, the value placed upon the said steamship by the defendants, and agreed to by the said intending purchasers, and that the said sale and purchase, having gone off solely by the acts or defaults of the defendants, they, the defendants, are liable to indemnify him, the plaintiff, for the loss of his said commission, or, to compensate him for his work and labour in and about the premises; and the plaintiff claims in respect of such indemnification or compensation the sum of three thousand five hundred Shanghai Taels.

8.—The plaintiff also sues the defendants for money payable by the defendants to the plaintiff, for the work, journeys and attendances of the plaintiff by him done, performed and bestowed as the agent of and for the defendants and otherwise, for the defendants, at their request, and for commission and reward due from the defendants to the plaintiff in respect thereof.

The plaintiff therefore prays

1.—That the defendants may be decreed to pay to the plaintiff forthwith the said sum of three thousand five hundred Taels, or such other sum of money as shall be found to be due from the defendants to the plaintiff.

2.—That the plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

The defendant's answer ran thus :—

Answer.

1.—No contract or agreement for the sale and purchase of a steamship was ever concluded between the defendants and the Representative of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, as stated in the 4th paragraph of the plaintiff's petition.

2.—It is not the fact as suggested in the 6th and 7th paragraphs of the plaintiff's petition that the proposed sale and purchase of a steamship went off solely by the acts or defaults of the defendants. The defendants would have been well pleased to sell their steamship to the said Company, but were unable to do so in consequence of the said Company's refusal to agree to the terms of the defendants.

3.—By reason of such refusal by the said Company, no sale of the said steamship was ever effected, and the plaintiff was never entitled to any commission.

4.—As to the whole of the petition, the defendants say they never were indebted to the plaintiff in any sum of money for any of the causes of action alleged or stated in the said petition.

Mr WAINEWRIGHT, in opening, said it was a suit brought by the plaintiff against the defendants to recover remuneration for work done by him for them in negotiating the sale of a steamer to the C. M. S. N. Company. He then read the petition and answer, as above given, and went on to say that the facts of the case were tolerably few. The plaintiff, in the month of November, 1872, had sold to the C. M. S. N. Company, on behalf of George Barnet and Co., a steamer called the *Daybreak*, at a good price. Shortly afterwards, he met one of the defendants, Mr. Robert Little, with whom he had some conversation respecting transactions of that kind. Mr Little suggested that he should do something of the same kind for them, and the result was that a correspondence ensued, the plaintiff sending the defendants a number of estimates or calculations respecting steamers. The defendants had had much to do with shipping and the chartering of ships, and they entered into the affair with considerable heartiness. They telegraphed to England for particulars of steamers, and afterwards gave plaintiff the particulars of three steamers, to offer to the C. M. S. N. Company. One of them was a very large vessel, and would be distinguished in the case as the "Tls. 80,000 steamer;" the second was a smaller vessel, which would be known as the "75*a* steamer;" and the third was the one afterwards known as the *Laptek*. The particulars of these vessels were handed to the plaintiff, and he handed them to the China Merchants' Company. He spent a good deal of time in the matter, and finally brought them to terms, getting the price which had been named to him by the defendants, for the "75*a* steamer." In all essentials, he concluded the sale of that steamer. Much correspondence passed on the subject, there being some 72 letters; but he (Mr Wainewright) did not propose to burden the Court by reading the whole of them. He and his friend (Mr Robinson) had read them, and were prepared to admit the contents of some. The others he would read as he proceeded with his opening.

Mr. ROBINSON—Do I understand you that he negotiated for the sale of "75*a*."?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—He virtually concluded a contract with the Company for the sale of "75*a*." On the 4th January, 1873, the defendants stated the price at which they would sell the "75*a*."

Mr. ROBINSON—I suppose my friend proposes to put all those letters in.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said he proposed to put in everything, and he then read a letter from the defendants to plaintiff, which gave the prices of the steamers, and pointing out that "5 per cent. was a large commission, and that they thought he might offer his friends half of it and so get them to fix." On the 25th January, plaintiff wrote to the defendants that he had settled the sale of the steamer at last, provided the contract which Mr. Chu had drawn up was mutually satisfactory. That letter was endorsed by one of the defendants, R. W. Little, "Gore-Booth, steamer sold Chu." Two days afterwards, on the 27th January, the defendant (Mr. A. J. Little) wrote again to plaintiff, to the effect that "Broom came to him about the *Aden*, and that he had referred him to plaintiff," at the same time intimating that he thought the price of the *Aden* should be fixed at Tls. 40,000, and that if they could not sell her, they would load her with new teas from Foochow to Melbourne. Mr. Wainewright then read three other letters, showing, he contended, that the defendants looked upon the sale of the "75*a*" as virtually concluded to the C. M. S. N. Company, and that they were willing to contract for the sale of the *Aden*.

His LORDSHIP—If they got her.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—Yes, if they got her.

Mr. ROBINSON—But there was no contract made.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—There was no formal contract made. He then went on to say that after some months' hard work, plaintiff got the C. M. S. N. Company to buy upon the terms stated by the defendants; and on the 1st Feb., he went up country, returning somewhere about the 19th. On the 21st, he met Mr. A. Little on board the steamer *Appin*, then on a trial trip, who told him that they (Messrs. Little & Co.) had altered the sale of the steamer, by substituting the *Laptek* for the "75*a*," for which they were to get Tls. 10,000 more. The plaintiff would tell the Court that he was informed his commission was all right, and that Chu could not back out of the bargain. It was clear that the plaintiff was still regarded as the middle man between the parties, for he was written to again on the 23rd February, to try and persuade Chu to purchase the big steamer, which was represented as "dirt cheap" at £21,000. The defendants had thus gone on from the "75*a*" to the *Laptek*, and were prepared to go on to the large steamer. He would here put in a letter of defendants to Mr. Broom, with respect to the *Aden*. It showed that they looked upon her as theirs, and that they were prepared to deal with her.

His LORDSHIP—They wanted to sell her.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that was so. They now came to the 23rd February. About this juncture, the defendants stated to the plaintiff that they had so fixed the Chinese Merchants' Manager that he could not get out of the bargain. A formal contract was prepared, which had been made by defendants in Chinese, which was accepted, and a translation of which he would now put in.

His LORDSHIP—Who was that prepared by?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—That will come out in the course of the case.

Mr. ROBINSON—If his Lordship wishes to know, I can tell him at once. It was sent by Chu.

His LORDSHIP—Fix the date of the sending.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—It must have been between the 21st and 25th Feb. He thought it would appear so in the contract, when it was itself produced. On the 25th February, the plaintiff received a letter from defendant, A. J. Little, in which he said, "If you like to agree to accept 1½% brokerage, I will sign the contract with Chu to-day. * * * The price which Chu offers will not allow us to pay you more than this. I do not want to cut down your brokerage, but I cannot make a loss, or even risk one, to enable you to earn your 5%. You should have made Chu pay a better price." On that letter the plaintiff lays considerable stress.

His LORDSHIP—That letter implies that there had been an alteration of the terms which had been arranged between Messrs. Little and Mr. Gore-Booth?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—No, my Lord; not that, I apprehend.

His LORDSHIP—It would appear from it, that some alteration had been previously notified.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT was of a different opinion, and thought it would not be disputed that all through the correspondence the plaintiff's commission was to be 5 %, but that, at the last moment, the defendants, in going over the thing, came to the conclusion that they were selling too cheaply, and wanted to get something more by lowering the plaintiff's commission.

Mr. ROBINSON—I suppose my friend is reading from his instructions?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said he was.

Mr. ROBINSON—They are greatly at variance with mine.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT went on to say that the defendant's action could be explained in no other way than that he had stated. When the defendant said, "I will sign the contract to-day," what could have been meant? He never could have said that, unless the contract had been in shape. If there had been no contract, he never could have said "I will sign, if you will take off 3½ % off your com-

mission." That was a very strong point in the plaintiff's case. The plaintiff declined to do this. He had been at an immense deal of trouble, and was not in a position to lose a considerable part of his renumeration. The defendants would not give in, and after a considerable amount of negotiation and correspondence, the affair went off. There was another letter of Mr. A. J. Little's, written on the 26th February, 1873, in which he says, "I will do one of two things, either pay you Tls. 1,000 clear of all claims, or make your 5 % brokerage dependant upon my gaining a clear 5 % by the transaction first. The steamer that you first negotiated about, you could not settle in accordance with Chu's stipulation. With the settling of the second steamer, you had technically nothing to do. I consider this reasonable, and if you do not agree to it, I shall consider the transaction at an end, as I informed Chu when he was here this morning." If plaintiff had nothing to do with the sale of the second steamer, why did defendants send for him to their office on the 25th? On the same day there appeared to have been a letter sent by plaintiff to the defendants, which he (Mr. Wainewright) had not received, because, also on the same day, a second letter was sent to plaintiff by Mr. A. J. Little, in which he said, "I think you don't clearly understand; I will get the steamer out for Tls. 65,000, and of this give you Tls. 1,000, *and take all risks.*" Somewhere about this time, Mr. A. J. Little wrote to plaintiff a chit, inside an envelope, "Tell him I have offered you Tls. 1,000, and that you can't accept it, but that if he comes up Tls. 2,000 and waives objectionable stipulations, I will sign a contract, taking Tls. 30,000, or *Aden*, immediately on arrival of *Daybreak*. If it can't be settled to-day, please consider the thing definitely off. I really can't bother about it any more, and I think you are only wasting your time, too." There was no date to that chit. The plaintiff was trying to get Chu to give more money, and he would tell the Court how the negotiations went on at that time. Mr. Wainewright read and referred to other letters of later dates, having a similar tendency "to let the matter drop" unless Chu could be brought to defendant's terms; until at length the plaintiff consulted counsel, and he (Mr. W.) wrote a letter to defendants, and got a reply which he would put in. It contained a sort of conditional proposal for a compromise, under certain conditions.

His Lordship—Without prejudice?

Mr. Wainewright—Yes, without prejudice.

His Lordship—If so, I do not care about going into it.

Mr. Wainewright said his friend had not touched upon it in his answer to the case, and therefore he himself did not care about it. The remainder of the history of the case showed that the plaintiff, to make it easier for Little & Co., did make attempts to sell the steamer, and it might be stated with respect to the contract spoken of, that the defendants telegraphed to England, the result being that the *Laptek* came out, and she was chartered to one person or another. The defendants said that they tried to sell her, and the plaintiff was always hoping they would sell, so that his claim might be settled. The thing went on month after month, during which the defendants apparently did nothing to get a sale. The plaintiff pressed them for payment from time to time, until finally the *Laptek* was lost. There was other correspondence which he thought he must put in for certain purposes, but he need not trouble the Court by reading it now.

His Lordship—You mean the correspondence subsequent to the time of your writing?

Mr. Wainewright replied in the affirmative. The object of putting it in was to show that the sole difficulty of settling the question was the price. Then there was another point. The defendants' reply to a letter of the 6th October, contained the following: "As promised, we continued our endeavours to sell our steamer, and we very nearly came to terms. The difficulty was this, the other parties who sold to the Chinese got bargain money. Mr. Chu had no money to give us, and he agreed to let us have the *Aden;* but at the last moment he either could not or would not deliver the *Aden.*" That letter also contained an intimation that Mr. Gore-Booth's figures were far from accurate—the steamer cost a great deal more than either he or they expected, and had they sold her to the Chinese they would have made a very heavy loss.

His Lordship—What was the date of the letter in which Mr. A. J. Little said he did not think Chu could get out?

Mr. Wainewright said that was in February. The date was fixed by the trial trip of the *Appin.* He might state that Tong-king-sing took charge of the Company's affairs on the 25th June, 1873.

(Numerous other letters were referred to; on one occasion, as many as five of one date, but those above quoted contain the gist of the case.)

Mr. Wainewright concluded by citing several cases in support of his contention that the plaintiff was entitled to his commission, although the sale had fallen through, because the failure to sell was occasioned by the defendant's default and from no act of plaintiff's. The cases cited were "Prickett *v.* Badger" (26 L. J., C. P. 33); De Bernardy *v.* Harding" (22 L. J., Ex. 340), "Green *v.* Reed" (*Foster and Finlayson*, 3rd vol. 226 p.); "Topping *v.* Eley" (same vol.); "Green *v.* Bartlett" (32, L. J., C. P., 261), and some others. What he (Mr. Wainewright) should try to prove was that in the present case the defendants, if they had chosen, could have completed the contract for the sale of the steamer.

His Lordship—Upon the terms made by the broker?

Mr. Wainewright replied in the affirmative, and said he thought it would appear that Chu was prepared to give the price asked, and that the sale fell through solely through the defendant's act. It was hardly possible to come to any other conclusion. He had only one witness to call, the plaintiff, and he would now put him in the box.

Plaintiff said—I am broker, acting in the sale of ships and merchandise. In November, 1872, I acted as broker for Geo. Barnet & Co., in selling the steamer *Daybreak* to the C. M. S. N. Co. The price was Tls. 100,000. I had an interview with Mr. Robert Little some short time afterwards. He asked me if I could not give him one of those little things like the *Daybreak.* I told him, I should be happy to do so if he would telegraph to England for particulars of steamers. He did telegraph, and got particulars of three steamers. One was a very low class steamer, called "75*a*"; the second was the *Laptek*; and the third was the "Tls. 80,000" steamer. I showed all these particulars to the C. M. S. N. Company, and had a number of interviews on the subject. The Chinese said they did not want to buy any more steamers, and I suggested that they should give the *Aden* and some money for one of them. They offered the *Aden* and $20,000 for the "75*a*." Mr. Little wrote that Tls. 25,000 would do, and nothing less. At last the mandarin authorised me to settle it upon those terms. I wrote to Mr. Little to say so, on the 25th January, 1873. It was well understood between the defendants and myself that my commission was to be five per cent. Two or three days afterwards I went up country. Before I went, I tried to help Mr. Broom to sell the *Aden.* I came back a day or two before the trial trip of the steamer *Appin.* I can't remember how many days I was absent. I met Mr. A. Little on board the *Appin.* He said his friends at home had telegraphed that they could not recommend him to buy the "75*a*" steamer, and he was strongly advised to take the *Laptek* at £3,000 more. Mr. Little told me that he had seen Mr. Chu, and that he had agreed to give him Tls. 10,000 more and take the *Laptek,* and that my commission was safe. I said, I hoped the thing would not fall through, and that he had got the Chinaman to sign a contract. He said Chu could not back out of it. I have heard the letters read, and those written by the defendants were received by me. My instructions from Messrs. Little and Co. said nothing about bargain-money. I suppose the Chinese contract was sent in while I was up country. I understood afterwards that it was for the *Laptek.*

Mr. Robinson—It was a different thing altogether.

Mr. Wainewright—There was no contract ever sent in about the 75*a.*

Plaintiff resumed—My steamer was not refused. Mr. Little preferred changing her for another steamer, the *Laptek.* The next thing, as far as I can remember, was the letter of Mr. Little wanting to cut down my commission. I offered to meet him in a friendly way, but he would not do anything, and I applied to a lawyer. I have never varied my claim in any way, and tried to get him to settle it amicably, but he never met me in any way. I do not remember that defendants told me there was any other difficulty in the terms of contract, than the price.

By Mr. Robinson—It had been noised abroad that I had sold the *Daybreak* for Geo. Barnet & Co. It was soon after I sold the *Daybreak,* that I saw Mr. Little. I cannot fix the date. It was not in 1873. I said if they would get me particulars of steamers, I would try to sell them. I believe Mr. Chu dined with either myself or Mr. Little at the Club. I do not know that he was introduced for the purpose of translating the telegrams. Mr. Little was with me in company with Chu while negociations were proceeding. I think I wrote letter "B 2" before Mr. Little telegraphed to England. (The letter advised defendants to at once get out a steamer at £17,000 cost, of certain dimensions, as she could be sold at a large figure to the C. M. S. N. Co., and a large profit cleared.) Shortly after that I wrote letter "C. 3"—there is no date. (It was to the effect that plaintiff had seen the natives, and they would purchase two steamers at about Tls. 75,000 each, whereby defendants would be likely to clear $10,000, if it was done at once.) I do not remember that Mr. Chu ever sent me any contract. He told me to come and get it to-morrow. I do not remember that I went. He said if there was any great mistake, he wished to have the option of refusing it. That meant if there should be a great error in Mr. Little's figures. It had nothing to do with mine. I understood by the words, "I have settled," that I settled to sell the steamer. I considered that Mr. Chu had bought the steamer. I was in a position to sell the steamer for the *Aden* and a certain sum, and did so. If the contract was not mutually satisfactory, I suppose I should not have been entitled to my commission, but I contend there was a contract. I knew that Messrs. Little knew nothing of the steamers beyond the descriptions telegraphed. I think they might have signed a contract to sell "75*a*" before they knew they had bought her. I cannot answer such a question plainer. I left Shanghai a few days after the letter of the 25th January. My impression is that I was up-country for ten days or a fortnight. I was back on the day of the trial trip of the *Appin.* I think I had been back two or three days. The trial trip was on the 21st February. I looked the date up in a newspaper. I did not know before I went up-country that the "75*a*" steamer could not be sold to the Chinese. I have no recollection of telling Mr. Little not to say anything about "75*a*" to the Chinese. I do not know why she was not saleable to them. He might have shown me a telegram, but I do not remember. I do not remember seeing a telegram that the "75*a*" steamer was uninsurable. I do not remember telling Mr. Little not to tell the Chinese so. I think it would have been a foolish thing to have said so. I do not remember telling Mr. Little to tell the Chinese that she was sold. I gave the particulars of the *Laptek* to the Chinese. She was one of the three steamers given me by Messrs. Little to sell to the Chinese. I think I did nothing further than give particulars. Mr. Little substituted one steamer for another, and I suppose he must have conducted the negotiations. It was done while I was up-country. I do not know why the negotiations for the sale of the "75*a*" steamer fell through, except it was upon the representations of the people at home, who could not recommend her. I did not stipulate for any bargain money. If a buyer rejected a steamer because she did not come up to the description given, I think I should be entitled to my commission in strict law. I asked Tong-king-sing to carry out the contract and buy the *Laptek,* without prejudice to my commission. He said he would call a meeting of the directors. I did not see a letter from Tong-king-sing rejecting the ship, as unsuitable. (Letter produced, dated 27th August, 1873.) I do not consider I have found a buyer, unless he conforms to the wishes of my principal and completes the transaction.

By Mr. Wainewright—The letters of mine were, I do not think, anything more than mere estimates and suggestions. The defendants

gave me descriptions of the steamers. They are in my book, and there can be no mistake about it. Defendants were not to have bargain-money. It was not one of the terms of settlement. I cannot say if purchasers of steamers out here are to have the option of a trial trip, as a regular understanding. The purchasers had in this case. When I went up-country, I believed the sale was settled. People do contract to buy steamers here, upon specifications and a description from home. The *Daybreak* was bought in that way. I do not recollect telling Mr. Little not to say something to the Chinese about the "75*a*." The price I got offered for the "75*a*" was the same as Messrs. Little asked. There was no reduction. I endeavoured to procure a sale of the *Laptek*, merely to bring about an amicable settlement of the affair. I should not have charged any commission for that.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that was his case.

Mr. ROBINSON, before entering upon the defendants' case, would like to be guided by the Court a little, as to how he should proceed. His own impression was that he should not argue the case, but ask his Lordship to nonsuit the plaintiff. That was the argument he should rely on. If the Court thought otherwise, he proposed to call his evidence first.

His LORDSHIP said he thought, if there had been a jury, there was a sufficient case to be laid before them.

Mr. ROBINSON—Very well; then I will now call my evidence. He then called

ALEXANDER N. BROWN, who deposed—I am a merchant in Shanghai, and have had some experience in the buying and selling of ships. I have sold ships, but do not remember whether through a broker. I never heard of any case where commission was paid to a broker where no sale had taken place. In chartering or selling a ship, if the contract was signed by both parties, and the contract fell through, I think the broker would be entitled to his commission. In the course of my experience I have never known of commission being paid to a broker where neither sale nor charter have taken place.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT did not question the witness.

TONG KING-SING deposed—I am manager of the C. M. S. N. Company, and have been so since 25th June, 1873, I succeeded Mr. Chu. Among some papers in a bundle, were the documents (in Chinese) produced. The translation in English is a correct one. (The first documents were a draft contract for a purchase of a steamer, and the reply from Messrs. Little & Co., saying they would wait before signing until the steamer came out.) We did not buy the *Laptek*, as her carrying capacity was not large enough for our purpose. I have read the contract in Chinese for the purchase of the *Laptek*, sent by Chu to Messrs. Little & Co. Supposing it had been signed, I would not have taken her, because she was not according to the specifications.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I went on board with Mr. Spedding to examine her. I went all over her. I do not know what her class was. If I had been a Lloyds' surveyor, I would not have classed her "90*a*." Did not measure her length, nor take any step to test her engine power, or consumption of coal, or speed. I heard that in coming out from England she did not do nine knots. I had not seen the specification before I went on board. All I did was to look at the *Laptek*, and found she was not a likely steamer to pay us. I should not have bought the *Aden* if it had been left to me.

T. R. WHEELOCK deposed—I have had experience in ship broking—selling and chartering ships. If I was employed upon certain terms to effect a sale or charter, and my principal afterwards declined to be guided by those terms, I think I should not be entitled to my commission.

A. J. LITTLE deposed — I am one of the defendants. The plaintiff was endeavouring to sell a steamship to Mr. Chu, which we were about to get out from England. I had many conversations with the plaintiff on the subject. The plaintiff was authorised to do the best he could to get us an offer, on the basis contained in his letters. I impressed upon Chu that one of the conditions was that we should have bargain-money, or an equivalent. I told Mr. Gore-Booth so. I remember receiving a letter from the plaintiff, telling us that the Chinese wanted two steamers at Tls. 75,000 each. I telegraphed to England, in consequence, for particulars of steamers. We received particulars of three steamers. One was a first-class steamer, "100 A1," Lloyds; one was "90 A1" *(Laptek)*; the other, "75*a*"—the lowest class of steamer. The latter could have been purchased for £17,000. Our particulars were for steamers carrying 1,000 tons, on a light draft. (The telegrams were sent on the 15th Dec., and replies received on the 18th.) I gave those particulars to the plaintiff, and he began to negotiate upon them. I wrote to plaintiff on the 25th of January, that I insisted upon selling according to the description I got. I never received any draft contract concerning the sale. After I had received the letter on the 25th Jan., that he had settled the steamer business, provided the contract was mutually satisfactory, on the same day, I received another letter from plaintiff, urging me to telegraph, *viâ* Nagasaki, and secure the "75*a*" steamer, saying we should clear $10,000.

His LORDSHIP asked which of these two letters was written first.

Witness said he judged by their contents that they were written in the order he had mentioned them.

Mr. ROBINSON — First of all it is settled; then he telegraphed to complete the purchase.

His LORDSHIP said it was not material, but it struck him the reverse was the case.

[The original telegrams were here produced, giving particulars of the three steamers, and witness read them.]

Defendant resumed—We afterwards telegraphed, on the 26th January, "give us refusal of No. 3 steamer; if new, register and name; part cash, remainder on arrival." If the purchase fell through, the broker would not have been entitled to his commission. On the 31st of January, I wired to England to buy "75*a*" steamer. We received no answer to the telegram asking for refusal. We had heard she could be bought for £12,000, and we determined to buy her at our own risk at that price. On the 7th February, I received telegram, "insurance offices decline to take risk on No. 3 steamer."

His LORDSHIP—What has that to do with it? If Mr. Gore-Booth is authorised to find a purchaser for a steamer, and does so, it does not matter if all the insurance offices in the world refused her.

Mr. ROBINSON—But the contract was not signed. What is Mr. Gore-Booth's own version of it? He says, "if the contract is mutually satisfactory."

Defendant said the Chinese knew he was telegraphing about it. Three telegrams passed on the 7th Feb., and on the 9th we received one to the effect that the second steamer *(Laptek)* could not be bought for less than £17,000. The plaintiff saw all the telegrams. Our agents telegraphed on 20th January that they did not think well of "75*a*" steamer. Plaintiff said it was the business of the Chinese to accept her or not; and on the 25th he wrote that "he had settled the steamer business." It is so long ago, that I cannot remember whether I told Mr. Gore-Booth "75*a*" was uninsurable, before he went up-country or not. I had a conversation with him about it, and he said, "Do not tell that to the Chinese; say you cannot get her, or that she is sold." I remember that distinctly. I conducted the sale and purchase of the *Laptek* myself. I got Chu to give Tls. 65,000, and I accepted it under certain conditions. One of those conditions was that we were to have the *Aden* at once, instead of bargain money; and another was that I should settle with the plaintiff. It was then that I wrote to him to accept 1½ per cent. brokerage, and telling him if he accepted I would sign the contract that day. I meant to say that if he would take 1½, I thought I could put the matter through. When I came to examine that contract, I found variances. One was with respect to the *Aden*. My verbal understanding was that we were to have her at once. The written contract was that we were to have her after the arrival of the *Daybreak*. We could not have made the Chinese give us the *Aden* upon that contract. My verbal understanding was that Chu was to accept the vessel as described by wire. In the written contract, Chu was to be at liberty to reject her if she was not up to specification. If she was not up to the work, she might be left on our hands. I would not effect the transfer until I had got a purchaser for the *Aden*. Chu had given Tls. 50,000 for her, and wished her to appear in the Company's books at Tls. 30,000. He was going to enter my steamer at a higher sum. As a point of fact, the *Aden* is not yet sold. When plaintiff objected to lower his commission, I wrote and told him I did not wish to apply to Chu for any more money, and that the matter had better drop. I meant, that I had spent a month negociating with Chu, and that I was tired of the thing. In consequence of those letters, I declined doing anything more, until the arrival of the vessel out here. I have told Chu so, in the letter returning the contract. I have no recollection of telling Mr. Gore-Booth that his commission would be all right.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The letter "A1" refers to an ideal steamer. The nearest one to answer to the description contained in it, was the *Laptek*. We had never had any experience in getting out steamers before, and relied a good deal on the plaintiff's judgment. I talked to Chu about bargain money, and it was provisionally arranged that he should deposit it in the Hongkong Bank, so as not to lose interest. He afterwards suggested that we should take the *Aden* instead. We never authorised Mr. Gore-Booth to conclude any contract without bargain-money, because we looked upon Mr. Chu's position as uncertain. I received no further particulars of the *Laptek*, until after we had decided to buy her. In a later telegram, our agents said they did not think well of her engines; that was on the 20th Feb. The particulars that appear in the schedule were contained in the telegram of December. I remember a conversation I had with the plaintiff on board the *Appin*. I told him I thought the sale of the *Laptek* to Chu was virtually settled. I do not think I had seen the contract on the 21st February. I had instructed plaintiff to settle the "75*a*" steamer for Tls. 25,000 and the *Aden*. I put the *Aden* at Tls. 30,000. The price for the *Laptek* was Tls. 65,000, being all we could get. I had no further discussion with Chu about delivering the *Aden* to me. I told him that unless he could deliver the *Aden* at once, we could not come to any agreement. He was trying to arrange to give it us. It is so long ago that I cannot say whether I meant that Chu should buy the Tls. 80,000 steamer as well as the "75*a*,"—I should say it was instead of it. I imagine it was because our agents in London had telegraphed that they did not like the "75*a*."

By Mr. ROBINSON—We never authorised plaintiff to conclude any contract. That was to remain with our firm.

By His LORDSHIP—The letter authorising Mr. Gore-Booth to sell the steamer for Tls. 65,000, I consider did not authorise him to sign any contract. If he had sold a steamer in accordance with that letter, I should think he would be entitled to his commission, but he must have come back to us to sign the contract. It was at his suggestion that we telegraphed for particulars of steamers, but nothing could be concluded until we had got a steamer to sell.

It being now past five o'clock, the Court adjourned till ten next morning.

March 13th.

We resume our report of this case. The action was brought to recover the sum of Tls. 3,500, for work done and services rendered as a broker.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT asked permission of the Court to recall the plaintiff for a moment. He had been taken by surprise by Mr. Little's evidence, and wished plaintiff to speak to one or two matters in connection with it.

Mr. ROBINSON did not wish to put any obstacles in the way of plaintiff's case, but he might ask upon what point was he to be examined?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—As to the date of the telegram which said they could not insure the steamer. Mr. Little had said he had shown all the telegrams to the plaintiff, but he (Mr. W.) thought it could be proved that the plaintiff had not seen this one, as it arrived after he went up-country.

His LORDSHIP said in strict law, Mr. Wainewright was not entitled to recall the plaintiff, for the reason given; but perhaps it would save time, if Mr. Robinson had no objection, if plaintiff was recalled. His Lordship added that he did not understand Mr. Little to say anything of the kind; and, referring to his notes, read, "He saw them all, because he

(plaintiff) was in and out of the office all the time."

Mr. Robinson said he would not object to the plaintiff being recalled.

Plaintiff was accordingly put into the box, and said—I have taken steps to ascertain the date of my going up-country. I applied to Mr. Overbeck, who went with me, and he referred to his small cash book, in which my name occurs. It is there stated that coolie hire begun on the 3rd Feb., and we were away fourteen days. I did not see the telegram to the effect that the *Laptek* was uninsurable. I could not have gone up-country if there had been any hitch in the negotiations.

Mr. Wainewright—I am told the telegram did not arrive until the 7th Feb.

By Mr. Robinson—I think we went away on the 3rd, certainly not so late as the 5th. I cannot remember if any coolies were hired before the 3rd.

Mr. Robinson—Supposing, when you came back from the country, you had found that the negotiations had fallen through, and that Messrs. Little & Co. had not substituted another steamer, would you have been entitled to your commission?

Plaintiff (after some consideration)—I cannot answer the question.

Mr. Robinson then addressed the Court on behalf of the defendants. Characterising the claim as extravagant, he said the main question in the case was—What was the nature of the employment of plaintiff by the defendants? If the Judge settled that question, there would be no difficulty in dealing with the claim. Was the plaintiff sent out into world, with the particulars of those steamers, and if he came across anybody wanting them, to deal at the prices given him? Was that his authority? or, was he sent out with those particulars to see if he could find anybody who would purchase a steamer on those conditions, and, if he found anybody, to take him to the defendants, to see if they could come to terms, and in the event of their coming to terms, to be entitled to his commission? He submitted, from the contents of the letters that had been read, and from the evidence given by Mr. Brown and Mr. Wheelock, as being in accordance with custom, that the employment of plaintiff by the defendants was in accordance with the last position. Now, what was the evidence? He called his Lordship's attention to letter No. 1, which was anterior to the dealing for those three steamers, and in which the plaintiff asks if defendants would be willing to contract for a steamer of certain dimensions, "cash on delivery; 20 per cent. to be paid as bargain-money—you either to pay my commission of 5 per cent., or give me half of net profit, whichever I choose, at time of contract." That letter showed the plaintiff knew there must be a contract before he could do anything to earn his commission. Those were the elements which absolutely governed the plaintiff's employment, and in addition there was the evidence from the plaintiff's own lips. Mr. Little had deposed that those terms were the basis on which the business was to be conducted, and on which the plaintiff acted throughout. The plaintiff founded his claim upon this—that, in or about the month of January, 1872, the defendants asked plaintiff to find a purchaser on their behalf for a steamer they were about to bring out, and that he did find a purchaser. On behalf of the defendants, he (Mr. R.) denied that plaintiff ever found a purchaser—they were, in fact, unable to sell their steamer on any terms. What was the meaning of finding a purchaser? In the course of business like this, must it mean a purchaser who can buy on conditions satisfactory to the broker? With regard to the proposed sale of "75*a*" steamer, that sale his friend on the other side said went off through the defendants' default, he said it went off from a cause which was incidental to the business itself. The sale went off from circumstances over which the defendants had no control. The plaintiff said he could not answer the question put to him just now—a very weak reply. The whole case showed that plaintiff could only claim his commission in the event of the steamer being sold—that the mere bringing of parties together was not sufficient to entitle him to his commission. It was clear, in the first place, that the plaintiff knew, and that the defendants knew, that the expectation was that Tls. 75,000 could be got for the steamer, and that a contract was to be made on those terms. If no such contract was provided, then the plaintiff had never done anything to entitle him to his commission. Then, in the next place, the defendants were to have bargain money. The Court had that from the plaintiff's own mouth. The consideration of bargain-money was an essential which the plaintiff in his employment was bound to stipulate for, unless it was waived by the defendants. In the third place, it was clear that there must be an actual sale of a vessel, because the plaintiff made it appear that his commission depended entirely upon a sale taking place, and he showed it was to be paid from profits to be derived. Now, no profit could be derived unless there was a sale of the vessel; and fourthly, it was apparent that a contract was to be signed. Therefore, unless there was a contract signed, he was not entitled to his commission. On those grounds, the defendants were justified in refusing, until they saw some such advantages arising to them. When they found they could not sell at Tls. 75,000, and could not make the brokerage, they were bound to make it known to the plaintiff, and they did so in the most courteous manner. He (Mr. R.) would say that if the defendants, for any reasonable cause as regarded their own interest, chose to decline the contract, they were legally empowered to say, "I have received a more advantageous offer," and the broker could not then recover his commission. In this case, there had been no contract, and, therefore, it could not have been broken by the defendants. Therefore, on the ground that the plaintiff was to find a purchaser, and that event not having happened, he submitted the plaintiff must be nonsuited. He supported this view by citing a few cases,—"Read *v.* Rann" (10, Barnewall and Cresswell); "Dalton *v.* Irving" (4, Carrington and Payne, 289); "Bull *v.* Price" (7th Bingham, 237); "Alder *v.* Boyle" (Common Bench, 16 L. J.); "Addison on Contracts" (7th Ed., p. 595)—all of which went to show that no commission could be charged or recovered in such a case as the present unless an actual purchase was completed and concluded. Upon those cases he submitted a simple proposition, that the event upon which alone the plaintiff was to have commission, not having happened, he was not entitled to his commission. The question that next arose was whether the plaintiff was entitled, *quantum meruit*, to any renumeration for his services, and he (Mr. R.) submitted that he was not entitled to recover any remuneration for those services. The only ground upon which he could base such a claim would be that the proposed sale fell through by the wilful default of the defendants. He denied that it did so,—the equality of evidence contradicted it peremptorily. The defendants simply declined to sell upon terms on which Chu proposed to buy. There was no bargain-money, and, in addition to that, Chu would not agree to accept the steamer according to the description which the defendants had received. It was, therefore, reasonable on the part of the defendants that they should decline to fix themselves to deliver a particular steamer, before they knew they could get the vessel. The matter fell through, therefore, from causes incidental to itself, and not from any act of the defendants. Defendants said it would be impossible to contract to deliver a steamer on the conditions asked by Chu, because the builder himself, in the case of a new steamer, could not tell what depth she would draw. The defendants might have entered into such a contract if they found there was such a steamer. They did find there was such a vessel, but it was virtually as good as no steamer, because she was uninsurable. The defendants, therefore, did not enter into the contract from circumstances incidental to the business itself. The plaintiff must have been aware of that fact, and he had put it to him in the strongest possible manner in his question of that morning, which plaintiff said he could not answer.

His Lordship asked where was the evidence that the payment of commission depended upon the happening of something?

Mr. Robinson replied, in the original instructions to the plaintiff, in letter 1, and in the evidence of Messrs. Brown and Wheelock. It was a contingency inseparable from the conduct of the business. The defendants were attempting to sell a steamer through a broker. Were they to expect a contract to be signed before they knew they could get a steamer? If the steamer could not be got, a jury (and his Lordship was sitting as one) would at once say the thing was at an end. He next called attention to letter 3, in which the plaintiff suggested that the defendants had better telegraph to Liverpool, and then they might be able to make a contract, and said it showed that the plaintiff knew that a contract was a *sine qua non*. There was, however, no contract, and he repeated that the plaintiff must have understood from the beginning that it was necessary there should be one.

His Lordship—The plaintiff's argument is that there was a contract, but that it fell through by defendants' default.

Mr. Robinson—Where is the evidence of such contract?

His Lordship—Mr. Little says, "I will sign the contract to-day." Plaintiff says, "It is by your default it is not signed, and therefore I sue you for my commission."

Mr. Robinson—Defendant said he would sign the contract, because there was a contract spoken of, and not signed. It appears to me a perfect *non sequitur*.

His Lordship—Plaintiff says "there was a contract ready to be signed, I prove this by your own letters." That is what his argument maintains.

Mr. Robinson—And I say there is no force in the argument. The evidence on both sides shows that a contract should have been signed, but it was not; and until there was a contract signed, it was not settled what his commission was to be.

His Lordship—I am not prepared to consider that the first letter has anything to do with the three ships which come in after.

Mr. Robinson said the particulars were obtained of those three ships, and how it could be said the first letter had nothing to do with them, he could not see. But upon that his Lordship would decide. Another reason why it could not be contended that the contract fell through by default of the defendants, was that it contained a stipulation that if not approved, the vessel could be rejected. How, then, could it be assumed that the sale fell through by default of the defendants? How could the plaintiff, by any possibility, have a claim to commission, when the contract fell through by reason of one of its own terms? There is positive evidence that the Manager of the Company said that if left to him he would not take the steamer, and on her arrival she was actually rejected. In such a case, there being no sale, how could plaintiff recover his commission? He could not even recover upon a *quantum meruit*. His services were valueless to the defendants, and there was no evidence of failing to complete on their part. He would give authorities on the point of *quantum meruit*. "Reed *v.* Rann" and "Dalton *v.* Irving," were conclusive on the point; but there was a third case, "Green and another *v.* Mules" (30, L.J., C.P. 143), equally so.

His Lordship—That case turns upon the question of influence.

Mr. Robinson said it showed how strictly the law construed such things; and in the present case, the event not having happened, the plaintiff was not entitled to recover. He was just going to refer to the case of "Prickett *v.* Budger," upon which his friend had relied. That case was distinct from this on two grounds. The plaintiff found a purchaser, but the defendant was unable to complete the sale. There was, therefore, every difference in the world. In this case, the plaintiff had not done all that was required—in that case, the plaintiff had done all he was called upon to do. He had found the land wanted, and had done all he possibly could to earn his commission. It all turned upon one point, that the person who was resisting payment had put it out of the plaintiff's power to complete the contract, and by his default had caused plaintiff to lose his commission. But there was a vast difference between a contract for selling land and a contract for selling or dealing with ships—a very broad distinction between the cases of a house agent and a ship broker. That was recognised in "Simpson *v.* Lamb" (116, L. J.,) a case well worthy his Lordship's attention. So here, if Little & Co. had sold the ship by putting her into the hands of another person, the plaintiff could have got nothing. The cases his friend had cited from "Foster and Finlayson" were open to the same

objection—they did not fall within this particular case. With regard to the letter offering 1½ per cent. commission, it seemed to him that owing to the diminution in price they were to receive for their vessel, it was perfectly valid on their part to make the offer. They contracted to give plaintiff 5 per cent., provided they got a particular sum; if they could not get that sum, they were perfectly justified in declining to give so high a commission. If plaintiff would not abate his commission, then defendants could say, "We will not enter into a contract."

His LORDSHIP thought the explanation of the letter was, that defendants were negotiating for sale of a steamer, and could not get for it so much as they expected; they therefore said in effect to plaintiff, "If you will abate your commission to 1½ per cent. we will go on with it."

Mr. ROBINSON said that was precisely the ground on which he put it. He had forgotten to refer his Lordship to one case, "Broad *v.* Thomas," (7th Bingham, 99), which was also strongly in point. Mr. Robinson concluded by saying he thought he need not occupy his Lordship's attention any longer. Upon the grounds he had mentioned, he contended that the proper course would be that the plaintiff should be nonsuited. Plaintiff had said that if he had known of any hitch he could not have gone up-country. Defendant wished the attention of the Court to be called to the telegram received on the 20th January, before plaintiff started to go up-country, which ran, "we do not think well of third steamer: lengthened: ½-old." He thought that that was sufficient to show that matters were not going smoothly. He would now leave the case in his Lordship's hands.

His LORDSHIP, referring to a letter of the defendants to plaintiff, inviting him to an interview with Chu, asked if that interview ever took place?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that the plaintiff could not remember.

Defendant—No, it did not; I went.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT then proceeded to reply upon the whole case, saying that his client was claiming for introducing two persons, who however, did not do any business. He was not wishing to add to the loss the defendants had sustained, as had been insinuated,—there was no proof of loss having been sustained. It was quite obvious that if his client was to go without anything, he would be the loser, because he had spent a great deal of time and trouble for the defendants over the matter, and if he got nothing for it, he would be at a loss. The question was, what was plaintiff engaged to do, what were the terms of his employment, and how far had he carried them out? The defendants argued that the plaintiff had no authority to make a contract in the matter. Plaintiff did not deny that he had no authority to sign any engagement binding defendants. What he contended was, that he was to find a purchaser for a certain steamer upon certain terms. He said, that having found a purchaser upon those terms, he had performed the whole of the duty that was cast upon him as a broker; and that if the defendants chose, for reasons of their own, to proceed no further in the matter, it was not the default of the plaintiff, and that his claim for payment of his commission was not vitiated thereby. His friend had tried to look upon the earlier letters that had passed between the parties, and especially one written in December, 1872, as being the foundation of all that followed. It never could be said, without further evidence than that, that an undated letter would bind the parties through all the subsequent proceedings—through the whole course of the affair. There was nothing to show that the defendants accepted the suggestion thrown out by the plaintiff in that letter, nor that the defendants would be willing to contract on those terms. There was plenty of evidence that they would allow plaintiff to take half the profit. He, therefore, submitted that those five or six letters might be dismissed from the case. The evidence showed that the plaintiff was employed by the defendants to sell to the C. M. S. N. Co., or to anybody else, certain steamers, the particulars of which had been given to him—the real fact being contained in the letter of the 4th January, 1873, which gave the particulars of the steamers. There was nothing said in the letter about bargain money or any other terms whatever. He contended that that letter was really the first in which they would look to find the terms upon which the plaintiff was employed. His friend had next gone on to say that the plaintiff never did find a purchaser on those terms; but he (Mr. W.) had to contend that he did find a purchaser. He found a buyer, who was willing to give the money, and communicated the fact to the defendants. The defendants evidently believed that a contract had in effect been made—that one could be signed on those terms—because they endorsed the letter at the time, "Steamer sold Chu," and forthwith entered into the offers submitted to them by another broker to sell the *Aden*. They telegraphed home to England in January, to their agents there, to purchase the 75*a*, and there was no doubt about their then so far carrying out the arrangements made by plaintiff. The plaintiff had sworn most positively that nothing was said to him about bargain money or of the nature of it. The defendants now said there was to be something, either bargain money or an equivalent for it; and that the *Aden* was to be handed over to them in the nature of bargain money. He would like to ask how it was that, in the letter of the 27th January, the defendants said, "I think you had better settle her to be delivered within three months." What were the defendants going to do in those three months with the *Aden*? They had it in evidence that the *Aden* was to be delivered on the arrival of the *Precursor* and the *Daybreak*, and it had been stated that the *Daybreak* arrived on March 22nd and the *Precursor* on the 24th April. Those ships, therefore, arrived within the period of three months. He submitted that that was the understanding the defendants arrived at, that the *Aden* was to be delivered within three months. They now said she was to be handed over at once, but everything pointed the other way. It was clear, therefore, that the defendants were, in that way, perfectly prepared to take a considerable amount of risk, for although they now said it would be madness and folly to have done so, they were then willing to do it. They telegraphed home to have a steamer sent out, and they actually committed themselves to become purchasers at home before anything was said about bargain money. They were perfectly willing to become purchasers of the 75*a* or the *Laptek*, whichever came out. So far as regarded bargain money, and as regarded other matters which the defendants said they stipulated for, he thought he should be able to show that plaintiff did everything they asked for, for he contended that the transactions of the 75*a* and the *Laptek* must be taken as one and the same affair. The plaintiff carried out all his arrangements completely for the sale of a steamer to the C. M. S. N. Company, and all parties considered it was virtually settled. He went away, and in his absence, the defendants got out further information as to the 75*a*, and substituted another steamer for her, writing the C. M. S. N. Company, "You can't have the steamer, but there is another, costing £3,000 more; if you will give that or its equivalent, Tls. 10,000, you can have her." This was agreed to, and a written contract was drawn up. That was mentioned in the conversation between plaintiff and defendant on board the *Appin*. The recollection of the plaintiff and defendant on that point somewhat differed, but there could be no doubt as to the fact. Plaintiff expressed his surprise that a dearer steamer had been substituted for the 75*a*, and about this time defendant was in possession of the contract from Chu, for the purchase of a steamer at Tls. 10,000 more, but when this steamer was seen by Tong-king sing, who had then succeeded Chu, he rejected her as being unsuitable. Mr. Wainewright addressed himself at considerable length to various other points raised and cases cited by Mr. Robinson, contending that those he had himself cited were applicable to the case.

His LORDSHIP—Where do you find the evidence to which you allude, that the defendants had concluded a contract with the Chinese?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The evidence of that is, that the plaintiff had found a purchaser for the 75*a*, and that the defendants themselves substituted the *Laptek* for her, and received a contract from the Chinese.

His LORDSHIP—And he says his commission accrued by arranging for the sale of the 75*a*, and that defendants had no right to substitute another steamer for her, and deprive him of his earnings. But where do you find any evidence that the defendants had concluded a contract for the sale of the *Laptek*?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The plaintiff has sworn that on board the *Appin* the defendant said he had arranged for the sale of the steamer to Chu, for $10,000 more, and that Chu was fast bound and could not draw back.

His LORDSHIP—And that the defendant denies.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—He did in his evidence in chief, but on cross-examination, he said he did speak about both, but could not remember the exact words. But the plaintiff's story is substantially correct, that he did sell to Chu, and it may be looked upon as strict evidence that on the 25th February defendants received a contract from Chu in this form. Putting those two things together, they showed that defendants had agreed with the C. M. S. N. Company to sell on the terms of the contract; and he (Mr. Wainewright) thought that after an interval of two years the letter ought to weigh against verbal testimony. The letter could be construed only in one way.

His LORDSHIP—It says practically, I have been forced to abandon my price; if you will not abandon part of your commission, I must abandon the whole thing.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—But then he says he agreed to sell at a certain price to those people, that he had made a losing bargain, and plaintiff must come down in commission. That, however, cannot be proved, because he never got the *Aden*. It does not follow that he would not have made a profit on the *Aden*. He might have sold her, or insured her, and run her on a rock—(he did not mean purposely)—and after all she might have been as lucky as the *Laptek* was. The defendants spoke of the *Aden* as virtually their own. That was his (Mr. W.'s) view of the letter of the 25th February—the only difficulty in the defendants' mind apparently being that they would suffer a loss, and that the plaintiff must share it. He could hardly believe that the defendants would have written such a letter without that meaning, and thought it clearly showed that there was a contract to sell, which afterwards fell through, by no default of the plaintiff's, and that he had done nothing to forfeit his right to commission. He could not understand the distinction drawn by his friend between transactions in land and ships—a defective title in land was the same as one for a ship. The cases of "Read *v.* Rann" and "Broad *v.* Thomas," turned, be believed, upon the custom of the port of London only.

Mr. ROBINSON—Upon mercantile usages generally—the express words are "mercantile usage."

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—In this case, custom is done away with—custom does not apply to a case of specific agreement, and here the defendants, by their act, prevent the plaintiff earning what they had agreed to pay him.

His LORDSHIP—Putting aside the whole of the negotiation for 75*a*, do you contend that if it had fallen through, plaintiff would have been entitled to his commission—and that he did anything besides the introduction in the case of the *Laptek*.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I contend it must all be taken as one transaction, and that what the plaintiff did for 75*a* he also did for the *Laptek*.

His LORDSHIP—There is no doubt she was one of the three steamers originally mentioned.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said he thought he need say no more. He had sufficiently enlarged upon his view of the case. The whole thing must be viewed as one transaction, and in point of fact the contract the plaintiff was employed to bring about, was that which was brought about; and that there was nothing, in point of fact, to justify the defendants in refusing to sign it.

His LORDSHIP, in delivering judgment, said—In this case, sitting as I do as a jury, I conceive that I have to address myself to it very much in the way in which a jury would, I imagine, deal with it under the direction that I would give them. Now, what ought my direction to a jury in this case to be? I should ask them, in the first place, whether in their opinion the plaintiff had negotiated a binding contract with reference to the "75a" steamer; for only if he did, was he entitled to commission. I should at the same time tell them that in my own opinion there was no binding contract, as the language of the plaintiff's own letter of 25th January—

"provided that the terms of the contract are mutually satisfactory"—clearly showed. The second question I should ask the jury would be—"Are you satisfied that there was a definitive contract with reference to the *Laptek*, concluded by the defendants with Chu? Because if you are, although this contract was not negotiated by the plaintiff, but by the defendants themselves direct with Chu, yet being due to the plaintiff's introduction of the defendants to Chu, he is entitled, if your answer is in the affirmative, to commission on the contract; and if you take the letter of the defendants of the 25th February as conclusive on the subject, you must be of opinion that it was solely by the fault of the defendants that it was not carried out." But I think they would be wrong in doing so, because I look upon that letter as simply written to induce the plaintiff to reduce his commission; and as a matter of fact there never was any contract as to the terms of which Chu and the defendants were ever *ad idem* about, for the defendants made their assent to the contract depend either on Chu's giving more money, on his paying the plaintiff's commission himself, or on the plaintiff's reducing his commission. As a matter of fact, therefore, there was no binding contract between the defendants and Chu; and I think it was open to the defendants—considering no right to commission had ever accrued under the first negotiation—to make what terms they liked as to the second, and such terms were never in fact come to. Therefore, the plaintiff is not entitled to any commission. But I think that the letter to which I have referred (of the 25th February) induced the plaintiff to believe that the only obstacle to the conclusion of the contract was an abatement by him of his commission, and that, therefore, he was justified in bringing the action.

Viewing the rights of the parties by this light, I shall order the verdict to be entered for the defendants, but inasmuch as I think their note of the 25th February misled the plaintiff, and as costs are in the discretion of the Court, I shall order each party to pay his own costs.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, March 16th, 1875

HENRY CALICE *v.* J. BARKER.

Claim $116.75 *on a Judgment Summons.*

Mr. Haas appeared on behalf of plaintiff (deceased), and said that defendant was summonded in order to ascertain if he had any means of discharging the debt.

Defendant averred that the money had been paid by Messrs. Cheshire & Co., at the time the execution was taken out.

The record of the case having been produced, it appeared that the constable, who had the warrant to execute, had returned it into Court with the endorsement that he had made due and diligent search but could find no sufficient goods of the said J. Barker to levy the execution on.

Defendant being sworn, stated—I am not in a position to pay now. I am certain that the money was paid by Messrs. Cheshire & Co. for me. I am not receiving any wages. I cannot tell until the oyster season is over, which will be at the latter end of next month, whether I shall have any means. I am employed by Mr. Minck. He said that he would give me something then. My name never appeared over the door. I am only manager of the Oyster and Supper Saloon. Everything in the house belongs to Mr. Minck. I commenced in November last. I believe he is satisfied with my management.

His WORSHIP ordered the defendant to report at the Court a month hence, as to his means and prospects of being able to pay the claim, cautioning the defendant that if any of his statements were found to be false, he was liable to punishment.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, March 3rd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.,

R. (G. E. ADAMS) *v.* P. J. WHITE.

Defendant, an apprentice of the *Corea*, was brought up on a warrant, charged with being absent from that ship without leave.

In answer to the charge, the defendant, a well-spoken youth, admitted that he went ashore on Sunday night, between eight and nine o'clock. It was his first voyage, and he was so disgusted with a sea-life, that he thought he would try to leave it. He had been brought up to office work at home, and could not stand the change. While he was on the quay, the mate came up and took hold of him by the neck, then got him on board, and threw him down on the deck, hurting him much. His hands were also lashed behind his back, and that treatment still more confirmed him in his desire to leave. He lay on his chest for some time, and he believed the Captain ordered his hands to be unlashed. He afterwards managed to get ashore. He was bound apprentice by his guardian; but the owners said if he did not like the sea he could leave.

The Captain stated that the defendant was on shore on the Sunday afternoon. He met him in Hongkew, and told him to take care of himself. At night, defendant came to the ship; and hearing the mate calling out, he (the Captain) went on deck, and saw defendant and the mate struggling together on the wharf. Defendant, who was the worse for drink, was then got on board. The mate said defendant had drawn a knife upon him and threatened his life; but the defendant said the knife had fallen out of his pocket, and he (the Captain) was willing to believe that statement. As defendant said he was determined to get ashore again, his hands were lashed. The defendant was a respectable youth, and was bound apprentice to the owner for four years, but he (the Captain) did not know the terms of his articles.

His WORSHIP said defendant must go back to his ship, and put up with the inconveniences of a sea-life until he returned to England. Then, perhaps, if he told his guardian his dislike to the sea, an arrangement could be made with the owners for him to leave. It was useless his attempting to stay ashore in Shanghai, and he hoped defendant would take the advice now given him, and go back to his duty. His Worship also cautioned defendant against indulging in drink, and ordered him to pay the cost of the summons.

The Captain said he would be very glad, and he had little doubt the owners would also be, to let the defendant leave when he got home. It was no use keeping the lad on board, if he was unwilling to remain.

March 5th.

R. (MOSES) *v.* CHARLES ENGLAND.

Charge of Assault.

There had been an auction at which defendant, who was the auctioneer, sold to complainant two dozen towels. Complainant went to defendant's shop and made a noise, saying there were two towels short. Defendant, who was ill, asked him to be quiet, but he made more noise, whereupon he (defendant) pushed him out of the shop.

Complainant said defendant hit him on the head with a book, and kicked him. This was denied by defendant, who admitted, however, shoving prosecutor out towards the door.

His WORSHIP said defendant must keep his hands to himself. It was likely that, being ill, the noise made by complainant excited him, but it was no excuse for striking. By his own showing he pushed the complainant, who, however, did not appear to have suffered much. Defendant must pay the cost of the summons.

R. (G. E. ADAMS, Captain, *Corea*) *v.* CHARLES CHURCHLEY.

Charge of Broaching Cargo, Drunkenness, &c.

Defendant is a seaman of the ship *Corea*, and was brought up on remand, charged with the above offences. The following additional evidence was heard:—

ALFRED FREDERICK ABBOTT, an able seaman, said he was sent into the hold, and saw a case of gin opened, and one bottle short. A case of sherry had been broken open also, which the stevedore showed him.

By defendant—It was not possible for you to have got at the cases, either at sea or in harbour, where I saw them.

By His WORSHIP—The ship came into port on the 24th February. Some powder had been discharged down the river, and the hatches replaced. They were again taken off on Saturday afternoon. It was on Monday morning I went down into the hold. I saw the case of gin between decks. It had been brought there before I saw it. The stevedore told me there was also a case of sherry broken open in the lower hold, which he brought up. The wood was smashed in. That might have happened by lowering it into the hold. I missed a bottle of gin, but did not count the sherry.

His WORSHIP—What other evidence is there, to connect the prisoner with the bottle of gin?

Captain ADAMS said the lower hold was not full, and access was gained to it through a hole broken in the forecastle. He believed other persons were concerned in the matter, but the reason he suspected the prisoner was that for all one day, while at sea, the 11th February, the prisoner was drunk and off duty. He found the prisoner on the quarter deck, talking very loud. He ordered him off, but he would not go, and he (the captain) pushed him on to the main deck. Prisoner then threatened what he would do to him. He then ordered defendant aloft. He went up very slowly, making a great noise still, and saying if he could only get two or three more to join he would do for him (the captain). He afterwards came down, and refused to go aloft again. His hands were then lashed, but after a time he became contrite and was released. He was very much intoxicated, and from the state he was in he must have been drinking during the day. He went to his berth at noon, and did nothing till six next morning. He (the captain) had the forecastle examined, and found a hole had been broken through the bulk-head, by which the 'tween decks and hold were reached.

Prisoner denied that he was drunk on the day named, and it was not true that he went on the quarter deck and made a noise. He only went to speak to the captain, "as a man should." The reason he remained below was because of his leg being bad from the captain and mate pulling him about.

The Mate gave evidence confirmatory of the captain's statement. Prisoner smelt of liquor on the day named, and while he was in his berth in the afternoon, he would not speak when witness wanted him to turn to; and witness believed he was drunk. He came on deck next morning, and complained of his leg. According to the ship's manifest, there were two cases of gin and one of wine missing. There was a regular door in the forecastle to get into the between decks, but it was nailed up in London, and the nails had been drawn.

Prisoner said that the door was opened to let out three cats that had been put on board in London. The door was not fastened up again, and prisoner drew the mate's attention to it, but no notice was taken of it.

The Mate said that was three months ago, and the door was afterwards nailed up again, after which it had been re-opened.

His HONOUR said, if there was no one here who could speak to the number of cases that were put on board in London, he could not presume that the cases stated to be missing had been made away with. But the fact of those cases that were found broken open with bottles missing was different, they spoke for themselves.

Captain ADAMS did not wish to press the charge of the missing cases against the prisoner. The affair was much worse than it appeared, for there were 100 tons of gunpowder on board, and to get at the spirits, whoever went into the hold must have carried a light across the gunpowder. It was impossible to go into the hold without a light. [*See next case.*]

R. (CHRIS. PETERSEN) *v.* CHARLES CHURCHLEY.

Violent Assault.

The same defendant was charged with assaulting the complainant, who was his shipmate.

Complainant still bore marks of the violent usage he had received at the hands of the defendant; but said that, as the man was drunk when he committed the assault, he did not wish to press the charge.

His WORSHIP said it was very good of the complainant to wish to overlook the assault, but it was of such a character that he could not permit it to be overlooked. He should fine defendant $10 and costs. With respect to the charge of broaching cargo, that was an offence of a very serious nature. The prisoner was drunk, and he must have

obtained the drink on board. Bottles were missing from broken cases, and under the circumstances there could be no doubt that if the prisoner had not actually abstracted the bottles, he must at least have partaken of the liquor. Besides, his conduct had been altogether mutinous. The sentence upon him would, therefore, be four weeks' hard labour.

R. (Captain of *Corea*) *v.* LANCELOT DUNCAN.
Drunkenness

Defendant, a seaman of the above ship, was charged with drunkenness and neglect of duty. He had neglected to appear to a summons, and was brought up on a warrant.

Defendant now said, he was so ill, and had been so for a long time, as to be unfit to go to sea. He could not get any medicine on board.

Captain ADAMS said defendant had been ill four months out of five that he had been on board, and had used up all the linseed in the ship. He (the captain) produced a doctor's certificate to the effect that the defendant was suffering badly, but that it was not necessary for him to keep his berth.

His WORSHIP said that perhaps the defendant had better be examined by the Consular doctor, as to whether he was fit for sea or not. The defendant would, however, have to bear the expense.

Defendant, with doleful countenance and tone, said a doctor had seen him, but he believed had not yet found out what was the matter with him.

Captain ADAMS said he was willing to discharge the defendant, and pay him all the wages due to him. His wages were £3.15 per month.

His WORSHIP said if that were so, and the man was willing to be discharged, it would be the best course, if he had money enough to take him into the Home. For the offence he had committed, he must pay the cost of the summons and forfeit six days' wages.

R. (Master of *Sally*) *v.* LOONG.
Charge of Theft.

Prisoner, a Malay seaman, was charged with stealing a piece of silk, the property of the Chinese supercargo of the above vessel, while she was in harbour at Nagasaki.

It appeared that the supercargo missed a piece of what was described as silk, and after the ship had arrived at Shanghai, the captain was told by another Malay seaman that he had seen the prisoner, with his wife (who was also on board), cutting a piece of silk to make a singlet.

The prisoner produced a small bundle containing a silk jacket and two pieces of silk, all of chocolate colour, and these the Malay witness said were of the same colour as the piece he had seen the prisoner cutting.

The Chinese supercargo now said that it was a roll of black satin that was missing, and that the silk produced was not his property.

His WORSHIP said that under those circumstances, there was an end of the case, and the prisoner must be discharged. He thought that the man (who looked a respectable man) should not have been charged with such an offence without more enquiry.

March 8th.

R. (MATILDA COURTNEY) *v.* F. W. TEMPLEMORE.
Charge of Using Threatening Language.

Defendant, formerly a Custom-house officer, was brought up on a warrant, charged with threatening to do the complainant grievous bodily harm, on the 4th instant.

His WORSHIP read the information of the prosecutrix to the prisoner, and asked him, if he admitted having threatened as she had stated.

Prisoner said he should like to apply for a remand for forty-eight hours, to enable him to obtain legal advice.

His WORSHIP said he had no objection, but prisoner must be remanded in custody.

Remanded accordingly, till Wednesday, at eleven o'clock.

R. (W. BOWEN) *v.* MICHAEL FOX.
Desertion from a Ship.

Defendant, an elderly man, was charged with deserting from the ship *Northampton*.

Mr. BOWEN, Superintendent of the Sailors' Home, produced the memoranda showing when the defendant joined the ship and when she cleared and sailed.

Defendant, on being called upon by the Court to explain his conduct, said the captain told him to pack up and go ashore. He had told the captain he was sick, but could not say on which day it was. It was a week ago, and he had been part of the time since in the German Home, and the remainder in the Sailors' Home. He went back to the Sailors' Home two days after he was put ashore, but did not know whether the ship had then sailed.

Mr. BOWEN stated that the defendant shipped on the 18th February, and joined on the 24th. The captain did not wish to have him on board before. He was, however, put on board with his effects on the 24th. The *Northampton* sailed on the 27th. Several days after the ship had left, the defendant came back to the Sailors' Home. That was the first intimation he had that the man had not sailed in the ship. He told defendant he would have to be taken before the Court, as his statement was a doubtful one. It was the defendant's duty to have come back to the Home before the ship cleared, so that Captain Barclay might have been questioned about it. On the 1st March, witness received a notification from the agents that the defendant had not sailed, and claiming the return of the advance, $15.20 Witness had not then seen the man. The agents forwarded the advance note to witness, and he was obliged to pay it.

His WORSHIP read a note from Captain Barclay to the agents, in which he said, "Fox came on board, but did not turn to work. He went on shore, and did not return." It was very suspicious that the defendant should have come ashore in that manner. When did the captain tell him to pack up and come ashore?

Defendant said it was the morning after he went on board. He had gone on board in the afternoon, and afterwards went aft and told the captain he was very ill. He was not ill when he was shipped, it came on afterwards. It was something in his side, like pleurisy. Was aboard all that night, and slept close to the forecastle door, and supposed he took cold. The crew brought his clothes aft, when he told the captain he was ill, and put them in a sampan. He was landed on the beach, abreast of the ship, and found he could get no further than the German Home, he was so ill.

Mr. BOWEN said when the defendant came first to the Sailors' Home, he had a chest of clothes, but on his return he had only a bag. He said he had given the chest away, and sold some of the clothes.

Defendant, in reply to questions, said he did not see a doctor while he was in the German Home. He was very bad still.

Bailey, the constable of the Home, said he put the defendant on board the *Northampton* on the morning of the 24th, at nine o'clock. He was quite sober, but had a bottle of grog with him, which the mate took away from him. Witness saw him again at the Home, in the evening of the same day. He then seemed to have been drinking, and said the mate had given him leave to come on shore. Witness kept him at the Home all that night, and gave him a breakfast next morning, after which he was again put on board, on the morning of the 25th ult. He did not complain of being ill.

His WORSHIP said after that testimony, he did not believe the defendant's statement. The night he had said he slept near the forecastle door and caught cold, it turned out that he had slept at the Home. And with respect to the captain's note, it was not likely the captain would have written in such a way had the defendant been ill and been ordered ashore in consequence. He (his Worship) did not believe he was ill at all. By his conduct he had made the Sailors' Home liable for the re-payment of his advance. It was a very dishonest trick—defendant shipped, got his advance, and then left the ship. If he was really ill, why did he not go at once to the Superintendent of the Home, and tell him, so that he might have put another man in his place.

Mr. BOWEN said the *Northampton* put to sea one hand short, in consequence of defendant's not informing him.

Six weeks' hard labour.

R. (Master of *Glamis Castle*) *v.* ALEXANDER BAIN.
Refusal of Duty.

Defendant is chief engineer of the above ship, and was summoned by Captain Raisin for refusing to obey orders.

Complainant stated that on Thursday last, eighty tons of coals were to be brought on board, and he wished them to be weighed before being shipped. He requested the defendant to send a man to take the weights, and he refused to do so.

Defendant's excuse was that he told the captain he could not spare a man from his department for the duty, and wished to employ a Chinaman to do it. If he had sent a man from the engine-room, the work in that department would have been delayed.

His WORSHIP.—That was the captain's affair. There are not two captains in a steamer any more than in a ship. You seem to want to put yourself in the captain's position. I should have thought you would have known better.

Defendant—I was doing it for the benefit of the owners.

His WORSHIP—You have nothing to do with the owners—the captain is responsible to them, and you to him. He engaged you, and you have to obey him.

Complainant said he had no desire to press the charge against the defendant.

His WORSHIP—Very well; it seems to have arisen from a mistaken idea of duty but *it* must not occur again. Defendant mus pay the cost of the summons.

R. (C. PETERSEN) *v.* G. E. ADAMS.
Abusive and Threatening Language.

Defendant is captain of the *Corea;* and Complainant an able seaman of the same ship, summoned him for using abusive and threatening language to him, while at sea on the 11th February.

Complainant deposed that, on the evening of the day named the ship was caught in a squall, and he and others were ordered aloft, after letting go the foretopsail halyards, to furl the sail. He had been ill, and as it was raining at the time, he went below to fetch his oilskins, as he did not want to get wet On coming on deck again, the captain came to him, and said "I do not want any more nonsense from you, you d—— thief." He told the captain he was not a thief, when the captain took up a belaying pin, made a motion towards him with it, and said he would knock his brains out. Complainant retorted, "Do it, but you must take the consequences." The captain also threatened to throw him overboard. The crew were close by at the time, and heard it all.

Captain ADAMS said the weather had been squally during the day in question, and at four in the afternoon the ship was caught in one of the squalls. He gave orders to let go the foretopsail halyards, and the complainant at once went below, rendering no assistance. He did not go aloft to help to furl the sail, for which he (the captain) told him he was lazy and hung back when work was wanted. When the work was all done and the sail secured, he came on deck. It was raining slightly at the time.

One of the crew, who had been summoned by the complainant as a witness, corroborated his evidence. It would only have taken two minutes to do the work aloft.

His WORSHIP said if the complainant was ordered to go aloft, the ship being caught in a squall, it was his duty to have gone at once, without waiting to fetch his oilskins. The time so lost might not have made much difference to the complainant, but it might to the ship under the circumstances. He should not, either, have answered the captain back in such a manner, but have gone about his work without discussion—that was conduct which could not be sanctioned. The summons would be dismissed.

R. (Master of *Corea*) *v.* C. PETERSEN.
Neglect of Duty.

The parties to the last case then changed positions, the former complainant being now charged with neglect of duty in not keeping watch.

Captain ADAMS said that the ship was lying in the stream, and it was necessary to keep a good watch. At three o'clock on Saturday morning he went on deck, and found

no one keeping watch. He aroused the mate, who said he had set the watch as usual, and that it was the defendant's turn. Further investigation showed that the defendant had left his post and gone below. On Saturday night, it was the defendant's watch again. He (the captain) had been ashore, and on returning on board found the deck again deserted. He called out loudly, but no one answered, showing that the defendant must have been asleep.

Defendant said he went to sit down in the forecastle, but was not asleep.

His Worship ordered defendant to pay the costs in the case.

Defendant—I wish to leave the ship.

His Worship—You must arrange that with the captain.

Captain Adams—I'll discharge him.

9th March.

R. (Chinese) *v.* Alfred Rose and Robert Burke.

Defendants are seamen, at present staying at the Sailors' Home, and were charged with being drunk and disorderly in the public streets on Monday night; also with having broken a jinriksha and thrown the pieces into the Yang-king-pang, and resisting a French constable. Rose has been before the Court on a previous occasion, for assaulting the steward of the *Star of Jamaica*.

Hoding interpreted on behalf of the coolies plying with the jinricksha, the first of whom deposed that, on Monday, he and his companion were hired by two men from nine o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock at night. In the evening they were ordered to wait on the bank of the Yang-king-pang, and while sitting in the jinriksha, the two prisoners came up, and Rose, in spite of Burke's endeavours to prevent him, pushed the jinriksha and the coolies into the creek, it being low water at the time. Witness was not hurt, but his companion was, on the hand; the shafts of the jinriksha were broken and the vehicle otherwise injured. The men then ran away. They were not the men who hired the vehicle in the morning. Those men came, and when they saw the jinriksha was broken, they paid witness 25 cents and went away.

His Worship—Twenty-five cents for a day's hire?

Witness replied that that was all they gave him. When he and his companion climbed up out of the creek, the prisoners were in the custody of a French constable.

Rose, on being asked for his version of the affair, said that he and Burke hired the jinriksha, and at night they were a little the worse for liquor. They called at a house on the Yang-king-pang, and gave the jinriksha coolies half-a-dollar to get change, with which to pay the hire of the vehicle. The coolies tried to get away with their vehicle, without giving any change. He (Rose) took hold of the jinriksha, and one of the coolies pushed him into the creek. Burke then interfered, and he (Rose) supposed the jinriksha was broken in the struggle. By his fall, he was bruised "all over." He denied pushing the vehicle into the creek. When pushed, he fell a depth of seven or eight feet.

The second coolie was examined, and he also said the defendants were not the men who had used the vehicle during the day. He corroborated the evidence of his companion.

A French constable was also questioned, and confirmed the coolies' evidence in several particulars. He said if Rose had been pushed into the Creek, his clothes would have been muddy.

Rose said his clothes were muddy, but on being called out of the dock to be examined, there was but little dirt seen on them.

The jinricksha, on being inspected was found to have been broken as above described.

His Worship said there was no case against Burke, and he would be discharged, and called as a witness.

After hearing a portion of his statement, however, it became evident that he was suffering severely from the effects of drink, and

His Worship said he would adjourn the further hearing of the case until Thursday, at ten o'clock, and ordered Rose (who was likewise suffering, and who slept during nearly the two hours the Court was afterwards occupied) to be detained in custody.

R. (W. H. Dunn) *v.* James Hughey.

Both men are seamen of the *Ceres*, and according to plaintiff's statement, they were engaged in getting in a chain, when some words passed between them, and defendant slapped him in the face. The blow was not a very severe one, but the defendant, although he had tried to teach him the duties of a sailor, had acted disagreeably towards him since the ship left Newcastle, N.S.W.

Defendant admitted that he pushed the complainant, because he would not lift the chain along.

His Worship ordered the defendant to pay the cost of the summons.

March 10th.

R. (Matilda Courtney) *v.* F. W. Templemore.

Charge of using Threatening Language.

This case was adjourned on Monday, by defendant's application, to enable him to obtain legal assistance, defendant being detained in custody.

His Worship asked if defendant was provided with Counsel?

Defendant replied that the legal gentleman he had spoken to was gone up-country. He went on Friday, and had not returned.

His Worship—Do you wish the case further adjourned?

Defendant—No; I would rather plead guilty, and express my regret for using the language, or even going near the house. I will never molest her any more.

His Worship—That is the best thing you can do. From what I see of the information made by the complainant and supported by a witness, I cannot see what Counsel could do in the matter. Your language was calculated to excite great alarm, particularly in the mind of a woman. It is likely to make her afraid, when you threaten to take her life. She did perfectly right to apply to the law for protection. The only thing I can do, as I told you before, is to call upon you to find sureties to keep the peace against the complainant and all her Majesty's subjects. Can you find sureties?

Defendant—I have not ascertained.

His Worship—It is absolutely necessary that you should find sureties; your own bond will not be sufficient. In default you will be imprisoned.

Defendant made no response.

His Worship—What do you say, Mrs. Courtney; he says he regrets that he ever went near your house, and will not go any more. Will you be content with that assurance from himself alone?

Complainant (hesitating)—Yes, sir.

His Worship—You say his language puts you in a state of alarm and bodily fear. If you are not satisfied with his assurance, he must find sureties; and if he cannot find them, he must go to prison.

Complainant—I do not wish him to visit me any more.

His Worship—He says he will not. Are you satisfied with that promise on his part? (To defendant)—You are out of employment. What are you going to do?

Defendant—I am going to Japan. I was going this morning, and had everything packed up to start. I cannot go now for a week.

His Worship—Are you going to get employment in Japan?

Defendant—I believe so.

His Worship—That is the best thing that can happen, and Mrs. Courtney would not be in any further alarm. Is there any one in Court who will become surety for him?

No one responded.

His Worship (to defendant)—Have you any explanation to offer? Your language, as represented to me by the complainant and her witness, makes it appear that you are a very desperate and violent man, and that you mean to carry out your threats. You were not under the influence of drink at the time. I must take that view of your conduct.

Defendant made no reply.

Complainant—If he goes away to Japan, I shall be satisfied.

His Worship—But he says he cannot now go for a week. He gives no explanation of his conduct. I cannot understand such threats towards a woman, and I must make an order that defendant enter into his own recognizances of $100, and find two sureties in $50 each, to keep the peace for six months towards the complainant and all her Majesty's subjects; in default he must be committed to prison, but he may be released to go to Japan. If he is really going to Japan, his confinement will not extend over a week; and if he can find sureties in the meantime, he will be released at once. He will be allowed every opportunity of communicating with his friends.

The defendant was then taken back to prison.

16th March.

Reg. (O. Schuffenhauer) *v.* Chukee Chun.

Chukee Chun, a Chinese, was charged by Mr. O. Schuffenhauer with obstructing the road and using exceedingly bad language towards him on the evening of the 14th instant.

Complainant, who objected to being sworn, but said that he would affirm the truth, stated, that on Saturday evening last, he was driving by the Soochow Creek; defendant, who was intoxicated, joined hands with two other Chinese and stood across the road, causing his pony to shy, narrowly escaping being capsized into the Creek. He got down out of the trap and took defendant into a European Hong (No. 35, Szechuen Road), and detained him until a constable came and took him into custody.

Defendant, who was dressed in Chinese costume, but spoke English with great fluency, said he was intoxicated, and that his friends were taking care of him. Complainant had struck him on the head with his whip, and he being under the influence of liquor, had become noisy. He was very sorry for what happened, and it should not occur again.

Complainant, in answer to His Worship, said, that he would not be positive that the defendant did not get touched with the whip, as the pony was very restive. In the confusion he might have struck him accidentally.

His Worship to defendant—What are you?

Defendant—I was formerly in the Canton gunboat service, and also in Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., in Yokohama. I came to Shanghai in order to try and get employment in the gunboats here.

His Worship—Yes, and the first thing you do is to get drunk and create a disturbance. I shall fine you $5.00, or in default one week's imprisonment.

Complainant said that he should be glad to say anything to mitigate the fine. He did not wish to press the case against defendant, and thought that the time he had been locked up would have been sufficient punishment.

Mr. Stripling said that defendant had been admitted to bail.

Defendant paid the fine.

17th March.

Reg. *v.* John Hill and Charles Wylie.

Defendants are firemen of the British steamer *Ocean*, and were charged by P. C. Watts with being drunk and fighting in the Tien-dong road at 1.20 a.m. this morning.

The Constable stated that there were a number of men collected, and prisoners were fighting, the other men assisting them. He arrested the combatants, and took them to the Police Station.

Defendants said that they were both drunk and did not know anything about the affair.

Fined $3.00 each, and ordered to return at once to their ship.

Reg. (Master of the *Corea*) *v.* Robert Langlands.

Defendant, who was Chief Officer of the British barque *Corea*, was charged by Captain Adams with refusal of duty.

Defendant, in answer to His Worship, said that he did refuse to do any more duty, on account of the bad treatment he received from the captain. He had asked for his discharge on the ship's arrival in port, and three times subsequently, but received for answer that he, the Captain, had too much fear that he could not get rid of him.

Capt. Adams, said he would have been only too glad to get rid of defendant, but although he had tried since his stay in port, he had been unable to get another man.

His Worship—What sort of man is your second mate?

Capt. ADAMS—I discharged him on my arrival, as he was incompetent. I have discovered that the whole source of my trouble with the crew here, has been due to the conduct of my officers. Defendant knew that the hold had been broken open three weeks before he reported it to me. The carpenter reported to the defendant that the goose-neck of the whiskers was broken two days after we arrived in port, yet the fact was not reported to me until yesterday, when the ship was ready to sail.

His WORSHIP to defendant—You seem to have done your duty in a very un-officer like manner, to say the least. Now you had better take my advice and return to your duty.

Defendant—I will not go to sea again with that man, after the treatment I have received. He has threatened to turn me forward out of the cabin, and called me all sorts of names. I have been 15 years mate of a ship, and hold a master's certificate. I was six years in my last ship, the *Naturalist* and have certificates from two captains who sailed in her during that time.

His WORSHIP after examining the papers handed in by defendant said, I see these are all good, I suppose you do not wish to forfeit all these good characters now; you had much better return to your duty.

Defendant—No sir, I would rather go to prison than go back. I told the captain when we arrived, that I would not leave Shanghai with him. He told me that he would be only too glad to get rid of me.

His WORSHIP—You see how serious the matter is; if you persist in refusing I shall have to send you to prison.

Defendant—I was aware of that when I refused yesterday.

His WORSHIP—The effect of my committing you to prison, will be to nullify all your previously good character. I cannot think of sending you on board against your will as I might a seaman. The captain states that he is willing to discharge you, providing he can get another man.

Defendant—I can't help it. I will not go another month in the ship.

Captain ADAMS—I think, Sir, that he has a strong reason for not remaining on board. There is a large quantity of cargo to be accounted for to the owners, and he dreads going home.

His WORSHIP to Defendant—Are you married?

Defendant—Yes, Sir, I have a wife and family at home. I leave half-pay, £3.5 per month, for them.

His WORSHIP—Of course that will be stopped now. I never was more reluctant to punish a man; but since you persist, and are determined to incur all the evils I have pointed out, I shall send you to prison for one month, and you must pay your expenses while in gaol.

Clippings.

We are enabled by the *Daily Press* to understand one of Reuter's telegrams which lately puzzled the community. That the exportation of horses (? from England) "to" Germany should be prohibited, seemed in the very last degree unlikely. As published in the *Daily Press*, however, the telegram reads "from" Germany, and becomes intelligible.

We have Newchwang letters to the 24th February, but there is no news whatever. Our correspondent writes:—"This courier is despatched to learn the fate of one whom we fear is lost, with our heavy mail, as we have been without papers from home since beginning of November, although we have later letters *viâ* Peking."

The *London & China Express* says that on the 27th January, when the adjourned case against J. F. H. Trautmann, late of Shanghai, was again called on, the charge was withdrawn, the prosecuting counsel admitting that circumstances which had transpired since the adjournment, rendered that course absolutely necessary. All imputations against the defendant were also withdrawn.—Mr. Poland said the defendant had been brought to the Court under a complete misapprehension of the circumstances, and there was not the slightest foundation for the charge.—The Lord Mayor said it was a proper case for enquiry, and he was glad that it had resulted in the defendant entirely freeing himself of the charge made against him. He dismissed the summons.

Referring to the Chinese loan, the *Economist* says:—We suppose from the definiteness and particularity of a Reuter's telegram from Hongkong, published this week, that there is at length no doubt of the fact that China is to be added to the number of States having a public debt. It is stated that a loan has been actually contracted on account of the Chinese Government, that the amount is £627,675, that it will bear 8 per cent. interest and be issued at the price of 95 per cent. through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, that it will be secured by the Customs Revenue, that £300,000 is to be placed in China, at the exchange of 4s. 1¼d. per dollar, and that the subscription lists will close on the 16th inst. The operation is thus one which makes it resemble some of the worst issues of foreign loans which come into the market. The rate of interest particularly is very high for so small a loan by a country of such vast population and resources as China, and almost implies that the Chinese Government must be wastefully using its home resources, since with proper economy and without the burden of a great funded debt it ought to be able to borrow temporarily at a much less rate of interest than 8 per cent., or do without loans altogether. As regards the way in which such a loan should be treated by investors here, we do not think there can be much doubt. The moderation of the amount of the proposed loan is no doubt an element in favour of China, but whatever the amount, the points to be kept in mind by investors are that China is practically an unknown country, an unknown country undergoing a tedious political and social revolution in consequence of its enforced contact with Western powers, and that it is quite uncertain whether such a country can possess that kind of political stability which is essential to financial good faith. Lending to China may be a good enough speculation for those who know something about it and can afford to take the risk, but the case is one where much knowledge is required and should be used, and where the risk, judging by the rate of interest, will presumably be appreciable. It is to be feared, however, that China, like Japan and other new borrowers of recent years, will be demoralised by the cordiality of its welcome to the money markets of the West, and will be tempted to exceed the proper limits of indebtedness, even if it should now be keeping within them. Yet why should China be able to borrow a sixpence without first producing its accounts of revenue and expenditure?

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Shanse*, for Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. Walker and C. R. Thatcher. For Chefoo—Mr. O'Malley. Per P. M. str. *Nevada*, for Yokohama—Mr. C. J. Andrews. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Haskell, and Dr. C. Adolph. Silk—156 bales. Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Capt. Forrest, Dr. Beaumont, Messrs. J. F. Rodewald, A. Bean, D. McAllister, H. Overbeck, and Tajuoya; 3 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage. For Hiogo—Messrs. J. Gorman, S. C. Pass, Tack Hing, Eh Fow, Ah Yoo; 1 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—2 Chinese in steerage.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Nevada*.—From America—Mr. and Miss Kelly. From Yokohama—Messrs. Lavers and Heitman; 1 in steerage. From Hiogo—Messrs. Pryai and Budd. From Nagasaki—5 Chinese in steerage. Treasure—$70,400. Per str. *Tokio Maru*, from Japan—Rev. C. Rubia, Messrs. Fredk. Hayne, Thos. D. Skelly, S. M. Sato, H. M. Fleischer, S. O. Pass, Tung Fu Tai; 2 Japanese ladies and child; 15 Chinese in steerage. Treasure—$18,100. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Ritter L. von Riess, Mr. E. Herton; 113 Chinese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mrs. Pichon, Dr. Beaumont, W. L. Hunter, Esq., and 39 Chinese. Per str. *Chihkiang*—72 Chinese. Opium—112 chests. Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Mr. Boyce. Per str. *Paouting*—H.E. General Raasloff, the Danish Minister; Hon. E. Allen, and Mr. and Mrs. T. F Hughes. Per str. *Chihli*—Messrs. von Steppen, van Etvelde, Litchikoff. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Giles, and child. From Chinkiang—Mr. E. J. Caldbeck. Per str. *Ocean*—21 Chinese. Per M. M. str. *Iraouaddy*, from Marseilles—Messrs. Colomb and Emoner. From Port Said—Mons. Guirtchitch. From Singapore—Mr. Moffat. From Hongkong—Mrs. Beveridge and two children, Miss Erskine, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Pomeroy, Col. McBean, Messrs. H. F. Angus, Patterson, Keswick, F. C. Buchanan, R. Elder, B. Maitland, Chambers, Sheppard, and Robison. Per str. *China*, from Hongkong—Capt. Corner; 66 Chinese. Opium—23 chests. Per str. *Leeyuen*, from Tientsin—Treasure, $6,000. Per str. *Costa Rica* from Yokohama—General and Mrs. Allen and servant, Miss Allen, Mrs. Rice, Miss Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, child and servant, Miss Macpherson, Mrs. Shiell, Misses Cargill (2) and servants, Dr. Klefeker and servant, Messrs. Adrian, D'Iffanger and servant, Davidson and servant, J. S. Morris.

LEAVING.—Per M. M. str. *Hoogly*, for Hongkong—Mrs. Glover, Messrs. Van Etvelde, Heitsman, Seymour Giary. For Suez—Messrs. J. Adrian, Klefeker and servant. For Marseilles—Dr. Gottburg, Messrs. G. Fleuriais, H. Lapried, James Jones, two children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Gilles and child, James Baker, Sister St. Paul, Sister St. Bernard, E. Fluet and Mrs. Kilisch.

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Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 % dis. ex 72½ 31st March.
Steamer Cos			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	3 p. c.	Tls. 80 30th April
Union Steam Navigation Company	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy	100		7
China Coast S. N Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T. 10 p. sh	215
Footung Dock Co.	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co.	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	10 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	650
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	50		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 86
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) .	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire In Co. (Limited) .	200	$ 51.75 p. sh, 6 p. c. & Bonus 1¼	487 ex 72½
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited ..	100		125 ex 72½
... Fire In... Co. Limited)	100,	6 p. c.	133 ex 73
Miscellaneous			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . .	100	1 p. c.	101 30th April
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£99.

Exchange

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72½

J. F. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 17TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—The U. S. mail of 1st ultimo, per steamer *Nevada*, viâ Japan. From Europe, the M. M. steamer *Iraouaddy*, with the London mails of 29th January last.

Telegrams.—No change to note under this heading.

PIECE GOODS.—On Friday—12th instant—our market was thrown into a state of ferment by the news, that the Tientsin Tautai, Sun, had imposed, or had threatened to impose an additional squeeze on all goods landed within, or passing through the limits of his jurisdiction, and the excitement increased until Monday afternoon, when the S. S. *Yungching* arrived with counter-advices, to the effect that Sun had been misunderstood, and that native produce and native manufactures alone were the objects of his pressing attentions. The following is a translation of the proclamation which caused the recent storm :—

Proclamation, issued at Tientsin, 29th of 1st Moon.

The Customs' and Foreign Affairs' Tautai, &c., of Tientsin, issues a Proclamation :—

Whereas, according to law, it is incumbent on Chinese merchants when importing native goods from steamer or sailing ship, after payment of duties at the Foreign Customs, to apply to the Hou Kwan (Native Customs) and then hand in *li-kin* duties : the previous Tautai, Tsung, fearing that cargo would be smuggled through, after passing the Foreign Customs, laid down regulations, as reported by memorial to the Throne, to the effect that the Foreign Customs should draw up, in triplicate, schedules of native Goods passed, for the guidance of the Native Customs. These regulations, however, have degenerated by length of time into an empty formula, and native merchants no longer make application to the (Native) Customs in conformity with the schedule. Still worse, they craftily declare the cargo to be Foreign property, give false marks, return less weight, falsify quality, change packages, and are guilty of all species of malpractices. Since the opening of Foreign commerce, native goods, coming formerly by internal water routes, now arrive by sea, and the Hou Kwan (Native Customs) at present depends entirely on *li-kin* duties to make up the deficiency in its proper duty receipts. Therefore, in view of the loss arising from the smuggling practices of merchants, it behoves the Taotai to at once carry into effect the regulations referred to, and to take strong measures to suppress recent practices, and in addition to deputing officers to take stringent and coercive measures, it is proper that this admonitory proclamation be issued.

Let, therefore, all merchants and shopkeepers, concerned with entering Imports at the Customs, know that, henceforth, Imports of native cargo, after passing the Foreign Customs, must at once, in accordance with the schedule made by the Foreign Customs, give particulars to the "Hou Kwan" of marks and contents, name of lander and date of entry, and pay dues in conformity. In this way, when the cargo is transferred to other Godowns, or sold and sent away, there will be means of identifying the packages. Passes can be issued and attempts at nefarious gain and smuggling will be suppressed. Therefore, from this date, let all conform to these instructions by at once handing in to the (Native) Customs specific particulars of their imports. And, in the event of any one being detected in the design to violate these orders, they will be heavily punished. Let all tremblingly obey.

And here also is a translation of the second proclamation which Sun found it necessary to fulminate in order to quiet the public mind :—

Proclamation :—

In view of the non-conformity of Chinese merchants to the regulations established by Imperial assent, by the former Tautai, Tsung, requiring that importers of native cargo should, after making entry at the Foreign Customs, hand in a copy of the schedule made in triplicate to the Hou Kwan, and pay *li-kin* duties ; in accordance, the said regulations were again brought into force by proclamation in order to suppress smuggling. The notice specially pointed to native merchants as importers of native cargo, and has no bearing on Foreign Goods.

But it has now come to the information of the Tautai that some rascally merchants have spread false and inciting reports to the effect that all descriptions of Foreign cargo, whether or not destined for the interior, will have to pay duty at the Hou Kwan immediately after passing the Foreign Customs. All the goods have further been piled up on the quay with the obvious intention of instigating Foreign merchants to action, and thereby to resist the payment of the *li-kin* duties. The circumstances are really abominable, and it becomes necessary to make a rigid investigation, in order to apprehend the guilty. Besides requesting the Foreign Consuls to make enquiries, the Tautai issues this proclamation. Let all merchants and Hongs know that all native goods imported by steamers and sailing ships will, after entry at the Foreign Customs, have to be at once reported duty paid at the Hou Kwan, and pay duty in accordance with the "Schedule" regulations. Smuggling will be heavily punished. Let all tremblingly obey.

In regard to these, the native brokers here are not slack in saying that the Tientsin dealers are not altogether blameless. They found that their first shipments hence were considerably in excess of the wants of the North-Western traders, who were provided with credits and funds to the extent of their requirements only. Thus, the prospects for the large surplus were not very promising. Further, exchange took rather an awkward turn for holders. And another story has it that Sun's proclamation is aimed at the system which gives to native shippers of native produce by native owned steamers greater privileges than those enjoyed by shippers who avail themselves of the foreign lines. His revenue was suffering, and he simply now demands what he considers himself justly entitled to, which is, that all produce, whether imported in native or in foreign owned bottoms, shall be subject to one tariff, and if this be true he deserves to be supported in his efforts to abolish the differential scales that are said to exist. Against this, however, the dealers are indignant, and hence their cry of *extra likin*, which, fortunately, was stifled before it had time to accomplish the wished-for effect. These are aspects of the affair which may or may not be true, and they are given here simply for what they may be worth.

The effect of the misunderstanding at Tientsin is thus described by a correspondent—

It is almost needless to say this put a stop to all business, in fact the Chinese will not even take delivery of their cargo from the steamers. A deputation of Chinese were taken to the different Consuls at this port, and represented the case in such a way that I am given to understand induced them as a body to remonstrate with the Tautai. It has not transpired yet whether this has had any effect. The natives threaten to shut up their shops if the Tax is enforced. The Bund is one mass of cargo.

And the same writer advises the termination of the business as follows :—"The Tautai has been obliged to give in regarding Manchester "goods. Chinese produce, however, has to pay the *li-kin* tax whenever landed. Business will commence at once—the Brokers going "about to-day"—11th instant—"but up to this time no sales have taken place."

The market news from Japan, by the last steamer, was worse, and thus, business, here, since last mail day, has been confined to buying for the River Ports, for Ningpo, and some little things for Chefoo. In this way, however, a fair amount has been put through, and a further rise in the value of best 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings* and common 6, 7 and 8-lb. *T-Cloths* has been established.

Grey Shirtings.—The lighter weights, and more particularly the low to medium grades of 7-lbs., have been much wanted, but their continued scarcity restricts business, and renders quotations little other than nominal; Tls. 1.52 per piece has been refused for Dewhurst's *Eagle* chop. Amongst 8¼-lbs. the finest classes have realised better values—Dewhursts *Eagle* having at last touched Tls. 1.95; and Tls. 1.98 having been given for Mendel's *Hand and Branch*. The very lowest qualities are also rather stiffer in price, but ordinary to good medium chops remain stationary, and in limited but strengthening request. The excitement in *Heavy Shirtings* seems to have sobered down a little, but there are still buyers "to arrive" at last week's quotations, and goods on hand command extreme rates. Total sales of Shirtings, 52 *a* 55,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—A slight decline on former currencies is noticeable. Transactions have been insignificant. The TIENTSIN unpleasantness is partly accountable for this.

T-Cloths.—Nothing new in the position of this article. The demand for the lower counts of 6 to 7-lbs. has continued, and the inferior makes of 36-in. Cloth have been steadily enquired for. In all these—owing to their scarcity—sellers have had the advantage, and the tendency of prices is still against buyers at the close. Considerable transactions in low 6-lbs. and 7-lbs., to arrive by an early steamer, have been entered into at Tl. 1.11 and Tl. 1.25 per piece. There has also been a strong enquiry for ordinary Mexican 7-lbs., and the sales recorded establish improved values; but the best descriptions have not been much sought after, and although business has taken place at previous quotations—Tls. 1.53 for Collie's *Dollar* chop—the market seems weak. Estimate of week's business—65,000 *a* 70,000 pieces.

Drills.—Some fifteen hundred pieces of good Dutch 14-lbs. at Tls. 2.36 per piece nett, and 8,000 pieces of Mendel's *Pillar*—same weight—at Tls. 2.30 *a* 2.32, less brokerage, comprise the settlements of the week, and these were effected mostly before the Tientsin news reached Shanghai.

Jeans.—The American *Jeans* (2,000 pieces) ex *Golden State*, have been placed at Tls. 2.75 per piece. In addition to these, the purchases of English *Jeans* aggregate 6,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.83 *a* 1.86½ per piece.

Sheetings.—The quotations for English 15-lb. cloth still stand at Tls. 2.90 *a* 2.95 per piece, and sales to extent of nearly 1,100 pieces out of recent arrivals are reported at these figures. The article is wanted at the close, but holders demand some improvement, to which the dealers at present are opposed.

Fancy Cottons.—The transactions in this class are summarised as follows:—Assorted *Brocades* dyed, and also black and white—2,000 pieces at Tls. 2.72½; 2.62½ and Tls. 2.25 per piece respectively; *Printed T-Cloths*, 1,350 pieces at Tls. 2.50; 2.60; and Tls. 2.70 per piece. *Black Velvets*, 180 pieces at Tl. 0.18 per yard; *Handkerchiefs*, 1,500 doz. at Tl. 0.54 per doz.; *Blue Mottles*, 1,000 pieces at Tl. 0.05 *a* 0.05½ per yard; and 1,000 pieces of *Irishes* at Tls. 3.15 per piece.

Woollens.—Business in this department has been very slack during the week. Indeed—*Camlets* excepted—there has been nothing done worth recording. But dark blue *Camlets* of good quality and fast color have been in fairly steady demand, and sales at from Tls. 13 *a* 15 per piece for English, and Tls. 17.75 per piece nett for ordinary Dutch, to extent of about 1,000 pieces, have been concluded. *Long Ells* have declined in value, and are not wanted at the fall. *Figured Orleans* of Tientsin designs have found buyers in small lots on the basis of Tls. 3.20 *a* 3.25 per piece for a good cloth, with a goodly portion of light green in the assortment. *Lastings* have been offered on the market without effect, and so have the better description of *Medium Cloths*. *Spanish Stripes* have not received any notice whatever; and 500 pieces of Black plain *Lustres* is the only operation reported in that article. To-day a sale of 800 pieces imitation *Russian Cloth* at Tls. 24½ per piece is rumoured.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.9.5	14.0.0	14.5.0	13.0.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.2.5	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.2.0	7.0.0	6.5.0	7.0.0	7.2.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.4.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.8½	0.5.5	0.5.8½	0.5.9	0.6.0	0.57	0.57	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.6.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 11TH MARCH, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown
S.S.G. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	13.57½/13.65	13.20/13.22½	13.72½/13.80	12.82½/12.87½	13.22½/13.27½	...	.....	12.00	12.72½/12.77½	...
C.P.H. Long Ells, p. pce ,,	7.22/7.23	6.97/6.99	6.52/6.55	.....	7.23	...	.....	7.22½	6.45	5.92
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.57¾/0.58	0.56/0.56¼	0.57/0.57¼	0.61½	.....	0.65	0.58	0.61	0.57¼/0.57¾	0.58

SALES.—*Camlets*, S.S.G., 850 pcs., av. Tls. 13.45 per piece.
Long Ells, C.P.H., 540 pcs. av. Tls. 7.02 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs. av. Tls. 0.57½ per yard.
Do. H.H. Scarlet, 120 pcs. at Tls. 0.59⅛ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 2,600 pcs., at Tls. 1.60¼ *a* 1.60½ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₩ pc.	1.3.6	to 1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0	,,1.9.3½
9 *a* 9¾-lbs. ..... ,,	2.1.5	,, 2.3.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs..... ,,	2.6.0	,, 2.7.5
Tun Sin ..... ,,	2.9.5	,, nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.0	...1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3	,, 1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0	,, 2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5	,, 2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0	,, 3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5	,, 3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....	2.3.0	,, 2.4.4
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0	,, 2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.7	,, 2.3.5
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.3	,, 1.9.2
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5	,, ...
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0	,, 3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5	,, 3.0.0
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.0	,, 1.1.3
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.4	,, 1.2.8
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.0	,, 1.3.0
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.3	,, 1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0	,, 1.7.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.0	,, 2.1.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.5	,, 0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0	,, 0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5	,, 2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0	,, 2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0	,, 2.7.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0	,, 4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.0	,, 2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5	,, 1.5.0
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.2.5	,, 1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.3.5	,, 1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0	,, ...
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0	,, 4.2.5
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0	,, 2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₩ yd.	0.1.6½	,, 0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4	,,0.1.4¾
26 in. ,,	0.1.9	,,0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,	0.0.3½	,,0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....₩ pc.	1.2.0	,, 1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0	,, 1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0	,, 0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.2.5	,,14.0.0
G G ,, ,,	13.5.5	,, ...
S S G ,, ,,	13.4.5	,, ...
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₩ yd.	0.7.5	,, 1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,	0.5.7	,, 0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.8	,, ...
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.1	,, ...
LONG ELLS—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₩ pc.	7.2.0	,, ...
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.2.0	,, ...
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.8.5	,, ...
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.5	,, ...
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.8.0	,, ...
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,	10.0.0	,,12.6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0	,, 8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ..... ,,	3.4.0	,, 3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5	,, 3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0	,, 3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0	,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—Sales of some 6,000 bundles good quality at Tls. 2.87½ *a* 2.85 per picul indicate declining rates, but holders of best iron continue firm for prices which at present appear to be unobtainable. *Lead.*—Only one little sale of L.B. has been reported on this market since Thursday last, the price being Tls. 6.10 per picul, but the *Dragon*, s.s., with it is said, between 2,000 and 3,000 picul on board, cleared yesterday for Foochow, where the article appears to be wanted at high rates—$9.50 per picul. In the other *Metal* imports, there is no change to advise.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	155.0.0 *a* 160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.4.0 *a* .....
Small ,,	,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal	per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ... } no demand.	,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23 }	,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing ..... nom. ...	,,	20.0.0 *a* .....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	19.3.0 *a* .....
Common Chops ... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a* .....
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	..... *a* ... ..
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	..... *a* .....
HOOP IRON	,,	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0 *a* 31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—		
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.0 *a* 3.1.0
Belgian ..... ,, ...	,,	2.5.5 *a* 2.6.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.5
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.1.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.1.0 *a* .. ...
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... . *a* .....

		Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a* 8.6.0
,, Medium	,,	9.0.0 *a* 9.6.0
,, Best	,,	10.0.0 *a* 10.6.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	8.8.0 *a* 9.0.0
—White	,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.8 *a* 0.5.5

COTTON.—The Szechuen merchants have been almost the only buyers this week, and their settlements aggregate nearly 3,000 pieces of best Shanghai staple. The quotations of last week are unaltered.

EXCHANGE.—The rate for Bank paper still remains at 5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. At the latter rate a good business has been done. There is not much private paper offering, but rates are firmer. Credits to private buyers have been placed at 5s. 9½d., and to Banks at a farthing higher, while documentary are quoted 5s. 9⅝d. On India, a small transaction was reported at Rs. 308½ on Bombay, but the closing quotations are Rs. 308 on Bombay, and Rs. 309 on Calcutta. On Hongkong, the rate is firmer, and Bank paper can be got at 27¼.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7½d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅛d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9¾d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.31¼	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.33¾	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...	Rs. 307½	₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	...Rs. 306½	₩ 100 ,,

On Hongkong,—Bank Bills, demand, 27 per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27¼ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.0625 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.60 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 171.34 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17⅛ Betterness, Tls. 111.30 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,550 per Tael.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods form 9th to 15th March, 1875 compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 52 @ 57, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	6,049	26,850	13,400	41,499	...	2,850	750	...	...	1,000	650	...	...	9,500
T-Cloths ..... ,,	7,495	6,090	13,430	13,080	...	2,625	500	...	...	550	...	...	...	12,080
White Shirtings ..... ,,	839	2,030	580	3,704	...	...	...	...	...	...	799	500	...	3,120
Drills ..... ,,	...	30	30	2,070	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	...	1,200
Jeans ..... ,,	240	...	...	1,310	...	5,380	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	50	...	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	100	...	200	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	150	50	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	200	120	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	380	670	50	360	..	299	...	...	...	...	500	...	...	1,880
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	200	150	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	30	30	114	504	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	150	...	120
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	72	24	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	800	1,000	200	1,204	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	884	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	700	...	...	100
Dimities ..... ,,	100	200	...	410	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	50	120	108	552	...	...	...	...	192	...	36	...	...	240
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	6	184	22	172	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192
Camlets ..... ,,	90	220	240	1,140	...	10	...	...	100	...	10	...	...	130
Long Ells ..... ,,	20	160	220	1,240	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	40
Lastings ..... ,,	60	180	180	240	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	60	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	50	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	400	..	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	480	60	60	..	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	320
,, Crape ..... ,,	30	350	..	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	1,693	...	...	399	...	...	588	...	...	210	...	840	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	115	449	563	115	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries. For Week.	Deliveries. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Imports. For Week.	Imports. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Stocks. Estimated at date *	Stocks. Against 17/3/74.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	102,548	638,970	69,398	801,568	1,385,500	853,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	55,850	345,677	27,156	224,462	484,300	1,184,000
White Shirtings ..... ,,	11,572	107,403	13,164	137,832	126,300	94,400
Drills ..... ,,	3,600	68,397	5,880	55,962	231,500	457,200
Jeans ..... ,,	7,050	52,708	13,790	68,618	44,500	103,800
Sheetings ..... ,,	20	700	.....	10,600	11,600	54,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	300	8,141	1,846	16,099	10,800	3,400
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	481	481	830	2,560
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,800
Brocades, White ..... ,,	400	3,090	500	5,238	4,400	708
,, Dyed ..... ,,	350	7,440	500	11,282	33,100	26,200
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	440	2,016	.....	4,720	9,800	6,200
Chintzes ..... ,,	4,139	23,924	1,000	14,753	79,500	128,000
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	750	16,866	1,275	23,890	33,800	38,000
Velvets ..... ,,	1,068	8,950	2,274	13,901	12,600	14,900
Velveteens ..... ,,	240	1,368	168	2,354	2,200	8,200
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	5,804	30,494	4,368	15,870	58,200	143,000
Muslins ..... Pcs.	1,684	3,286	200	900	8,700	24,400
Dimities ..... ,,	1,210	3,030	1,500	1,730	13,400	10,300
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,298	8,602	1,122	9,860	12,000	36,100
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	586	3,316	1,940	4,878	12,000	21,000
Camlets ..... ,,	1,940	13,700	1,000	14,603	23,700	25,300
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,740	13,500	1,900	11,620	7,100	12,700
Lastings ..... ,,	740	5,368	100	5,020	12,100	8,700
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	120	1,160	.....	1,900	9,900	4,300
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	450	4,400	500	3,649	3,300	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	980	20,419	.....	11,200	119,300	138,500
,, Crape ..... ,,	630	5,080	300	2,800	18,800	12,700
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	1,242	14,362	6,741	17,374	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	3,730	18,124	19,658	49,952	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Glenartney, Foochow, Avoca, Hoogly, Diomed, Iraouaddy,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—A fair amount of business has been done in *Green Teas* during the past week, chiefly for America. There is scarcely any alteration to note in values, but good and fine chops being in small supply command full rates.

Settlements for the week have been—

Fychow, Moyune, &c.	13,822 ½-chests,	at Tls.	14	*a* 34.	Stock—24,070 ½-chests.
Pingsuey	197 ,,	,,	23¼	*a* —.	3,750 ,,
Shanghai-packed	— ,,	,,	—	*a* —.	3,450 ,,
Total.....	14,019 ,,				Total... 31,270 ,,

Export to Great Britain (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—

	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black	65,038,571 lbs.	against	58,683,383 lbs.
Green	11,320,041 ,,	,,	9,642,921 ,,
Total	76,358,612 ,,	,,	68,326,304 ,,

To America and Canada—

Black	1,843,937 lbs.	against	801,149 lbs.
Green	16,905,589 ,,	,,	20,096,822 ,,
	18,749,526 ,,	,,	20,897,971

SILK.—Since the issue of our report of the 11th instant the silk market has been fairly active, and settlements are estimated at 800 bales: consisting chiefly of common Tsatlees at Tls. 255 @ 275 per picul. A small parcel of "Donkey" chop 4 is reported taken at Tls. 320 per picul. A few Hangchow Tsatlees have found buyers at Tls. 245 @ 260, coarse Taysaams at Tls. 230 @ 240, and common Long reel Taysaams at Tls. 230 @ 235 per picul. Some China Trams and Organzines go forward on Chinese account.

The American mail which left two days since took 156 bales, purchased at irregular prices; the quotations for re-reeled Tsatlees ranging from Tls. 335 @ 380, and for re-reeled Hainings from Tls. 330 @ 380 per picul. Extra and best classes were not in demand.

The unsold stock is slightly reduced, and is now estimated at barely 2,000 bales.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

March 18, 1875.

Arrivals.—March 11th, American barque *Marmion*, from Burrard's Inlet; 12th, British barque *Charlie Palmer*, from Singapore.

Departure.—March 13th, British steamer *Diomed*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Hoogly* takes about 793 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¾d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9¾d. *a* 5s. 9⅞d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 308. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 309. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27¾. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.20. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.30 Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.0125 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.20 per 100. Copper cash, 1,580 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

H. & S. Bank.—A fair business has been done at 15 % dis. and Ex. 72¼ for cash, and also for 31st instant. Shares are still wanted for the latter date.

S. S. N. Co.—Sales were made on 12th instant at Tls. 84 cash and Tls. 85 for 31st instant, but the demand suddenly ceased, and no business was reported till yesterday, when sales were made at Tls. 80 for 31st instant, and Tls. 84 for 30th June. A small business has since been done at Tls. 80 for 30th April.

Fire Insurance Shares.—Chinas have been settled at $133 and Ex. 73, and *Victorias* at $125 and Ex. 72¾—the market closing with buyers. *Hongkongs* have been placed at $485 and Ex. 72¾, at which there are sellers.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Yangtszes has been placed at Tls. 585, but are scarce. *China and Japans* are offered at quotations.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Sales were made immediately after last report at Tls. 100 for May, and a fair business was subsequently done at Tls. 101 for 30th April. There are sellers still at the latter rate and at par for cash.

Chinese Imperial Loan.—A limited business has been done at £99 and Ex. 5s. 7d.

The Weather has been very variable—heavy thunderstorms, the first of the season, passed over the Settlement on Friday morning and evening. Rain fell again on Sunday and Monday, and again this morning. The extreme range of the thermometer has been 41 59.

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 13th MARCH, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	585	585.00	10	12.00	..	..	19	19.00
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	585	585.00	10	12.00	..	..	19	19.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore	32½	32.50	108	129.60	54	64.80	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa	285	285.00	60	6 .00	66½	66.50	121½	121.50	90	90.00	24	24.00	131½	131.50	..	..	..	..	778½	778.50
Patna	26	31.20	..	..	1	1.20	..	..	1	1.20	..	..	5	6.00	..	..	..	..	33	49.60
Benares	11	12.20	..	..	2	2.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4.80	..	..	..	..	17	19.40
Persian	1	1.00	1	1.00	..	..	..	..	7	7.00	1	1.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10.00
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	323	329.40	61	61.00	69½	70.10	121½	121.50	98	98.20	25	25.00	140½	142.30	..	..	..	..	838½	857.50

London and Provincial Marine Insurance Company.

THE undersigned having been appointed Agents in Shanghai for the above Company, are prepared to grant Marine Risks at current rates.

(s.a.) AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.
tf 2058 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE OFFICE.

20 PER CENT. Discount allowed on all premia contributed.

LIFE OFFICE.

Risks accepted at *Home Rates*, with £2 per cent. added.

BIRLEY, WORTHINGTON & Co.,
Z *Agents.*
5fe-76 2442 Shanghai. 16th July, 1872.

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of London.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates, less 20 per cent discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
31ma 1044 Z Shanghai, 1st April, 1872.

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1825.

THE undersigned begs to notify that the Board of Directors at this place have power to pass proposals for Assurance, on the Lives of Persons residing at any Port of China or Japan.

ED. HOLDSWORTH,
Agent & Secretary to the Local Board.
2080 Z Shanghai, 6th Oct., 1874.
n o-a-f (c.a.) 31de-75.

The London Assurance Corporation.

Established A D. 1720.

THE undersigned Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to issue policies covering *Fire and Marine risks* at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
tf 2055 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

LIFE BRANCH.

THE undersigned are prepared to issue Provisional Policies under the New Scale of greatly Reduced Rates. The Tables may be had upon application.

FIRE BRANCH.

Policies granted at current rates, less 20 per cent. discount.

Z 2313 GEO. BARNET & Co., *Agents.*
no-a-m 31jy-76 Shanghai, 1st Feb., 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 411. SHANGHAI, MARCH 25, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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England,.....Feb.	5	Hankow, ...Mar.	21
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Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Dec. 24 } Received 30th Jan.
Shanghai,..... ,, 18 }

MARRIAGES.

On the 21st Jan., at St. George's, Camberwell, by the Rev. Samuel Smith, FRANCIS WILLIAMS, eldest and only surviving son of F. W. Mitchell, of Hongkong, to LOTTIE, eldest daughter of P. L. Carman, of Camberwell.

At Malden, Jan. 27th, at the residence of the bride's father, on Pleasant street, by Rev. Dr. J. W. Wellman, Mr. SYLVANUS C. FARNHAM, of Shanghai, China, to Miss ELMA C. METCALF, daughter of M. A. Metcalf, Esq.

DEATHS.

At London, on the 18th January, 1875, MONTAGUE ROBERT, youngest son of the late Henry Tootal, of London and Brighton.

On the 22nd Jan., at Cefn-y-Coed, Carnarvon, DAVID JOHN, infant son of John Charles and Jane Ellen Sillar, aged twenty-six days, having survived his mother twenty-one days.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. A. Corner, Wm. E. Fernie; 7 Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—7 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. E. Holdsworth, Mrs. Rice and child, Miss Erskine, Messrs. F. G. Davidson, D. C. Tata, E. N. Meta, H. Rustomjee, R. H. Percival, E. B. Maitland, D. R. Elder, T. C. Buchanan, F. D'Iffanger, N. J. Silas, A. R. Hewlett, R. H. Boyce, A. W. Glennie, E. C. Maitland, W. Morris, J. Welsh, and Col. MacBean; 12 Chinese in steerage. Per str. *Niigata Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. E. B. Souper; 1 Chinese. For Yokohama—Mrs. Harris and child, Rev. S. D. Harris, Messrs. R. Johnston, Keswick, J. J. Paterson, Hunter Corbett and three children, and A. Brand; 10 in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. G. Scheeffer.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Niigata Maru*, from Japan—Capt. Schultz, Rev. C. Rubio, Messrs. W. Powers and servant, E. W. Clark, E. Davies and servant, C. McCrae, J. H. Blair and servant, H. Blass, C. H. Nail, Jas. Merdith; 18 in steerage. Per str. *Hankow*, from Kiukiang—Mr. Hart. Per P. & O. str. *Khiva*, from Southampton—Mr. H. de Bastide. From Bombay—Mr. Goolan H. Yacoollia. From Hongkong—Messrs. M. W. Boyd and servant, W. de Rusett, W. Morris, Kong-hup and servant, Kock-lee and servant; 71 Chinese. Per str. *Patroclus*, from Liverpool—Mr. Mitchell. From Hongkong—Messrs. Harrison, Junr., Aubert, Gray, and McCulloch; 43 Chinese. Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—11 Chinese. Per str. *Lotus*, from Hongkong—Capt. Jurgensen. Per str. *Shanse*, from Tientsin—Rev. H. Corbett and family, Mrs. Penrose, Messrs. Dillon and Nachtrieb. Per str. *Fusiyama*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Colby, and Mr. Dubois. Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, from Japan—Messrs. F. R. Wetmore and servant, A. Stuart and servant, D. W. A. Jones, J. Wisner, W. H. Ricard, B. A. Valantine, W. Y. Nambue, and Yung Wei Chune; 24 in steerage. Per str. *Glenfinlas*, from London—Mr. T. Cartwright.

LEAVING.—Per str. *Avoca*, for Southampton—Mrs. Lemarchand, 3 children and native servant. For Hongkong—His Excellency the Viceroy of Canton, and suite, Messrs. A. Goetz and Edward Davis, and servant.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, MAR. 25, 1875.

RETROSPECT OF 1874.

Japan. The chief incident in Japanese, as in Chinese, politics during the past year, has been the Formosan difficulty which so nearly plunged the two nations in war. We have already sketched the circumstances, in our review of Chinese politics, so it is unnecessary to recapitulate them here. What remains, to complete our record of the incident, is to note the condition of affairs in Japan which had influence in bringing on the quarrel.

The changes in the position of the Samurai, that ensued on the revolution effected in the Government, have been recorded in previous years. They had lost their prestige, and they were irritated by the scheme for the commutation of their incomes, which the condition of the State finances did not permit the Government to improve. To quote the words of the *Japan Mail*:—"The swords of many of them, the last relics of a waning prestige, had been pledged to afford temporary sustenance for their wives and children. The old homes had been broken up. One by one the small but cherished ornaments or necessaries of domestic life had been sold, and each fresh sacrifice renewed the bitterness caused by a revolution which was fast sweeping away privileges, all the more fondly clung to because they represented the spirit of a departing age." Their warlike instincts, too, had been aroused by the brief but sharp struggle of the civil war, and their patriotism was chafed by the insolence of Corea, and the injury done to their fellow-subjects, the Liuchiuans, in Formosa. War in either quarter afforded an opportunity for mending their condition, and an outlet for their excitement. We have, here, without doubt, an explanation of the pressure which urged the Government to follow up unsatisfactory negotiations at Peking, by the active step of an expedition to Formosa. Iwakura, who was one of the strongest advocates for peace, was assailed and narrowly escaped assassination in Yeddo. An insurrection, which occurred in February in the provinces of Hizen and Saga, went further to convince the Government that a great body of discontent existed, requiring either to be conciliated or permitted to explode elsewhere. It is not surprising that the Government, urged forward by these facts, should have given way to the general desire to avenge the murder of the ship-wrecked Liuchiuans, and entertained the project of colonising the Eastern half of Formosa. We need not recapitulate the unsatisfactory negociations at Peking, which seemed to countenance this course, nor the progress of the expedition which eventually left Nagasaki either in spite, or in an advance, of a counter-order dictated at the last moment by apprehension of the complications with China which the scheme might entail. The troops landed in Formosa, subdued the guilty tribe, and were preparing to carry out the ulterior object, when China roused

herself to the point of demanding their withdrawal. How nearly war ensued, and how war was averted by the good offices of the British Minister, is a matter of record. The Japanese bore themselves firmly throughout, and retired at length under a convention which tacitly admitted that they had been right in the enterprise they undertook. Japan agreed to evacuate Formosan territory on the payment by China of Tls. 500,000, the estimated value of works and barracks constructed in the island, and her guarantee to provide for the future security of the Formosan coast.

It is likely that the Government gained strength at home from the vigour of its action abroad. That it is gaining strength and solidity, seems at any rate to be unquestioned. Popular it is not; taxes are heavy, and the infinity of new regulations that have issued in pursuance of the new order of things, still harrass the people. To quote again from an able review of the subject in the *Japan Mail*:—"The spirit of centralization is too strong. The blood is, as it were, all demanded for the service of the brain; the other organs and the limbs have not their fair share of it, and thus they decline in strength and vigour. To give one instance: The roads in olden times were maintained by the Daimios out of their revenues; now these revenues are paid into the central treasury, and are diverted towards the general purposes of government. But roads have largely fallen into disrepair; every year they become worse; and this causes great complaint. The unpopularity of the Government is witnessed by the undoubted fact that the lower orders of people in the provinces of Saga and Hizen strongly sympathized with the insurgents in the late rebellion, and this is attributable to excessive taxation, together with a disposition on the part of the State to interfere irritatingly and unceasingly with the habits and customs of the people." But there seems no doubt that much of the disaffection which existed in the Empire at the time of the Saga outbreak, has since disappeared, and it may be hoped that the existing uneasiness will gradually subside as things gradually shake into their new places. The changes which have been effected in Japan, in so short a time, are sufficiently astounding. To expect that all these should happen without causing uneasiness and dissatisfaction, would be to expect preternatural wisdom in the rulers and preternatural resignation in the governed.

There is ample room for hope that, with patience on both sides, existing evils will be remedied, and scope given to the new institutions which have been so suddenly adopted. That the changes have been too rapid, few will question. That many of the changes have been unwise—savouring rather of imitation than emultation—admits of equally little doubt. What has surprised foreigners is, that those changes have been so tacitly acquiesced in by the people. But this very acquiescence gives assurance that a nation which had worked out a high civilisation of its own, will eventually adapt itself intelligently to the new order which it is now endeavouring to copy. Progress has been made in the construction of railways, and in extending the means of education. A desire for representative institutions seems to be gathering strength, and is likely soon to find expression. The attempts which have been previously made in this direction failed; but it was hardly likely that a model Parliamentary Government could be suddenly established in the place of a strong feudal system. It took centuries, in Europe, to effect the change; that Japan should experience difficulty in trying to make the change in a decade, is scarcely surprising.

To sum up, in the words of the *Mail* review:—"The year closes somewhat gloomily, for the commercial embarrassments among the Japanese are serious, and it may be some time before they are surmounted. But it must be said that the advance made by the country during this period is certain and indisputable. Those who fail to recognize this at some moment of special discouragement—and there are many such moments—should look back to its condition five years ago, when it was just emerging from the weakness consequent on the Revolution. It is idle to draw the two pictures. The contrast must be patent to every honest mind. But the clearing of the land prior to sowing the new crop, is hard and thankless work. Abundant hindrances are visible in all directions, and abundant errors are made both by overseers and workmen. Yet as the task progresses, the new crop springs up, and effaces the recollection of toil, and mistakes, and previous disappointments. If the Japanese are too often dilatory, capricious and uncertain, and betray inherent faults which can hardly be eradicated without a change in their whole nature, the foreign critic has his own errors, and should learn from these by how dim a light he walks in his attempts to judge truly, and with the generous consideration we all demand for our own shortcomings, the steps of a career so unexampled as that on which the people of this Empire have how entered."

Shares. In reviewing the Share Market for last year, we think it well to give a separate statement of the extreme fluctuations of each of the principal stocks.

In addition to the general depression in trade, we have had competition tending to lower the value of several stocks. Holders of shares in our local bank have suffered considerable loss, and the same may be said of holders of steamer shares. Two of our steamer companies are in liquidation, and since the close of the year Bank shares fell to 20 per cent. discount. Among Marine insurance companies, North-China and Chinese Insurance shares have risen, while Yangtsze and China and Japan shares have fallen. There is not much change to be noted in Gas or Fire insurance shares. Wharf shares, which were much depressed during the year, have since risen above par. The Shanghai and Pootung Foundry and Engineering Co. was wound up early in the year, the shareholders receiving a return of 50 per cent. on the capital.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—After the New-Year holidays, business opened at 49 per cent. premium, and advanced on 14th January to 50 per cent. premium cash, and 50½ per cent. premium for 31st January. Afterwards the price gradually fell, until shares were sold at par on 5th October; after which it rose a little, and they were sold at 2 per cent. premium on 31st December.

The accounts shew $191,768.91, as the net profits for the year, which is not quite 4 per cent. on the paid up capital. This includes the profit on the Chinese Imperial Government Loan. And, in addition to these small profits, a sum of $1,115,000 was set aside to meet bad debts, made up as follows:—

Balance of profits from 1873	$ 26,290.53
From profits for 1874	188,709.47
,, Reserve Fund.....	900,000.00
	$ 1,115,000.00

This compares very unfavourably with the result of business in 1866, when, with a capital of $3,000,000, the profits were $690,975.54, or over 23 per cent; or in 1871, when $705,785.85 were earned, with an average capital of $4,250,000, or over 16 per cent.; but the Bank has of late been extraordinarily unfortunate, and when trade recovers, as it must do some day, we see no reason why it should not, with its excellent business connection, under proper management, again pay good dividends.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company.—The market opened at 111 cash, *cum* December dividend. and the shares reached, in March, 121½ cash, and 127 for 31st August. Afterwards the price gradually fell to 80 on 31st December.

The net profits for the year were...	184,823.96
over 8 per cent. on the capital.	
Dividends amounting to 7 per cent. were paid	157,500.00
Leaving to be carried to reserve ...	27,323.96

The reserve fund now stands at 650,803.63, being nearly 29 per cent. on the capital.

Competition with the China Navigation and the China Merchants' Companies depressed this stock; but now that an arrangement has been made with the former to run amicably on the river, the prospects of the Company are again good. The Directors have been impressed with the advantages of iron steamers over wooden ones, and are gradually replacing these by those.

China Coast Steam Navigation Company.—In February, shares on which Tls. 65 had been paid up, were sold at Tls. 57, and advanced to 62½ on 7th March, but afterwards declined to 50 on 22nd September. A call of Tls. 20 per share was made in October. The closing quotation was 73.

The net profits for 1874 were (over 22% on paid up capital)	77,399.28
Dividend 10%	34,800.00
Carried to reserve	42,599.28
The reserve fund now stands at (14.7% on capital)	62,522.10

If it were not handicapped by having to contend against a Company subsidized by Government, this Company would be very successful. Even as it is, it promises much. There is a want of confidence in steamer shares, in consequence of competition, and the stock is probably depreciated on that account. The

steamers are nearly all quite new, and therefore economical. The Directors are increasing the fleet. A new steamer is expected shortly.

Union Steam Navigation Company (in Liquidation.)—These shares were sold at 70 in February, and fell to 55 in May. A return of Tls. 50 per share was made in September, and the shares were quoted 21 on 31st December. The ultimate value of these shares depends on the result of the *Ava-Rona* case, still pending in Hongkong.

North-China Steamer Company (in Liquidation.)—On 13th February shares were sold at Tls. 40, and on 15th August at Tls. 4. In December, the price was 7 to 8. The Company cannot be wound up until the *Yuentzefee* is sold. It is probable that shares, costing Tls. 100, will realize little or nothing.

Shanghai Dock Company.—Shares were done at 205 on 4th January, and a similar rate was steadily maintained throughout the year.

The net profits were (4.9% on capital)	10,785.89
Dividends (4%)	8,800.00
To reserve	1,985.89

The reserve fund now stands at Tls. 3,904.68, which is available to meet the cost of whatever Landlords' repairs the Dock may require. The Old Dock was leased for 5 years from 1st July, 1872, to 30th June, 1877, at a rental of Tls. 9,200 per annum, payable half-yearly on 30th September and 31st March. At the last meeting of the Company it was agreed to extend the lease for 10 years more, at the same rent. This Dock has been lengthened by the tenants at their own expense. The New, or Lower, Dock is leased from 1st July, 1872 to 30th June, 1887, at a yearly rental of Tls. 1,800, payable half-yearly on 30th September and 31st March. The river silted up opposite the entrance to the Dock, to remove which, and put the Dock in working order, would have cost at least Tls. 20,000. The Company was not in a position to spend such a sum, and there being no demand for the Dock at the time, the land was leased to the present tenants. They have filled up the Dock, and are bound before July of this year to erect, on the land, buildings costing at least Tls. 7,000, (exclusive of the cost of filling up the Dock,) and to keep them in tenantable repair, which buildings become the property of the Landlords at the expiry of the lease. The income of the Company is thus secured until 1887.

Pootung Dock Company.—The market opened at 95, and the price declining during the year, closed at 85. The accounts stand thus:—

Available balance from 1873	209.74
Net profits for 1874	9,708.57
Dividends 10%	9,400.00
Available balance to 1875	518.31

This Dock was originally leased to the tenants of the Old Dock, from 6th December, 1872, to 30th September, 1876, at a yearly rental of Tls. 10,000, clear of all taxes, and payable half-yearly in advance. At last meeting of the Company it was agreed to grant an extension of the lease for 10 years, on the same terms, the tenants having the option of terminating the lease on 30th September, 1881. The income of the Company is, therefore, certain until that date.

Shanghai Gas Company.—Shares were sold in February at 139, and advanced to 145 in June. They were sold in December at 144. Dividends amounting to 11 per cent. have been paid for 1874. The report has not yet been published. The shares in this Company have maintained a similar high value since 1871. They appear to to be a steady, safe, investment.

Compagnie du Gaz.—The shares were quoted 63 in January, and gradually advanced during the year, closing at 70. Dividends amounting to 11 per cent. were paid. Like Shanghai Gas shares, these have remained at a high price. The Municipality are the Company's best customers, and if they succeed in annulling their agreement with the company, which it seems the Council wishes to do, it will entail loss on the shareholders.

North China Insurance Co., 1872-74.—The price was 400 in January, and advanced to 410 in March. They were quoted 365 *ex* dividend of Tls. 60 in March) on 31st December. The latest published account is to 30th June last. At that date the

Premia collected was	2,071,950.52
Losses paid	1,022,842.32
Net profits	897,312.49

that is 299 per cent. on the paid up capital in 2½ years. Out of this had been paid

As dividend	258,038.63
Carried to reserve	221,961.37
Leaving at cr. of working account.	417,312.49

The shareholders have since received a dividend of Tls. 300, making in all Tls. 460 and 12 per cent. on contributions. When the history of our local institutions comes to be written, this Company will occupy a prominent place in it.

Yangtsze Insurance Association.—Business was done in January at 710, (*cum* Dec. dividend), and 670 (ex dividend). The price advanced to 710 in March, but afterwards declined. It was 610 in December. Dividends amounting to 15 per cent. were paid to the shareholders in 1874, and the contributors for 1872-73 received a return of 22 per cent. on premia. The reserve on 30th September, 1873, the date of the last account, stood at Tls. 200,000—33⅓ per cent. on the capital. The shares in this association will probably not rise much in value, because, after paying the Shareholders 15 per cent. interest on capital, the balance of profits is distributed among contributors of business.

China and Japan Marine Insurance Co.—The market opened at 93, advanced to 105 in April, and then gradually declined, closing in December at 78. The last balance-sheet, dated 30th June last shews:

At reserve	Tls. 52,000.00
At working account	51,663.70
	Tls. 103,663.70

Up to 15th October, there were claims paid or pending amounting to 92,000. against which Tls. 62,000 of premia had been collected. A return of 11 per cent. on premia was made to contributors during 1873. This Company has suffered much from exceptionally heavy losses, and consequently must find it difficult to compete with the other local offices in returns on contributions. To its own action, in commencing the system of paying to contributors of business a certain proportion of the profits, this state of things is however in great measure due.

Chinese Insurance Company.—Business was done in January at 187 (*cum* December dividend), and the price advanced to 203 in April. It was 190 in September, and 200 in December. Interest at 12 per cent. was paid to shareholders for 1874, and 23 per cent. to contributors for 1873. The accounts for 1874 have not yet been published. After payment of 12 per cent. interest to shareholders two-thirds of the profits of the Company will be returned to contributors of premia. This measure is necessary in order to secure business. The value of these shares, therefore, is not likely to increase much for some time.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company.—The price of these shares was 558 to 560 in January (*cum* December dividend), and 500 in February, (ex dividend). Rates fluctuated a little during the year, and at its close the quotation was 550. The accounts shew:

At reserve	451,774.00
At working account 1874	233,784.87
	$685,558.87

over 171 per cent. on paid-up capital. A dividend for 1873, of $51.75 per share (25.875 per cent.), and a return of 23.94 per cent. on contributions, were paid to shareholders on 24th ultimo. This Company, being able to make such large returns on contributions, must continue to compete successfully with home offices, and do a large business. Its losses have hitherto been very small.

Victoria Fire Insurance Company.—Business began at 116 in January, and the price advanced to 126 in June. It reached 129 in November, and 126 on 31st December. The accounts shew:—

At reserve	$ 179,821.83
At working account, 1874	50,275.48
	$ 230,097.31

or 76.7 per cent. on paid up capital. Interest at 12 per cent. was paid to shareholders for 1874: and for 1873, dividends of 4¼ per cent. on capital, and of 15 per cent. on contributions, have since been paid.

China Fire Insurance Company.—Shares were done at 128 in January, and the rate gradually advanced to 137 in October. The closing rate was 134. The balance sheet shews:—

At reserve	$ 248,614.30
At working account, 1874	69,870.39
	$ 318,484.69

or 79.62 per cent. on paid up capital. Interest at 12 per cent. for 1874, has been paid to shareholders, and 14.87 per cent. on their contributions for 1873. The premia collected by this Company, and by the Victoria Fire Insurance Company, have been decreasing. This might be anticipated, when we note the fact that home offices take risks at similar rates, and make a return of 20 per cent. when the premium is paid.

Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company.—Shares were sold in January at 120 cash, and 124 for 30th April. Rates gradually declined to 81 on 10th December, but advanced to 90 by the end of the year.

Net profit for 1874 (6.71% on capital)	14,429.16
Dividend 5%	10,750.00
To reserve	2,872.98

This Wharf has not realised, of late, the good prospects with which it started,

Competition and dull business have combined to depress its earnings. If the proposed amalgamation with the Wharves under the management of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. is carried out, there is every prospect, however, of a successful future.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 5th February arrived on the 21st inst. by the P. & O. str. *Khiva*.

The American mail of the 15th Feb. arrived yesterday by the P. M. steamer *Oregonian*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. str. *Avoca*.

The following telegrams have been received from Reuter's during the week.

Mitchell re-elected for Tipperary, by an overwhelming majority over Moore.

The University Boat Race has been won by *Oxford*, by 4 lengths.

The Prince of Wales will [illegible] November.

The French Assembly has adjourned till the 11th May.

Obituary.—Comte de Jarnac, French Ambassador at London.

The Consistory made six new Cardinals, including Manning; and ten Bishops.

Obituary.—Field-Marshal Sir William Gomm.

Undeffret elected President of the French Assembly.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Rowing Club was held on Monday. The report and accounts for the past year, which represented the affairs of the Club as flourishing, were passed unanimously.—Four of the old committee, Messrs. D. Glass, Haselwood, Fuller and Muller were re-elected to that office, and Mr. Batt was elected on the committee, and also as Captain of the Club, in the place of Mr. R. W. Little, who has gone home.—Several interesting topics were discussed, and resolutions carried, the chief of which was for the proposed removal of the upper boat-house, which has become inconvenient through the silting up of mud.

A meeting was held at the Club on Friday, to consider a proposal for the establishment of a Drag Hunt Club. Mr. A. J. How was voted to the chair; and the following were present—Messrs. Howie, J. B. Irving, J. J. Keswick, W. V. Drummond, P. Moller, A. Milsom, G. F. Goodfellow, W. Wulff, A. Hinckley, J. E. Waller, A. R. Burkill, S. Daly, G. A. Lindsay, A. McLood, T. Nelson, H. W. Daniel, E. H. Gore-Booth, F. Reid, and D. Brand. A preliminary meeting had been held on the 19th February, at which a provisional committee were elected, by whom a code of rules had been drawn up, Mr. Howie acting as hon. secretary. The Chairman, in opening the business of the present meeting said the intention was to start with forty members, who had already been obtained, and that new members would be proposed, seconded, and ballotted for in the ordinary way. A pack of sixteen couples of hounds would be got out from home, and placed at first under the care of a native huntsman, but it was thought likely, for various reasons, that the services of a foreign huntsman would be necessary. Some other details were mentioned, amongst which were the erection of suitable kennels (for which a site had been obtained on the premises of Messrs. Crofts and Sewjee), the cost of maintenance of the hounds, &c., all of which were explained satisfactorily. It was asked if the proposed new hunt would interfere with the Paper Hunt Club, to which a reply was given that no interference could result, and that the Paper Hunt would be maintained as usual.—On the motion of Mr. Daly, seconded by Mr. Burkill, the following were elected as the permanent committee of the Drag Hunt, Messrs. Drummond, Burkill, How, Howie, and Keswick.—The rules as drawn up by the provisional committee, were agreed to, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A verbatim report of the speeches made at the Saint Patrick's dinner on the 17th inst., will be found on another page.

The usual fortnightly entertainment given by the Shanghai Temperance Society [illegible] numerously attended. Mr. C. P. Blethen occupied the chair. The programme was varied and pleasing, and everything passed off satisfactorily. We hear that the Committee of the Society are already considering the question of finding other suitable premises; the present building being required in the autumn, for Municipal purposes. There is some talk of erecting a hall, to afford the same kind of accomodation, and be conducted similarly to the present one. The general feeling among the members is that this would be the best course to pursue, if the somewhat difficult problem of funds could be solved—and of this there seems little doubt.

The Municipal Reports which we print to-day have more than usual interest. The questions of encroachment on the Yang-king-pang creek, and of the cost of bridges over that pellucid stream, have been occupying the attention of the two Councils. The first is to be submitted to the arbitration of Messrs. Medhurst and Godeaux. The second is at a deadlock.

The election of members to the Municipal Council will take place on the 6th and 7th proximo. Nomination papers have been circulated, and are to be returned to the Council room not later than 4 p.m. of the 29th instant.

Judgment was delivered yesterday in the U. S. Consular Court, in the case Municipal Council *v.* W. H. Fogg, in favour of the plaintiffs. A full report of the evidence and arguments will be found on another page. The text of the decision will be given in our next issue.

On Tuesday afternoon, a launch took place at Messrs. S. C. Farnham and Co.'s lower yard, of a very fine steam yacht. Her length is 78 feet, 12 feet beam and depth 11ft. 6in. She is built with Malava framing and Teak planking and decks, and is designed either for pleasure or service. The guards, which project about two feet from the side, give a clear passage all round. The cabins (three in number) viz., Saloon, Ladies' Cabin, and forward Saloon, are well ventilated and are to be handsomely fitted with teak, walnut, and white woods, relieved with mouldings of white and gold which, with red plush upholstery, will produce a pleasing effect. The mast, funnel and wheel house are so constructed that they can be lowered at any moment, thereby increasing her value for up-country service—whenever permission to run steamers up-country may be given. Her engines are 12-inch high pressure; 15 H.-P. nominal, working up to 45 H.-P. Her bunkers can contain sufficient coal for 5 to 6 days steaming, day and night. The little vessel was christened *Lillie*, by Miss Blethen, who dashed a bottle of crystal water against the bows as she started from the ways.

A match at bowls between the Senior and Junior alleys was played off on Monday and Tuesday. The Seniors won all four games on their own alleys, and the first on the Junior alleys—thus scoring the five out of eight without interruption. The usual annual challenge match between the two Clubs is likely to be played in the autumn.

We [illegible] a parade of all arms of the S. V. C. is to be held on Tuesday next. Easter Monday would have been a good day, as a general holiday, but that it is likely many men will be away up country. Even Tuesday, however, will be an off day; and if the Stores would close an hour earlier, as they have kindly done on one or two previous occasions, it would enable the parade to be called at 4 p.m., and give time for some good drill, after the marching past which is to form a leading feature in the programme.

It is satisfactory to know that recruiting for the S.V.C., both horse and foot, has been brisk of late. No. 1 Rifle Co. has been considerably reinforced, and the recruits have been drilling actively. The roll of the Rangers, too, has been raised to 27, and some 17 of these were out for drill on Saturday afternoon.—We have always said there is no reason why Shanghai should not be able to boast a Volunteer corps five hundred strong, and we would like to see the present rate of enlistment continue till that number is made up.

M. Rémusat gave another Concert in the Masonic Hall on Tuesday. The programme was a particularly interesting one, comprising a Symphony by Haydn, an Overture by Kalliwoda, a charming song for Soprano, and a variety of other good things too numerous to mention. Perhaps the most interesting number of all was Balfe's famous Rose Song from *Il Talismano*, the last composition of the gifted Irish *Maestro* whose genius extorted recognition from one of the speakers at the late St. Patrick's dinner.

Although the time for holding the first Shanghai Horticultural Show is somewhat distant, considerable interest is already felt in its success, and it is hoped that, in accordance with the announcement, there will be numerous exhibitors of flowers, fruit, shrubs, &c., "whether grown by themselves or by others, and whether grown in Shanghai, or imported from elsewhere." This is an excellent arrangement, as giving the Show a much wider scope than it would otherwise have; and, added to the rule that contributors may exhibit without competing for prizes, should go a long way towards helping to complete

the exhibition. Given fine weather, a few pleasant hours among flowers and music may be certainly anticipated.

A Reuter's telegram informs us that the tide of success in the University boat-race has at last turned. Oxford won on Saturday, by four lengths.

A mob of very good looking griffins was offered for sale at the Horse Bazaar on Saturday, and realized prices ranging from Tls. 40 to Tls. 165. Only one pony reached the top figure; the others sold ranged from Tls. 90 downwards.

It is reported, we believe on good authority, that Mr. W. Kaye, who was formerly manager of the Chartered Bank in Shanghai, has been appointed sub-manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in London.

Mr. Alabaster left on Tuesday for Hankow, to take over charge of the British Consulate from Mr. Hughes, who goes home on leave.

The French Gas Co. refuse to lower the price of gas; so the French Council purpose submitting their contract with the Company, to a lawyer at Saigon, for his interpretation.

A Peking correspondent mentions a rumour that Mr. and Mrs. Wade are to leave soon for Shanghai, and that Mrs. Wade is likely to pursue her way to England.

Announcements are made, that the British Consulate will be closed to public business on Friday and Monday next; the Municipal Council Offices on Friday and Saturday; the Supreme Court on Friday, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, and the Imperial Customs on Good Friday only.

A Tientsin correspondent complains of delay in delivery of the *Appin's* mails on her last voyage. 24 hours after she had been in port, he got some newspapers and letters; some time afterwards, two more newspapers and another letter. The fault is clearly understood to lie with the ship and not with the agents; and it is hoped that a hint may be given to the officers to be a little more prompt in sending ashore the letters and papers which the agents kindly allow to be carried.

A Chinese barber went into a opium shop in the Fukien road, on Friday, and after he had sat there a little while, blood was seen issuing from his mouth and neck. One of the other natives in the shop ran to the Louza Police station, and gave information that the man was sick. On assistance arriving, it was found that he had cut his throat with a knife, inflicting a shocking wound. As quickly as possible, he was removed to the Gutzlaff hospital, but died soon after his admission. No reason has been given for the suicide.

The steamer *Fusiyama* came into collision with an empty cargo-boat yesterday, while steaming up the river abreast of the Soochow creek. The boat was cut in two, but the crew, a boy and a man, were saved by the steamer's people. The accident was caused by the carelessness of the boat people, who insisted in attempting to cross the vessel's bow, although warned not to do so.

The well known yacht, *Phantom*, has been sold at auction for Tls. 176. Mr. C. P. Blethen was the purchaser.

Captain Wilson, of the ship *Champion of the Seas*, reports that in Lat. 27° 43 S. and Long. 28° 33′ W., he sighted a dismasted ship, and on nearing her discovered what remained of the name was, "*The Found—Liver.*" (? The *Foundling*, of Liverpool). The vessel was on fire, and Captain Wilson estimates that there were some 400 tons of coal in a fierce glow, still in the hold. Every particle of woodwork had been destroyed, and her sides were nearly red hot, emitting steam as she rolled in the sea-way. A bright look-out was kept for any of the crew who might be in boats or on rafts, but no sign of them was seen, and it is believed that they must have been picked up, as they and the ship were directly in the track of vessels. There can hardly be any doubt as to the name of the unfortunate vessel, and we may add that Captain Wilson knew her, she having left Liverpool a few days previous to the *Champion of the Seas*.

We are glad to hear that news has been received of the safe arrival of the str. *Calabar* at Singapore, which she appears to have reached on the 26th February. She left Suez, we believe, on the 2nd December; and the *London and China Express* of the 29th January, says she had not, up to that date, been heard of, and the premium on her at Lloyd's had risen to 60 *a* 80 guineas. It seems, however, that she was heard of, from the Indian Coast, a very few days later. A telegram was received here from London on the 7th February, announcing her arrival at Cochin; and a private letter has since arrived from Aleppey, on the Malabar coast (dated 5th February), giving news of her at that port. We quote the passage, which will interest our readers:—"I had quite a surprise a few days ago. Captain Hutchinson, formerly of the *Rona* but now in command of the *Calabar*, put in here, or rather drifted in, short of coal and provisions. * * * * Of course he came to the wrong place to buy coal, as we never use such things here, but he managed to get some from Cochin, a little up the Coast. He is expected back to-day, with the coal, and I suppose the steamer will leave as soon as it is on board." As we have said above, the *Calabar* has since reached Singapore, where, we gather from the *Hongkong Times*, she is now undergoing repairs. On the whole, Captain Hutchinson must have had rather a cheerful passage, and will have some curious experiences to relate.

Several changes are spoken of as likely to occur among the officials of this province. We hear that the brother of the late Tseng Kwo-fan, named Tseng-Kwo-tsün 曾國荃, has been appointed Viceroy of the two Kiang, 兩江總督. The present acting-Viceroy 劉坤一 is to go back to Kiangse as Futai.—The Futai of this province has appointed 松亭 Sung-ting to be the Che-hien of Shanghai. The present Che-hien, named 葉廷眷, will shortly be promoted. That a man who has distinguished himself by inflicting more torture than any other magistrate who has lately held the post, should be leaving on any terms, is a subject for congratulation.—We also hear that the late acting-Futai of Kwang-tung 郭嵩壽 is to be the Chief justice of Fokhien.

An edict in the Gazette of the 28th February reveals a curious custom, that every Emperor, on ascending the Throne incribes a tablet to be suspended in the temple of Confucius at Kueh-li.—The present representative of the Sage's family apparently comes to Peking, to carry back the token of Imperial grace.

In the Peking Gazette of the 25th Feb., a Censor attacks the system of purchase of office. There can be little doubt that the system is pregnant with abuse. If the neglect of men who have taken degrees, in favour of outsiders, meant simply a growing recognition of the inadequacy of the present examinations as a test, and an effort to introduce good men without regard to classical knowledge—we should be the first to applaud the change. But it is to be feared that only in few cases does this principle guide the selection. Too many are, as the Censor points out, cases of rank speculation, in which the purchaser relies on the profits of office to re-imburse him for his outlay in buying a post. A system of purchase of office is, in fact, certain to produce corruption.

The TIENTSIN Customs difficulty appears to be in *statu quo*. Particulars will be found on another page.

Messrs. Spencer, Wolff & Co. write from CHINKEANG, on the 22nd March:—"An active business has been transacted in Cotton Goods since the date of our last, especially in 8¼-lb. Grey Shirtings, the imports of which, though heavy, have not been in excess of the demand. An improvement is also noticeable in the demand for the finer makes of Mexican T-Cloth.—Sandalwood, quiet; Iron, dull."

The HANKOW Chamber of Commerce Circular of the 20th March, says the Import market has somewhat improved since the date of the last circular, both as regards demand and price; transactions however, have principally been confined to Grey Shirtings and T-Cloths.—25,000 pieces of Grey Shirtings have changed hands during the fortnight, of which 22,000 pieces are 8¼-lbs.; and the price of this weight has advanced fully a candareen per piece for best chops.—Messrs. Gordon Bros'. Circular says, Raw Cotton has declined to Tls. 11 per picul for Shanghai growth. Market, quiet; Stock, about 30,000 piculs.

Our NEWCHWANG correspondent writes (on the 2nd March):—"We have had no mail from Chefoo since the one which left that place on the 2nd January, and fear the messenger has either been lost in crossing the Gulf, or that the bags have been pillaged on the way. As a band of robbers is officially reported to have been on the southern road during February, the latter contingency is not unlikely. Geese are flying over, which is a good sign for spring, but the thr. still marks 10° at night, and we have occasional falls of snow. There is not any business doing to boast of, but natives are purchasing pulse and oil for shipment when the port opens, so that we may look for good freights."

Summaries of NAGASAKI and Hongkong news will be found in the usual place.

Editorial Selections.

THE TIENTSIN DEADLOCK.

It is still by no means clear what was the real origin of the late dead-lock at Tientsin;—whether the Taotai really intended to levy *li-kin* duty on foreign goods on their arrival, and retired before the storm of opposition; or whether the Chinese merchants misunderstood or misrepresented his action, in order to enlist the aid of foreigners in fighting the Native produce battle. The Taotai repudiates the intention attributed to him, but the Chinese appear to be hardly yet satisfied. Shipments of foreign goods from Shanghai are still suspended; and an apprehension is said to prevail that, although the attempted levy on the spot is abandoned, the purpose is entertained of collecting a $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *li-kin* duty at the first barrier outside Tientsin. There is, however, no distinct evidence on either side, unless we take the Taotai's proclamation to be such. There certainly is not, in the version which has reached us, any mention of foreign goods, and he has since emphasized the distinction. But it is quite possible, on the other hand, that the Chinese have known how to read between the lines; and it does seem strange that so much excitement should have arisen on a simple misconception. Perhaps the very fact of this excitement may be taken as better evidence than the Taotai's language. The question is, however, as we have said before, purely one of inference; and opposite conclusions will very probably be drawn, by different readers, from such facts as we have before us.

What is clear, is the action taken in regard to native goods; and a third proclamation, which we publish on another page, states the Taotai's purpose in their regard, even more explicitly than the two former ones. When Chunghow was Superintendent of trade at Tientsin, he ordered that, after Chinese merchants had paid duty at the Foreign Custom House on Native goods imported by foreign vessels, they should go (on the same day) to the Native Custom House and pay certain other taxes; and the mode of procedure was to be this. On payment of the duty at the Foreign Customs, certificates in triplicate are prepared. One of these is retained on file for reference, one is filed in the Taotai's yamen, and the third is handed to the merchant, who is to repair with it to the Native Customs and pay duty upon the goods it represents. The Taotai has however discovered that, since he came into office, there have been issued about 1,000 certificates, of which no entry has been made at the Revenue Office. Obviously, he concludes, the duties have been evaded to this extent. What he purposes doing now, is to send round to each merchant's office a messenger, with a file of these certificates, who will require, in each case, proof that the requisite duty has been paid; and, on the 27th March, all goods upon which taxes have not been paid are to be reported for payment of arrears. If evasion is still persisted in after this notice, the delinquent will be made to feel the full rigor of the law.

We have suggested, above, that the Chinese are well able to read between the lines of official documents, and it may be that their apprehension of having to account for foreign imports as well as native, was well founded. It is possible, on the other hand, that they have imagined a vain thing.—What however they have very certainly understood, is that the Taotai is doing his utmost to scrape in all the money he can, before his term of office expires. He took over charge only in June, and he is to vacate office in favour of a new incumbent, about the end of March. Hence this energy! As much hay as possible must be made while the sun is yet shining. What appears equally clear is, that the duties levied at the Foreign Custom House are not at all regarded as a substitute for the Native Customs dues. They are simply an additional squeeze, for the benefit of the Imperial exchequer. The Chinese Custom House has to be satisfied all the same, and claims, under the name of *li-kin*, the duties it used to levy under a simpler name. Take the following paragraph in the Taotai's first proclamation, for example: "Since the opening of Foreign Commerce, native goods, coming formerly by internal routes, now arrive by sea, and the Hukwan (Native Customs) at present depends entirely on *li-kin* duties to make up the deficiency in its proper duty receipts." In other words, the revenue levied at the Foreign Custom House does not go into the provincial exchequer, and provincial Mandarins resort to *li-kin* to satisfy the void caused in their income by the transference of duties from the Inland to the Foreign Custom House. Have we not, here, one explanation of the pertinacious adherence to *li-kin*, in spite of the restoration of peace? Of the disastrous effect which these excessive exactions are having on the trade of China, we have complained often enough. But we cannot help inferring that the fragmentary attempt (made in the case of the Customs) to centralise revenue without centralising expenditure, may have something to do with the difficulty. It is quite likely that the *li-kin* taxes have been evaded at Tientsin, as the Taotai says; but the oppressive total of the duties levied on trade must be considered responsible for such evasions.

INDIAN TEA.

In a Blue Book on East Indian Products, which was published a short time back, we find a very interesting sketch of the history of tea in Assam, by Mr. Campbell, Assistant-Commissioner of Burpetta, from which we condense the following particulars. The first knowledge of the existence of the tea plant in its indigenous state, in the Assam territory, appears to have been obtained by two brothers, named Bruce, when trading in the country before its annexation. The younger of the two, Mr. C. A. Bruce, was appointed in 1824 to command a division of gunboats in Upper Assam, during the progress of hostilities with Burmah, and in 1826 he brought down certain plants and seed which were identified as belonging to the tea of commerce. No immediate advantage seems to have been taken of the discovery, but when in 1834 the Indian Government appointed a Tea Committee, to mature and carry out a plan for introducing the culture of the plant into such parts of the British possessions as might be found suited for it, the Commissioner of Assam at once brought to its notice the fact that the tea shrub had been found indigenous, through a tract of country extending from Suddyah in our territory to the Chinese frontier province of Yünnan. The Committee investigated the matter, and established nurseries, &c.; and about the same time, a supply of Chinese tea seed and young plants was imported, both being found to succeed well in the soil of Upper Assam. From various causes, chiefly owing to the difficulty of communicating with Calcutta and the total ignorance which then prevailed on all points connected with the cultivation of the plant and the manufacture of tea, the operations of the Committee proceeded but slowly. In 1837, however, tea-makers and artisans from China were introduced, and some consignments of tea which were sent home turned out so well that a company, afterwards styled the Assam Company, was formed, to which, shortly after, two-thirds of the Government establishment, gardens and nurseries, were made over. The Company carried on its operations with great vigour, and the tea sent home was all that could be desired; but, nevertheless, says Mr. Campbell, the undertaking in a few years began to be looked upon as a commercial failure, and about 1847 the shares fell nearly to zero. The causes of this unsatisfactory state of things were probably of a two-fold nature:—(1) an undue importance was attached to the localities where the indigenous plant was found growing; and (2) the establishments maintained were on a most expensive scale, and out of proportion to the resources of the Company: their affairs, however, shewed a material improvement in 1852. The first private garden of any importance in Assam was commenced in 1850 or 1851, and afterwards private enterprise began to make headway. Previous to 1853, grants of waste lands had been made on no regular system, and this probably stood in the way of the development of the country. The subject was officially investigated, and a set of rules, which came to be known subsequently as the Waste Land Rules of 1854, was promulgated. During the next five years, tea-planting continued to make steady progress, and gradually found its way into all the districts of Assam; by the end of 1859, there had sprung up no less than fifty-one tea gardens, all owned by private individuals. Meanwhile, however, the Assam Company had remained the only corporate body in the field, and by 1858 its early difficulties had been almost forgotten, its shares were at a high premium, and those of its factories which had been closed during its period of financial depression, had been again reopened. From 1859 to 1863 tea-planting continued to advance with rapid strides, and yet maintained a healthy state; several joint-stock companies were formed for the purchase of private gardens, and were managed on prudent and sound principles. The success of the earlier companies, however, and the large sums which in some instances had been paid by them for private gardens, engendered in time a dangerous spirit of speculation; and, from 1863 to about the end of 1865, a rush took place to

secure waste lands, to bring them partly under nominal cultivation, and then to dispose of them at enormous profits to newly formed companies. Much dissatisfaction having arisen in regard to the Resumption Clauses of the Waste Land Rules of 1854, eventually, about the end of 1861, a new set of rules was promulgated, by which it would appear that the sale outright of land in fee-simple was allowed. A very important feature in these rules was that no lot should be sold, unless it had been previously surveyed. Unfortunately this rule was not adhered to, and the consequences were most disastrous. As if to facilitate the operations of wild speculators, district officers were authorised to sell lots of land on a rough pen-and-ink sketch made of them by the applicants? The most reckless speculation was thus practically encouraged, into the details of which it is unnecessary to enter here; and the action of the speculators tended to produce such a scarcity of local labour as to effect prejudicially the operations of *bonâ fide* tea concerns. Next came the difficulties of the coolie trade, the cry on all sides during the tea mania being "Labour, more labour." Then, when speculation had run its course, a depression in tea, similar to that of 1846, but on a far larger scale, took place, and again the popular impression pointed to tea-planting itself as in fault; thus a depreciation in tea property of all kinds prevailed during 1866, 1867, and 1868, as unreasonable as the previous infatuation and blind belief in its extraordinary value. Matters took a more favourable turn in 1869, owing to the fact that most of the old tea gardens, under careful management, had stood the test to which they had been put during the three preceding years, and were still profitably worked; the quality of the tea, too, which had fallen off during the mania for speculation, improved greatly, and, in consequence, the tea found a ready sale in the Calcutta and home markets.

"As a commercial undertaking," observes Mr. Campbell, "tea-planting possesses features of a remarkably favourable nature. With suitable sale and good management, the average yield of an acre of tea-plant, in full bearing, may be reckoned at 400lbs., which, if carefully prepared, would in the English market fetch about £40. The cost of forming a plantation, of cultivating it when formed, and manufacturing the tea, is high; nevertheless, with proper and careful management, a very satisfactory margin of profits can be reckoned on." He goes so far as to say that, to any person with even so small capital as two or three thousand pounds, tea-planting would prove a most profitable undertaking. The revival of confidence in tea-planting has been extending slowly but steadily, and at the date of Mr. Campbell's report, the prospects of the industry were thought to be better and brighter than they had ever been before.

In conclusion, we quote the following figures to shew the advance which has been made in cultivation and out-turn since 1850. In that year, one estate, with 1,876 acres under cultivation, yielded 216,000 lbs. of tea; while in 1871, there were 295 estates, under distinct proprietors, with 31,303 acres under cultivation, which yielded 6,251,143lbs. of tea.

MISSIONARY TROUBLES.

A correspondent informs us that the wave of Missionary trouble which made itself apparent recently in popular agitations in Kiangsu and Chekiang, has travelled down the coast. Difficulties more or less serious have occurred at Chinchew, at Swatow, and in Formosa. That at the city first named, arose through the efforts of the native Christians (aided by the foreign mission at Amoy, to which they owed church allegiance), to replace a rented building which had been used as a place of worship, by the purchase of a suitable property to be adapted permanently as a chapel. No difficulty was experienced in arranging the sale, nor, it would appear, up to the time when the consent of the authorities to the transfer was required. Alarm or antipathy, however, then roused the officials. They seized the vendor and middleman, and apparently regarding the latter as the guiltier because he had negotiated the transfer, they informed the Christians that unless they abandoned their object, and within a brief space gave up the title deeds which the native preacher had already received, the indiscreet broker should forfeit his head. How such a judicial murder could be glossed over, even in China, it is difficult to understand, and the course of the affair subsequently lends support to the opinion that it was never intended it should actually be perpetrated. The native preacher fell back on his foreign patrons, and these appealed to H. M. Consul at Amoy to use his influence on behalf of the unhappy Chinchew Christians, who were being "persecuted" and "interfered" with, not by a popular faction, but by their own officials, in flagrant opposition to Art. VIII. of the Treaty of Tientsin. The case is of such a nature that the Chinese authorities can hardly maintain the action they entered on, in face of the representations addressed to them, although we are unable to say as yet what may have been the effect of these representations.

The Swatow difficulty we have no particulars of, except that it was in connection with a body of American Missionaries; it was trifling in its nature, and Swatow being a treaty port, was settled on the spot.—The Formosa case was an attack made a few weeks ago on the Rev. Wm. Campbell, at a station about forty miles north of Taiwan, and at some distance from the coast. Mr. Campbell pursued his labours among the Pepohuans, a large proportion of whom in this district are in a state of serfdom to the more powerful Chinese colonists. One of the latter class, fearing probably that foreign teaching might induce among the people who were practically his slaves, some more exalted notions of their rights as members of the human family, gathered his Chinese followers around him, and made a descent on the little chapel, in which, according to the custom of their journeyings, Mr. Campbell was passing the night. The chapel was surrounded by men, armed with knives, spears, and torches, and the foreigner was invited to come out. He appeared at the door and spoke to the mob, but was driven back. Shielded by a cotton quilt, he again went out, but was again driven back, while the quilt was gashed in several places by blows aimed at him. The mob then flung torches into the building, and Mr. Campbell's position rapidly became untenable. He must have perished in the chapel, or fallen a victim to the mob which closely guarded the only means of exit, but fortunately his bloodthirsty guard had their attention momentarily diverted by a cry that the doorway was falling. They ran to the end of the building for safety, and Mr. Campbell unhesitatingly seized the opportunity to rush out into the darkness. He found a place of concealment at no great distance, but as the waving of torches in different directions showed that his escape had been discovered, he again sought safety in flight. He travelled all night, and in the morning, destitute, exhausted, and suffering from injuries received in the attack and during his flight, he made his way to the nearest yamen. Here he was afforded protection, and was assisted to reach Taiwanfoo. The chapel destroyed was an old structure, but at the same time the materials which had been brought together for building a new one were demolished. It is not improbable that, in all the cases, the active outbursts of latent opposition have followed on some such new display of the vitality of Missionary enterprise.

THE YANG-KING-PANG.

The Municipal Reports which we print on another page relate the negotiations that have been going on about that much vexed stream, the Yang-king-pang. The two Councils have agreed to submit the question of encroachment to the arbitration of the Consul-General for France and another member of the Consular body; and Mr. Godeaux and Mr. Medhurst have consented to act. It will be remembered that the encroachment took place in 1872, when the French Council bunded out their bank of the Yang-king-pang, several feet. Objection was made from this side; and an arrangement was come to in 1873 to submit the matter to arbitration, in the following form:—"Is the construction of the new Yang-"king-pang bund, between the rue Dis-"cry and the rue Touranne, under present "circumstances, an obstacle to the naviga-"tion of the Canal; or does it really "prejudice the interests of the bordering "land-owners?" For some reason or other, probably the illness of Mr. Johnston and the consequent changes in the Municipal staff, the matter then lapsed. It has since formed the subject of fresh discussion, and the old arrangement has been revived. The English Council suggested that the question whether there had been encroachment, was also one for the arbitrators; but this point the French Council concede. They raise, on the other hand, another point which is rather surprising. They contend that the assent of the English Council to the order of an iron bridge (to be placed opposite Honan road), of dimensions which are just sufficient for the present width of the two banks, has vitiated the Council's reclamation, and justified the French Council in considering the actual alignment definitive.

We cannot but think this plea had better be disposed of out of Court, by simply asking the Council whether they had such a meaning, in agreeing to the plans in question. The English Council declined to submit this point to arbitration, holding that it is, at best, only one for argument. —So it would seem the actual terms of arbitration have not been quite agreed on; though the project has been so, the arbitrators have been chosen, and both sides have pledged themselves to be bound by their decision.

The Yang-king-pang difficulties, however, do not end here. When the English Council declined to halve, for the future, the proceedings of the wheelbarrow-tax, the French Council declined in their turn to halve the cost of the Yang-king-pang bridges. Just as the English Council held ⅓ and ⅔ to be a fair rate of division for the wheelbarrow-tax, so the French Council retired behind ⅓ and ⅔ as a fair division of the cost of bridges. The logic of this argument, however, not being very clear, the English Council declined in their turn "to entertain, further, "the project of a new bridge (between "the French and English bunds) or any "repairs to the old one, until it is agreed "that the cost shall be equally divided by "the two Municipalities." The French Council have replied to this letter also, by a proposal for arbitration. They decline to assume the responsibility of impeding, or even completely stopping some day or other, the traffic between the banks of the Yang-king-pang; and urge that inconvenience need not be caused to the community because the views of the Councils on a financial question happen to differ. They consider that the new bridge should be ordered out, and the question of sharing the cost be left to be settled hereafter; and they suggest that the Representatives of the British and French Governments, at Peking, be asked to arbitrate the question. The English Council decline the suggestion, holding that the matter is one completely within the discretion of the community to decide.—Here again the matter rests, so far as the present Minutes are concerned; and we shall look with interest for the next record.

We cannot, for our own part, see any connexion between the wheelbarrow and bridge questions. It is a fair assumption that the traffic over the Yang-king-pang bridges is nearly equal both ways. About as many people come into the English Settlement from the French, as go into the French Settlement from the English. If the efflux from hence were, to the influx, as ⅔ is to ⅓, the North side of the Yang-king-pang would very soon become a howling wilderness; and we have not yet noticed a perceptible decrease of population. The question as regards wheelbarrows is quite different; it is not how many barrows pass over the bridge—this again is probably about equal both ways, and if that were all, the French Council might fairly claim to have the fees evenly divided. The argument is, that at least twice as much wheelbarrow traffic happens over the large area of the English and Hongkew Settlements, as over the lesser area of the French; and that, as wheelbarrow traffic means wear and tear to roads, the revenues of the Northern Settlement are entitled to two thirds of the revenue as well as to bear two-thirds of this cost.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

Some of the Shanghai tribute grain junks arrived here this forenoon, the first of the season.—On the 14th, an English sailing vessel arrived, the third sailing craft of the season.—The French gunboat *Couleuvre* left here yesterday, for Saigon.—On the 12th we had rain from noon till after dark, our first rain at Tientsin this year; and since then the air has been mild and like spring weather.—Since the 11th instant, no wild-fowl have been seen, so I suppose they have all already gone North.

Nothing is yet known with certainty as to when the Governor-General may be expected back in Tientsin. The new Customs' Taotai is expected here every day from Kwangtung, of which he is a native. The Tientsin Chinese dealers have stored a large quantity of their late importations in the premises of the foreign firms of the British Settlement; from which we judge that the owners of the goods are not yet prepared to pay the Taotai's so-called Barrier dues or taxes on their goods, the produce of China. Perhaps they are waiting the arrival of the new Customs' Taotai, in the hope that he may return to the custom of payments of former years.

In regard to the disturbances in the district of Tsze-chow, all I have heard since last writing was that the people had taken to the hills or mountains with their families; which means, I fancy, to protect the latter against the Imperial forces. I cannot learn that the rising amongst the people of Tsze-chow is deemed a serious affair by the Government officials here. The powerful force which the Governor-General has at his command would soon put down any disaffected band in this province.

16th March.

Below is a translation of a third proclamation which has been issued by the Taotai in regard to the levy of *li-kin* taxes. It will be seen that he is thoroughly determined in the matter, and his persistency seems to be causing much uneasiness among the Chinese traders. Trade is almost completely unhinged; there is next to nothing doing, and no reliable quotations can be given. The merchants say that, if they comply with the Taotai's demand for the immediate payment of their dues, they have no guarantee against a second exaction when the new Taotai comes into office.

Tientsin, March 17th, 1875.

Sun, *Customs Taotai, &c. &c., issues the following Proclamation:—*

After duty has been paid at the Foreign Custom House by Chinese merchants on their native goods imported per foreign vessels, the triplicate Certificates then given should be taken the same day to the native Revenue office for payment of the taxes there. Such is the Regulation, as established by H. E. Chung-how, ex-Superintendent of Trade, after a Memorial to the Throne on the subject, as stated in my previous Proclamation.

Of the above-mentioned stamped triplicate Certificates, *one* is handed to the merchant that he may repair with it to the Revenue office; *one* is retained on file for reference in the Foreign Custom House, and *one* in the Customs Taotai's Yamên.

Now, from the month of July last to the time when the river closed, there were filed over 1,000 Certificates, of which entry had not been made at the Revenue office. No wonder the receipts of Revenue last year were so small and the total deficit so unusually large!

Those who evaded the taxes during those 6 months are liable to punishment according to law; but, out of compassion for the merchants, this penalty is graciously remitted. But in order that any hope to continue former practices may not be encouraged, explicit rules have now been made.

On the 22nd day of March, a reliable deputy will be sent from the Revenue office provided with a file of Triplicate Certificates, and he will visit each merchant to compare these certificates. If it is found that the taxes have been paid either by the merchant or his broker, the Certificates will be cancelled and no further taxes required on them. By the 27th March, all goods upon which taxes have not been paid, must be reported for payment of such arrears. Penalties will be imposed upon those who do not report within this fixed time.

This arrangement must be regarded as an exceptional favor. Punishment incurred for past evasions of the taxes is remitted, and goods which have already paid the taxes need not pay again. The examination now to be made, and the time allowed for payment of arrears, is no small privilege.

If any merchant persists in practising evasion or concealment instead of forsaking his errors, thus making light of what pertains to the Public Revenue,—such an one will be made to feel the rigor of the law and have no clemency shown him.

And that there may be no excuse for want of forewarning, this Proclamation is now issued for the information of all merchants, who must

Tremble and obey!

&c., &c.

We are all anxious to hear what you think, in Shanghai, of the Taotai's exploit. I hear H. E. is asking double duty on rattans, declaring they are 土貨 Chinese produce. The foreign godowns in the Settlement are filled with Chinamen's goods, so it would appear they are still not satisfied with the state of things."

20th March.

FORMOSA.

Some time in the month of January, two Chinese Military Officers, who were travelling down the coast in the direction of Lang-kiaou, were waylaid and murdered by the savages in the neighbourhood of the little village of Hongkong, at a spot where the road leaves the shore and ascends the side of the mountain, which there runs down to the very edge of the sea. A regiment or portion of a regiment of soldiers from the Province of Hunan has been quartered at Hongkong since the evacuation of the island by the Japanese; and upon it devolved the duty of avenging the murder of the two officers. Accordingly, early on the morning of the 13th of Feb. two hundred of these troops, under the command of a Captain Wang, marched into the mountains to attack the village of the offenders. They met with no resistance on the way up, and on arriving at the village found that its inhabitants had almost all decamped. Warning of what was impending must have been given to the savages by some of the Chinese traders who keep on friendly terms with them, and supply them with the manufactured articles that they require. The few savages that were found in the village, chiefly old men, women, and children, were all put to the sword, and the village itself was burnt. The homeward march was then commenced. The soldiers, em-

boldened by the absence of all signs of resistance and not apprehending any danger, descended the narrow winding valley in a long straggling line, not attempting to preserve any sort of order. After they had gone some distance, suddenly a large number of savages began firing upon them on all sides from the long grass and scrub through which the path passed. The Chinese continued their march as best they could, firing back upon the savages wherever the latter exposed themselves. A body of about twenty men were in immediate attendance on Captain Wang, acting, so to speak, as his body-guard. Some of these being terrified and attempting to run, he cut down one or two of them himself, and by this means steadied the others. At one place, where the path runs through a narrow gorge, several of the Chinese were killed by stones rolled down on to them from an overhanging rock. After the fight had lasted some time, Captain Wang was struck by a bullet, but was still able to proceed, leaning on one of his men. The savages, seeing the commander wounded, made a general rush from all sides upon his party; and in the hand to hand fight that ensued he was killed, after having slain more than one of the assailants with his own hand. The attacks of the savages did not cease till the remnant of the Chinese soldiers reached the edge of the plain. The loss sustained by the Chinese was ninety odd killed. That of the savages was estimated at about thirty.—*Daily Press.*

HONGKONG.

Sir Arthur Kennedy left for England on the 10th, and Mr. Austin has been sworn in as *ad interim* Governor.—Admiral Ryder arrived on the same day, in H.M.S. *Vigilant*.—The *Daily Press* understands that Mr. F. W. Mitchell, the Postmaster-General, will formally induct his successor into office on the 31st instant, and will proceed home *viâ* San Francisco in the Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking*.—A Rifle Match came off on the 10th, between eleven members of the Police and eleven sergeants of the 80th Regiment. The police won, 404 against 389 points.—At a sale of racing ponies, *Monitor* fetched $205 and *Tarantula* $125.—The rumour respecting the finding of the *Japan* is confirmed. The wreck was discovered, after a very long search on the part of boats engaged for the purpose, by the Captain of the schooner *Scotland*, on the 10th, in the neighbourhood of Cupchi point. The discovery was made by dredging, and was confirmed by a diver who was sent down for the purpose. The schooner is now moored over the wreck, which has also been properly buoyed.—The chief engineer of the *Glenartney* has committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart with a gun.—The U. S. S. *Hartford* has gone to Whampoa, where she will be stationed for a fortnight.—A cricket match between the men of the 80th Regt. and the Navy and Marines, was to be played on the 16th.—The annual Athletic Sports meeting has dropped through for want of entries.—On Sunday the 14th, the Right Revd. Dr. Raimondi conferred the order of deacon-ship on two Chinese, and the order of sub-deaconship on Mr. W. Cullen, of Kilkenny City, Ireland.—Chee Aking, the Chinese deliverer of newspapers at the *Hongkong Times* office, charged by Mr. H. I. Curtis with stealing eleven newspapers, has been sentenced to three months' hard labour.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says some very heavy snow storms have occurred in the interior. Between Shimonoseki and Hiroshima, the now accumulated to such an extent on he wires that its weight broke the line in more than 50 places, many of the poles being broken, especially at elbows.—The British str. *Ferntower*, which left Nagasaki on the 8th for Shanghai, had to put back, through bad weather encountered outside. For the first ten miles the weather was fine and sea smooth, after which the wind began to rise rapidly, blowing from N.E. About noon it freshened to a gale and continued increasing until about 1.30. The sea was heavy and like a boiling cauldron, sweeping the decks of the steamer. Several of the men were nearly washed overboard, and the chief officer had a very narrow escape. He was swept over the side of the vessel by the waves and then lifted and thrown back on the deck. The derricks and awning-booms were carried away, and one man injured very badly by the timber falling upon him. The fore-topsail was split, companion ladder carried away, and cabins completely flooded. The steamer was turned back, and when within ten miles of land the weather was quite fine and sea calm. Upon returning to port the Captain lightened the vessel by taking out a quantity of her cargo, (coal).—The British bark *Pride of the Thames* was wrecked on the Mitzues rocks during the night of the 7th March. The *Press* gives the following account of the wreck:—"On Saturday the 6th inst. about 7.30 p.m. we were towed out of the harbour bound to Yokohama with a cargo of coal. It was a fine night, with light Southerly winds. On Sunday the 7th, it came on to blow very hard from the Southward, accompanied with very thick weather, rain and a tremendous cross sea on. At 8 p.m. it was blowing a very heavy gale with thunder and lightning, and much rain; at each flash of lightning the land was distinctly seen ahead; wore ship. About 10.30 p.m. the ship struck on the Mitzues Rocks, and capsized immediately. All the boats were smashed, but we all succeeded,—with the exception of two, one European named John Hammond, Able Seaman, and a Japanese, who were drowned—in getting on shore by crawling along the main-mast which was at the time laying over the rocks. We were rescued from our precarious position about 10 a.m. the next morning, by a Nomo fishing boat, where we received much kindness from the hands of those on board." The bark is now a hopeless wreck; nothing is to been seen of her but her topmasts, her hull being completely submerged. The wreck has been sold at auction for $522.—The pilot schooner *Reindeer* drove on the Schuda rocks during the same gale, and suffered considerable damage.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Feb. 25th.—(1) A Decree announcing that, in celebration of his Majesty's accession, and in accordance with former precedent, an examination extraordinary for the bestowal of the *Kü-jên* degree is granted in all the provinces for the current year, to be followed by a similar examination extraordinary at Peking in 1876, for the bestowal of *tsin-sze* degrees.

(2) The Censor Yüan Ch'êng-yeh memorializes, urging a reform in the system of admission to the ranks of the public service. Whenever he takes up the quarterly official list, he is struck by perceiving that, of the district and department magistrates throughout the empire, 80 or 90 per cent. owe their positions to purchase, with only a fractional admixture of those who have gained degrees at the literary examinations. Moreover, in the selections to fill vacancies made by the Board of Civil Office, for which standard regulations are in force, it is nevertheless the fact that, owing to the vast number of "purchase" categories that have been created, forty or fifty purchase-candidates obtain appointments for every four or five of those that have the *tsin-sze* degree. After passing successfully at the triennial examinations at Peking, a *tsin-sze* may have to wait for ten years, and even longer, after being sent as an "expectant" to a Province, in consequence of the glut of officials to which the purchase system has contributed. The memorialist has observed in the *Gazette* representations from the governments of Sze-ch'wan, Yünnan, Fuhkien, and Chehkiang, in which either the cessation of the purchase system is advocated, or else the introduction of test examinations for purchase officers. If, as the Censor thinks probable, the present condition of the finances will not admit of an entire abolition of the system, he would at least urge the adoption of restrictive measures, among which he suggests the enforcement of ready-money payment in full for the brevets of rank subscribed for. He enumerates six advantages which may be expected to flow from such a course, among which are benefit to the exchequer, and a raising of the character of the service generally, by checking the prevailing tendency toward pecuniary aggrandizement by unworthy means.

(3) In a supplementary memorial, the same Censor urges the imposition of a rigorous check upon the system of extraordinary rewards for services performed, which has now reached such a pitch that for the discharge of the most ordinary duty commendation and promotion are looked for. He recommends that henceforward, except in the case of substantial achievements, none but honorary distinctions be granted.

Feb. 26th.—This day's *Gazette* contains only memorials on administrative details, from the Governor of Shantung.

Feb. 27th.—(Court Circular.) The Board of Ceremonies reported to-day the issue, for despatch to all the Provinces, of the Manifesto of His Majesty's accession. (N.B.—The Manifesto, being communicated to the Board of Ceremonies for publication, not to the Grand Secretariat for record, does not appear in the *Gazette*.)

Feb. 28th.—(Court Circular.) The Grand Secretariat memorialized on behalf of all the Government departments, returning thanks for the steps of honorary rank bestowed in the manifesto of accession.

(1.)—A decree in reply to a memorial by the secretary Wei Kang, presented to the Throne on his behalf by the Board of War, in which he has dilated upon the corruptions of the administrative service. The high authorities of all the Provinces are called upon to exert themselves in the work of energetic reform, to abolish the evils of intrigue and sycophancy, and to give advancement to the capable and the virtuous.

(2.)—An Edict. Whereas each of the Sacred Ones in succession, on first ascending the Throne, have reverently inscribed a tablet to be suspended in the Temple of Confucius, now We, on reverently taking up the august succession, ordain hereby, in respectful conformity to the ancient rule, that [the authorities] of the Imperial Library and the Han-lin College do reverently prepare an inscription consisting in the characters 斯文在茲 (the abode of Scholarship is here), and do deliver the same to the superintendency of the Works' Department, by whom a tablet shall be prepared and respectfully suspended in the Temple of Confucius, forming part of the Great College of Peking. On the arrival at Peking of [illegible] 孔祥坰, the Duke Continuator of the Sage, let the manuscript of [illegible] him by the Grand Council be conveyed back to [illegible] reverent carefulness, for the preparation of a tablet to be suspended

in the Temple of Confucius at K'üeh Li. The manuscript need not be returned, but may be preserved at K'üeh Li. Let facsimiles of the inscription be made by the Wu Ying Tien, and transmitted to be suspended in the Colleges of all prefectures, departments, and districts throughout the empire.

(3) The Censor Wang Yung-kwan memorializes, presenting his views on questions of the day, in pursuance of the Empresses' invitation of advice. The subjects on which he has opinions to express, are as follows. 1stly.—He advocates rectification of abuses in the Government service. Admission to the official career has been of late years so much facilitated, that the character of the service has suffered, and it is most desirable that a check be imposed to the system of favouritism, which prevails in the removal of functionaries from one jurisdiction to another, on the application of patrons in high position; as also that a restriction be placed on indiscriminate recommendations for promotion. 2ndly.—Restriction is called for in the number of degrees accessible at the literary examinations, these having been greatly augmented of late years, whereby the standard of qualification has been lowered. 3rdly.—A stop should be put to the exactions and oppression indulged in by unscrupulous underlings, on occasions when remissions of taxation are granted in times of flood or drought. 4thly.—Equitable collection of the grain revenue, in money or in kind, should be enforced. In actual practice, when collecting the grain revenue, the magistrates are accustomed to collect no more than one-third of the amount in kind, taking the remainder in money, but in doing this they exact an amount several times greater than the actual value of the rice, putting into their own pockets the difference between the sum collected and the actual cost of purchasing the requisite supplies. 5thly.—Measures for securing the unimpeded discharge of the waters of the Yellow River, by means of the new mouth in Shantung, are urgently recommended. The present channel of the Ta Ts'ing Ho is not more than one *li* in width, and the embankment of some of the older channels, for the purpose of carrying off some of the waters of the river, is advocated, as well as the dredging of the actual mouth of the river, in order to allow a free passage for its waters to the sea.

(4.)—A postscript Memorial by the Censor Wang Li-ts'ing, pointing out a source of frequent abuse in the employment of "gentry" (that is, literary or purchase graduates or retired officials), as managers of the branch-offices for the collection of the *li-kin* tax, especially that on salt, in the districts of which they are natives. Their official function in this respect brings them into such close connection with the actual authorities, as to put them in positions of undue influence—so much so that, as the Censor has heard, a popular saying is current in An-hwei and Hunan to the effect that "there are any number of incumbents to one official seal." He begs that the employment of residents of the districts in the above-mentioned capacity may forthwith be prohibited. (For rescript see *Gazette* of February 9th-10th).

Public Meetings.

THE SHANGHAI ROWING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Rowing Club was held on Monday evening. Present, Messrs. E. W. Batt, in the chair; Müller, Glass, Hazelwood (members of committee); Clarke, Sharp, Glover, Caldbeck, Wainewright, Maitland, Joseph, Campbell, Burrows, Brewer, Clay, Wyatt, Shepherd, Bois, Meuser, Mackenzie, Westall, and Richards.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, as published, were taken as read, and the Chairman then called on

The Secretary to read the Report, as follows:—

REPORT.

The Committee have again the pleasure of congratulating the members upon a most successful season. The rowing members are on the increase, and the two regattas of the Club during the season were most successful. The balance in hand at the commencement of the season was Tls. 643.92, and the Honorary Treasurer is now able to show a balance at credit of the Club (including the sum of Tls. 291.06 at credit of boathouse removal fund) of Tls. 1,208.82. This balance is, after deducting all expenses for the past 12 months, most satisfactory, as the Committee have built two new outrigged fours, repaired nearly all the Club boats, and got a new bridge for the lower boathouse pontoon at considerable expense. The two boathouses of the Club and their contents are insured against fire for Tls. 4,800.

Members.—Twenty-five new members joined during the year, being three more than the previous year. The total number of subscribing members being 84 this year, against 81 of the year before. The Committee observe with pleasure that notwithstanding so many old members have departed during the past year, their places have been more than filled by new ones, and the Club remains in a flourishing condition.

Boats.—Other two light outrigged fours have been built, and have given great satisfaction. Two old Canton pairs have been repaired at little expense, and fitted as double sculling boats; one "funny" has been presented to the Club by Mr. Veitch; during the past winter all the club boats have been thoroughly cleaned, repaired and varnished, and the stock now comprizes the following boats, in good order and condition:—

	Eights.	Fours.	Pairs.	Double. Sculls	Single. Scull	Funny.
English	2	.. 2	..	2	4	..
Shanghai	2	{ old 4 / new 4	or double sculls 3	..	1	1

besides two old Canton fours and sundry relics of a former age suitable for presentation to the Museum. One old Canton four has been repaired and lent to Ningpo, they having paid for the repairs. Recognizing the efficacy of recent inventions, the Club sculling boats have been fitted with sliding seats, and the Committee have written home for slides sufficient to fit up all the other boats of the Club.

Oars.—A large stock now exists, both of new and old oars. Previous to the autumn regatta all the Club boats (except the tub fours) were supplied with new oars, reducing the reserve of new oars to 8 oars and 4 pairs of sculls; to augment this, the Secretary has written home for 10 pairs first class oars and 20 pairs first class sculls. The destruction of sculls by the members during past season was considerable. The stock of second-hand oars in good order is extensive, and your Committee would be glad to sell them could a purchaser be found.

The Regatta Account shews a loss of Tls. 144.68, which has been placed to the debit of the general account.

Boathouses.—Lower Boathouse.—A new pontoon bridge and new piles for the front of the boathouse have been fitted, at a cost of Tls. 144. Sundry other small repairs have been made, and the lower boathouse (with one slight exception) is now in good order. The Committee are glad to be able to report that the question of removing the lower boathouse has been settled for the next five years, by their having arranged a lease of the present site with Mr. Qwong-Yue-Chong, at an annual rent of Tls. 100. The members are asked to authorise the Secretary to sign the lease on their behalf.

Upper Boathouse.—The question of removal of the upper boathouse has been talked of for the last six years. In the Committee's report for 1869, they say, "The upper boathouse is still in an unsatisfactory state as regards the jetties * * * The creek, however, has filled up so much, that the only way out of the difficulty would seem to be to have the house removed to a place higher up," and the Committee strongly recommend it to the immediate consideration of their successors.

In 1870, a threatening petition was given to raise the necessary funds, but the amount raised was not sufficient. A subscription list was then circulated among the members, but for some reason or other, the amounts subscribed were not collected. Nothing has been done in the matter since, and in the meantime the state of affairs at the upper boathouse has been getting daily worse. It is now far too small for the requirements of the Club; there is no dressing room, it is inconveniently situated, difficult of access, and the mud bank in front renders it anything but pleasant getting in or out of the boats. The Committee therefore consider that the time has arrived for taking immediate action, and that the boathouse should at once be removed to, or a new one built on, the ground kindly granted, at a cheap rent, by Messrs. Miller and Batt, to the S.E. of their bungalow, where deep water on one side, a carriage road on the other, and excellent accommodation generally can be had. A plan of a new boathouse has been kindly prepared by Mr. Cory, and the members are asked to authorize the Committee to get the matter carried through, should they succeed in raising the necessary funds.

The Committee regret the resignation (on account of leaving Shanghai) of the late able Captain, R. W. Little, Esq.

Mr Hazelwood next read the statement of accounts, as follows:—

The Shanghai Rowing Club in account with the Hony. Treasurer.

Dr.

To Wages for 12 Months from 1st March, 1874 to 28th February, 1875		466.95
,, General Expenses		151.26
,, Repairs to Boathouse, $12.00 at 73.6		8 83
,, ,, Boats $221.75 at 73.89.8		163.87
,, Boyd & Co. for Pontoon Bridge		144.00
,, Interest 1 year on Recreation Fund Loan of Tls. 1,400 at 5 %		70.00
,, Insurance on Boathouses and contents, Tls. 3,000 at 2 %, 1,800 at 2½ %		105.00
,, Balance of Autumn Regatta		144.68
,, Woh-lee for 2 "Fours" $300.00 at 73.5	..	220.50
,, Do. 10 pairs Oars 20.00 at 72.9	..	14.58
,, Do. 1 pair Sculls 2.50 at 74.8	..	1.87
,, Loan to Akow	30.00 at 73.9 ..	22.17
,, Fixed Deposit Account		800.00
,, Balance per Bank Pass Book		408.82
	Tls.	2,722.53

Memo. of sums due to Club—

1 Subscription for 1874	Tls. 15.00
1 Rent for Sculling Boat 1874	,, 5.00
Interest on F. D. Tls. 800 at 6 % due 31st March, 1875	,, 48.00
	Tls. 68.00

Cr.

By Balance of Working account season 1873-74	643.92
,, Transfer of Amount at Credit of Boathouse Removal Fund to General Working account	291.06
,, Sale of 1 pair Oar Boat	100.00
,, Difference in balance at 28th February, 1874	7.13
,, Subscriptions from 84 Members at Tls. 15.	1,260.00
,, Entrance Fee from 25 Members at ,, 10.	250.00
,, Rents on Boats, 1874	107.50
,, Interest on Bank account to 31st December, 1874	15.82
,, C. Lindsley for 8 Oars, $16 at 74.3	11.80
,, Balance Regatta dinner	3.66
,, Deposit by P. K. Dumaresq account 1 Tub Four lent, $35 at 73 ..	25.55
Tls	2,722.53
Mar. 17, By Balance in hands of Hon. Treasurer	F. D. a/c $800.00 Currt. ,, 408.82
Tls.	1,208.82

The Shanghai Autumn Regatta, 1874, in account with the Hony. Treasurer.

Dr.

To Sundry Expenses	155.78
,, Prizes	480.26
Tls.	636.04

Cr.

By Subscriptions	364.00
,, Entrance Fees	100.00
$	664.00
at 74, Tls.	491.36
By Balance to Dr. General account	144.68
Tls.	636.04

Shanghai, 17th March, 1875.

Mr. Caldbeck moved, and Mr. Glover seconded—

That the Report and Accounts, as read, be passed.

Carried unanimously.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. R. W. Little, tendering his resignation of the offices he had held in conection with the Club, expressing the pleasure his association with them had given him, and his regret at being obliged to resign.

The CHAIRMAN said, according to Rules 9-10, it was necessary to elect a Committee, from among whom a new Captain would be appointed.

A ballot was then taken, and the following were elected as the Committee :—Messrs. Batt (in place of Mr. Little), Fuller, Glass, Haselwood, and Muller (all re-elected.)

Mr. BREWER proposed—

That Mr. Batt be elected Captain of the Club, in the room of Mr. Little.

Mr. CAMPBELL seconded the motion, and it was carried *nem. con.*

The CHAIRMAN said he could have wished their choice had fallen on some younger member of the Club than himself. He had been so long among them that perhaps some of the members might think he had deteriorated. (No, no.) However he thanked them for their preference, and hoped he would be able to find time to conduct the affairs of the Club as they ought to be.—He called the attention of the meeting to a paragraph in the report respecting the site of the lower boathouse, for which it had become necessary to sign a lease.

Mr. GLOVER moved, and Mr. CALDBECK seconded—

That the Hon. Secretary be authorised, on behalf of the Club, to sign a lease for the site of the lower boathouse.

The CHAIRMAN, before putting the motion, said this question had been a source of annoyance to the Committee since 1866, and the Club had been threatened with removal from time to time. The question was, what right the supposed owner had to the ground? But it had been admitted that the ground was his before it was taken, and it had been thought better to compromise the matter. The owner had offered, through Mr. Cowie, to give the Club a lease for five years at Tls. 100 per annum. A note had been received from Mr. Cowie, in which he reminded the Committee, that, by agreement, the Club were to turn out at the end of 1874; and therefore, it was thought better to settle the matter in the way proposed.—He then submitted the motion, and it was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said the most important subject with respect to the welfare of the Club, was that of the removal of the upper boathouse from its present site to one to be selected. It was now in a very bad position, but looking at the question from one point of view, it would perhaps be better to keep in that position and be solvent, than to incur debt. He called upon the Secretary to state the position of affairs.

The SECRETARY commenced by referring to a letter from Mr. Batt, making an offer of a new site at a place higher up the Creek, and more suitable in every respect. The offer was a very reasonable one, and there was no doubt the present place was too small and inconvenient altogether, while the question of removing had been talked about for many years. Mr. Cory had furnished a design for a new boathouse, with a stand for spectators on the top, which would cost Tls. 3,000, but which, in a plain but substantial style, could be erected for Tls. 2,200. To adopt that plan, however, was beyond the present means of the Club, unless they could obtain a loan from the Recreation Fund. He (the Secretary) had been in communication with Mr. Groom on the subject, who had replied that the Trustees of the Fund would be willing to further the interests of the Rowing Club, as far as they could, but that they wished to have some other details before proceeding further. To meet the smaller sum (Tls. 2,200) the Club had about Tls. 1,274. Next month, there would be Tls. 1,500 collected in subscriptions, but out of that amount, Tls. 1,400 would be required to run the Club for the ensuing twelve months, so that there would be only about Tls. 100 available to go towards the boathouse fund. There was the site of the present boathouse, which might be sold, it was true. Its cost was Tls. 350, but that was when land was valuable—it might now be worth about Tls. 20. He read some estimates for removing the present boathouse to a new site, made five years ago, and concluded by saying the question was now once more before the members, and it was hoped some final decision would be arrived at.

Mr. WESTALL considered it was somewhat premature to be talking about such an undertaking, and asked if the Committee had thought of the repairs that were necessary to be done to the lower boathouse. He had looked at the place, and found some of the piles wanted repairing, as well as the road and pontoon bridges, and other matters.

The SECRETARY replied that all those repairs had been considered by the Committee.

Mr. WESTALL said, with reference to obtaining money from the Recreation Fund, he would recommend that the land for the site of the new boathouse should be purchased, as being the more economical course. To build the house, and not buy the land, he thought would be a mistake.

The SECRETARY said the Club might buy the ground to begin with, and then get some one to remove the old boathouse, and improve it on re-erection. There were two offers, as he had said, made in 1870, to do that work—one by a Chinaman, for Tls. 700; the other, by a foreigner, for $1,200. The question then appeared to be, whether they should build a suitable boathouse, without purchasing the site, or whether they should purchase the site, and remove the present boathouse to it.

The design submitted by Mr. Cory, had by this time been inspected by all the members present; and

The CHAIRMAN said the question rather appeared to be whether the members would sanction the Committee getting into debt. He might, as one of the owners of the land, say a few words about the new site. It was leased to the Rowing Club in 1870 at Tls. 60 per annum. So that before they could do anything more, they must remember that they were indebted to the owners Tls. 300; but he might also inform them that the owners were willing not to insist upon payment of that sum, but to allow the rent to commence from the present year. (Hear, and applause.) Speaking as a member of the Rowing Club, he should say the rent was too high, and that it would be better to buy the land, if the owners could be induced to part with it at a reasonable rate. Now, he might add that he was authorised by the owners to say they were willing, for the sake of encouraging sport, to sell the land at such reasonable rate, provided it should be used for no other purpose than the erection of a boathouse, and that, if at any future time the Club should have occasion to remove the boathouse still higher up the Creek, the owners should be able to buy it back at the price paid for it. (Hear, hear.) Other persons had already spoken about purchasing the same piece of land, because they wished to keep their frontages unobstructed, but nothing had as yet been done. The question, therefore, was, would the Rowing Club authorise the Committee to enter into negociations for the purchase of the site, before they settled about the plans for a new boathouse? He might remark that Mr. Cory's plan did not provide for approaches to the new building, from the creek which would be found to be one of the most expensive parts of it.

Mr. CORY said that slopes merely would be required.

The CHAIRMAN concluded by saying that all the meeting had to do was to decide whether the Committee should incur the expense of buying the land—it was for the Committee to look after the ways and means.

Mr. WESTALL, after the Chairman's observations, would move

That the Committee be empowered to make the best arrangements possible for the Club, in the purchase of the land and site proposed for the upper boathouse.

Mr. MACKENZIE seconded the motion.

A general conversation took place, the questions raised being whether it would not be better to purchase the land and erect a new boathouse at the same time; and also whether it would not be possible to build a suitable one at less cost than that estimated.

Mr. CORY said they could build a sort of shed, something like the present one, for about Tls. 700.

Nothing further came of the conversation now, and

The CHAIRMAN submitted the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said, in order that there might be no further mistake about the land, he thought he might say that the owners would make the price as easy as possible, the only stipulation they desired to make being what they might term, following a recent great authority, "the fundamental principle"—(laughter)—that they should be able to purchase the land again at the same price. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CALDBECK, consequent upon the previous conversation, moved—

That the Committee be authorized to remove the old boathouse te the new site, to enlarge, and make such improvements as the Committee shall see fit, at a cost not exceeding ₹1,000.

Mr. WESTALL seconded the motion.

Mr. B. A. CLARKE thought the Trustees of the Recreation Fund might in a short time be able to advance Tls. 1,000 or Tls. 1,200, and that the rest might be raised by means of subscriptions, added to the amount now in hand. He also believed there were men in Shanghai who would advance the money, if the Recreation Fund Trustees could not. He recommended that a subscription among the members should be tried before borrowing.

Mr. CORY proposed the following amendment—

That as it is better to begin a new building altogether than waste the Funds of the Club in removing the present one, the Committee be empowered to raise the money for that purpose by borrowing from the Recreation Fund, or anywhere else that they can get it, or by raising a subscription amongst the members, in the best manner that they may see fit.

Mr. WYATT seconded the amendment.

Upon a show of hands, the numbers were, *for* the amendment, 15; *against*, 3. The amendment was therefore carried.

Mr. MULLER proposed that, in long-distance races, the outside boat should be allowed a length and a half start, or that the inside boat should carry weight, or that a slanting, instead of a straight line, should be understood at the winning post. He had heard it talked of outside that the inside course was the best, and that if such and such outside boats had been inside, they must have won. It was not an agreeable thing to win a race under such circumstances. He moved that a special committee of six members should be appointed to consider the subject.

A conversation ensued, in which some disapprobation was expressed, and, to test the question,

Mr. [illegible] seconded the motion, which, upon a show of hands, was lost by 5 to 9.

A suggestion by Mr. Wyatt, to hold the Spring Regatta in the first instead of the

third week in May, was considered to be too near the Race Meeting ; and

The meeting broke up with votes of thanks to the Chairman and Committee.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Séance du 5 Mars, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents, M.M. A. Hennequin, F. D. Hitch, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Ewald, absent de Shanghai, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité des Travaux et de la Police relatives :

A la largeur de 50 pieds à donner au quai de France en terminant le remblai du côté du fleuve, et la mise en état de ce quai par le rechargement de la chaussée, l'établissement de trottoirs de chaque côté et la construction de conduites d'eau.

A l'établissement de bordures et rigoles de trottoirs rues de Palikao et de Saigon dans la partie comprise entre la rue du Consulat et le Yang-king-pang, et au rechargement de cette dernière dans la même partie.

A l'établissement de bordures, et rigoles de trottoirs rue du Weikwé, dans la partie comprise entre la rue des Pères et la limite Ouest de la Concession.

A la prolongation des trottoirs et du garde fou en fer sur le quai du Yang-king-pang, jusqu'au pont No. 5.

Et enfin au montage de deux tombereaux, et aux soins d'entretien et de propreté de ces voitures deux fois par semaine.

L'examen du projet de transformation de la tour de l'horloge et du perron de l'Hôtel Municipal, est renvoyé à une nouvelle séance.

Le Président rend compte de l'entrevue des délégués des deux Municipalités, et informe le Conseil qu'ils ont adopté l'arbitrage pour le règlement de la réclamation du Municipal Council au sujet d'empiètement sur le Yang-king-pang, sur les bases posées dans les lettres suivantes : —

"Shanghai, le 11 Janvier, 1873.

Monsieur,—J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil désirant faire preuve de l'esprit de conciliation qui l'a toujours animé, se déclare disposé à se soumettre à l'arbitration du Consul de France et d'un autre membre du Corps Consulaire, avec faculté pour ces Messieurs de nommer un troisième arbitre en cas de désaccord ; la question à décider étant celle-ci :

La construction du nouveau quai sur le Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est elle un obstacle à la navigation du canal, ou porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains ?

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, etc.,

Le Président du Conseil,

Signé : E. Morel.

à Monsieur John Dent,
Président du Municipal Council."

"*Works No.* 41.

Shanghai, 15th Jan., 1873.

Sir,—The letter which you did this Council the honor to address to them on the 11th inst., embodying the views entertained by your Board with respect to the manner at present appearing the most expedient, for settling the question regarding the alleged encroachment in the Yang-king-pang, has received full consideration.

Before conveying to you the conclusions arrived at, I am desired to thank you for the very prompt manner in which your Council have deliberated on the suggestion advanced by the Consular Body on the 10th instant, and for the expression of the spirit of conciliation which actuates your Administration in desiring to bring the point in dispute to an amicable and mutually satisfactory settlement.

This Board specially instructs me to assure you that they entertain a similar feeling. This Council accept with pleasure, in conjunction with your own, the proposition made by the Consular Body, for arbitrating and deciding upon the question at issue, and in this connexion they desire me to say they will prepare a statement setting forth the case, based on your letter of the 11th instant, for the consideration and approval of your Board, prior to submission to the Arbitrators.

I have the honour to be, Sir, etc.,

(Signed) Alex. Johnston,
Secretary."

To Ed. Morel, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

Le Président ajoute qu'indépendamment des bases posées par les lettres ci-dessus, les délégués du Conseil Municipal ont déclaré à ceux du Municipal Council, qu'ils avaient l'intention de demander aux arbitres, si des faits ultérieurs, entre autres celui-ci, la commande autorisée par le Municipal Council d'un pont à une seule arche, dans les dimensions requises par l'écartement des rives du Yang-king-pang, telles quelles existent actuellement, n'avait pas déjà préjugé la question en faveur des vues maintenues par la Municipalité Française.

Le Conseil confirme l'attitude prise par ses délégués, et charge le Président de demander à M. le Consul Général de France de vouloir bien accepter d'être arbitre pour la Municipalité.

Le Conseil se propose d'examiner à nouveau les mesures à prendre pour réglementer les conditions d'existence et la circulation des brouettes et des Jin-rick-shaws.

Lecture d'une lettre du Président des Administrateurs de la Compagnie du Gaz, informant la Municipalité que la dite Compagnie regrette de ne pouvoir accéder à la demande de réduction dans le prix du Gaz, qui lui a été faite. Le Conseil décide de proposer à la Compagnie de soumettre à l'interprétation d'un magistrat à Saigon le contrat passé avec la Compagnie du Gaz, afin de lever toute équivoque et d'établir clairement les droits des deux parties intéressées.

Le Conseil accepte l'offre de M. Dreyer, directeur de la Great Northern Telegraph Company, relativement à l'entretien de la ligne télégraphique de la Municipalité, et le Sécrétaire est chargé de demander aux particuliers qui ont des lignes télégraphiques sur la Concession, s'ils consentiraient, dans le cas où la Municipalité aurait à établir des poteaux télégraphiques à ses frais, à lui payer un abonnement annuel pour l'usage des poteaux.

Examen d'une reclamation en décharge d'impôts, de M. Yates. Cette réclamation étant appuyée sur des faits déjà portés à la connaissance de l'Administration, le Conseil la recommande à l'attention immédiate du prochain Conseil.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de faire appel aux maisons qui ne paient pas la Taxe Commerciale, en sollicitant leur contribution volontaire à cette taxe.

Le Conseil prescrit aux percepteurs de se conformer au mode de recouvrement déjà adopté pour la perception des sampans.

Examen des rapports du Médecin.

Examen des rapports des Chefs de service.

Examen du rapport de l'Inspecteur des Marchés.

Séance du 12 Mars, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents, MM. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Hitch empêché, n'a pu assister à la Séance.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. le Consul Général de France, informant l'Administration que par arrêté consulaire les sieurs Baldassarre et Sigolo ont été nommés agents de la Garde Municipale en remplacement des sieurs Mellich et Mirgaud démissionnaires.

Lecture d'une lettre du Municipal Council, en date du 6 Mars, dans laquelle il émet le désir que les travaux de mise en place du pont en fer No. 4, dont il avait demandé précédemment l'exécution immédiate, soient suspendus jusqu'à ce que les arbitres des deux Municipalités aient décidé la question d'empiétement sur le Yang-king-pang. Le Président est chargé d'informer le Municipal Council que le Conseil donne son assentiment à la suspension des travaux de mise en place du pont No. 4.

Le Président informe le Conseil que la démarche qu'il a faite auprès de M. de Consul Général de France, pour lui demander de vouloir bien être l'arbitre de la Municipalité, a été favorablement accueillie.

Lecture de la lettre suivante du Municipal Council :

"Shanghai, 8th March, 1875.

"A. Voisin, Esq.,
Chairman French Council.

"Sir,—Referring to my letter of 6th inst., I have the pleasure to inform you that Mr. W. H. Medhurst, H. B. M.'s Consul, at the request of this Council, has kindly consented to act as one of the Arbitrators in the question of the encroachment of the Yang-king-pang Creek.

"The Council understands this question to be :—

"Whether the new Bund along the South side of the Creek between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne is an encroachment. Whether in its present position it is an obstruction to the free navigation of the Creek. Whether it prejudices the interests of owners alongside the Creek.

"The decision of the Arbitrators to be binding on both Municipalities.

"The Council will be glad to learn that this is as your Conseil understand it, and trust that an early day can be appointed for the two Councils to place before the Arbitrators such facts as they rely on in support of their respective position.

"I avail myself of this opportunity to add that this Council will be pleased, upon the decision of the Arbitrators being made known, and in the spirit of that decision whatever it may be, to agree with your Council upon a fixed width for the entire length of the Creek so that in future no such question as the present one could arise.

(Signed) "J. G. Purdon,
Chairman."

Le Conseil décide que la réponse suivante sera adressée au Président du Municipal Council :

"Monsieur,—J'ai communiqué au Conseil la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 8 Mars pour m'informer que Mr. Medhurst, Cousul de Sa Majesté Britannique, avait accepté d'être l'arbitre du Municipal Council dans la question d'empiétement sur le Yang-king-pang, et je suis heureux de vous apprendre que M. Godeaux, Consul-Général de France, a bien voulu, de son côté, accepter d'être l'arbitre de la Municipalité Française.

"Votre lettre m'informe, en outre, que la question d'arbitrage est ainsi comprise par votre Administration :

"1e.—Le nouveau Bund du côté sud du Yang-king-pang, entre les rues Discry et Touranne, est-il un empiétement ?

"2e.—Dans la position actuelle, est-il un obstacle à la navigation ?

"3e.—Cela cause-t-il un préjudice aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains ?

"4e.—La décision des arbitres sera désisive et obligatoire pour les deux Municipalités.

"Le Conseil, par l'entremise de ses délégués, vous a déjà fait connaître qu'il acceptait les bases de l'arbitrage proposées par une lettre de M. Morel, le 11 Janvier 1873, et acceptées par le Municipal Council dans sa lettre du 15 du même mois. Or, ces bases sont entièrement circonscrites aux points Nos. 2, 3, et 4, posés par votre lettre. Du point No. 1, il n'a jamais été question dans les lettres citeés plus haut.

Je suis heureux, cependant, de vous dire que le Conseil, animé d'un esprit d'équité et de conciliation, a partagé unanimement les vues personnelles que j'avais eu l'honneur de vous exprimer à la réunion des délégués, et s'est rendu compte qu'un empiétement a eu lieu en 1872. Ce point reconnu, il est donc inutile de le soumettre à l'appréciation des arbitres.

Par contre, le Conseil a l'intention de soumettre à l'examen des arbitres deux nouveaux points qui résultent de faits qui

se sont passés postérieurement au 14 Janvier 1873, date de l'acceptation de l'arbitrage par votre Municipalité, et de réclamations adressées à la Municipalité Française contre des empiétements qui auraient été faits sur la rive nord du Yang-king-pang. Cette intention vous avait déja été exprimée par les délégués du Conseil, et elle repose sur une idée trop juste, celle de rendre chaque Municipalité responsable de ses actes, pour que je n'aie pas de doute que vous et vos collégues ne l'acceptiez.

"Pour me résumer, voici les points que le Conseil entend soumettre à l'appréciation des arbitres:

"1e.—La construction du quai sur le Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est-elle un obstacle à la navigation du canal?

"2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice et'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

"3e.—Le non envoi du mémoire annoncé par le Municipal Council dans sa lettre du 15 Janvier, 1873, et son consentement ultérieur à la commande d'un pont en fer dans des proportions qui sont juste suffisantes pour l'écartement des deux rives du Yang-king-pang, telles qu'elles existent aujourd'hui, n'a-t-il pas vicié la réclamation du Municipal Council, et autorisé le Conseil Municipal à considérer comme définitif l'alignment actuel.

"Je serai heureux d'apprendre que vous et vos collégues adoptent les mêmes points de discussion et, en terminant, je puis vous assurer que le Conseil prêtera tout son concours à une nouvelle délimitation du cours du Yang-king-pang qui, en définissant exactement les droits de chacun et en assurant la libre navigation de ce canal, empêcherait, à l'avenir, le retour de semblables malentendus

"Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, etc.,
"Le Président du Conseil,
"A. VOISIN.

"Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
"Président du Municipal Council."

Lecture de la lettre suivante adressée par le Municipal Council au sujet du pont Yang-king-pang No. 1:—

"Shanghai, 9th March, 1875.
"*Yang-king-pang Bridge No.* 1.

"H. SAYN, Esq.,
"Secretary French Council.

"SIR,—In face of the decision conveyed in your letter of March 1st, the Council are reluctantly compelled to state that it is quite out of their power to entertain further the project of a new bridge, or any repairs to the old one, until it is agreed that the cost shall be equally divided by the two Municipalities.

"The Council therefore return your plan, and regret that matters have thus come to a standstill.

(Signed) "EDWARD B. SOUPER,
"*Secretary.*"

Le Conseil approve la réponse suivante faite à cette lettre :—

"MONSIEUR,—Le 9 Mars, le Secrétaire de votre Administration a informé le Secrétaire de la Municipalité Française que, devant l'intention de celle-ci de ne supporter qu'un tiers des dépenses occasionnées par les ponts du Yang-king-pang, le Municipal Council ne croyait pas avoir le pouvoir non seulement de discuter le projet du nouveau pont en fer No. 1, mais même celui de concourir à toutes réparations que pourrait nécessiter le pont en bois qui existe actuellement.

"Le Conseil, permettez moi de vous l'exprimer, ne peut assumer la responsabilité d'entraver, et même d'arréter complètement, un jour donné, le trafic entre les deux rives du Yang-king-pang. Ce serait cependant la conséquence inévitable de la détermination prise par votre Administration si l'Administration Française s'y associait, et les deux Municipalités encourreraient, à juste titre, le blâme de l'opinion publique. D'une divergence dans leurs vues sur une question financière, il ne me semble aucunement devoir résulter un danger et même une gêne pour la communauté, et il s'est présenté tout naturellement à la pensée de mes collégues et de moi, que cette question de répartition de dépenses devait être réglée ultérieurement, mais qu'avant tout, les ponts du Yang-king-pang devaient être tenus en bon état pour l'usage du public.

"Le Conseil croit fermement qu'en donnant de nouveau son attention à cette question, votre Administration ne voudra pas assumer une responsabilité que lui pour sa part repousse, et qu'elle s'associera à ses vues. En les adoptant, le pont en fer No. 1 pourrait être commandé par le Municipal Council dans les conditions exprimées dans la lettre du 25 Janvier, 1875, émanée de la Municipalité Française, et la question de paiement sur laquelle les deux Administrations ne sont pas d'accord. serait ultérieurement réglée. A cet effet, le Conseil proposerait de prier les représentants des gouvernements Anglais et Français à Pekin, de vouloir bien décider arbitralement la question, et je suis heureux de vous exprimer, à l'avance, qu'il se soumettra avec empressement à leur décision.

"Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, etc.,
"Le Président du Conseil,
"A. VOISIN.

"Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
"Président du Municipal Council."

Le Secrétaire est chargé de s'entendre avec une imprimerie locale pour l'impression du Compte rendu de l'Exercice 1874-1875.

Transfert de licence pour débit de boissons.

L'examen des rapport des chefs de service est renvoyé à une prochaine séance.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Council Meeting of 8th March, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. John G. Purdon (Chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, Wm. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, Robt. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, A. G. Wood, and the Secretary.

The Cash State for the 6th instant, was laid on the table for inspection.

Land-Tax—Re W. H. Fogg.—The Meeting was informed that the hearing of this case at the United States Consular Court had been put down for Wednesday next, 10th instant, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Meeting of Delegates.—Memorandum of what passed at the unofficial meeting of delegates of the two Councils, held on the 3rd March, was laid before the Meeting.

Bridge.—Yang-king-pang No. 1.—The following reply to the French Council's letter of 1st March was agreed upon:—

March 9th, 1875.

Yang-King-Pang Bridge No. 1.

SIR,—In face of the decision conveyed in your letter of March 1st, the Council are reluctantly compelled to state that it is quite out of their power to entertain further the project of a new bridge, or any repairs to the old one, until it is agreed that the cost shall be equally divided by the two Municipalities.

The Council, therefore, return your plan, and regret that matters have thus come to a standstill.

(Signed) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

Encroachment at Yang-King-Pang Creek by French Municipal Council.—It was resolved to request Mr. W. H. Medhurst, H.B.M.'s Consul, to act as Arbitrator in this case, and that the *Points of Arbitration* should be:—

Whether the new Bund along the South side of the Creek between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne is an encroachment

Whether in its present position it is an obstruction to the free navigation of the Creek.

Whether it prejudices the interests of owners of property alongside the Creek.

The decision of the Arbitrators to be binding on both Municipalities.

Width of Creek in future.—It was decided to address the French Board stating that this Council will be pleased, upon the decision of the Arbitrators being made known, to agree with the French Council upon a fixed width for the entire length of the Creek, so that in future no such question as has occupied the attention of the two Councils so long could arise.

Reports from Heads of Departments were read and considered.

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and passed for publication.

Council Meeting on 15th March, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. John G. Purdon (Chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, Wm. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, A. G. Wood, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

The Cash State for the 13th instant, was laid on the table.

Staff—Appointment.—Mr. S. S. Lew authorized to be taken on at Dues office for one month's trial.

Bund line—Yang king-pang Creek, between Bridges No. 2 and 4.—The subjoined letter from French Municipal Council was read:—

Shanghai, le 11 Mars, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—Le Conseil, ayant décidé de reconstruire la muraille en bois du Yang-king-pang qui tombait en ruines entre le pont No. 2 et le pont No. 4, pense qu'il serait dans l'intérêt de la navigation de donner plus de largeur au cours d'eau sur quelques points où les rives se ressèrent. De cette pensée est résulté un plan de rectification que j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre.

Vous remarquerez que les intentions du Conseil comportent d'une part sur quelques points où le Yang-king-pang est fort large, des empiêtements sans importance nécessités par l'ensemble du plan, et d'autre part sur les points même où le lit du cours d'eau est plus resserré, l'abandon à la navigation d'une partie considérable de terrain.

Le Conseil désireux d'éviter tout malentendre attend une réponse approbative du Municipal Conseil avant de commencer les travaux de reconstruction, et serait heureux si vous vouliez bien lui faire connâitre son avis aussitôt qu'il vous sera loisible, afin que la circulation publique soit entravée le moins longtemps possible.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Le Président du Conseil,
A. VOISIN.

Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
Président du Municipal Council.

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai, 11th March, 1875.

SIR,—The Conseil, having decided to reconstruct the wooden bunding of the Yang-king-pang between the Bridges Nos. 2 and 4, at present in a dilapidated condition, considers it would be advantageous to the navigation, to increase the width of the Creek at some points where the banks are narrow. I have the honour therefore to inclose a plan for a rectification of the Creek.

You will observe that the Conseil's intentions embrace on the one hand:—some few unimportant encroachments at points where the Creek is very wide, and on the other hand, a surrender of a considerable portion of land to increase the width of the Creek at some points where the course of the Creek is very narrow.

The Council, wishing to avoid any misunderstanding, will wait for a satisfactory reply before commencing work, and would feel obliged by your acquainting them with your opinion so soon as possible, in order that the public traffic of the Creek may be interrupted the shortest time possible.

(Signed) A. VOISIN.

J. G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council.

It was resolved to have plan on English scale drawn up by the Municipal Engineer before replying.

Yang-king-pang Creek.—Encroachment by French Municipal Council. The following letter was considered:—

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai, 13th March 1875.

SIR,—I have laid before the Council your letter of 8th March, informing me that Mr. Medhurst, H. B. M.'s Consul, had consented

to act as your Arbitrator in the question of encroachment on the Yang-king-pang, and I am happy to state that M. Godeaux, Consul-General for France, has accepted a similar position on behalf of the French Municipality.

Your letter informs me further that the points for arbitration are thus understood by your administration :

1st. —Is the new bund on the south side of the Yang-king-pang, between Rue Discry and Rue Touranne, an encroachment ?

2nd.—In its present position, is it an obstacle to navigation ?

3rd.—If so, does it prejudice the interests of property owners along the creek ?

4th.—The decision of the arbitrators to be final and binding on both Municipalities.

The Conseil, at the meeting of the delegates, has already made known to you that it had accepted the basis of arbitration, as proposed in Mr. Morel's letter of 11th January 1873, and agreed to by your Council in their letter of 15th idem.

This basis is contained in points 2, 3, and 4, referred to in your letter. Point No. 1 has never been questioned in the letters above alluded to.

I am happy, however, to tell you that the Conseil, actuated by a spirit of fairness and conciliation, has unanimously endorsed my own views that I had the honour of expressing to you at the meeting of delegates, and it admits that an encroachment took place in 1872. This point granted, it is useless then to submit it to arbitration.

On the other hand, the Conseil intends submitting to the decision of the arbitrators two new points, which result from acts done subsequently to 15th Jan. 1873—the date of agreeing to arbitration, by your Municipality, and from protests addressed to the French Conseil against encroachments, which have been made on the north bank of the Yang-king-pang.

This intention has already been brought to the notice of your Council by the Delegates, and it rests upon so just a view, that of making each Municipality responsible for its own actions, that I have no doubt you and your colleagues will accept it.

In fact, the points the Council intend submitting to the arbitrators are :

1st.—Is the Yang-king-pang bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position an obstruction to the navigation of the creek ?

2nd.—Does it actually injure the interests of property owners along the Creek ?

3rd.—Has not the Council's action in not forwarding the memorandum mentioned by the Municipal Council in their letter of 15th January, 1873, and then later, consenting to the order being given for an iron bridge, of dimensions just sufficient to connect the two sides of the Yang-king-pang as they now exist, vitiated your Council's protest and allowed this Council to consider the present line as settled ?

I shall be happy to learn that you and your colleagues adopt these points for discussion, and, finally, I can assure you that the Council will co-operate readily in arranging a new line of bund which, by defining exactly the rights of each and ensuring free traffic in the Creek, shall prevent similar misunderstandings in future.

(Signed) A. Voisin,
Chairman.

[The French text is among the minutes of the French Municipal Council published above.]

A reply, as under, was determined upon :—

18th March, 1875.

Encroachment—Yang-king-pang Creek.

Sir,—The Council on Monday last had placed before them your letter of 13th inst., in reply to the one I had the honor to address to you on the 8th, regarding the appointment of arbitrators and the points to be submitted to them for their decision.

The Council note with pleasure that M. Godeaux, Consul-General for France, has kindly consented to act in conjunction with Mr. Medhurst.

With regard to the points to be submitted, my colleagues desire me to say that, as by your acknowledgment of the encroachment in question on the Yang-king-pang, our first point is done away with, it is not necessary therefore to include it in the question before the arbitrators.

With regard to the two new points which you state your Council intend submitting to the arbitrators, I am desired to state what I had already stated verbally to you at the meeting of the delegates, that the Council could not agree to have those points submitted as part of question. The Council regard them as partaking of the nature of arguments to be used in support of a case and not as distinct points for arbitration, and if brought forward at all should be brought forward in that way by your Council, when this Council can bring forward their arguments to combat them, and they do not doubt that on re-consideration you will agree in this view.

The questions then to be submitted to the arbitrators—the fact of the encroachment being admitted—would be simply these two two points :—

1.—Is the Bund in its present position an obstacle to navigation ?

2.—Does the encroachment prejudice the interests of property along the line of the Creek ?

If this meets your concurrence, nothing remains but to fix a day when each Council will place before the arbitrators their facts and arguments in the case, which I presume had better be in writing, so that each side may have an opportunity to answer in writing the arguments adduced by the other, and that will close the evidence to go before the arbitrators, unless they wish for further evidence or explanation.

The Council are gratified at your recognizing the desirability of agreeing to a fixed width of the Creek for the future, so soon as the result of the arbitration is made known.

(Signed) J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Bridge No. 4, Yang-king-pang Creek.—Read letter from French Municipal Council agreeing to stop further work until result of the Arbitration is made known.

Bridge No. 1, Yang-king-pang Creek.—Further communication from the neighbouring Municipality was submitted :—

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai, 13th March, 1875.

Sir,—On the 9th March, the Secretary of your Administration informed the Secretary of the French Municipality that, in consequence of the intention of the latter to bear only one-third of the expenses connected with bridges over the Yang-king-pang, it is out of the power of the Municipal Council, not only to discuss the project for a new iron bridge No. 1, but even with regard to repairs that may be necessary to the wooden bridges now existing.

This Council, permit me to assure you, cannot take upon itself the responsibility of interfering with or perhaps some day completely stopping the traffic between the two sides of the Yang-king-pang. This will be, however, the inevitable consequence of the decision arrived at by your Administration, if the French Council agreed to it, and the two Municipalities would very justly incur the blame of public opinion.

It does not seem to me that a difference of opinion on a question of finance should result in danger or even inconvenience to the community, and it naturally occurs to my colleagues and myself, that this question of division of expenses should be ultimately settled, but above all, that the Yang-king-pang bridges should be kept in good condition for the use of the public.

This Council, in bringing this matter again before your attention, believes firmly that you will, equally with itself, refuse this responsibility and agree with its views. In adopting these, the iron bridge No. 1 could be ordered by the Municipal Council, under the conditions set forth in the letter of 23rd January, 1875, from the French Council, and the question of payment upon which the two Administrations do not agree, could be settled later on.

To this end the Council propose that the representatives of the English and French Governments at Peking, be requested to arbitrate the question, and I am happy to inform you beforehand, that the Council will submit with pleasure to their decision.

(Signed) A. Voisin,
Chairman.

[The French text is among the minutes of the French Municipal Council published above.]

A reply thereto was agreed upon :—

March 19th, 1875.

Yang-king-pang Bridge No. 1.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 13th inst., I beg to say that this Council have given the subject therein referred to the very careful consideration it deserves, as they are anxious to do all in their power to prevent, not only disagreements with your body, but above all the convenience of the public being in any way interfered with. They are, however, of the opinion that the question, as to what is the proper proportion of the expense of maintaining bridges over the Yang-king-pang, to be borne by each Municipality, is so entirely one in the discretion of the community, that they feel obliged to decline your proposition to leave it to the decision of the French and English Ministers at Peking. The annual meeting of Ratepayers takes place within a few weeks, and, should the question then come, up the Council will be instructed what course to pursue.

The Council wish me, however, to state that they do not consider the responsibility of interruption to traffic, should it occur, would in any degree rest upon them, as the determination not to bear as hitherto, an equal share of the cost of the Bridges, has been taken only by your Council.

In this connection, I might add that many of the bridges are rapidly approaching an unsafe condition. For obvious reasons, the Council have avoided bringing this forward in the discussion, but it is only right now to point out that in all probability the Council ere long, for their own protection, will have to give public notice that certain bridges are dangerous, particularly for heavy vehicles.

(Signed) J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Land-Tax.—Municipal Council v. W. H. Fogg.—The question was put to the Meeting whether, in view of the points raised in the U.S. Court on the 16th instant, by Mr. Twombly, acting for the defendant, they consider it advisable to postpone the case until after the Ratepayers' Meeting.

The Board thought not, the Land Regulations were now being revised, and any essential defects in the existing code brought to light in the case could be remedied, and it would be well therefore to ascertain clearly the position of the Municipality in the matter.

Amusements.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY.

It is three years since the Irish residents here organised themselves after the manner of their Scottish brethren, and determined to celebrate the anniversary of their Saint in a general gathering. The day had seldom passed unacknowledged ; there were private gatherings on every 17th of March ; but it was not till 1873 that the first general dinner was held. This was voted by all who had the good fortune to be present, one of the most pleasant gatherings ever held in Shanghai, and the prestige gained at the outset has been well maintained.

The dinner held last Wednesday was perhaps a trifle more formal ; for the number of guests has increased till a move to the large dining-room of the Club became necessary ; and a smaller party is always more cozy. Still the evening was very pleasantly spent ; the dinner was good, the wines were first-rate, and the speeches eloquent.

About five-and-twenty Irishmen assembled and, with proverbial Irish hospitality, entertained an equal number of guests—among whom were Captain Buller, R.N., and several officers of the men-of-war in port ; Mr. Keswick, President, and Dr. Henderson, Vice-President, of the Saint Andrew's Society, &c., &c.

The room was tastefully decorated with evergreens and shillelaghs, and the table was spread with shamrock ; the most conspicuous feature being a group hung over

the centre of the dining table, and which has been happily described as "Two shillelaghs saltire-wise; therefrom pendant in pale three murphies; in chief, a shillelagh couchant." And all the arrangements were in keeping. The letters of invitation, headed by a shamrock, were printed in emerald green, and the menu card was crowned by a harp, with the familiar motto "Erin go bragh."

Dr. JAMIESON occupied the Chair, supported by Mr. J. I. MILLER as Vice.

The first toast was given at 10 p.m., and toast and song succeeded each other rapidly till 1 a.m., at which hour only the official list was ended.

The CHAIRMAN, on rising to propose the toast of "The Queen," said—You will need little inducement from me to lead you to drink this toast with enthusiasm. It commends itself. Most of us have, throughout our whole lives, associated with our Sovereign our highest ideas of feminine virtue and goodness. (Applause.) As Irishmen, we have one regret, that she has never shewn any special partiality—any personal affection, for the Emerald Isle. But there are perhaps good reasons for this. She was introduced to the cares of State amid the troublous times of O'Connell and the Irish Tithes and Municipal Acts, when the "Irish Question" was the rock on which Ministries split; and public and private friendships made shipwreck. We all know the effect of first impressions, and of the feelings which spread like a cloud over opinion. But we must never forget that, though for ages Ireland had had a historic past, it was only under the rule of Victoria that she obtained free institutions. With the combination of glorious reminiscences of the past and glorious possibilities in the present, the future of the country we all love is bright. Within a few years, a great revolution has taken place in Ireland, no less great that it has been so gradual as to have been almost imperceptible in its progress, and effected without violence or bloodshed. Opportunities of bettering themselves are now held out to all classes. At all events, ignorance need not clog the aspirant after distinction, and industry and capacity, mental as well as physical, have a fair field offered to them. In the light of these material blessings, he would ask them to drink the health of "The Queen." (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then rose to propose the health of "The Earl and Countess of Dublin and Duke of Connaught." He said—As men who look to the future as well as to the past and present, we must take an interest in the career of our coming King and Queen, only second to that which we take in the life of our actual Sovereign. It is, or lately was, the fashion to abuse the Prince of Wales; but we should ask ourselves how each of us would come out of the ordeal, were some millions of eyes concentrated on our public and private lives. But as regards the Princess of Wales, no words can be found too warm to express the affectionate feelings entertained towards her by all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. (Applause.) He (the Chairman) remembered well the first occasion on which he saw her. It was one forenoon in Hyde Park, in 1866, when he was surprised by a sudden roar of cheers which seemed to rise from the ground, there were so few people in sight. The Princess was passing; and as every hat was doffed and every voice raised, he recognised her by the many pictures he had seen, and felt that what Steele said of Lady Elizabeth Hastings was true of her—that to love her was a liberal education. Few of us perhaps know much about the Duke of Connaught, but we would toast him all the same as an Irish Duke. And in thus paying homage to the Royal Family, let us repudiate that charge of disloyalty too often brought against Irishmen. (Loud applause.) Loyalty is only a word. If it means the condition of not grumbling against the Government and all existing institutions, who could be called loyal? But if it means that virtue or feeling,—call it what we may,—which makes men abandon often far brighter prospects for the purpose of fighting to uphold the throne and dynasty, then we had only to look round that table on the many manly Irish breasts covered by the British uniform, and point to them as convincing proofs of the injustice of the charge. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The day we celebrate." St Patrick's Day vividly recalls whatever is most Irish in Ireland. In the country, the fields deserted; in the villages, everybody in his, or her, best clothes; courting, drinking, flirting, or praying—(laughter); in the cities, all the shops—except the public houses—closed, all the bells ringing—smiling plenty presiding, for this one day at least, at every board; shamrock in every hat, and everywhere the inevitable tail coat with brass buttons. And then at night, dinner parties and balls among the well-to-do; and among the labouring classes, jollification of every kind, with the consequences of broken heads, and often broken limbs. (Cheers and laughter.) This night eighteen years ago was his (the Chairman's) first night in an Irish hospital, and he did not exaggerate when he said that, on that occasion, the casualty ward was more suggestive of a desperate railway smash in the neighbourhood, than of the celebration of a festival. He had seen the same thing on many successive St. Patrick's nights, but was never so much impressed by it as on that occasion of his first introduction to student life in a hospital. All Irish associations cluster round this anniversary, and, therefore, the opportunity is a fitting one for the summing up of those changes which have taken place within the past few years and to which he had already alluded. Most of those changes are for the better. My recollection (said Dr. Jamieson) goes back to the year 1846, when famine and fever were desolating the country, when a superabundant population, rendered reckless by the plentiful supply of one food staple, was plunged into unspeakable misery by the failure of that staple. From the operation of various causes, such an experience is impossible now. Then, and for years before, lawlessness was (if you will pardon a bull) the law of the country. There was an organised system of terror crushing all chance of industrious tranquillity, striking fear into the higher classes, and intensifying the poverty and misery of the lower middle class, though never, let us say to their honour, plunging them into vice. (Applause.) Education was at the lowest ebb. Religion was smothered by bitter controversies, though, to the everlasting credit of both Catholic and Protestant clergy, these latter united heart and soul in efforts to alleviate the horrors of the famine years. Still, it is our curse in Ireland, that more intellectual activity is expended on maintaining the disastrous antagonism of sects and creeds than on any other enterprise whatsoever. Yet we may hope everything from the progress of education. Irish schools and schoolmasters are no longer what they once were, as described by Hood:—

> "And in the midst a little door there is,
> Whereon a board that doth congratulate,
> With painted letters, red as blood I wis,
> Thus written, 'Children taken in to Bate':
> And oft, indeed, the inward of that gate,
> Most ventriloque, doth utter tender squeak
> And moan of infants that bemoan their fate,
> In midst of sounds of Latin, French and Greek,
> Which, all i' the Irish tongue, he teacheth them to speak."

(Applause and laughter). One thing it is to be feared is hopelessly lost—Irish humour. (No, no.) Father Prout is as dead as St. Patrick. The tourist now-a-days might well address the proverbial car-driver as Hamlet apostrophised Yorick's skull:—"Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs? your flashes of merriment that were wont to set the table on a roar? Not one now to mock your own grinning? Quite chapfallen?" But so long as we maintain, as a nation, our generous sympathy with what is great and right, and our detestation of what is mean and wrong, we need hardly deplore decadence in mere wit. He (the Chairman) had been so long away from Ireland that he hardly knew how St. Patrick's Day was now celebrated. Doubtless much of the fun was gone out of it. But we do well by these annual national and social gatherings to keep up our traditions of the past. He could not, standing there, in the proud position of their Chairman, but contrast this gathering with the first Irish dinner held in Shanghai, in 186[illegible], when, between Irishmen and guests, the whole muster was thirteen, and by the 17th March of the following year, only eight of that thirteen were living, and only four were still in Shanghai. Comparing this with the last dinner, he missed many loved and familiar faces—notably the *Cadmus* men, who were welcome guests at every table. (Loud applause.) But, while regretting those old and tried friends, he was, as the spokesman of the St. Patrick's Society, eager to welcome their successors of the *Modeste* and the *Dwarf*. (Renewed cheers.) And it was an additional satisfaction to him to be able to tell his hearers, that at least two of their guests in 1874 were now happily married, proving no doubt that although

> "The world's as ugly, ay, as sin—
> 'Tis almost as delightful."

After this long speech, he did not think that they would expect or wish him to say anything about their Saint—that Saint who, like Homer, was claimed by so many cities as a native. Alas, we know very little about him, but this we do know, that an attempt has been made, with no better support than mere prosaic historical facts, to snatch him from us altogether, and add him to the already overflowing list of Caledonian worthies. This, Gentlemen, is a diabolical outrage on the part of the Scotch. (Great laughter.) We don't even know where he is buried, whether at Downpatrick, at Armagh, or along with Moses. There is a claim put in on behalf of Glastonbury, but this, Gentlemen, is a diabolical outrage on the part of the English. (Renewed laughter.) One thing we may bless his memory for — that he never wrote anything that we know of, except a Confession and one solitary letter, so that he is not to be accused of having helped to embitter the controversies of the ages which succeeded him. (Applause.)

Song—"Saint Patrick's Day."

The VICE-CHAIRMAN then proposed the "Navy, Army, and Volunteers." He said—The toast I have the pleasure of proposing is one that always, next to that of our Sovereign and the Royal Family, finds the heartiest response at our gatherings. We residents in Shanghai not only look to the Navy as our principal safeguard in all times of difficulty, but we also look to them and depend on them to share in our amusements in the piping times of peace. They always come to the front in our Paper Hunts (cheers and laughter); and in cricket matches and theatricals—whenever, in fact, they are called on, officers and men are always ready to assist. And this not only at Shanghai, but at all the open ports. And if ever troublous times come upon us, if their active services are required, we know that they will be ready to come forward and bear out the glorious traditions stamped on their history. (Cheers.) As regards the Volunteers I shall say very little ("Oh!" and laughter.) Gentlemen I don't think our Volunteers are to be laughed at. (No, no.) It must be borne in mind that, on the 4th April, 1854, they not only fought but bled on the field of

Muddy Flat—(cheers);—and later, in 1860 and 1861, though they did not come to blows with the Rebels, they did good service to the Settlement. And if called on again, they would be as ready as ever for any duty required of them. It is no easy matter to keep up a Volunteer Corps, situated as we are in Shanghai. The press of business and heat in summer are drawbacks; and no slight credit is due to men for forsaking in winter the more congenial amusements of rackets and other things, for the drier duties of drill. I will not detain you longer, Gentlemen; I have pleasure in proposing the health of "The Navy, Army and Volunteers," coupled with the name of Captain Buller, the Senior Naval Officer in port, and Captain Savage of the Shanghai Mounted Rangers. (Applause.)

Song—"Widow Machree."

Captain Buller, who was received with much cheering, said: Mr. President and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Navy, I rise to return thanks for the hearty way in which you have received the toast, and the flattering terms in which it has been proposed. On looking round the room, I am very proud to feel that, although there are only two British ships in harbour, so many of their officers are Irishmen, and one in particular is a son of the senior member of the Order of Saint Patrick. In the Navy, we have different feelings and different objects of pursuit. But in one thing we are universally agreed. We all rejoice when the signal is run up to sail for the coast of Ireland, because we know that we shall be received hospitably. All along the coast, from the Giant's Causeway to Queenstown, in every port, we always receive a hearty welcome.—When he received an invitation to be present at this banquet (continued Captain Buller), his first thought was—why had he been invited? he could not claim the privilege by birth, for he was not an Irishman, though he was next akin to it—(cheers)—for he was a Cornishman. He could only come to one conclusion—that Irishmen, whether in the Emerald Isle or in Shanghai, still extend hospitality to the Navy. Shanghai is always a favourite resort for the Navy, [illegible] always well received here; and Naval men could not forget that they fought side by side with Shanghai men in repelling the Taepings; they had fought side by side in reducing the fiery elements; and after many a sham fight they had fought side by side in reducing that formidable enemy which was kept in casks marked "Treble X." (Cheers and laughter.) He saw there were many toasts on the list, and would not detain them longer. There was one sentiment in which he would ask them all to join, and in which he was sure they would all agree—"May the sun never set on the flag of Great Britain and Ireland." (Loud applause.)

Captain Savage next rose, to reply for the Army.—I regret extremely that there is no officer wearing the Queen's scarlet uniform here to-night, to thank you for the very cordial manner in which you have received the toast of the British Army. It is, however, by no means surprising to me, knowing as I well do, how highly Irishmen esteem the profession of arms. In the present day, when all Europe stands, as it were, "on guard," it must be a matter of no small gratification to know that, whatever the quantity may be, the quality of our troops is undeniable. (Applause.) It has been latterly the fashion for alarmists to predict all sorts of disasters, should our country ever be drawn into a European war, on account of the numerical inferiority of our forces; but the "two men and a boy" who are popularly supposed to make up the full strength of the Army, have hitherto always acquitted themselves creditably; and we have good reason to hope they will help us again out of future perplexities. Our guests to-night, I hope, will pardon me if, without drawing invidious comparisons, I dwell with some pride on this anniversary, on the achievements of our Irish soldiers. Twined round the harp and the shamrock on the colours of our Irish regiments, we may see embroidered the records of hard-fought struggles, in which our countrymen, shoulder to shoulder with their Scotch and English brethren, have nobly maintained the reputation of the British Arms. (Applause.) England knows well, and acknowledges the debt of gratitude she owes to her Irish soldiers. Ireland is the nursery of her army; from that quarter of her Empire she draws the largest proportion of its defenders, and the pages of history tell us how loyally they have served her. It will not be out of place if I take this opportunity of denying the charge which has been brought against Irish soldiers, of being false to their oath of allegiance during the late Fenian troubles. (Applause.) I, as an officer quartered in Ireland during those disturbed times, can state positively that it was not soldiers who turned Fenians, but Fenians who enlisted in the hope of corrupting the minds of their comrades. (Applause.) A British soldier, whatever his nationality may be, looks upon his regiment as his home, and would as soon think of burning down his father's "shebeen" as of plotting against the corps to which he belongs at the bidding of a few hair-brained fanatics. Passing on from this subject, which suggested itself to him from a few remarks made by the Chairman, he would conclude with the wish that the *entente cordiale*, which has ever existed between the mercantile and military classes in China, built up as it has been on a basis of mutual esteem and regard, may continue until "time fades into eternity." (Applause.)

Mr. Kingsmill rose to propose the health of the "Guests." It would be out of place on his part to speak of the hospitality of Irishmen; but, looking round, he might consider that that hospitality, such as it was, was more than repaid by the kindness of the guests who had graced their annual celebration with their presence. Were it not for their presence, our enjoyment would lose more than half its zest. As members of the St. Patrick's Society, they had to thank those, of whatever nationality, who had added so much to the pleasure of the event they were now celebrating, but none more than the Sons of St. Andrew, who had afforded them an example worthy of their imitation, and whose annual banquet bore a well-earned testimony to the warmth of the national feeling. He had, therefore, much pleasure in proposing the health of their guests of the evening, and in coupling with the toast the name of the worthy and distinguished Vice-President of the St. Andrew's Society, Dr. Henderson.

Drunk with cheers and musical honours.

Song—"Come back to Erin."

Dr. Henderson (who was received with applause on rising) was sorry that he should be greeted with any signs of approbation, as by this he feared he was credited with having a speech prepared for the occasion; whereas he had come prepared for very little except to enjoy a good dinner, which indeed he had done most thoroughly. However, as he represented a large constituency, who might not be altogether satisfied with informal acknowledgments, he would at least begin in the orthodox fashion.—Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Croupiers, and Gentlemen, as the mouthpiece of your guests to-night, I beg to thank you first for your hospitality, and to assure you that we shall long look back with pleasure to this evening, spent in your good company under the patronage of Saint Patrick. Before coming here to-night, I had heard a good deal outside of the success of your Irish dinners; but now that I have actually been present at one myself, I am bound to say that these reports (good as they were) fell far short of the reality. Long may your Saint's day be celebrated in this way, and long may your kind invitations be extended to the President and Vice-President of the St. Andrew's Society. You are doubtless aware that there are some unfortunately constituted individuals in the community, who affect to despise our national celebrations—men who (I speak now in the interests both of St. Patrick and St. Andrew) ridicule our speeches—("oh"!)—call our patriotism mere sentiment, our conviviality assumed, and our enthusiasm a mere sham. (Cries of "no! no"!) Well, I only wish we had had one of those individuals here to-night, to hear what we have heard, see what we have seen (A voice—"The shillelaghs and potatoes.")—partaken of the good cheer of which we have partaken, so that in this way he might have his bosom once for all purged of that perilous stuff which weighs upon his heart (Shakespeare!), and makes him the soulless cosmopolitan which the miserable creature actually prides himself on having become. To return, however, to my point—one of these cosmopolitan gentlemen—and if there is a reporter present, it would be a personal favour if he could take a very careful note of this, as perhaps my friend may feel ashamed of his atrocious sentiments when he sees them in print—one of these cosmopolitan gentlemen, had the audacity to tell me the other night at the Club, that the only tie which bound Scotchmen to Irishmen was a mutual love, not for each other, but for a certain beverage which, under the names of "mountain dew" and "poteen" was popularly believed to be the chief sustainer and the crowning glory of their feasts. Away with such vile calumnies—for, are we not all, Irishmen, Scotchmen, and Englishmen, too, met here to-night on grounds of cordial good-fellowship and mutual esteem far more stable than have ever yet been discovered in the delusive depths of a punch bowl? What we *do* like in the Irish character is not difficult to tell, and, on the present occasion, it is a pleasure to tell it—we like you for your hospitality, of which you have given us so very notable a proof to-night. For your generosity—and we were sorry to hear the other night, from a popular comedian, one of yourselves, that the full purse does not always accompany the generous heart. For your bravery—concerning which let the battlefields of Europe and of India, and also of America, and of China too, for the matter of that—tell their bloody tales. For your cheerful good humour, which no misfortune seems able to overcome. Above all, and to-night especially, we admire in you your love of country, that pure fountain from which, whatever scoffers may say, has sprung some of the noblest deeds which the world has yet seen. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I again thank you in the name of your guests for your kindness, and congratulate you very heartily on the thorough success of your Irish dinner. (Applause.)

Dr. Barton said the very flattering compliments which had been uttered by Dr. Henderson made him feel modest as to saying anything more about their country. Still, he had much pleasure in proposing the toast of "The Schools and Universities of Ireland." Ireland was renowned at an early age as the seat of learning, when Europe was sunk in ignorance through incessant wars. Many visited her shores in those days, to seek intercourse with her learned men. I have read of an Irish chief of those ancient times, inviting a stranger to his house and divesting himself of his only covering, a long robe or cloak—(laughter)—and conversing with the stranger in Latin. Even in modern days, the Latin language is taught in the poorest schools. Ireland, like many other countries in Europe afterwards, became the seat of wars, rebellions and conquests. And the contests between the various rival chiefs weakened

the nation, and made the people an easy prey to the invader. The schools and universities of the present day have established a high reputation. The endowed schools of Ireland have trained up many eminent men—Dungannon, Enniskillen, Londonderry, Cavan, and others might be mentioned; and the ancient University of Ireland, Trinity College, does not need any praise of mine. It was originally founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and has maintained its high character. Many writers and statesmen have received their education in Ireland. I shall only mention a few—Burke, Grattan, Sheridan, Connor, and O'Connell, all names familiar to us as orators; Wellesley and Wellington as statesmen; and a late example in Lord Mayo in India, who has left a noble name, and we must regret his melancholy fate. The Queen's University has been established on the same principle as the London University—viz., the abolition of Religious Tests, and, although much opposed, has done great good in breaking down the barriers of prejudice and religious exclusion. (Applause) The number of graduates is, I believe, increasing in this university. The National Schools of Ireland were established to furnish the secular education of the masses, leaving religious instruction to their respective priests or pastors. Those schools have done much for the youth of that country, and, although not carried out in their integrity, having almost lapsed into denominational schools, they deserve much praise. I ought to say something of the Medical Schools of Ireland. Those of Dublin are now supplemented by Belfast, Cork, and Galway, as feeders of the Queen's University. The Dublin schools have long been celebrated for the study of anatomy and surgery. It will suffice to mention the names, as teachers, of Crompton, Stokes, Graves, Jacob, Carrigan, all men who have left their mark. In connection with Trinity College, I ought to name Professor Harrison, whose reputation is European. The Queen's Colleges will doubtless maintain the same standard of education and skill introduced in those schools. In the competitive examinations for the Army and Civil Service, Irish students have distinguished themselves, and hold their place with those from other portions of the Empire. I shall now conclude by proposing, "The Schools and Universities of Ireland."

Song—"The Green Trees whisper low."

Mr. STARKEY said it had fallen to his lot—a remark which he thought had been already made by two or three people—to respond for the Schools and Universities of Ireland. He should not say much, because the subject had been completely exhausted by the learned gentleman who proposed it, and he should not attempt to resuscitate the cadaver. The influence of the Schools of Ireland had been felt in this country more than most people were inclined to suspect. Mr. Wade, the present British Minister at Peking, had been educated in an Irish school, and brought up at an Irish University—(Oh!). Mr. Hart, the Inspector-General of Customs, had suffered from the same complaint. (Oh!). They might look at it how they liked; these were distinguished men, and had made themselves conspicuous in the newspapers in many ways. (Laughter.) And he thought Schools and Universities, which produced men who made themselves so remarkable, were not by any means to be despised. (Cheers and laughter). He repeated, however, that the subject had been so completely exhausted by Dr. Barton as to be extinguished altogether, and he should not attempt to resuscitate it. He would only thank them for the way in which the toast had been received.

Mr O'BRIEN, who was greeted with much cheering, rose to propose the next toast. He said—Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, "The Authors, Artists and Orators of Ireland," is a toast which could only be done full justice to by one of the Irish orators themselves. We all know the fine lines with which Denham prefaces his description of the Thames—

> "Oh! could I flow like thee, and make thy stream
> My bright example, as it is my theme"—

so, too, anybody aspiring to treat in an adequate manner the theme of the orators of Ireland, could only do so by endeavouring to emulate the great men who are the objects of his enconiums. But how few are they who could, even remotely, recall those brilliant periods—that fervent rhetoric—that glowing and impassioned oratory! For my own part, I shall only furnish one resemblance to it—the very strong resemblance of contrast. (Cheers and laughter.) My halt and feeble utterances will negatively suggest the glory and splendour of that eloquence which issued from the lips of a Burke, a Sheridan, or a Grattan—an eloquence unparalleled in the history of any nation, however great its material resources, however widely extended its conquests—and which is, of itself, sufficient to secure for the little country in which it flourished, a respectable status in every region of the globe where art is cultivated and literature held in honour. (Great applause.) If so dispassioned a critic as Lord Holland ventured the opinion that the best efforts of ancient oratory were, in comparison with Sheridan's Begum speech, as artificial illumination is to the sun, it will not be deemed too presumptuous in an Irishman to say that, even the speeches of Cicero and Demosthenes themselves, though, doubtless, more artistically elaborate, did not surpass in richness, fervour and fire, those glorious bursts of eloquence which electrified the British Senate, and which once stirred the echoes in the old house in College Green. (Cheers.) Alas! Gentlemen, that those echoes should now be woke only by the click of the coins passing through the hands of the cashier; for, as we all know, after the dissolution of the Irish Parliament, the architectural pretentions of the building in which they held their sittings, naturally led to its conversion into a Bank. Should this concern ever cease to pay, the historic old pile will probably be converted into a Custom House, and then the national degradation will be complete. (Cheers and laughter.) Eloquence, Gentlemen, is, in some sort, an appanage and inheritance of the Celtic race, and in this department of literature, our country claims, and is freely allowed a foremost place. But when we come to examine our achievements in other fields of literary activity, it behoves us to assume a much more modest attitude. The really great authors whom Ireland has produced might, perhaps, be counted on the fingers of one hand. (Oh!) I remember once, at a St. Patrick's dinner, the proposer of a toast somewhat similar to the one intrusted to me, made a long enumeration of Hibernian celebrities, many of whom, I confess, I had never heard of before. The speech did great credit to the gentleman's patriotism, and to his industry. He had raked out of mouldy libraries long-forgotten works of sons of the Emerald Isle, and so he was enabled to entertain the company for upwards of an hour with panegyrics of the learned O'Mulligan, the profound O'Donovan, the poetical MacSwiney, the brilliant Murphy, and Heaven knows how many others besides. For my own part, Gentlemen, rather than weary you with the enumeration of such very "small potatoes," I would almost rather feel inclined to make a raid on our neighbours at the other side of the Channel, and, as a return for what our Chairman very properly called the "diabolical outrage" of trying to make out St Patrick an Englishman, boldly claim some of the highest of the English worthies for our own. There is Shakspeare, for instance, Gentlemen. It is utterly impossible to fit the magnificent literary growth known as Shakspeare's works, on to the commonplace stump known historically to us as the man Shakspeare. Some propose Lord Bacon as the real author; others say that the plays were really written by Shakspeare, though not our old friend, W. Shakspeare of Stratford-on-Avon. In short, Gentlemen, the authorship of those immortal productions is, like the miss in the game of whist going a-begging; and, in the circumstances, it will not, perhaps, be considered too audacious to claim him, as I have said, for Ireland. (Cheers). It is just as good a theory, I think, as any other, to hold that Shakspeare was an Irishman—one of the O'Shaughnahassys, most likely. Then, again, take Milton. There is internal evidence in his greatest poem that he was, to say the least, of Milesian extraction, and belonged, without doubt, to the family of O'Mullaghan. The well-known line—

> "The fairest of her daughters, Eve,"

is an Irish bull of the most genuine breed, and it is not the only one to be found in the poem. However, I shall not press this point. Let us rather generously waive our claims, especially as our English guests present may not be ready with an answer to meet so unexpected an issue, and would, perhaps, accuse me of taking an unfair advantage of them. Well, then, Gentlemen, to come back to our, generally unchallenged and undoubted Irish authors and artists, I am bound to say that I consider they form rather "a beggarly array." (Cries of "Oh! oh!") Gentlemen, I mean nothing offensive by the epithet; I simply wished to imply that they were fewer than I could wish them to be, and likewise, for the most part, impecunious. (Cheers and laughter.) Compare our literary history with that of Scotland—a country only half the size, and with only half the population of Ireland. For one Irish author of eminence, she can show two. Take the representative poets of both countries. Burns' inspiration is of a far higher order than Moore's. (Cries of Oh!) Gentlemen, I think so. Then, in metaphysics, we have [illegible] great, name of Berkley to put into the scales against those of Hume, Reid, Stewart, Brown and Hamilton. What Irish novelist, I would ask, can hold a candle to Scott? Swift's genius, indeed, stands supreme in unapproached and solitary grandeur, but then the question arises, was Swift an Irishman? Was Goldsmith an Irishman? Was Berkley an Irishman? Was Sterne an Irishman? Why, Gentlemen, their very names sufficiently answer the question. Hardly one of our great literary celebrities is Irish, in the full and true sense of the word. They were, indeed, born in Ireland, but as Archbishop Whately, tellingly, though sophistically, argued, a man born in a stable isn't a horse. (Roars of laughter.) The Duke of Wellington is claimed as an Irishman, for, I believe, no better reason than that he had the misfortune to be born on board a ship somewhere in the Irish seas. (Renewed laughter.) Let us not indulge in the jubilations of a fond but foolish patriotism; let us not parade ourselves in borrowed feathers; let us frankly and cheerfully admit that the greatest names in our literature are those of men of English descent, and, in some cases even, of English parentage. How, indeed, could it be otherwise? For centuries it was impossible for an Irishman—Irish, that is to say, in lineage and creed—to get a decent education—to get any education at all, in fact. "Chill penury repressed the noble rage" of some, but the existence of incapacitating religious tests in our only University was the most serious barrier to the education of the better class of Irish Catholics. Trinity College, gentlemen—I apologise beforehand, in case I may offend the feelings of any *alumnus*

possibly present—is an institution of which Irishmen generally have no reason to feel proud. It has turned out only two really great men—Burke and Goldsmith; and it turned them out in the most complete manner—it expelled them, both one and the other. (Cheers and laughter.) As an educational institution, it has been what an American would call a "one-horse" concern from beginning to end. Its most respectable feature is its revenues, and the sooner these are utilised for the good of the Irish people at large, the better for the future of the country. Had our country been properly governed, had the avenues to a liberal education been open to the great body of our countrymen, I venture to affirm that the list of distinguished Irishmen would have been immeasurably greater than it is. In saying this, I do not wish to cast the least reproach on the existing generation of Englishmen, who have done their best to redress the wrongs of the past, and who, as far as my experience extends—entertain a high regard and the friendliest feelings for us. (Applause.) It is to be regretted that we have not achieved an equally favourable estimation of ourselves among the great Anglo-Saxon community at the other side of the Atlantic, amongst whom so many of our countrymen have found a home. But we cannot close our eyes to the fact that, for one reason or other, we have failed to obtain the goodwill or respect of the original colonists of that great country. It is unfortunate that the flagrant misgovernment of New York, and the notorious Tammany frauds, for both of which the Irish element in the community is made responsible, should have done much to justify the existing antipathy. For myself, however, I detect a certain element of hope in these latter achievements of our compatriots, which in a slight measure relieves the sense of disgrace. We have been often, and justly, reproached for our recklessness, our carelessness in money matters, our general improvidence. Now, however, that I see our brethren in America going in so thoroughly for self-aggrandisement and the worship of the almighty dollar, I begin to think with Mark Twain (slightly altered) that "them Hibernians is improvin." (Great laughter and cheering.) Dispassionate, gentlemen—not to say, disparaging—as some of my remarks may sound to Irish ears, I yield to no one here in admiration of the splendid attributes of the Celtic race, and no one forms brighter expectations or more fervent wishes for its future. The present is full of consolation and hope. The fine arts have until recently been a closed book to us. But no sooner were facilities for artistic studies given to Ireland, than she produced a Foley, a Hogan, a Maclise. The love of music forms a refined and graceful feature in the national character, and the exquisite melodies of "Maritana" and the "Bohemian Girl" derive, perhaps, an added charm in our ears from the fact that both Balfe and Wallace were Irishmen. (Applause.) The great modern profession of journalism owes much of its brilliancy and lustre to the large number of Irishmen who have adopted this career. (Cheers.) It was only the other day that I saw, in *Vanity Fair*, a clever likeness of a countryman, Dr. Russell, the Father, as I may call him, of the "special correspondent," one of the best known men in Europe, and everywhere liked and respected. I am, indeed, rather surprised to find that our local press, so "ably conducted" as it is, does not number any Irishman on its staff; for there are very few papers in the Colonies, or in the East, which have not an Irish editor, sub editor or reporter. I could quote living Irishmen, like Lord Cairns and Dr. Magee the Bishop of Peterborough, who worthily sustain the traditions of Irish Oratory. I could quote the names of Irishmen who adorn at this moment almost every field of letters, who are achieving distinction in almost every walk of life—and the preceding speaker has instanced Irishmen who are filling with honour posts of the highest dignity and responsibility. But, gentlemen, the night is not very young, and the toast-list is very long. I shall, therefore, conclude with the hope, that as the opportunities of education are extended and brought within reach of the pure and unmixed Celtic portion of the population, we shall gradually arrive at the glorious position which we held in Europe when, as in the fifth and sixth centuries, we spread civilisation—then synonymous with Christianity—from one end of benighted Europe to the other. We shall, perhaps, never again become the Island of Saints—for I fear that order of men is now extinct, and not likely to be revived in these times—(laughter)—but we should, at all events, aspire to become, in a conspicuous and exemplary manner, an Island of "Authors, Artists, and Orators." (Prolonged applause.)

The Chairman said that it was now his pleasant duty to propose "The health of the the President and Members of the St. Andrew's Society." In taking part in these Irish gatherings, he always felt that he was more or less of an impostor, for in point of fact he was, he believed, but for the accident of having been born in Ireland, as Scotch as any of the gentlemen, (not excluding their president) whose health he now proposed. Anyhow, this enhanced the pleasure he felt in doing what he was now doing. The toast was, in Shanghai, essentially and necessarily a popular one, for the Settlement would, so far as foreigners are concerned, be turned into a howling wilderness were Scotch numbers, Scotch energy, and Scotch capital suddenly withdrawn from it. We talked of "the English Settlement." It is really a Scotch Settlement, and this perhaps was what is implied in the term "so-called English Settlement," which the Secretary to the Municipal Council now never fails to use on every convenient opportunity. (Laughter) We should go about groaning under the pressure of Scotch tyranny, if by ill-luck our overwhelming Scottish majority had brought with them the "Sabbath" side of their character—if they were morose, stolid, stern and joyless, as we must allow very many of their countrymen are, at least once a week, at home. (Laughter.) But instead of this, they are hospitable, liberal, genial and humourous, and have thus endeared themselves where they might have crushed their competitors. And further, *we* owe them a double debt of gratitude, for not only is the touching emblem of our nationality suspended there (pointing to a most formidable shillelagh) the gift of the Scottish Saint or of his local representative, but the very existence of this organised society of Irishmen is in a great measure due to a generous emulation excited by the success attained by the Corporation of the Sons of St. Andrew. The toast was drunk with great cheering, and was acknowledged by

Mr. Keswick, who said: I rise with great diffidence to reply to the toast which the Chairman has so kindly proposed, and to which you, gentlemen, have so warmly responded; for I feel how unequal I am to the task of adequately thanking you. I greatly appreciate the honor you have done St. Andrew's Society, and I am sure all its members highly value the compliment you have paid them. The meetings which our respective societies hold on the anniversaries of their Saint's day, are calculated to keep warm that love of country and those early associations which are perhaps the most-to-be cherished feelings that recur to us of our youth and home; and there is no more pleasant way in a distant country of reviving enthusiasm, and keeping green recollections that never should be forgotten, than socially meeting together to show respect for those special days which are dedicated to honor both by the Irish and Scotch. It has been often said, by cynics I think, that these meetings are more or less for the purpose of expressing mutual admiration. But I view them differently, and think they have a more elevating influence and answer a higher purpose. Few things are more calculated to make men form resolutions, and adhere to them, than the appeals which on these occasions stir patriotic feelings and bring back to memory kindly reminiscences of home. I can only say for one, and I have now been a good many years in China, that some of my most pleasant recollections are associated with these meetings, and in no case more pleasantly than to night. I thank you again gentlemen, in the name of the Sons of St. Andrew, for the way in which the toast has been proposed and responded to.

Mr. Lemarchand next rose to propose "Prosperity to Shanghai." I have, he said, the honor to propose a toast which touches us more closely than perhaps any that we have been called upon to receive this evening. I can only regret that it has not been confided to abler hands. Not being an Irishman, I cannot say certainly, but I do not think that St. Patrick permits of "shop" being introduced at this festive board. If we wish to do his memory honour, we will take a happy view of things, and start with the assertion that there are bright days in store for Shanghai. But this is not the place for me to go into statistics, and endeavor to prove that the silver lining is already visible. It seems to me that past prosperity and present adversity are well calculated to bring about future good; and in that case, the recent experience will not be thrown away. There is, I think, a well-founded admission that the Shanghai of to-day has many advantages over the past; socially it has vastly improved, and it is in many respects a much nicer place to reside in than it used to be. Now, gentlemen, if we admit this, it is a good deal; and if we can divest our minds of the idea that in the almighty dollar alone prosperity is to be found (hear, hear), we shall go far to arrive at the meaning of my toast. Retrenchment is the order of the day, and certainly it is a necessity; and, if we look upon it in a contented spirit, we shall be meeting our day of adversity like honorable men, who are determined to make Shanghai a prosperous place. (Applause.) I have no doubt that there is a great future for North-China. It is not like a worn-out bush, that has been pruned and worked to death. The fact is, that the knife has never been applied, and when the useless unbearing branches have been cut off, then we shall see new wood and fruit in abundance, and prosperity will be the better appreciated, inasmuch as we shall have known what adversity is. A good deal lies in our power to help ourselves. We should not let John Chinaman prosper at our expense. We should not let him turn us out of our Settlement, in more ways than one. We should hold together and pull together more than we do, and cut our coats according to our cloth. (Applause.)

Mr. A. J. Little (Commodore S. Y. C.), who was called on to acknowledge the toast, said:—"'Tis pity that a generous heart is not always accompanied by a well-filled purse." This sentiment was enounced on Tuesday evening last, at the Lyceum theatre, by a gentleman who will doubtless rise in his profession. And very certainly, if a generous heart always implied a well-filled purse, every son of Saint Patrick would have plenty of money. The proposer of the toast to which he was called on to respond—he did not know why, unless because the Yacht Club was one of our junior institutions, and its mem-

bers were therefore called on to do duty—had said there was a prospect of a turn in affairs. He (Mr. L.) thought much too gloomy a view was taken of our position, and of Shanghai generally (cheers). What was called stagnation was merely rest. It was simply a case of *reculer pour mieux sauter*. We could not be always buying tea and silk. There was a time for action and a time for rest. We must wait and collect our forces for new efforts, and endeavour meanwhile to spend our leisure as pleasantly as possible. He did not know whether any present had been in China so long as he had. He remembered 15 years ago, when, to quote a recent theatrical utterance, "our merchants were not auctioneers and our paths not strewn with thorns;" and he thought all would agree that we had, since then, made enormous progress. There were then no roads, no jetties, and there was a very small society, comprising only a dozen ladies. People said they made more money in those days, but he doubted whether they were really more prosperous. He did not think there were any signs of our prosperity waning. People who were anxious to see new ports continually opened up, were of course disappointed; but let us look back and see what progress had been made. In 1860, China was the Ultima Thule. There was no North, no Japan, no Yangtsze—Shanghai was an outport, and we had only the P. & O. steamer once a fortnight. How great had been the change, anyone would see; we had now all the elements of a great metropolis, and a glance at the map was sufficient to show that our position was directly analogous to that of New York, the chief city on the Eastern Coast of America. We could not yet equal New York, but we were making rapid strides towards doing so, and although we should not see the time ourselves, yet he had a full faith that it would one day come. He did not know what was the proportion of our present trade to that of fifteen years ago, but the increase must be enormous. The thin end of the wedge had been driven into China. The Chinese were asking how they could get the benefits of foreign civilization without its drawbacks. They were fast beginning to see the many advantages which our connection brings them, and it was a mistake to suppose they were endeavouring to hold us at a distance farther than was necessary to avoid being overwhelmed by too many and sudden changes. They needed us, and we should find fresh profits in serving them. He had been glad to hear lately from his friend Mr. Major, that the sale of the *Shunpao* now reached 5,000 copies a day. 5,000 articles written more or less from a modern standpoint, read every day by 5,000 groups of people, must eventually open the eyes of the thinking classes among the natives. We all knew the Chinese were a reading people; it was only necessary to lay the subject before them in a manner adapted to their modes of thought, to make them appreciate it. A better knowledge was arising on both sides, and it was merely a question of time and patience to bring about the full mutual interchange of all that was most valuable in both civilizations. The proposer of the toast alluded to the improved social condition of the Settlement. Now what element most contributed to this improvement; decidedly the Irish element, by their known liveliness and generosity; if there is one element which is not prospering, it is trade, and that was probably because there are comparatively so few Irishmen engaged in it. He would remind them of a little anecdote, which explained capitally the characteristics of the several races. We all know the distinctive answers given by the Englishman, the Scotchman, and the Irishman to the question: What would you do if you had to drive along the brink of a precipice? The Englishman replied the first, "I should keep three inches from the edge, and thus try and avoid the danger." The Scotchman came next, and said "I'll tell you in the morn." The Irishman, "By jabers, and I'll jist avoid it entirely." This (said Mr. Little) is what I would do, if I could, with my speech now (no, no,); but being an Englishman I must keep on, though I scrape the precipice. I am sorry the duty of returning thanks did not fall to an Irishman, for if anyone has contributed more than another to our progress it was Irishmen. If we look around at the material signs of prosperity that line our roads, we see everywhere the work of Irish architects. Where can you find a more picturesque rural drive than the Bubbling Well road—the St. John's wood I might call it of Shanghai? (Oh, and laughter.) Well, many of the buildings on the Bubbling Well road were erected by an Irish architect; and I hope (said Mr. Little) he will have plenty more work, because that will be a proof that Shanghai is prospering. Our best jockeys are Irishmen. Our leading brokers are Irishmen; and no one can complain of want of energy on their part. (Laughter.) Many people in England deal in coals; and the trade is looked upon as needing only a low order of intellect, but in Shanghai we have a man of high talents specially devoted to the business; gentlemen, we have an Irish coal-taster (cheers and laughter). The solidity of the Englishman, and the caution of the Scotchman, are nothing without the fire of the Irish. Without the Irish we should stagnate. What we want for complete success is a combination of the three. If our Minister at Peking showed a little more Irish fire, we should not be dissatisfied (prolonged cheering). We acknowledge his scholarship, we respect the position he holds, but a little more push and fire would be welcomed by all (renewed cheering). Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer, but will thank you for drinking prosperity to Shanghai.

Captain SAVAGE next rose to propose "The Ladies." Although (he said) I am deeply sensible of the compliment paid me in being selected for the duty which I am now about to perform, I feel, nevertheless, at this advanced hour of the evening, after such a feast of reason and flow of whiskey, that I should be much more competent to propose myself to some individual lady—(laughter and cries of "name," "name")—than in polished periods to propose the toast of the sex in general. However, as there does not happen to be one of the female persuasion here present to-night, that alternative is not open to me; so that I, a modest Irishman, guiltless of ever before having rounded the feeblest tribute of homage to the sex, find myself committed to a task which has ere now called forth from the most brilliant speakers the choicest treasures of their imagination. It has been said that the true way to write a love-letter is to sit down without knowing what you are going to say, and to get up without knowing what you have said. *Mutatis mutandis* (Horace) Hem! I am going to pursue the same system to-night—(laughter)—feeling sure that whatever may be my oratorical shortcomings in an assembly of Irishmen, with whom admiration of women is one of the first articles of their belief, and to whom Tom Moore is an inspired writer—("Oh" and cheers),—I shall meet with an indulgent hearing. In the hebdomadal glass, which we drain every Saturday night, — some of us to the wives that are, some to the sweethearts that will be, sharers of our lives, does not each of us conjure up some sweet face around which a thousand pleasant memories linger, investing it, perhaps with charms which it never possessed, and pledging it silently as that of our true maiden ever? (Cheers and laughter.) Sometimes these phantom faces prove irresistible. The "blue black Irish hair and Irish eyes have drawn us home." *Il faut se ranger*; and we return to China as married men, to Cupid and cold mutton it may be, in these hard times—but the cold mutton at all events is glorified with the smiles of her we love best—"Lives there a man with soul so dead," whose pulse does not throb quicker, when, after weary sojournings in strange lands, he hears again the tuneful brogue of his country, whether it be from the lips of a coronetted countess or a barefooted Bridget, whose home lies in the wilds of Connemara. (Great laughter.) In all classes of society the influence of women—be it for good or be it for evil—("oh" and laughter)—reigns supreme; strong to bring out the lights and shades of men's natures, and strong to stimulate the healthy ambition of the men with whom they are connected. I daresay it has occurred to others besides myself, that the degraded condition which women occupy in China may be looked upon as one of the causes which have kept the country in its present backward condition with regard to arts, literature, and manly virtues. Progress requires incentives. Religion and patriotism may be strong motive powers, but I think more noble works have been executed, more deeds of heroism performed, for the fair faces of women, than have ever been achieved for the sake of creed or country. (Cheers.) It may be that some future day a Chinese Dido will arise, who will rebuild the walls of her cities, dredge the Woosung Bar, forswear pyjamas in favour of petticoats, marry an Irishman, and live happy ever afterwards. (Roars of laughter.) Indeed, it occurs to me that at this present moment an enterprising Irishman might find employment for his silver tongue in wooing one of the late Emperor's wives or mothers. (Renewed laughter.) Surely he might put the "comether" on one of them up there at the capital. I commend the notion to you all, and if any successful suitor here is destined to share the Imperial throne, I hope that he will use the vermilion pencil liberally in writing something handsome to the credit of the author of the idea. (Hear.) However, I fear that I am travelling out of my brief; but you know if [illegible] the lips that we love, we must only make love to the lips that are near (an Empress's of course for choice.) Still, it is only our own dear countrywomen who can exercise any real influence, to make or mar our lives. Poets weave their brightest fancies when woman is their theme; the painter lingers fondly over his canvas, loth to leave the ideal woman's face which his brain and brush have created. Is it not old Isaac D'Israeli, that great master of language, who says, "It is at the foot of woman we would lay the laurels that, but for her smile would never have been won; it is her image that strings the lyre of the poet, that animates the voice in the eloquent blaze of faction, that guides the brain in the august toils of stately councils." Gentlemen, without further preface, I will ask you to drink in brimming glasses to "the ladies,"—the widows, wives, and maids at home and abroad. (Great applause.)

Song—"Here's a health to all good lasses."

Dr. KELLY had the very pleasant, but difficult task of responding to the toast which had been so warmly drunk—difficult more especially in his case, because the national characteristic of an Irishman was, in him, strongly developed. Secondly he found a want of moral support from a few fair friends around him. (No, no.) If there were any present, they might respond in better style than he could do. And this would not be without precedent. Tradition says that when ladies were called on to respond on behalf of their sex, a rule was made that the youngest present should undertake the task; but the arrangement was futile; for when the response was called for they all unanimously rose.

(Laughter.) No one would confess who was the oldest; and they unanimously selected the junior bachelor to perform the task. And so the rule had stood since. Whether it were a good one, he would not say. He thanked them on behalf of the Ladies for drinking their health, and Captain Savage for the terms in which he had proposed it.

Song—"Tom Bowline."

Mr. Dillon next rose to propose the toast of the Press. He said—Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Gentlemen—The toast of the Press is one that I am sure will require no words of mine to commend it to you, the more especially, after observing the very arduous evening's work that our worthy friend Mr. Gundry has had, in order to give us a full report in his valuable journal. It is very much to be regretted that there were no newspapers at the time of St. Patrick, though Editors would try to make you believe they were in existence at the time of the flood; probably Noah issued a *Celestial Empire* when the Ark was resting on the top of Mount Ararat. (Laughter.) However, had they existed during St. Patrick's time, we should most probably have at least some critiques of the Chamber Music Concerts or A. D. C. performances of those days; and as none of these have been handed down to us, I think we may feel certain that the worthy Saint was never bothered by receiving his *N.-C. Herald* just at the last moment on mail night. Without trespassing further on your time, Gentlemen, I shall ask you to join me in drinking a bumper to "The Press," coupling with it the name of our worthy friend, Mr. R. S. Gundry.—(Drunk with Cheers and musical honours.)

Song—"The wearing of the Green.'

Mr. Gundry, who was warmly received on rising, said—I can hardly plead the stereotyped excuse, for it has happened to me, once or twice in my life, to propose or respond to an after-dinner toast. But I can conscientiously say that I never feel so utterly puzzled as when called on to respond for the Press; and the warm reception you have very kindly given me, does not lessen my difficulty. I remember once asking a silk merchant to write a review of the previous year's silk trade; but he refused because, he said, he knew too much about it—meaning I presume, that he was so thoroughly imbued with his subject, that he would be tempted to elaborate beyond all reason and never get to an end. I don't know that that is exactly my difficulty. I feel rather that everything which can be said about the Press has been said before, and said so very much better than I can say it, that I had better confine myself to a simple "thank you." I will, however, venture one step farther. I will say that the toast of the Press is one that occurs very fitly at a Saint Patrick's dinner, for Ireland has contributed to the Press many distinguished members. I might claim some of the great names which Mr. O'Brien could have enumerated, if his national modesty had not led him to depreciate the history of Irish literature (Shame! and laughter). Charles Lever, for instance, enriched the columns of newspapers and periodicals almost as much as he contributed to fill the most cherished corners of our libraries (Applause.) But I will content myself with mentioning Mr. Mowbray Morris, the late manager, and Mr. Delane, the present editor, of the *Times*—both Irishmen; and all the world acknowledges the consummate ability with which that great journal is conducted. It is true that there are, unfortunately, no Irishmen on the staff of the Shanghai Press, or it would doubtless be far more brilliant and successful than it is. (Of course, and laughter.) But I use the expression "staff" advisedly, for I do see present, to-night, more than one gentleman to whose critical and scientific attainments I have been often indebted, and whose sparkling effusions must appear to the community like angel's visits, amid the prevailing monotony of the *Daily News*. (No, no.)—I was glad to hear Mr. Little acknowledge the success which has attended Mr. Major's effort to establish a Chinese newspaper in Shanghai. Great credit is, I think, due to him for the energy which he has shown in that enterprise; and I hope his success foreshadows a time when the Native Press may become a power in China—when it will help, as effectually as it has done in the West, to expose the corruption of officials and reform the administration of Government. (Applause.) I thank you, gentlemen, on behalf of the Press, for the courteous way in which you have received the toast.

Song—"A Jug of Punch."

This was the last toast on the official list, but several others were proposed.

Mr. Skelly first proposed "The Committee," to whom the Irishmen present were greatly indebted for their arrangement of the banquet, and coupled the toast with the name of Mr. White.

Song—"The Shan van Voght."

Mr. White acknowledged the toast, which was warmly received.

The health of the Chairman was next proposed by Captain Buller, and acknowledged by Dr. Jamieson.

And so things went merrily on; song succeeding song, and the punch (brewed under the careful superintendence of Mr. Boyce) going round, until the celebration became really one of "Saint Patrick's day in the morning."

SHANGHAI RIFLE CLUB.

A sweepstakes was shot for at the range yesterday morning, between members of the above Club, with the result shown in the appended score. Shooting began at half-past seven, at which time the light was not all that could be wished, and to this must be added the further drawback resulting from the dirty state of the target. As the competition went on, however, the light improved, and the shooting became more brisk. The description of rifle used follows each competitor's name, and it will be seen, that, as at the first meeting of the resuscitated Club, held last December, the best shooting was made with a "Metford," the second best with a "Whitworth," while the third honour was scored with a "match Martini-Henry;" the "S.V.C.'s," with one exception, being altogether in the cold. The sweepstakes was, we are informed, arranged in the hope of inducing other members of the S.V.C., and especially new comers and recruits, to take greater interest in rifle competition, not only by becoming members of the Club, but also by availing themselves of the opportunities that will be afforded by the new prizes to be shot for next month.

	300 yds.	600 yds.	800 yds.
J. J. Tucker (Metford)	23322-12	43324-16	44332-16—44
D. Glass (Whitworth)	22420-10	34234-16	34204-13—39
C. V. Housman (Match Martini-H)	22333-13	23222-11	04334-14—38
M. Hawtrey (S.V.C.)	20324-11	4R3R3-10	3R34R-10—31
R. D. Starkey (Match Martini-H)	32322-12	32434-16	03000- 3—31
J. F. Ulrich (S.V.C.)	03244-13	02232- 9	30002- 5—27
R. Bishop (S.V.C.)	33233-14	04RR0- 4	3230R- 8—26
Jas. Hall (S.V.C.)	23323-13	R320R- 5	0304R- 7—25

Law Reports.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, 16th March.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General.*

W. S. Wetmore,
F. D. Hitch,
J. C. Allen, } *Associates.*

The Municipal Council *v.* W. H. Fogg.

Claim for Tls. 350.70, *Arrears of Land-Tax.*

Mr. Drummond appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Twombly (of Messrs. Fogg & Co.) defended.

The Petition set forth that the defendant (who is absent from Shanghai), owned certain land registered in the British Consulate, measuring 14 *mow*. Fogg & Co. are defendant's agents in Shanghai, and had up to the present time paid assessed rates on the property. At the meeting of Ratepayers in May, 1873, the Council were empowered to collect taxes at the rate of 3/10ths of 1 per cent on the value of land. A subsequent provision was made for the re-assessment of land and houses, and provisions were made for appeal. The assessment was made; defendant's property was valued at Tls. 77,859, and notice was given to him of the fact. Fogg & Co. (as his agents) appealed to the Appeal Committee, but the valuation was upheld. The Council therefore notified the defendant that the assessment was made, and demanded ½-year's tax under the terms of the resolution, viz., Tls. 116.90, which Fogg & Co. refused to pay.

At the annual meeting in May, 1874, the Ratepayers again authorised a similar tax, and demand notes were presented to Messrs. Fogg & Co. for Tls. 116.90 for the half-year ended 30th September, and again for the half-year to 31st March, and again refused. Judgment was therefore asked for these three sums and costs of the suit.

The Answer set out by questioning the legal existence of the Municipal Council, (on grounds which are fully set forth below). It denies that Fogg & Co. have regularly and constantly paid the assessed rates on the land in question. On the contrary, the justice of the abatement now claimed was admitted and allowed for a considerable time by former Councils; and if such abatement had been allowed now, there would have been no cause for the present action. Defendant has always been willing to pay on an equitable assessment. The legal status of the Council being denied, that body could not cause a legal and binding assessment to be made. But even if the status of the Council is granted, the procedure of the Assessment Commmittee is impugned.

"On the contrary, the Assessment Committee, appointed by such body proceeded no further than to value a *mow* of land in every separate lot, or, if in the opinion of such Committee, there was a difference of value in different parts of a lot proper to be noted, the value of as many *mow* as corresponded to such several parts. But such Committee did not value nor did not propose to value any lot or holding; so far from this, the Committee formally and distinctly ignored any knowledge of or regard to the quantity of land in any lot or lots. They simply evolved and announced one factor necessary to the product—the value of the land, and ignored all knowledge of the other factor, the quantity of land absolutely necessary to the product, the value of the land. The assessment of the land, the only record the Committee kept, shows this, and the minutes do or should show it. To supply this radical defect, the (so-called) Municipal Council or the (so-called) Secretary thereof, applied or caused to be applied to the above factor, a perfectly arbitrary and indefinite quantity, or factor, viz., to each lot the quantity mentioned in the Title Deed thereof; and this they call an assessment, within the meaning of the Resolution of the Ratepayers referred to in paragraph 6th of the petition; and thus was produced the large sum of Tls. 77,859 S.S., mentioned in paragraph 7th, and to this applying the factor 3/10ths, the several tax notes thereinafter mentioned in the petition. But had this been otherwise a legal and valid assessment, it would have been a most inequitable, and therefore, it is contended, an illegal one for the defendant, as clearly appears in letter referred to at the end of the 3rd paragraph of the petition, viz., that nearly one-half of the land which was the subject of the (so-called) assessment lies without the compound walls of the defendant, and largely exclusively in the use of the plaintiffs as roads, water courses, and partially as foreshore, and the ownership of the defendant to which, or any part of which, the plaintiffs have repeatedly refused to admit, though constrained in the second paragraph of their petition to affirm for the purpose of the action therein instituted."

The Answer goes on to question the action of the Appeal Committee, as they refused to entertain the subject of complaint as set forth in the above paragraph, alleging that

the whole matter was beyond their province. Defendant therefore denies both his indebtedness and the completion of the assessment; and explains the objection to the status of the Council.

"It is denied that there are any legal, valid and binding Land Regulations and Bye-laws of 1870 for the Foreign Settlement of Shanghai North of the Yang-king-pang as therein premised or intimated or assumed, and for the simple reason for the purpose of such Regulations the sanction of the Chinese Government is necessary, and that such sanction has never been obtained is evident from the (so-called) Land Regulations themselves; and that as an American citizen, they are not valid and binding upon the Defendant for the further reason that they have never received the Legal sanction of the Government of the United States, but simply the informal concurrence for the time being of the Acting Minister of the United States, and not as provided by the Acts of the Congress of the said Government making operative the Treaty of the same with the Emperor of China, and it may be even doubted whether an additional specific act of the Government itself sanctioning any such Regulation or specially authorizing the Minister thereto, may not be essential to their validity; that is, whether any such state of things as a Municipality in Shanghai of the nature set forth in the petition of the plaintiffs was ever contemplated in, or provided for, by the said treaty or the said Acts of Congress, rendering the same operative."

Waiving all legal objections, however, Defendant alleges the value set upon the land as absurd, and challenges confirmation.

"He is now and always has been, ready and willing to bear his just portion of all needful taxation for the purpose of the peace, order, and good government of the Foreign Community of Shanghai. That he has sought by all peaceable means and all legitimate means the avoidance of litigation with such Foreign Community, as herein fully appears; and that, finally, waiving the fact of the exclusive use of so large a part of his land by the public as herein appears, if such public or Foreign Community of Shanghai are prepared to and will admit his right of ownership, possession and enjoyment, of such part of his land lying without his compound walls as is not used, and never has been used, either as roadways or water courses, but simply lies, and has always lain waste, as fully and completely to all intents and purposes as that within his compound walls, then he is, as he always has been, prepared to pay the several sums demanded of him in the said petition."

Mr. DRUMMOND said the petition and answer would place the Court in possession of the facts of the case, by which a variety of issues were raised beyond the simple tax. The answer went to the root of the Constitution of the Court, and the power of the Council. Probably the simplest and speediest plan would be for him to call Mr. Souper to prove the facts, and then state the grounds on which the Council asked for judgment.

Mr. TWOMBLY said the answer seemed to reverse the positions. There was scarcely any necessity to call Mr. Souper. It seemed to him that the preliminary enquiry should be in regard to the validity of the Land Regulations. It was however a matter for the Court to determine.

The COURT assented to Mr. Drummond's proposal, and he proceeded to call

E. B. SOUPER, who said—I am Secretary to the Municipal Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, North of the Yang-king-pang. I produce a copy of the Land Regulations. I appear as plaintiff in this suit, under Art. 27 of those Regulations. Defendants have paid taxes upon a valuation of similar amount from 1870 to 1873. They paid in 1870 on a valuation Tls. 77,859. Defendant continued to pay half-yearly on that valuation up to 1873. The amount of present valuation is Tls. 77,936. No objections were made, to my knowledge, to payments of the amount levied under the old assessment. There is a pencil mark in one of the books, "paid under protest;" but no objection was ever lodged, to my knowledge. It is a fact that a large portion of the land on which taxes are asked, is not in the occupation of defendant, but is in occupation of the public in the shape of roads. The owners of all lots which are bounded by roads pay on property which is surrendered to the public, unless the land surrendered to the public has been marked off from the title-deed. There is only one case, to my knowledge, in which this has been done. In that case, a new title-deed has been taken out, in which the land surrendered is deducted from the total area. Upon the land so deducted, no taxes are paid, and the land is in the possession and occupation of the public. There are several cases in which a large part of the area is in the occupation of the public; for instance, Russell & Co., Dent & Co., Jardine, Matheson & Co., the British Government, and the Trustees of Trinity Church. None of the proprietors of these lots have objected to pay taxes upon the portion of their property occupied by the public. Defendant's is the only case of refusal. I was present at a meeting of Ratepayers on the 12th and 13th May, 1873. The report which I produce is a correct report of what took place. Mr. Twombly was present at the meeting. The resolutions mentioned in the 5th and 6th paragraphs of the petition were passed at the meeting—*i.e.*, Res. VI, VIII and XVIII. There is no record of Mr. Twombly having voted against either of those resolutions, so it is to be presumed he voted in favour. I mean that, if a resolution were not passed unanimously, there would be a record of the poll.

To COURT—I do not know whether Mr. Twombly voted either way.

Examination continued.—A re-assessment was made in accordance with Resolution 18. I have the assessment schedule, which shows the new valuation; namely 10 *mow* at Tls. 6,000, and 3 and 1 *mow* at Tls. 4,000. The assessment was communicated to Mr. Twombly, and returned by him, with a note upon it protesting against the valuation as excessive. Mr. Twombly was a member of the Assessment Committee, who made the new assessment. I have the British Consular Land-List showing the area of property. That list shows the total area of the properties to be 14 *mow*. It is in accordance, as regards area, with the area assessed. That list is the basis of calculation in all cases. Mr. Twombly appealed against this assessment to the Appeal Committee. I hand in the printed form of appeal, with memo. by Defendant written across. The appeal was considered, and the valuation was upheld. That decision was communicated to Mr. Twombly. I have also the minutes of the proceedings of the Appeal Court on 9th Dec. 1873. The Court was constituted as follows—Bell, J. Ashton, W. Kidner, G. J. W. Cowie, M. S. Gubbay, and J. K. Thorndike. The Assessment Committee were also represented by two members. It is noted in the minutes that Mr. Twombly objected to the area on which the assessment was based, and that the assessment was sustained. Upon that, a notice was sent to Mr. Twombly that the assessment was upheld. Payment was then demanded of the tax on that valulation, for the ½ years ended 31st March 1874, 30th Sept. 1874, and 31st March 1875. I produce the tax notes which were presented. The first relies upon the resolution passed in 1873. I have also a report of the Ratepayers meeting held in May 1874. Mr. Twombly was not present at that meeting as a Ratepayer. He was present, but took no part in the proceedings. Resolution No. 7 was passed as set out in the Report. That resolution does not vary the rate of the land-tax from the resolution of 1873. The two last tax notes rely upon that resolution. None of the amounts in those tax notes have been paid. The assessments are within the limits fixed by Art. IX. of the Land Regulations. I produce the correspondence in this case between myself, Mr. Twombly and Mr. Seward.

To Mr. TWOMBLY—As Secretary to the Municipal Council, I was present at the first meeting of the Land Assessment Committee held under the resolution (18) passed in May 1873. I remember the question was raised whether the assessment would be made on the area mentioned in the title-deed or only on the area in occupation. The minutes show that, before proceeding to business, you raised the question whether the valuation should be on the area of land in the Municipal plan or the area per title deed, and the Committee decided that it was out of their province to deal with the question. Their duty was to place a valuation on the land, and they had nothing to do with the area. At the same time they wished it to be recorded that was a matter of fairness to the Ratepayers, in their opinion, taxes should only be demanded by and paid to the Municipality on the measurement of the available land per Municipal plan.

By "Municipal plan," I understood property in private occupation—within compound walls. I have stated that I am aware in this instance taxation extends to land without the walls. The decision to take the area in the title deeds rests on the vote of the Ratepayers (Resolutions Nos. 6 of 73, and 7 of 1874). The language with reference to the quantity of land to be assessed is the same in both. There are some of lots of land within the limits North of Yang-king-pang which are not registered in any Consulate—they belong to original Chinese owners. I know of none such belonging to any foreign owner. There is a considerably body of land still in the names of native proprietors—more especially in the Hongkew Settlement. I interpret the resolutions, which have been quoted, to mean that the Council are to deal with the areas laid down in the Consular register. The resolution says "land" as registered in the Consular register; there is no distinct mention of "area." I know of no other reason than the resolution of the Ratepayers, why the area in the Consular register should be selected. I know of no special authority, under which the Assessment Committee decided the point as they did. In your case 10 *mow* were assessed at Tls. 6,000, and the balance at Tls. 4,000. I believe about 6 *mow* of the land in question is outside the walls of your compound. I have a tolerable knowledge of the value of land. I should say that within your walls is under-assessed. I should think the total valuation, if applied to the land within the walls alone, is not excessive. As much as Tls. 10,000 per *mow* has been given for property on the Bund. I was not present at the meeting of the Appeal Committee on the 9th December, when this matter was brought up. Mr. Hart was acting as Secretary to the Appeal Committee. I believe the person to whom I have referred as having re-measured, had it done for the purpose of avoiding the tax on land outside his walls which had been surrendered to the public. The act was a spontaneous one of the owner of the property. It was not suggested by the Council. The Council took no action in the matter that I am aware of. I believe the remedy has been recommended by the Council, in cases where adverse to the instance under discussion. I am not aware of any reason why the remedy would in this instance be worse than the disease. The land in question was on the Bund. My knowledge of your refusal is derived from the tax collectors' report, and from your letter.

In answer to Mr. Drummond, Mr. Twombly admitted the receipt of the tax notes.

The correspondence between Mr. Twombly and the Council was here handed in.

Cross-Examination continued—I am not aware that there was a complaint of excessive taxation prior to this, and that it was allowed. The Municipal books would show it. The prior assessment was Tls. 50,000. I do not know why it was fixed at that sum.

Mr. TWOMBLY would have to ask Mr. Souper to produce his books, as evidence on this point.

Re-examined by Mr. DRUMMOND—It has been the custom to take the area named in the title-deeds, as the basis of taxation. So far as my knowledge goes, it has been always the custom. No other system has ever, to my knowledge, been adopted. In the absence of the words in the resolution, there is no other guide I could fix upon, as to how the area should be judged. The only alternative would be to leave the determination of areas to the discretion of the Assessment Committee. That would involve an enormous amount of time and trouble, and would require a separate land-office, and cause also a proportionate additional trouble to the Assessment Committee. If the area of land taxed were reduced to that in private occupation, the revenue would of course suffer largely. There are 25 miles of streets within the Settlement; on which no tax would then be paid. It would necessitate an increase in the rate of taxation, if the expenditure remained as it is. Nearly all proprietors in the Settlement pay in the same way for land not in their occu-

occupation. The work of valuing property of this sort is done by the Assessment Committee. There was a professional gentleman on each committee in the case of the present assessment.

The Court now adjourned.

The hearing was resumed in the afternoon, when

Mr. Souper was recalled, and further examined by Mr. Drummond—There are 25 miles of roads in Shanghai, upon the greater part of which taxes are paid by the proprietors of the land abutting upon them. It is not part of my duty to value and assess property for the purposes of taxation. I have no special knowledge whether any properties are over or under assessed. The Council offered to assess the land in question according to the actual area enclosed, if the defendant would have his title-deed made out in accordance therewith. He declined that proposal, and has not altered his title-deed. The reason he gave, was, I believe, that it would involve the abandonment of claims as to foreshore rights—that it would have involved the abandonment by him of all property outside the boundary line which he claimed, but which the Council disputed.

By Mr. Twombly—I do not understand that the decision as to the taxation of the land being based upon the area contained in the title deeds, was the decision of the Assessment and Appeal Committees, or either of them. It was the decision of the Council, as instructed by the ratepayers. There is a Municipal Map, drawn by a competent authority. A very large sum was spent in getting the surveys and drafting that map. It is a correct map, as to the time the survey was made, in 1864—1866. It was drawn from a scale. It is possible to compute areas of lots from it, as they existed at that time. The Council's engineer is competent to compute those areas, but he would require extra assistance to enable him to perform that work. I think it would be a more equitable mode of paying taxes, to raise them upon the quantity of land enclosed, and so release the amount of land used as roads. I do not think there is any correspondence as to the point that the alteration of deed would lead to the abandonment of rights of foreshore. It was a general opinion, gathered in conversation with you, that it would do so. (The original map of the Land Assessment Committee was here put in.) The map contains the only record of the assessments as

Mr. Drummond said there was no further evidence in support of the Council's case; but he would submit, as there were a number of gentlemen present to give evidence for the defendant, and it would be courteous to take their evidence now, and defer argument to the end of the case.

Mr. Twombly acquiesced, saying such a course would be both convenient and desirable. There were three gentlemen present, whom he wished to testify as to what took place at the meetings of the Assessment and Appeal Committees on the questions raised, and he would call—

Mr. F. H. Bell, who said—I was a member of the Appeal Committee for the assessment of 1873. I was present in such committee at a meeting before which you appeared, to demur to the assessment of W. H Fogg's property. I remember what then took place. You objected to the gross sum charged, on the ground that the area of measurement was excessive; and the Appeal Committee decided that they had no authority to enter into the question of areas. I have read the reply of the Committee, contained in paragraphs 6 and 7 of your answer to this case, and I agree with their contents. The Appeal Committee decided upon the value per *mow*, not upon the area. The question of measurement of area we could not decide upon. It could not be brought before us. We accepted the areas as given in the schedules of the Council. All that came before us in the appeals, was based upon the assessment per *mow*, and the number of *mow*, —but nothing as to measurement. I do not consider the land within your boundary is worth Tls. 10,000 a *mow*. I should think that Tls. 6,000 would be a fair value for the land inside the walls of your compound.

By Mr. Drummond—I am aware this property has a double frontage. That would certainly increase its value. Adamson, Bell & Co. have a quantity of land outside their walls. It is a small proportion of the quantity they occupy. I have never made any objection to pay the taxes for the portion occupied by the public.

Mr. W. Kidner was next called, and stated —I was a member of the Appeal Committee, sitting on the re-assessment voted for on the 13th May, 1873. I was present at the meeting on the 9th December, at which you objected to your assessment. As Mr. Bell has said, you objected to the area, and the Committee decided at once that they could not go into the question of area—it was out of their province altogether. I considered that you would have to pay upon the area of your title deed, as everybody else did. My opinion was, that that was the end of the case. The Committee did not enter upon the case. Your land was put at the highest rate, and it certainly is some of the most valuable land in the Settlement. The Committee started with a datum of Tls. 6,000. I do not think any alteration was made in the Bund lots; what alteration was made, was in the back parts of the Settlement. I think the value then placed upon your land was its proper value. It was Tls. 6,000 for the inside, and Tls. 4,000 for that outside, the walls. It is impossible to form any idea of the actual value of land here, as there is no settled market for it. As a rule, I think the present general assessment is rather high, but that remark does not apply so much to the Bund as to the back parts of the Settlement.

By Mr. Drummond—The property sold for Tls. 10,000 per *mow* belonged to Messrs. Turner & Co. It included all available land. There are roads, &c., upon it. It has only one frontage. Messrs. Fogg's property has two frontages, and the fact of its having a water frontage increases its value. I do not think it is so valuable as the Bank property, but it is hard to make a guess at figures like that. I think the assessment put upon all the Bund property was too low, but it all depends upon quantity and position. Messrs. Fogg's property is no exception to that statement, but rather the contrary.

By Mr. Twombly—My opinion is that no man ought to pay upon the roads, as they can never be got back. I should like to see the money raised by a higher rate upon the land actually occupied. Probably the Yang-king-pang does not add to the value of property, but still it is an advantage, because you can build to the very edge of your rights, and still have light and air. I would value the value of your eight *mow*, if it was clear of buildings, would be Tls. 6,000 per *mow*. Clean lands will always fetch more per *mow* than land encumbered with buildings. I think your assessment, if it includes the roads, is a fair one. If you took away the roads, the assessment of the inside land would have to be increased.

Mr. Robert Francis was next examined, and deposed—I was a member of the Land Assessment Committee for 1873. I was at the first meeting of that Committee. I remember that you, as a preliminary, objected to the Committee going forward with the work, until the mode of ascertaining areas was decided. We had before us the old schedule. The Committee decided that they had nothing to do with the settlement of the areas, one member of the Committee remarking that anybody who felt aggrieved could have his lot remeasured, if he chose. The Committee took the quantity of land as entered in the schedule, and valued it at per *mow*. The map produced was used by Mr. Kingsmill, as chairman of that Committee. There was a larger (skeleton) plan before each member of the Committee. The manner of procedure was that we should take a lot; a value was then put upon it, which, if agreed to, was passed; if not, it was discussed. We put everything down at Tls. 400 per *mow*, or Tls. 4,000 per *mow*, as the case might be, without reference to the quantity of land, either in or outside the walls. We left that to be decided afterwards. I do not think the point as to the value of land inside and outside the compound walls was raised. I think if it had been raised, it would have made a difference —it would have done so in my mind at least, and probably in that of others of the Committee.

Mr. Drummond then read the following extract of minutes of a meeting of the Land Assessment Committee, on 28th August. *Present*, T. W. Kingsmill, chairman; A. A. Krauss, W. A. Turnbull, J. F. Twombly.—*Absent*, R. Francis and F. E. Heyden.

"Before proceeding to business, Mr. Twombly raised the question whether the valuations should be on the area of land on the Municipal plan or the area per Title Deed. Considerable discussion ensued. Members present finally concluding that it was out of their province to deal with the question. Their duty was to place a valuation on a *mow* of land according to its situation in the Settlement, they had nothing whatever to do with the area of the lot to which it belonged. It appeared to the Committee that the Ratepayers were the only authority competent to deal with the point raised; at the same time they wished it to be recorded that, as a matter of fairness to the Ratepayers, in their opinion taxes should only be demanded by and paid to the Municipality on the measurement of the available land per Municipal plan. The schedules made up on the basis of valuation fixed by the Committee were laid on the table and examined. It was moved by Mr. Kingsmill, and seconded by Mr. Krauss, "that the schedules drawn up in accordance with the assessments placed on the map used by the Committee, be adopted." (Signed) Thos. W. Kingsmill, Chairman."

Witness, examined by Mr. Drummond, said —I agree with that minute. I consider the proper course for a person who objects to a basis of taxation is to bring forward the question at a meeting of ratepayers. I was present at a meeting of the Land Assessment Appeal Committee, on the 9th December, 1873, at which a large number of appeals were settled. I was present only as a member of the Assessment Committee, to watch proceedings.

Mr. G. Hart was next called, and said—I acted as Secretary of the Appeal Committee that has been spoken of. I was present when the question of your assessment came up. I asked the Chairman if he wished me to take a minute of the arguments, and he said no. I cannot remember what more took place than appears in the minutes. I remember that Mr. Maitland, the Chairman, asked you if you objected to the sum per *mow*, and you said no,—that you objected to the area upon which the assessment was based, and as shown in the title-deed.

Mr. Twombly said he had a witness as to the question of area, if it was considered necessary to call him.

Mr. Drummond said he was quite prepared to admit that the land was divided in the proportion of eight to six—that is, eight *mow* in occupation of Fogg & Co., and six *mow* used as roads.

Some desultory conversation here ensued as to the former amount of the assessment, Tls. 50,000, and upon this point

Mr. Souper was recalled, and said—Taking the list produced, whereby the assessment is reduced to Tls. 50,000, I cannot say if it was done by an Assessment Committee, or by the Council. I have not had time to trace the matter yet.

Mr. Drummond suggested that as Mr. Twombly himself probably knew something about it, he might perhaps take the stand, and state what he knew.

The Court had no objection. It was, however, now getting late, and as the case would have to be adjourned, it might be well to adjourn now. By the time the Court sat again, Mr. Souper would probably have been able to trace the point.

This course was agreed to, and, the Court adjourned till the 16th.

The Court—Before the hearing of this matter is continued, I wish to submit to the parties concerned whether it is not desirable to postpone the further hearing until after the holding of the Ratepayers' meeting. I do not mean to suggest that the Municipal Council's case is not a good one, as far as legal and technical points are included, but it seems to me that it is not a good case in equity. It has been shown in the hearing of this case that lots are assessed not separately or individually, but according to locality. In certain streets or localities, the valuation is put upon the number of *mow* as contained in the title-deeds, and it happens that in one lot the title-deed mentions land only within the boundary of the compound, as being assessed; but in this case the assessment is for the land within the walls, for the bund or water frontage, for land in the use of the public as a street along the Yang-king-pang, and for half the width of the creek also. Both are bund lots.

Mr. Drummond—Might I ask the name of the one within the wall?

The Court—The name has not been stated, but the fact has been stated during the hearing of the case.

Mr. Drummond—But the owner of that land has given it up to the public, and so escapes payment of the land-tax. The same offer was made to the defendant, but he refused it.

The Court—There might have been very good reasons why Mr. Twombly should not desire to have his title-deed altered. The point was brought to my notice, and I advised that it should not be. The best opinion is that land lying outside the Bund cannot be used by the Municipality without the consent of the Landrenter, or by the Landrenter without the consent of the Municipality. There is no doubt the land outside is as much in the occupation of the public as it would be if in possession of the Municipality; and if Mr. Twombly desired to use his ownership in an aggressive manner, he would be prevented by the Council. That is the state of the case, and in view of it, it seems to me it would bedesirable for all the parties to consent to a postponement until after the Landrenters' meeting. If the case goes on, I shall have to decide it upon the legal points only, and have to throw over the very strong point of equity which the case presents in favour of the defendant. I do not think the Council would wish to place me in that position.

Mr. Drummond—Perhaps Mr. Twombly will state his views on the suggestion.

Mr. Twombly—The other side should state theirs.

The Court (to Mr. Twombly)—Would you object to do so?

Mr. Twombly—As far as I know of the Landrenters' meeting, the Landrenters are men of business, and do not wish their time taken up with fresh matters; but if the Council will take the matter up they would not mind, especially if they thought there were other matters depending on the settlement of this case. In the position I have taken I do not think I can be assailed.

The Court—You mean as to the legality of the Land Regulations.

Mr. Twombly—Yes; if the Council will consent to have the case settled on the broad principle of equity, I will consent to a postponement until after the Landrenters' meeting, but if they brought up any legal or techincal points, I should claim the same privilege.

The Court—The simple proposition is to submit the case to the Landrenters at their meeting. They will have seen the proceedings in this Court, and if they think proper they can take up the case and consider it. If they decline doing so, I could again go on with the case.

Mr. Twombly—Would their decision be final, if they decide to have nothing to do with it, or would the case go on if they said I must pay the tax?

The Court—It would be competent for them to give an opinion as to whether you should pay the tax, or whether there should be a reduction. If a reduction be made, I do not know that the case would come into Court again. If no reduction be made, it would come on again.

Mr. Twombly—Well, if they will consent to bring it on as an equity matter, I will consent to the postponement.

The Court—But you have not the Municipal Council here to say whether they will or not.

Mr. Twombly—I do not know who would bring it on at the meeting.

Mr. Drummond—It appears to me from what has fallen from Mr. Twombly, that he does not intend to bring forward a resolution himself at the Landrenters' meeting. He had the opportunity at a former meeting, but did not do so, and he now seems to think it is a matter for the Council to take up; but, from my instructions, I apprehend they will not take it up. If Mr. Twombly would bring forward a resolution on the subject, it might be carried, and the matter ended. But, as he says that he would probably dispute the decision of the Landrenters, I do not see that a postponement of the case would be of any use.

The Court—I think there is little or no reason to object to a postponment. There is only an interval of six weeks to the Landrenters' meeting; and after the case has lain in obeyance for a year and a half. I do not see what objection the Council could have to another delay of six weeks. The public will have a very clear idea of the case from these proceedings.

Mr. Drummond (after consulting with Mr. Purdon, the chairman of the Municipal Council)—My instructions are to request that the case shall be continued, and that the Court shall give a decision upon it. The defendant will not give a promise to bring forward a resolution at the Landrenters' meeting. The Council will not do so; so, if it is postponed, it is not likely the question will be brought forward at all. I do not think the Council consider this case an unequitable one, and if the subject was brought on at the meeting, and it was decided that defendant must pay his tax, we should have to come to this Court again. That is the position of affairs.

The Court—There is a possibility, if it is only a bare possibility, that the matter will be brought on by some one at the meeting. The Landrenters can settle any matter that is not equitable, and I am sure the Council cannot consider this case equitable.

Mr. Drummond—Mr. Twombly is the sole individual who makes complaint of the present system.

Mr. Twombly—I am the only one aggrieved to so great an extent.

The Court—It will be easier to redress his grievance, it being the only one.

Mr. Drummond—If the rest of the Landrenters felt aggrieved by the present system, they would have considered it before now.

The Court—I do not know another case in which the want of equity is great.

Mr. Drummond—A large number of persons are in the same case—they pay upon land that is in the occupation of the public.

The Court—What is the proportion in this case?

Mr. Drummond—Six *mow* out of fourteen.

The Court—Is there any other case in which there is so much disparity?

Mr. Drummond—Mr. Kidner's evidence is essentially valuable upon that point. He says, "I think your assessment, if it includes the roads, is a fair one." If it were altered, and the roads excluded, Mr. Twombly would pay the same tax as now. It might be that Mr. Twombly's case is somewhat harder than the rest, but he gets some consideration for it. He has some other claims relating to the foreshore and other property, which he keeps in force by holding on to these roads. If it is worth his while to keep the land now occupied as roads [illegible] his while to pay taxes upon it for the value he receives in some indirect way. Mr. Twombly should have brought forward a motion at a Landrenters' meeting, and not have been brought into this Court. He had the opportunity of doing so in 1874, and he might have given an undertaking to do so in 1875, but he has done neither, and does not appear willing to do so now If he had given an undertaking to introduce the matter at the next meeting, the Council would have suspended these proceedings.

Mr. Twombly—I strongly protest against the assertion that I have not brought it forward at the Landrenters' meeting. So far from that being the case, the minutes of the meetings for years past will show that I have brought it forward time after time, but never could get a seconder. Mr. King at one time spoke about the same thing. What I object to is not so much to paying for land outside the walls, as that we are paying enormously out of proportion; and we at one time suggested the taking off of one-fourth of the amount. (Letter produced.) That shows we have always been prepared to bear our just proportion of the public burdens. Mr. Kidner's evidence has been referred to, but the prices he mentioned were fancy prices, and cannot he regarded as a rule.

Mr. Drummond—I must protest against the continuance of this. It is going into the whole equity of the matter.

The Court—It certainly is; but there were certain points raised by you, and I did not think proper to check Mr. Twombly. As the proposal to postpone is declined, the case will now be continued.

Mr. Souper, recalled, produced minutes of meeting held at the British Consulate on Nov. 30th, 1863, and a copy of the old Land Regulations of 1854.

By Mr. Twombly (who first read the minute of the Assessment Appeal Committee produced at the former hearing)—The schedules are made out by the Secretary, Mr. Hart, as an officer of that Committee. I believe the Chairman of the Assessment Committee (Mr. Kingsmill) assisted him in this.

By the Court—The tax-notes did not pass though my hands. The Council had nothing to do with the matter. The Committee is appointed by the Council, but they appoint their own secretary and officers. They appointed Mr. Hart. The assessment-of-land schedules emanates from them. The tax-notes are made out afterwards. They are based upon the schedules made out by the Assessment Committee. It is the fact that the schedules were made out in accordance with the minutes of the Assessment Committee.

Mr Twombly—Can you confirm this paper that has been brought in? It is a document with reference to the reduction of my assessment to Tls. 50,000. I want to know if Mr Souper knows when the reduction was made, and by whom?

Mr Souper—The reduction made in this sheet was made with the sanction of the Council. The assessment went on from December 31st, 1864, to April 1st, 1870, when there was a new assessment. It was an abatement after the assessment was made.

Mr. Drummond—The present assessment was at once objected to,—defendant has never paid on it yet.

Mr. Souper (in answer to the defendant)—There was an assessment made in 1867, and the abatement remained the same.

By the Court—The abatement was made by the Council in 1865. There are no minutes to show for what reasons. There are only the reports passed by the Council, and a very short report of a Ratepayers' meeting. The Ratepayers considered the valuation of land was too high,—it was a general reduction on the value of property, and not a special abatement in Messrs. Fogg's case. There were abatements in other cases. I do not remember those cases. They were made upon special application. I am not prepared to say whether there were 20 or 50 cases. There was a general reduction, on a recommendation in the report. The report was passed. I have not brought that report here.

Mr. Kingsmill, examined by Mr. Twombly, deposed—I was a member of the Assessment Committee of 1873 and was chairman of the Committee. The general business is included in the minutes produced. You put questions at a meeting as to whether, the [illegible] could not. You instanced your own case, your own land, as having been previously assessed at an area much greater than was available. To the best of my recollection, the minute seems substantially correct. It did not take the form of a resolution. The committee had discussion as to their powers. They came to the conclusion that they had no power to deal with the question of areas—that they were simply acting upon instructions. This occurred at the very first meeting, and shows the conclusion come to by the Committee. Each member had a map, with the lots marked on it, before him, and each made his own memoranda upon it, as the business went on, of the value per *mow* of the several lots, irrespective of areas. The Committee only took the *mow* value into consideration. The figures I made were sufficiently accurate to be used afterwards, and were used, to draw up the schedules upon. The areas were furnished to us by the Council from the title deeds. We did consider them in this way. Mr. Twombly's own lot was 14 *mow*, and we took one part to be of more value than the other, and so placed different values upon it. We did not consider how "monstrous or absurd" the result might be. This method of calculation might give an absurd value to a given lot. I know something of the value of land in the Settlement. The schedules which we prepared, showing the areas and value per *mow*, were severally approved. They were based upon the map of which I have spoken.

By Mr. Drummond—I mean by the word "absurd" that the absurdity would lie on the fact that the actual area was different—the title-deed might be so much incorrect as to produce the absurdity. An absurdity might arise in this way, if the owner could not make use of the outside land. I know of an instance where the whole block was occupied as a road, from which the owner derived no benefit at all. The Council, when it was

discovered that the owner could make no use of this particular lot, did not assess it. That was in 1867, and the land has since been in the possession of the public, and the tax remitted. The Assessment Committee carefully examined each property. They placed different values upon different parts of the same property, having respect to its local and general circumstances, and irrespective of its being outside or inside the walls.

Mr. Drummond put in minutes of meetings of the 28th August, 1873, and of the 9th December, 1873—the first meeting being that at which Mr. Twombly's case was first mentioned. There was another meeting, held on the 23rd September, 1873, at which this matter did not appear to have been discussed.

Mr. Twombly said it would be better to put in the entire minute-book, for there were 12 or 15 meetings held.

Mr. Drummond said there were also minutes in another book, which did not bear upon the case at all. The book, however, had been sent for, as it seemed desirable to put in all documents possible.

The Court asked the defendant if he could give any evidence on the point?

Mr. Twombly said he had no wish to give evidence unless it was considered necessary that he should do so; if it was considered necessary, he had no objection, as there seemed to be several points that wanted clearing up.

The Court—Perhaps it would be as well if Mr. Twombly took the stand.

Mr. Twombly accordingly deposed—Being invited, I served as a member of the Assessment Committee for 1873, and attended the meetings of which notice was given. Was present at the first meeting, when some conversation ensued as to the manner of our proceeding, generally. I brought up the matter of the areas, as a preliminary thing, to see if anything could be done upon it, and if so, what? It was an absolute necessity as regarded the duties of the Committee, as to making a valuation of lots, it being understood that we were to assess the value so much per *mow*. It was suggested by Mr. Kingsmill that I should draw up a resolution, based on it. I was proceeding to do so, when one member of the Committee, and then several others, suggested that it was quite unnecessary, as we had no power to go into the question of area at all. No reasons were given for that Landrenters' meeting, was that I had no invitation [illegible] Municipal Council or anyone else to do so. It is within the knowledge of the Secretary that I have three or four times brought it up—that I have brought in a resolution—but it has not been entertained by the meeting, for the reason that people have no time to devote to it, and look upon it only as a little thing. But if it was brought forward by the Municipal Council, it would be listened to; but there might be some who would regard it as coming from me less favourably—though some would regard it more favourably. There is doubtless some little prejudice with respect to Bund rights, and perhaps some other matters, which might make it objectionable if I introduced it—there is a good deal of wire pulling and other things, of which I am the victim, and I can imagine there has been a good deal of it in times past. I would have gladly brought forward a resolution at the former meeting, if I could have seen it would have been listened to; but from remarks I heard made, I saw it would be useless for me to do so, and therefore refrained. I would otherwise have done it without hesitation. I do not know whether it was because it was considered desirable to have my advice and assistance, that I was elected on the Assessment Committee.

Mr. Drummond said he had now received the report of first meeting, held on 31st July, 1873, which he read, and then handed to the Court. He then proceeded to address the Court in support of the plaintiff's case, commencing by stating why judgment was asked on behalf the Council. They contended, on three grounds, that they were entitled to payment of the sum claimed. The denial by the defendants, of the Council's authority—the assertion that it had no legal status—went to the root of the whole question, and to test the jurisdiction of the Court, upon the question whether it was competent to the Court to review the assessment and the decision of the Appeal Court. He should however, contend that persons who had acquiesced in the work done by the Council, and in the operation of the Land Regulations, and who had paid on the assessment by the Council for years previously, were precluded from bringing forward such a contention. In this case, he (Mr. Drummond) would regard the different facts upon which that opinion was based. The defendant was present at the meetings of the Assessment Committee, he acquiesced in what was done, and paid rates and taxes for a long series of years to the Municipal Council; he has taken an active part, in fact, as appeared from the minutes and reports produced, in the government of Shanghai in various forms; he has received the same benefits that any other member of the community has received; and if, therefore, he now brought forward the argument that the Council, from its very inception, was an illegal body, and that it had no right to levy taxes he (Mr. Drummond) said there had been unreasonable delay on defendant's part, and the Council contended that he was not now, after the lapse of so many years, in a position to bring forward such an argument.

The Court—But he might have thought differently down to 1870, and there having been an abatement made—

Mr. Drummond went on to say that the abatement had nothing to do with the matter, because if defendant paid sixpence as rates, he admitted the Council's right to levy them—he admitted the whole principle, and accepted the Council of Shanghai as a legal governing body. How far they might have acceded to his application for a reduction, did not touch the question at all. He accepted the whole position by paying rates and taxes, and by taking part in the government,—otherwise he had placed himself in the position of saying, "I have assisted an illegal body for many years, and can on any day turn round and sue them for the money I have paid"—and that would be a course that any other member of the community could adopt, if the defendant's contention was sustained. The position of the community of Shanghai was unique—another place so circumstanced was not to be found in the whole world. It was unnecessary for him to enlarge upon that fact, but the Settlement could not be compared with any other in the world, and therefore there was no precedent to fall back upon; and it was only upon principle that anything could be adduced with regard to the position of parties. He should, therefore, urge on behalf of the Council, that defendant was legally estopped from any such contention in the matter. If that contention was supported, it would be unnecessary for the Court to consider any question as to the legality of the Land Regulations or of the action of the Assessment Committee. Of course, if that contention was held not to be good, and the Court supported defendant, then any member of the community could come forward and say, "There is no Authority or Council here, and I am not bound to pay any taxes at all." The Council, therefore, contend, 1st, that the defendant is estopped denial of their authority; 2nd, that defendant is bound by the decision of the Appeal Court as an award, and has no appeal from that award; and 3rd, that the defendant is indebted under the Land Regulations. As to the first point, he (Mr. Drummond) referred the Court to an American work on the question of what was called "equitable estoppel" (2 vol., Justice Story's *Equitable Jurisprudence*; page 754, under the head of "Estoppels in Equity.") The book gave a number of sections, from 1539 to 1550—about four pages of notes on different cases, each of them supporting the doctrine he had advanced in the present case. He would not trouble the Court by reading those statements, but would leave the book for reference. Mr. Drummond also quoted other authorities on the points he had raised, including Spence's *Equitable Jurisprudence* vol. 1, p. 550; Smith's *Leading Cases*, vol. 2, p.p. 693, 694, and 777; and Broom's *Legal Maxims*, p.p. 169, 173, 275, 286, and 290. Those were very high authorities in support of his argument. That a man should not be permitted to blow hot and cold on the same allegation, was an old fashioned but pertinent maxim—that a man is precluded, having accepted, as his interest pointed out at one time, a given state of things, to make such a statement as that of the defendant, and have the statement received in Court. In Broom, at page 275, there was also another maxim, that no man should take advantage of his own wrong; and again, Story, in the same

volume, at pages 301 and 320, on the question of election, was the authority which showed that election must be exercised in the first instance—and that the defendant's course of action should not have been left so long. Those were all the authorities he should cite in support of that contention, and upon them he would submit that it was a well-known rule of law that a man was estopped from denying what he had previously admitted. Therefore the case of a member of the Shanghai Council, taking part as Mr. Twombly had, in the government of the place, was not the case of a stranger, and he could not succeed in contesting the legality of the Council in the case. If he (Mr. Drummond) succeeded in his contention, it would be a very valuable authority for the Council, and give them support and assistance in the future. With regard to the second ground upon which the Council contended that judgment should be given in their favour, —that the decision of the Assessment Appeal Court was final,—he contended that there was no appeal from their award. It left the question as to the Land Regulations behind altogether, and the Council would ask for a decision in their favour on the ground that they were bringing a simple action to recover a debt, upon an award which was final and binding upon the defendant, and which he had no means of re-opening. The basis of their contention was, that Mr. Twombly was present at the meeting of the 12th and 13th July, 1873, one of the resolutions passed at which was for the formation of the Appeal Court, whose decisions should be final. That resolution was passed unanimously, Mr. Twombly being present and not dissenting. After that meeting he appealed to the Appeal Court. To all intent, the Appeal Court was appointed as arbitrator, and he, having consented to their being appointed, followed out his own original intention, and appealed to the Court on the very point he now sought to re-open. The assessment was confirmed; for the Appeal Court, to whom he had submitted, and to whom he appealed, received and confirmed the report of the Committee. Referring to what had been done at the meetings mentioned, he said Mr. Twombly would no doubt contend that he had been denied relief,—but the two principal facts were that the Assessment Committee could not enter into the question of areas at all, and that the Appeal Court decided that the assessment must be upheld, as being based upon the areas registered in the British Consulate. The same question had arisen in another case, and he thought it was the proper course to name it—it was the case of the Oriental Bank, which Sir Edmund Hornby decided in favour of the Council, and which decision would be found recorded in the *North-China Herald* of February 12th, 1874. It was very important that the decisions of the two chief authorities in the Settlement should be in accordance upon so important a subject. The objection taken inthe case of Oriental Bank was that the decision of the Assessment Committee was not final. It was a case brought upon the alleged excessive assessment of a house, and the question of importance raised was whether the decision of the Committee was binding upon the Bank, or was it possible for them to appeal. Of course, the present course of action taken by Mr. Twombly was to re-open the question of the finality of the Appeal Court. Sir Edmund Hornby decided that the decision was binding upon the Oriental Bank and could not be re-opened at all. It was open to a Ratepayer to alter the whole thing once a year, by bringing forward a resolution at the annual meeting which he thought would relieve him. The decision of the Court, therefore, did not inflict a very great hardship upon a Ratepayer for that reason. It only said he must pay his taxes for that year—and it was even capable of being set aside at a special meeting, provided it was the general feeling of the community that it should be. Mr. Drummond would also refer to the Act of Congress, of 1st July, 1860, section 19, which laid down the principle that it was essential with Consuls to encourage the maintenance of peace, applying that principle to cases like the present, that where a defendant had chosen his Appeal Court, and received their decision, he was bound by that decision. In addition to the Act he had quoted, there were a number of authorities. In "Russell on Arbitration," p.p. 22, 23, 42, 49, 124, 477, 505, 642 and 643 which was the best known general work on the subject of arbitration, it would be found that the main point to be looked at in the submission to arbitration was the intention of the parties. A simple submission was sufficient, and documents were not necessary. In the present case an award had been given, which the defendant had disregarded, and was endeavouring to set aside. The question arose what was the proper course for the Council to pursue? There was no other course than to sue for the recovery of the debt, and that was the course adopted by the Council—they had brought a Civil action to recover a debt under an award. The defendant, as he had said, was trying to set aside that award in a Court of law, but then came the question of time within which he could try to do so. The time was very strictly defined in English law within which an award could be set aside—in Courts of Equity, it must be within the last day of the next following term. In the present case the award had existed for a very long time, and no attempt had been made to set it aside, except by the act of non-payment of the amount. If the judgment of the Court, therefore, was against the Council on the point of estoppel, then the Council asked that judgment should be given in their favour upon the award as stated. Now, upon the 3rd point, that the defendant was indebted to the Council under the Land Regulations. As the defendant had denied the legality of these Regulations, it would be well for him (Mr. D.) to read the Articles as to the appointment and jurisdiction of American Ministers and Consuls in China over citizens of the U.S. of America. Article X. of the Treaty of June 18th, 1858, gave the right to appoint Consuls at such places as should be agreed to be opened, and Article XIV. fixed Shanghai as one of those places. He would next refer the Court to Article XXVII. which defined jurisdiction; and the same point was touched upon in the Act of Congress of July 1st, 1860, the preamble of which set forth that Ministers and Consuls were both invested with judicial authority, while Sec. 3 included the decision of claims with regard to civil rights; Secs. 4, 5, and 13 authorised the Minister to make decrees and regulations, to have force of law, to supply defects, &c. Those Regulations were signed with the signature of the Minister, and that was the only thing required to give them validity, his signature giving the Regulations the effect of law. It was quite unnecessary that they should receive their validity from Congress, for under the Minister's signature they became law at once. That was the fair inference to be drawn from the Articles. It was very important that the Land Regulations of the Settlement should be upheld; the power to make them was sufficiently given in that Treaty, and he should ask the Court to assume that they had been published in accordance with the Act of Congress. He (Mr. D.) was not in a position to prove or disprove whether the preliminaries or the proper requirements of the Act had been carried out—he could only put in the Land Regulations, with the signature of the Minister appended.

The COURT knew that they have not been declared, and had set forth the fact in correspondence with the Legation.

Mr. DRUMMOND said that was probably a fact only in the knowledge of the Court, but even if the preliminaries might not have been carried out, it was utterly insufficient to make them null and void.

The COURT did not mean to say the omission would make the Land Regulations fall.

Mr. DRUMMOND resumed by continuing to quote as to the powers of Ministers and Consuls in such cases, and then refering to the question of appeal from the Consular Court. (Sec. 11.) If the amount was under $500 there was no appeal from this Court, and its decision would be final. It appeared, therefore, that under Sec. 11, the Consul-General and Associates would concur in the opinion that, in this case, the amount of debt and costs being under $500, there was no appeal from their decision? The Act of Congress of July 1st, 1870, was the most recent, and the 4th and 5th Sections referred to appeals, and decided the important point that there was no appeal in the present case. Mr. Drummond next referred to the defendant's point that the Land Regulations required the sanction of the Chinese to make them valid and binding, and said if that contention should be pressed, and the case of the Municipal Council fall, he apprehended that the Council would fall back on the old Land Regulations of 1854, which were confirmed in that year by the Tautai Woo. He thought that was sufficient to show that the Land Regulations had received the sanction of the Chinese authorities. He merely referred to that incidentally, and because it might be contended that the Land Regulations must receive the authority of the Chinese Government. The next reference was to the Articles in the Land Regulations giving the Council power to sue for the recovery of arrears of rates in the name of the Secretary, and Mr. Drummond said he would only add to what he had before said with regard to the Land Regulations requiring the sanction of the Chinese Government, that it was not necessary now to go into that question. The Court might like to hear what Mr. Twombly had to say; but he (Mr. D.) might ask if the Court considered itself competent to go into the question of the whole assessment and to consider its validity?

The COURT did not propose to do that, and thought it had nothing to do with the action of the Assessment and Appeal Committee. If it had considered itself authorised to review the action of that Committee, it would not have advised parties to take the matter before the Landrenters.

Mr. DRUMMOND did not like to conclude without making one remark. That he thought the proper course for Mr. Twombly, was to have brought his objection forward by resolution at a meeting of the Landrenters, and that he should not have been a party to drive the matter into a Court of law. He thought it appeared from the evidence given in the case, that there was a general opinion apparent that it would be better to charge rates on land in the occupation of the owner only, and not on land in the occupation of the public. But there was also a general opinion that the Landrenters in meeting assembled were the proper parties to decide that question. It was competent to Mr. Twombly, and to any ratepayer, to bring forward a resolution to that effect. It must be taken for granted that a large body of men—several hundreds in number—would deal with it fairly and honestly, and on its merits, whether brought forward by Mr. Twombly or any other ratepayer. That was the proper course for him to have pursued, and it could not be allowed that a whole community had such a personal feeling against him, as to prevent the exercise of calm judgment. He would not detain the Court longer, but leave the case in their hands.

Mr TWOMBLY commenced his argument. He said he had no authorities to quote, and he considered there was no necessity for his quoting any. From those quoted by Mr. Drummond, it would seem that they had not the remotest application to a case of this kind. They had no bearing upon Municipal matters, but had regard to matters between individuals—at least that was his (Mr. T.'s) opinion of them, and that the argument was very far-fetched, and could not by any possibility be held to bear upon the present case. With regard to his being debarred from proceedings by estoppel, he thought firstly, it had been shown in evidence, and by the various memoranda, that from the very beginning of this assessment, the defendants did begin to object—and that they refused to pay because they held the assessment to be unreasonable and unjust. It was, further, thought to be so by competent authorities. Secondly, he contended that the Secretary could not act without the direct authority of the Municipal Council. Mr. Souper had stated that the tax was paid by the defendants in 1870, under protest, and it was so entered in the books. He (defendant) said the tax was then paid because they did not wish to have any controversy with the Municipal Council—they therefore paid, and paid under protest. They were not, however, satisfied, and he (Mr. T.) served on the Assessment Committee for the express purpose of bringing the matter forward—they considered the basis on which the assessment was made as being very unreliable, unreasonable, and unjust, and it had been shown to amount to an absurdity. Under the new Regulations, the defendants still went on paying, under protest, until such time, as the minutes produced would show, it

was found to be idle to bring forward any resolution on the subject at the Landrenters' meeting. By the remarks made at those meetings, it was clear that they (defendants) were not to be assessed on any other basis than they had been heretofore. As to the final character of the Assessment Committee, he referred the Court to Resolution 18, which seemed to instruct the Council to have another assessment made, and it appeared to bring the Council in as though they were really the parties making the assessment. In the present case, it would seem as though they really made the assessment complete. Whether such a Committee was necessary, or whether it was competent to the Council itself to make the assessment, seemed somewhat in doubt. If it should prove that the Council were the proper parties to make the assessment, then it seemed strange that they should employ a Committee to do it. As to the final decision of the Appeal Court,—whether it would be competent for the Landrenters to solemnly pass such a resolution, or whether citizens of the United States were not at all times entitled to a decision by their own Consul in matters affecting them,—the Land Regulations resting upon no other authority than that of the Minister—it was possible they had no power of otherwise determining. If the contention was that the decision of the Landrenters took away the jurisdiction of Ministers and Consuls, it seemed to him that such a principle would have no limit. But it occurred to him that the Landrenters would not be so presumptuous;—and if they were, they knew it was no law of the Medes and Persians, that could not be altered. The attempt to show that the case was one of arbitration, and that the decision of the Appeal Court was final and could not be disturbed, because it was one of arbitration, was certainly a novel view of the case. He could not discover anything in the light of an arbitration in it. In the case referred to, that of the Oriental Bank, he thought it rested distinctly on a different issue. It referred to a house, and there had been an increase of the valuation put upon the house—the raising it from Tls. 6,000 to Tls. 7,000 was said to be unjust, and that was the whole gist of the case. It was something the Committee could do, and could and did act upon. In this case it was simply a question of whether the assessment of value per *mow* was correct or not, and this brought him to the question of area. It had been contended for one purpose that the old Land Regulations of 1854, in which it was determined that the assessment should be based upon the areas registered in the British Consulate, were still in force. Now, he contended that if the new Regulations were in force, they certainly took the place of the old ones. The argument that the old ones could be fallen back upon was, he considered, a very singular one. In every position, he thought the plaintiffs' argument was tied hand and foot. It was simply to the effect that before you suffer a wrong you must protest—that you must bring your own suit—that you must swiftly pursue—

Mr. Drummond—Not to bring a suit—but that you must refuse to pay the first time.

Mr. Twombly resumed by saying that he understood the plaintiffs' argument to be as he had just said; and with respect to all the authorities quoted, he repeated they had not the remotest application to a case of the present kind. It really seemed as if the plaintiffs were trying to transfer the case into something else, in order to make the authorities applicable. As regarded the final contention, he did not know that he understood the Court with reference to the point that the defendants should have brought the matter before the Ratepayers. He thought, as he had said before, that it had been thoroughly brought to the notice of the Ratepayers, and that they knew all about it. But it seemed to be persisted in that the defendants had no other course—that they were precluded from applying to their own laws, and that there was no Court to try such a case.

The Court—There is the Court of Treaty Consuls. There certainly never has been such a case brought before them yet, and to take it into that Court, defendant would have to pay the taxes demanded, and then sue to recover what he considered an overcharge. It might possibly be brought on in that way.

Mr. Twombly resumed by saying that he did not propose to follow the opinions expressed on the case any further, but proceed at once to the question of the validity of the Land Regulations.

The Court said they were approved by the United States Government.

Mr. Twombly did not know that before.

The Court—They were approved when referred to the Government by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Twombly—But not by Act of Congress.

The Court—No; not by Act of Congress.

Mr. Twombly, went on to read some portions of the Act of Congress that he thought bore upon his case, saying that his reasons, whether good, bad or indifferent, could be noted. The confirmation of the Regulations by the Secretary of State seemed to him to hardly remove the difficulty. In this case, it would seem that the Minister had not followed the course prescribed—that he had departed from the provisions of the Act. It might be urged, with reference to the necessity of the approval of the Land Regulations by the Chinese Government, that whether they had been approved or not was not to the point; but what he now wished to say was that the Minister of the United States had not followed the form set down, and that the form was an essential principle. The Minister's position was a peculiar one, and his power was great, as great as that of any despotic power, but the Act of Congress guarded against any undue exercise of it, by directing him to bring into his Court all the Consuls of the country who could conveniently be got together. The Act being of such extraordinary power, it must be construed clearly, and what he had stated was of the essence of the Act. The Land Regulations had been put forward as having received a certain sanction. If that was sufficient, then, it must be taken as a sanction; if not, it was no sanction, and they could not be regarded as having been confirmed with due regard to forms—and forms were essential thereto. Those who were acquainted with the co-operative policy inaugurated by Mr. Burlingame at Peking, knew that one of its fruits was against the exclusive giving up of territory to any foreigners—that it should be treated as a common thing, and that no foreign power should obtain jurisdiction over any territory in China to the exclusion of others. That was brought to bear to prevent the acquisition of territory by any one country, which was evidence of the success of the co-operative policy sanctioned at Peking, and in it was involved a very important principle. Of course, the confirmation of the Land Regulations he contended extended over the whole of the territory occupied by foreigners, and did not alone refer to that North of the Yang-king-pang. The extent of the Act of Congress was limited by the Treaty; and with reference to the extension of the law over citizens of the United States, only two points were concerned—crimes and misdemeanours, and causes of action arising out of disputes between two citizens of the United States. With reference to the subjects of other countries having treaties with the United States, such matters were to be settled in accordance with those treaties, and the same with the Chinese. The only thing pointed out in the Treaty was simply a provision for the punishment of crimes and misdemeanours committed by citizens of the United States. In all those Acts, &c., which had been quoted, there seemed to be no reference to the present case, and it was perfectly clear that the Treaty never contemplated any such a thing as a Municipality. There was no such provision in the Treaty, and therefore, there could be no reason for the exercise of authority by the Minister. The question was—would the Emperor of China permit a community of another country, having its own laws and carrying out those laws, to carry them out without reference to him? That was the point. The deduction would seem to be that the Government of the United States could not sanction those Land Regulations, and that to do so would require a supplementary Act. That not having been done, it was clear that the Regulations could not be said to have received the sanction of the United States, and what he contended was that it was for Congress to provide a remedy for the complications that were so likely to arise in these matters. With regard to the assessment, he should contend that, on reading the resolution quoted, there had never been an assessment.

The Court said it understood Mr. Twombly's views on this point quite clearly.

Mr. Twombly said the next point, then, was that there had never been any authority given for the adoption of the present area, under the new Regulations, and therefore the acts of the Municipal Council were illegal, and the system of taxation pursued monstrous,—a point, he considered, that was fully borne out by the evidence. They knew the Government of China taxed all the land in the country, and there was really no reason to suppose that that Government would give up the taxable value of this part of their country unless the Municipal Council would take it up, and pay the amount. Such a course as that would involve new title-deeds, to which he objected, because they would have no reference to the parties who originally granted them.

Mr. Drummond—A memorandum on the old title-deed would satisfy the Council, stating that such and such land was surrendered. It would not necessitate a new title-deed.

Mr. Twombly said that the Municipal Council offered as a condition that defendants should surrender the whole of their land outside, and then they would sanction what was wanted. That looked very much like buying justice, which could be refused unless the condition was acceded to. It was like bartering the value of land in Shanghai, for the Council got nothing by the surrendering of a road, and where did they get their authority to do such a thing? He must now refer to the equity of the case. The letter of the 16th of May showed that defendants were willing to meet the matter, for they proposed that one-fourth of their assessment should be taken off, and so end the dispute, but said that they would not pay for the full extent of the roads. They had no desire to bring the question to the present pass, but the Council would not meet them. Such a result as they (defendants) desired, was bound to come sooner or later, for the assessment must be put upon a more secure basis. He felt that the ground he had now taken was to be sustained, and there was no doubt the influence of this trial would reach further than might be expected, for if the Municipal Council waited a little longer, they would receive more notices. In fact, the whole thing wanted revision, and, as he had said, placing upon a more secure and equitable foundation, in obtaining which the Court could probably help. He had not been able to present his case so shortly and so clearly as he could have wished, but the evidence clearly showed that from which the defendants were suffering, and would continue to suffer, by the present position of affairs. Whether that position was to be altered on equitable on other grounds was not for him to determine. He had no more to say in the matter.

Judgment was reserved, and the Court immediately adjourned.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, March 22nd.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

G. H. Thompson *v.* W. Peck.

This was an action to recover $82.60 for wages and money supplied. Defendant denied his indebtedness, stating that he and the plaintiff were partners in a butcher's business—plaintiff being the managing partner. The profits were to be equally divided. Plaintiff kept the books, and made out the accounts; and had collected debts from various persons, but had produced no receipts.

Plaintiff said that he was going to start in the same kind of business with a Chinese, but was afterwards induced to join the defendant, and abandon the Chinaman. He and the defendant commenced business on the 1st December last, in the Kiangse road, upon terms of partnership agreed to verbally between them, and they had traded together until a short time ago. Defendant had some porkers and sucking-pigs, which he was to put into the business; and the books would show that close on 4,000 lbs. of meat had been sold. Plaintiff provided the "machinery," the fitting up of the hooks, signboard, &c. The profits of the trade were to be divided between them.

His HONOUR—It is quite evident, then, that you, being a partner, cannot sue for wages.

Plaintiff—But he turned round upon me, said I was only a servant of his, and ordered me away from the premises several times. I went away on Saturday evening week. If I am a partner, I want the books produced, as I know there must have been profits made. We did not strike a balance at the end of the first month, because defendant said "let it run on for two or three months." There were no profits at the end of the first month, but in the second month we began to open up a trade. I never could get a chance to look over the profits, as defendant said I was only a servant, that the premises were his, and that I had nothing to do with him in any other way. Several times he has kicked open the lid of my chest, took out money and bills due and made away with them.

Defendant denied these assertions, and accused the plaintiff of nearly similar conduct. There was only only a verbal agreement between them. He (plaintiff) told him he had $200 in cash, and the books would show there were 2000lbs. and not 4000 lbs. of meat, which he (defendant) had put into the business, sold. Plaintiff was indebted to several persons. To one West he owed $70. West became a customer, and stopped half the amount of his bill for the plaintiff's debt. Several others of his bills were also paid in the same way. Plaintiff had never before asked for wages. On Saturday evening week, while he (defendant) was a "little drunk and asleep," plaintiff left the premises, taking with him one of the books, all the unpaid bills he could find, and the money he had collected. He found him in French Town, knocked him down, and with assistance got the book and $15 from him; but, thinking he would be "hard up," gave him $3 of the money back again. He had trusted the plaintiff to the fullest extent, and in return was treated by him very badly; and, instead of making profits, had been run by him over head and ears in debt, for which he (defendant) was expecting to be sued.

Plaintiff said all the money he collected he handed over to the defendant, and did not know what he had done with it.

His HONOUR did not think he could make anything of the case. The claim for wages could not be sustained, because plaintiff was a partner, and it appeared from the defendant's statement that no profits had been made out of the business.

Plaintiff said he knew there must have been profits made; and he would have the books "arbitrated," as there were more than $400 due.

His HONOUR asked what books had been kept.

Plaintiff replied a ledger, bill-book, and expenditure-book.

His HONOUR adjourned the case till the afternoon, for the production of these books; but on their being examined, they were found not to be understandable. It was, however, apparent that the defendant had put the 2,000 lbs. of pork into the business, at 12 cents per lb., and it did not appear that money enough had been got in to pay for that even, independently of the outside bills that defendant had to meet.

Judgment for defendant.

F. MAWHOOD *v.* H. NETHERSOLE, jun., and C. EDBROOK.

This was an application for the discharge of Nethersole from the receivership of debts due to the late firm of Edbrook and Mawhood.

It was stated that Nethersole was ill in hospital, unable to perform his duties; and, after some conversation, it was arranged that the remaining debts, amounting to about Tls. 900 (some of which were, however, believed to be bad), should be collected by Mr. Edbrook, on joint account, at the same commission as that charged by Nethersole.

Costs to come out of the estate.

March 23rd.

Action to Recover Professional Fees.

H. BROUGHAM MILLER *v.* E. BELBIN.

Plaintiff sued to recover Tls. 50, as fees for professional services.

Defendant said he did not owe the plaintiff a *cash.*

Plaintiff, who had stepped into the witness box, asked that witnesses on both sides should be sent out of Court.

His HONOUR—Presently. I see from the summons that the claim is in respect of "professional services"—is that as a lawyer?

Plaintiff—Yes.

His HONOUR—How do you get over the difficulty of a barrister not being able to bring an action for his fees?

Plaintiff—I am an attorney; Sir Edmund Hornby described me as such, in an order applied for the day before yesterday by Mr. Wainewright; and I am practising as an attorney.

His HONOUR—And you wish me to take it that you are an attorney?

Plaintiff—Yes, of course; and if you will swear me, I will swear that I am.

Plaintiff was sworn accordingly.

His HONOUR—Are you a barrister-at-law?

Plaintiff—Yes, in England.

His HONOUR—Well, you cannot be barrister-at-law and attorney as well, can you?

Plaintiff—Are you Counsel for the defendant, or are you not? Why not let me make my statement?

His HONOUR—It will save time if I tell you my impression is ————.

Plaintiff—I do not want to know anything about your impression. *We* want the law of the case.

His HONOUR—My impression is that as a barrister is, in England, unable to bring an action to recover his fees, so you here are equally unable.

Plaintiff—It is filed in this Court that I am an attorney—and practising as an attorney. As being so, I can sue.

His HONOUR—Are you alluding to the matter that you have already mentioned as occurring the other day?

Plaintiff—I am alluding to the order which Sir Edmund Hornby made upon me, on the application of Mr. Wainewright. The order, I say, describes me as an attorney, so I must be one.

His HONOUR—That was subsequent to the time when you rendered the services for which you sue; moreover, it cannot bind the present defendant. Were you ever admitted an attorney?

Plaintiff—No, I was not. I have, however, been treated here as an attorney, and have practised in these Courts as an attorney. The thing would be different in Hongkong, where barristers are barristers and attorneys are attorneys,—but here they are barristers and attorneys too. It was originally so in Hongkong, but subsequently altered, and now a barrister there cannot do an attorney's work, nor an attorney a barrister's. Before they could do both, same as here now.

His HONOUR—That has nothing to do with the case here. I do not know what they can or cannot do in Hongkong. I must ————

Plaintiff—It does matter, Sir; whether you know it or not. If you will not hear me, of course there is an end of the case; but I would ask, how is it that an attorney can plead here in an equity court, before the Judge, when he sits in equity? The practice here makes a man a barrister and an attorney at the same time.

His HONOUR—The difficulty is not as to the practising—it is, whether being a barrister, though acting as a general practitioner, you can sue for your fees.

Plaintiff—That is the difficulty, and I know it. And if this is passed, the next thing they will do will be to cheat the attorneys. If the attorneys—

His HONOUR — If that point arises, then will be the time to deal with it.

Plaintiff — But if an attorney can act as a barrister here, why not a barrister as an attorney? I think I am admitted here as an attorney in the rules of the Court. Sir Edmund Hornby has power to do that, under a certain rule,—I cannot remember which rule it is.

His HONOUR—But his or your mere description of yourself as an attorney, will not alter the fact of your being a barrister. The question is, can you, being a barrister, recover your fees? In England you cannot, as you yourself must admit, do so. There is no doubt you can practise here as an attorney, but that of itself does not give a right to recover fees. I must say I think it is a very hard case, and moreover an anomalous state of affairs that a solicitor can act as a barrister, and recover his fees in both capacities, while a barrister is not able to recover. But I cannot see any way to helping that.

Plaintiff—I do not agree with your points of law, but I suppose I must abide by them.

His HONOUR—Unless you can show me some authority or some precedent.

Plaintiff—I cannot show you any precedent.

His HONOUR—I will adjourn the summons if you like, to give you time to look.

Plaintiff—I do not want that at all; but I would like to have the judge's order produced, in which I am described as an attorney. I mean the order taken out by Mr. Wainewright. There I am described, rightly or wrongly, as an attorney, and I say I am an attorney.

His HONOUR—Oh, no.

Plaintiff—Then the order was wrong?

His HONOUR—It does not follow that, because it is there stated so, it is so. I am sorry that I must decide as I do, for it is very hard, if a man does work, that he should not be paid for it. You can take the Judge's opinion on the matter if you choose, by way of re-hearing.

Plaintiff—No, I do not want that. I should have been saved a great deal of trouble if I had only known this before.

His HONOUR—This is the first time it has been before me. I could not entertain the question until it was brought here. I have taken some trouble in looking over the authorities, to see if I could find one applicable to your case, but I could not. I will only add that if you did work for the defendant, it is most discreditable in him to refuse to pay you.

Plaintiff—If you decide you cannot hear me, I cannot go on; but your decision will be without costs?

His HONOUR—Except cost of summons, which you have paid.—I may remind you that, even if you could sue as an attorney, you would fail at present, as the month that must elapse between delivery of the bill and the action has not elapsed—the summons stating the service to have been rendered on the 2nd March.

Judgment for defendant.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, March 18th.

Before R. A. Mowie, Esq.

R. *v.* PETER POWERS and JOHN HILL.

Drunk and Disorderly.

Defendants who were charged with being drunk and creating a disturbance in Hongkew last evening, admitted the charge.

Powers was fined $0.50 and Hill being the most violent was fined $5.00, and ordered to pay 25 cents for the repair of door that he had damaged.

March 24th.

Reg. (R. TURNER) *v.* W. ROBERTS.

Complainant stated—I am employed by the proprietor of the Astor House. I reside at No. 9, Hongkew Bund. On Friday, at 7 a.m., defendant and some others were passing, and I heard a great noise with dogs. I looked out and saw defendant poking with a stick under the platform of my verandah, at a small black dog belonging to me, and endeavouring to set a bull-dog upon it. I called out, and asked what he meant. He replied that the dog did not belong to me, and when I assured him that it did, he called me a ——— liar. He then called his dog and went away.

Defendant denied the charge, and said that he was walking past complainant's house, when a number of dogs rushed out, barking, which attracted the dogs that were with him and his friend. There was a bull-dog with them, but it did not belong to him. The bull-dog, not liking the reception given him by the black dog, took hold of him. He (defendant) separated the animals, not with a stick, but by throwing a stone at them.

Complainant wished to call two Chinese as witnesses, but as an interpreter was not available at the moment, they were not examined.

Defendant called Mr Holmes, who stated that there were words on both sides, but that he did not stop to hear the end.

His WORSHIP expressed himself satisfied that there had been improper language used by both parties, and, therefore, dismissed the summons.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 24th, 1875.

Arrivals from Europe, since this day-week, are the s.s. *Patroclus, Lotus,* and *Khiva,* the last named bringing the London mails of 5th ultimo.

Telegrams.—By Reuter's last—*Lead,* W.B., had declined to £22, 10s. and *Iron* to £10. *Mid. Or. Cotton* and 8¼-lbs. *Eagle Grey Shirtings* were quoted 8⅛d. per lb., and 9s. 9d. per piece.

PIECE GOODS.—The natives affirm that the Tientsin *Li-kin* trouble is not yet removed, but foreigners at that port advise a good demand for most kinds of Grey Cotton Goods, and report sales of *Jeans, T-Cloths,* &c., at better prices. Moreover, the Northern men stationed here have been enquiring after such articles within the last day or two, and heavy transactions in *Jeans* and *Drills,* (of T-Cloths there are few of the desired qualities in stock) have been booked. The natural inference from this rather anomalous state of matters is, either that the native dealers have been making the most of the occasion, or that they, specially, are the objects of Taotai Sun's persecution. Indeed both these conclusions are borne out—the first by the business going on at Tientsin and on this market, and the second by Sun's proclamation, No. 3, which, for the sake of continuity, we reproduce here.

Tientsin, March 17th, 1875.

Sun, *Customs Taotai, &c., &c., issued the following Proclamation:—*

After duty has been paid at the Foreign Custom House by Chinese merchants on their native goods imported per foreign vessels, the triplicate Certificates then given should be taken the same day to the native Revenue office for payment of the taxes there. Such is the Regulation, as established by H. E. Chung-how, ex Superintendent of Trade, after a Memorial to the Throne on the subject, as stated in my previous Proclamation.

Of the above-mentioned stamped triplicate Certificates, *one* is handed to the merchant, that he may repair with it to the Revenue office; *one* is retained on file for reference in the Foreign Custom House, and *one* in the Customs Taotai's Yamên.

Now, from the month of July last to the time when the river closed, there were filed over 1,000 Certificates, of which entry had not been made at the Revenue office. No wonder the receipts of Revenue last year were so small and the total deficit so unusually large!

Those who evaded the taxes during those 6 months are liable to punishment according to law; but, out of compassion for the merchants, this penalty is graciously remitted. But in order that any hope to continue former practices may not be encouraged, explicit rules have now been made.

On the 22nd day of March, a reliable deputy will be sent from the Revenue office, provided with a file of Triplicate Certificates, and he will visit each merchant to compare these certificates. If it is found that the taxes have been paid either by the merchant or his broker, the Certificates will be cancelled and no further taxes required on them. By the 27th March, all goods upon which taxes have not been paid, must be reported for payment of such arrears. Penalties will be imposed upon those who do not report within this fixed time. This arrangement must be regarded as [illegible] favour. Punishment incurred for past evasions of the taxes is remitted, and goods which have already paid the taxes need not pay again. The examination now to be made, and the time allowed for payment of arrears, is no small privilege.

If any merchant persists in practising evasion or concealment instead of forsaking his errors, thus making light of what pertains to Public Revenue,—such an one will be made to feel the rigor of the law and have no clemency shown him.

And that there may be no excuse for want of forewarning, this Proclamation is now issued for the information of all merchants, who must

Tremble and obey! &c. &c.

Better news also has come from the river ports. The Hankow market reports last received say that "the demand has run almost "exclusively on *Grey Shirtings* during the last fortnight, and large sales have been made at former quotations for the commoner makes. "Heavy Shirtings are scarce, and have advanced in value. Other imports are dull of sale." With reference to the latter sentence, the foreigner is again late. There have been buyers on this market for some days past of 15-lbs. *Drills,* and ordinary Mexican 7 and 8-lbs. *T-Cloths* from the upper Yangtsze districts, and the trade demand from thence has somewhat stiffened the rates for common to good medium 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings.* At Chinkiang the importations during the past week had been large, but not in excess of requirements; and from Chefoo, I am advised that the prospects for Cotton manufactures are improving. But in Japan there was scarcely any business in imports going on when last steamer left, and prices were altogether nominal.

On the Shanghai market.

Grey Shirtings of all weights have been in steady request, and holders of common to medium qualities of 6, 7 and 8¼-lbs. have succeeded in most instances in establishing higher rates, and quotations for the better to best descriptions have been maintained. A further rise in the value of the more ordinary makes of *heavy goods* has taken place, and the tendency of the market for all grades is still upwards; sales to arrive of cargo close at hand being practicable at comparatively high rates. The business of the week embraces—6-lbs. common at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.32; Medium, to arrive and in stock, at Tls. 1.33 *a* 1.34, the latter rate for Dewhurst's *Red Pheasant.* Sales—26,000 pieces; 7-lbs. Collies' *Lion* and *Eagle* with all faults at Tls. 1.46; Dewhurst's *Red Pheasant* at the same figure, and more ordinary cloth at Tls. 1.40 *a* 1.43 per piece; 8¼-lbs. Common, at Tls. 1.62 *a* 1.63; *Lie Eagle,* at Tls. 1.63½ *a* 1.64; *Green Globes,* at Tls. 1.64 *a* 1.65; *Dog* chop, double *Peacock* and others, at Tls. 1.70 with all faults; Jinkee *stag head,* at Tls. 1.75, and Collies' *Lion* on bale at same rate. Dewhurst's Eagles, at Tls. 1.90 *a* 1.95 per piece. *Tun Sin* Eagles J. A. were yesterday disposed of at Tls. 1.95, and that figure was refused for unlettered goods, same hong stamp. Sales, 55,000 *a* 60,000 pieces; 8¾-lbs. *a* 9¼-lbs. at Tls. 2.15 *a* 2.40 per piece, and 9¾ *a* 10-lbs., principally to arrive, at Tls 2.65 *a* 2.70 for common to good, and Tls. 2.75 per piece for Dewhurst's *Eagles.* Sales estimated at 12,000 pieces. The market for all closes firmly at quotations.

White Shirtings.—64 and 66 Reeds were neglected until 22nd instant, when a faint enquiry sprang up, and a few trifling parcels were booked, at prices that do not compare unfavourably with those previously ruling.

T-Cloths.—The recent arrivals brought supplies of the Common counts of 6 and 7-lbs., most of which, however, were sold for arrival, and these are now being resold at a profit. The sales from first hands of Mexican descriptions likewise show an advance, and that the position of 8-lb., 36 inch Cloth is strong, may be inferred from the fact that there are buyers of floating cargo (which cannot be here in less than three weeks) at present currencies. Stock 8-lbs. command a candareen per piece more than they did on this day-week. Total sales from first hands computed at 42,000 pieces.

Drills.—Enquiry for *Drills* continued slack until Monday last. On that day, however, the river news—native—started buyers, and settlements at prices previously unattainable were effected. Yesterday, further sales took place, and 14-lbs. were also taken in heavy quantity at full former quotations. The total business in 14 and 15-lb.—chiefly *English Drills,* amounts as reported to 26,000 pieces, at Tls. 2.37 *a* 2.39 for Common 15-lbs., and Tls. 2.27 for Dutch and Tls. 2.30 *a* 2.32½ for 14-lbs. English. Resales of Dutch—*Cock* chop—at Tls. 2.29, less brokerage, have been made by natives to natives.

Jeans.—The business reported on the market is very trifling in extent, but it has been large nevertheless, and it embraces both hard and floating cargo, at figures that compare well with those of former sales. Moreover, I am told by other holders that they have been offered from 1 *a* 2 candareens per piece higher than they could have got last week, but that—in the expectation of a further advance—they declined to sell. Current rates are Tl. 1.85 per piece for a fair to good cloth, and Tl. 1.86 *a* 1.87 for rather better. The best qualities have not yet been asked for.

Sheetings.—One sale of 1,500 pieces 15-lb. English, at Tls. 2.90 per piece.

Fancy Cottons.—Very little life in this market, and the business of the week is hardly worth particularising. The only sales reported are 500 pieces *Gentian Shirtings*, at Tls. 2.50 per piece; 400 pieces 50 yards *Printed Cashmeres*, at Tls. 4.90 per piece; 1,000 pieces *Chintz Muslins*, at Tls. 0.74 per piece; 1,300 pieces common red *Chintzes*, at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.31 per piece; 240 pieces *Mohamedan Cloths*, at Tls. 0.13½ per yard, and a few 18-in. *Velveteens*, at Tls. 0.14 per yard; and blue printed *T-Cloths*, at Tls. 3.27½ per piece.

Woollens.—Neither is there much to be said in reference to these, saving, perhaps, that there has been rather more demand for *Spanish Stripes* and ordinary quality of *Medium Cloths*. The former article, too—or rather special chops of it—is rather higher in value; assortments of C.P.H. having realised Tls. 0.59 per yard. *Long Ells* are again lower in price, and the enquiry for *Camlets* seems to have closed at the beginning of this week. In *Lastings*—black—there has been a little business at Tls. 11.65 per piece for best, and Tls. 10.30 *a* 10.40 per piece for inferior; and some low qualities of assorted *Figured Orleans* have changed hands with very unsatisfactory results to the sellers.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.5	14.2.5	14.5.0	13.0.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.2.5	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.1.5	7.0.0	6.5.0	7.0.0	7.2.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.4.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.9	0.5.5	0.5.8	0.5.9	0.6.1	0.57	0.57	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.6.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 18TH MARCH, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown
C.P.H. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	14.05/14.07½	14.25/14.30	14.50	.....	13.42½	...	.....	.....	.....	...
S.S.G. ,, p. pce ,,	13.45	13.10/13.15	13.70/13.75	12.80	13.25/13.27½	...	.....	12.02½	.....	12.62½
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.58¼/0.58¾	0.55¾	0.56¼/0.56½	0.61	.....	0.66	0.57	0.60	0.56/0.56¼	...

SALES.—*Camlets*, C.P.H., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 14.15; S.S.G., 400 pcs. av Tls. 13.35 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, 252 pcs. av. Tls. 0.57½ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 3,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.60¾ *a* 1.61 per piece.

	T.m.c.	*T.m.c.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₱ pc.	1.4.0 to	1.5.5
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.1 ,,	1.9.5
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.4.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs..... ,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.8.0
Tun Sin ..... ,,	3.0.0 ,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₱ pc.	1.6.0 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.4
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.7 ,,	2.3.5
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 9¼lb...	2.1.6 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.3 ,,	1.9.2
American .. ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	2.9.5
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.1 ,,	1.1.5
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.4 ,,	1.2.8
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.5.5
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0 ,,	1.7.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₱ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₱ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.4.5 ,,	2.6.0
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.7.0
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.4.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.5.0
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.3.0 ..	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.9.0
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₱ yd.	0.1.6½ ,,	0.2.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,,	0.1.4¾
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.0½
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,	0.0.3½ ,,	0.0.5½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....₱ pc.	1.2.0 ,,	1.3.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.5.0
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.6.0 ,,	0.7.2
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.2.5 ,,	14.0.0
G G ,, ,,	13.4.5 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.3.5 ,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₱ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,	0.5.7 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.7½ ,,	... ..
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.1 ,,	.....
LONG ELLS—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₱ pc.	7.1.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.1.5 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.8.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.5 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.8.0 ,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,	10.0.0 ,,	12.6.0
CREPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
CREPE LUSTRES ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—The position of the market is unchanged, and no further sales are reported, notwithstanding considerable anxiety on the part of importers to reduce their stocks of common and ordinary brands, which continue in over supply. *Lead*—Demand from the native trade continue slack, and sales are on a very small scale. Holders, however, are firm, and have maintained Tls. 6.1.0 as the rate for hard stock of L.B. The recent shipments to HANKOW have overstocked that market, and brought about lower prices, and fears are entertained for the results of the unsold portion of the late re-exports to FOOCHOW. Most other *Metals* show a quiet market and lower prices.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

	Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER .....per Pcl.	155.0.0 *a* 160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....per Box	6.4.0 *a* .....
Small ,, ... ,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ... } no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23 } ,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.... ,,	19.8.0 *a* .....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ... ,,	19.2.0 *a* .....
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,	13.7.0 *a* .....
STEEL .....per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ... ,, ... ,,	..... *a* ... ..
Ore ..... ,, ... ,,	..... *a* .....
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton	30.0.0 *a* 31.0.0
NAILROD IRON—	
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.0.0 *a* 3.1.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,	2.5.5 *a* 2.6.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.0.0
Round ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.1.0 *a* .....
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,	... .. *a* .....

	Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New .....per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a* 8.6.0
,, Medium ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 9.6.0
,, Best..... .... ,,	10.0.0 *a* 10.6.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	8.8.0 *a* 9.0.0
—White ..... ,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine .... ,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best..... ,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK..... ,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.8 *a* 0.5.5

FREIGHTS.—*Dilpussund*, Br. bq., 624 tons, Shanghai to New York, no lay days—Private terms; *Swatow*, Br. str., — tons, Nagasaki to this, no lay days—$2.00 per ton coal; *Black Adder*, Br. sh., 917 tons, Nagasaki and back, 17 lay days—$1.80 per ton coal; *Warden Appleby*,, Br. bq., 253 tons, Keelung to Taku, 15 lay days—$3.50 per ton coal; *Lydia*, Br. bq., 376 tons, Chefoo to Tientsin, 15 lay days—$2,000 in full; *Hokaido*, Br. sch., 114 tons, Shanghai to Hiogo, 8 lay days—$0.20 per case kerosine oil; *Hamburg*, Ger. bq., 310 tons, Shanghai to Wladivastock viâ Chefoo and back to Chefoo, 25 lay days—$0.45 per picul; *Lochbuliy*, Br. sch., 333 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 15 lay days—$0.40 per picul; If to Amoy, 15 lay days—$0.36 per picul; *Ceres*, Br. bq., 454 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 22 lay days—$0.35 per picul; *Corea*, Br. bq., 581 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 20 lay days—$0.35 per picul.

COTTON.—Quotations have been steady throughout, but at the close they are rather weak, owing to the lower rates that are advised from Hankow. The business of the past week is comparatively light.

EXCHANGE.—A fair amount of Bank paper has been placed for the mail at 5s. 9¼d., at which figure the rate closes. Credits have been sold to Banks at 5s. 9½d. *a* 5s. 9¾d., and Documentary, at 5s. 9¾d. *a* 5s. 9⅞d. On India, rates are weaker—Rs. 307 on Bombay, and Rs. 308 on Calcutta, being the closing quotations. On Hongkong, the Banks still quote 27¾ per cent.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7½d.		₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9½d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9¾d. *a* 5s. 9⅞d.		,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35		,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom.	Rs. 307½	₩ 100	Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	Rs. 307	₩ 100	,,

On Hongkong.—Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅝ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.2375 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.70 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 171.50 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,550 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 24th March are reported as:—

Stock on 10th March	Malwa,	3,613½	Chests.	Patna,	1,615	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	1,718½	,,	,,	575	,,
Total	,,	5,332	,,	Total ,,	2,190	,,
Deliveries from 10th March	,,	1,408	,,	,,	446	,,
Present Stock	,,	3,924	,,	,,	1,744	,,

Bargained Opium.....1,200 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows:—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New,	Tls. 420	418	420
Old,	Tls. 443	440	442
Patna—New,	Tls. 436	430	432
Old,	Tls. 443	440	442

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,405,452 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	2,008,787 ,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,042,788 ,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	3,191,233 ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under:—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	52,371,911 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,368,632 ,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,506,690 ,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	7,242,836 ,,

Black.—The season is closed.

Green.—The enquiry mentioned in last report has continued, and settlements have been considerable during the fortnight. Prices for good and fine chops have again ruled firm, and in some instances a distinct advance has been perceptible. Low classes have been taken here and there at very low prices, but there is not any great desire to operate in these kinds. The few Pingsueys now left are rather firmly held, and buyers do not seem willing to pay the prices asked.

Our stock is now small as the figures subjoined will show.

		Stock,	Against 1874.
Settlements—Fychows, Moyunes etc.	23,585 ½-chests.	14,300 ½-chests.	1,380 ½chests.
,, Pingsueys	200 ,,	4,520 ,,	— ,,
,, Shanghai packed	700 ,,	2,250 ,,	1,500 ,,
	24,485 ½-chests.	21,070 ½-chests.	2,880 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	London, Freight, £3. 10s.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Moyunes etc.	Tls. 14 *a* 40	= /10½ *a* 2/1½	= 20½ *a* 53¾ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 23¼ ...	= 1/3½ ...	= 32 ... ,,
Shanghai packed	Tls. 16½ ...	= /11¾ ...	= 23½ ... ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,088,835 lbs.	58,683,383 lbs.	61,458,126 lbs.
Green	11,651,708 ,,	9,642,921 ,,	9,883,042 ,,
	76,740,543 lbs.	68,326,304 lbs.	71,341,168 lbs.
Export to United States and Canada—			
Black	1,843,937 lbs.	801,149 lbs.	1,275,964 lbs.
Green	16,905,589 ,,	20,096,822 ,,	22,255,807 ,,
	18,749,526 lbs.	20,897,971 lbs.	23,531,771 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	76,740,543 lbs.	68,326,304 lbs.	71,341,168 lbs.
,, Foochow to 13th Feb.	61,581,299 ,,	55,448,663 ,,	52,937,142 ,,
,, Canton to 1st Mar.	19,863,912 ,,	15,680,217 ,,	20,280,562 ,,
	158,185,754 lbs.	139,455,184 lbs.	144,558,872 lbs.

SILK.—The last public telegrams from London report the silk market quiet with but little enquiry, and quote common No. 5 Tsatlee at 12/3 per lb.

The settlements for the French mail of the 19th inst. were about 800 bales, which however included no well-known chops, and consisted principally of common Tsatlees at Tls. 255 @ 275 per picul, coarse Taysaams at Tls. 230 @ 240, and common Long reel Taysaams at Tls. 230 @ 235 per picul.

Purchases during the past week have reached about 900 bales, giving a total of 1,700 for the fortnight. "Cock and Worm" chop No. 3 is reported taken on joint account at Tls. 390 per picul; "Gold Lion" Nos. 3 and 4 at Tls. 330 and 310; "Grasshopper" at Tls. 332½; "Blue Elephant" at Tls. 320; "Beautiful Woman" No. 2 at Tls. 315; Fatmow's "Che ling" Haining at Tls. 302½, and market Tsatlees at Tls. 270 @ 280 per picul.

The unsold stock is estimated at 1,300 bales, half of which nearly is composed of re-reels.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 22nd March, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 58 @ 63, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	14,650	19,350	7,890	26,437	5,800	6,500	12,697	950	...	...	...	...	100	8,450
T-Cloths..... ,,	13,075	11,380	3,440	11,050	3,850	6,725	14,630	1,400	...	...	...	...	...	10,320
White Shirtings ..... ,,	1,360	1,200	100	3,415	700	2,600	2,579	650	200	...	...	...	...	2,580
Drills ..... ,,	420	135	...	2,970	1,530	2,278	11,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,230
Jeans ..... ,,	400	...	...	1,380	600	3,220	199	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	50	...	...	...	450	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	81	...	...	350	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	200	46	300	950	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	120	...	...	259	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	390	1,240	60	1,980	...	185	1,768	...	1,140	...	...	...	...	1,640
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	150	500	...	100	150	550	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Velvets ..... ,,	80	138	60	270	30	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Velveteens..... ,,	...	48	...	132	...	...	564	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	400	1,030	...	1,004	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	2,200
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities ..... ,,	100	220	...	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	96	174	30	144	114	48	54	42	36	...	...	...	...	282
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	30	104	12	322	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Camlets ..... ,,	150	390	220	1,000	30	40	140	90	80	...	...	...	...	200
Long Ells ..... ,,	60	120	320	380	20	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lastings..... ,,	60	80	120	300	30	80	640	40	...	...	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	60	...	...	40	140	520	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
,, Figured ..... ,,	340	870	120	1,837	600	540	1,060	...	110	...	...	...	...	480
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	50	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	900	2,654	...	588	...	...	840	...	...	126	336	840	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	...	58	841	3,137	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 24/3/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	102,824	741,794	2,500	804,068	1,285,200	810,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	75,870	421,547	4,700	229,162	413,200	1,183,000
White Shirtings..... ,,	15,384	122,787	1,550	139,382	112,400	61,000
Drills ..... ,,	20,263	88,660	4,140	60,102	215,400	450,000
Jeans ..... ,,	5,889	58,597	4,260	72,878	42,800	67,600
Sheetings..... ,,	5,000	5,700	.....	10,600	6,600	52,100
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	1,300	9,441	.....	16,099	9,500	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	500	981	1,300	2,560
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,000
Brocades, White ..... ,,	631	3,721	.....	5,238	3,700	100
,, Dyed ..... ,,	1,846	9,286	.....	11,282	31,200	26,000
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	459	2,475	.....	4,720	9,300	5,900
Chintzes ..... ,,	8,403	32,327	1,665	16,418	72,800	109,800
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	1,650	18,516	960	24,850	33,200	26,000
Velvets..... ,,	752	9,702	510	14,417	12,400	18,600
Velveteens ..... ,,	774	2,142	.....	2,354	1,400	8,200
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	5,634	36,128	40	15,910	52,600	123,000
Muslins .....Pcs.	600	3,886	.....	900	8,100	23,600
Dimities ..... ,,	1,270	4,300	.....	1,730	12,200	11,000
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,020	9,622	252	10,112	11,200	33,600
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	654	3,970	95	4,973	11,400	20,900
Camlets ..... ,,	2,340	16,040	910	15,513	22,300	20,600
Long Ells..... ,,	1,040	14,540	1,000	12,620	7,100	15,000
Lastings ..... ,,	1,390	6,758	500	5,520	11,200	7,200
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	840	2,900	.....	1,900	9,100	3,000
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	100	4,500	500	4,149	3,700	.....
,, Figured .... ,,	5,957	26,376	2,034	13,234	115,400	130,800
,, Crape .... ,,	100	5,180	.....	2,800	18,700	10,900
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	4,036	18,398	.....	17,374	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	6,284	24,408	.....	49,952	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Glenartney, Foochow, Avoca, Diomed, Iraouaddy, Khiva, Lotus, Patroclus,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

March 25, 1875.

Arrivals.—March 20th, British ship *Champion of the Seas*, from Cardiff; 24th, British steamer *Glenfinlas*, from London.

Departure.—March 18th, British ship *Omba*, for London.

The English mail steamer *Avoca* takes about 600 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9⅛d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅞d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 307, noml. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 308, noml. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅜. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.25. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.25 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.40 per 100. Copper cash, 1,580 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

H. & S. Bank.—A limited business has been done during the week at 15 % *dis.* and Exch. 72¼ for cash and 31st instant—chiefly to cover previous short sales. At the close, shares are scarce.

S. S. N. Co.—A forced sale on the 18th instant caused a drop in prices to Tls. 76 cash, but a recovery soon took place, resulting in a considerable business at Tls. 78 *a* 79 cash, Tls. 79½ *a* 80½ for April, and Tls. 81 *a* 82 for June. The market closes with no shares offering under Tls. 80 *cash.*

Fire Insurance Shares.—A fair business has been done in *Chinas* at $133. *Victorias* and *Hongkongs* are obtainable at $126 and $485 respectively.

Marine Insurance Shares.—A few *Yangtszes* have changed hands at Tls. 585, and are still obtainable. *China and Japans* have been placed at Tls. 83 for June.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Sales have been made at Tls. 100 cash, and latterly at Tls. 101 for July.

Chinese Imperial Loan, closes at £99 firm.

The Weather has been fine during the week; the wind has been blowing strongly from the South, with a bright blue sky. The thermometer has ranged from 38 to 67, and has been rising gradually the last few days.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 % dis. ex 72½
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co.	100	3 p. c.	{ 79 cash / 80½ April
Union Steam Navigation Company	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	215
Footung Dock Co	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co.	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co.	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 360 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co.	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 83 June
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited)	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	485
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4¼	126
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy.	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	1 p. c.	101 July
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£99 ex. 5/7
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong			72¾

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Mar	° ′	°	°	°					
18	30.155	52.0	52.0	47.0	8	r	6	0	Z
19	30.152	49.0	56.0	43 0	8	m	..	0	,,
20	30 252	48.5	52.0	38.0	7	b	..	0	,,
21	29.950	53.0	62.0	45.0	7	b	..	3	S.¾W.
22	30.103	49.0	54.0	42.0	7	b	..	0	Z
23	30.152	47.5	59.0	40.0	7	b	..	6	S. S. W.
24	30.050	52.5	67.0	47.0	7	b	..	6	,,

Explanation.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy). o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm; Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

PRICE of the *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace.* One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS received, and Single Copies Sold, by George Street,

30 Cornhill.

LONDON *(E.C.)*

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE OFFICE.

20 PER CENT. Discount allowed on all premia contributed.

LIFE OFFICE.

Risks accepted at *Home Rates*, with £2 per cent. added.

BIRLEY, WORTHINGTON & Co.,
Z *Agents.*
5fe-76 2412 Shanghai. 16th July, 1872.

NOTICE.

ON and after this date, the discount of 33⅓ % on Premia will be allowed by this Office for Local Risks only.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.,
Agents—China Traders' Insurance Co., (Limited.)
tf 2062 Shanghai, 27th May, 1874.

The China Fire Insurance Co. (Limited.)

Head Office—Hongkong.

Capital.....$2,000,000
Paid up $400,000
Reserve Fund 1st Jan. 1873, $116,961

THE undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Risks on Buildings and/or their Contents on the usual terms and conditions, to the extent of Tls. 75,000 on any one separate risk. Twenty-five per cent. (25%) of the nett profits distributed annually to Contributing Shareholders.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
tf 2054 Shanghai, 17th July, 1873.

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of London.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates, less 20 per cent discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
31ma 1044 Z Shanghai, 1st April, 1872.

INSURANCE.

THE undersigned, as Agents for the Union Marine Insurance Company, Limited, are prepared to accept Risks by approved Steamers at Current Rates.

SHAW, BROTHERS & Co.,
Z *Agents.*
31ma-75 1197 Shanghai, 15th Mar., 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 412. SHANGHAI, APRIL 1, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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England,.....Feb.	12	Hankow, ...Mar.	27
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Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Dec. 31
Shanghai,..... ,, 25 } Received 6th Feb.

MARRIAGE.

On the 9th Feb., at St. Mary's Church, Aylestone, near Leicester, by the Rev. Geo. Cockerton, CHARLES HANNEN, of Westbourne-road, London, and Tientsin, China, to CATHERINE FELICIA, second daughter of John Lorrimer, of Park-hill House, Aylestone. No cards.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 26th instant, the wife of ED. LEROY, Esq., of a son.

At Shanghai, 26th March, the wife of Capt. BROWN, S. S. *Ocean*, of a son, who only lived six hours.

CHINA:

1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.

tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1875.

IT is a good maxim to learn to walk before we venture on running, but, unfortunately, it is a maxim which has too frequently been set at nought in our operations in China. We have been too apt to introduce, all at once and in their entirety, the arts and appliances to which we have been accustomed in Europe, and too often find, after we have exhausted our own pockets and the patience of our friends, that, at the moment when success was possible, we have been forced to give way, to the loss not only of ourselves and those connected with us, but to the lasting hurt of the cause of real progress. If we look over our undertakings, we may readily recognise the fact. Many persons in Shanghai will remember under what favourable auspices the scheme known as the Shanghai Wharf started, and a good many more will remember how it collapsed, having exhausted its capital and being obliged to go begging for loans. More fortunate than some of its rival schemes, it was eventually able to wind up, having discharged its whole liabilities, and actually returned some 22 taels on each thousand tael share. The Shanghai Wharf was, however, founded on sound principles, as the success of the wharves since started has shewn. Only, it was a little before its time. Had the shipment of cotton to Europe, which was the great feature of the years 1862-64, continued, the shareholders would, doubtless, notwithstanding the inconvenient position of the wharf, have been earning large dividends. Cotton was not, however, to continue as a staple of export, and Shanghai fell on evil times, so the Wharf had to follow the example of many other equally well-founded schemes, and collapse. We have the same remarks, in nearly the same words, to make about the attempts to start silk filature and bean crushing with machinery. It is somewhat difficult to understand why the filature did not prove an industrial success. Difficulties, doubtless, existed in the distance from the silk-producing districts, and in the foolish prejudices of the Chinese producers, worked on by those who conceived that a too close and early contact with the foreign buyer would injure their trade. Both these difficulties, it was generally believed, had been in a great measure surmounted, and more recently, we learn that discoveries in silk culture have enabled cocoons to be kept an almost unlimited time before reeling. The latter is a most important element in calculating the success of such an undertaking, for the great difficulty in the original filature was that, for a short time, when skilled labour was scarce, a large number of hands had to be taken on, to be thrown idle again as soon as the supply of cocoons was exhausted. The filature thus interfered to a considerable extent with the ordinary division of Chinese labour, whereas, could a method have been adopted of keeping over the cocoon safely till labour was slack, it would have acted rather as a regulation, and supplemented instead of interfering with the native processes. The bean crushing machinery set up at Newchwang, seems to have erred mainly on the score of being too extensive for the first initiation of a profitable industry. The means of carriage are so very limited that, although beans can be grown in Manchuria in excess of any practicable demand, their delivery is strictly limited by the means of carriage at demand. It is needless to say that, of all things in the world, a good road is most inimical to the tendencies and policy of the present Government of China, which has, as a settled policy, undertaken to repress the intercommunication of the people. So long as they were kept

apart, the task of Government seemed easy. *Divide et impera* was its established motto, and hence, with a perverse ingenuity, everything, even to the least detail, was made to fit in with this principle. Those who cannot see the drift of the present Government of China, wonder at the persistence with which exactions on trade are kept up so long, after their economic failure has been proved to demonstration. But, more even than national bankruptcy, the State traditions fear the intercommunication of classes. All through Chinese policy, the same influence is manifest. A magistrate cannot hold rank in his own district, in order that he may be cut off from private ties. He should not remain more than three years at his post, lest he should form local connections. Union amongst officials is not encouraged, in order that one may be used as a set-off against the other. Every district is autonomous, and has only to obey the orders of its immediate chief; no general law or recognised universal custom exists, whereby each may work in harmony with its neighbour. Such is the principle of Peking Government; and following it up, it need excite no wonder that, while no new roads are made, those that do exist are allowed to lapse into ruin. Imitative as are the Chinese, it is only natural that this policy on the part of their Government should have more or less penetrated amongst the people. No scheme excites more opposition than that which seems to interfere with the vested interests of those who are concerned with the present state of affairs. Villages exist on the Yangtsze, whose means of living are derived from the plunder of wrecked junks, and their vested interests are held sufficient to prevent the most simple appliances for the assistance of vessels being used. It is only within the last few years, and with a half-heartedness difficult to comprehend on any other supposition, that steps have been taken to put down piracy on the coast. Here, however, the memory of Cheng Ching Kung and his fleet of war junks, remained to point out the danger of permitting piracy to flourish without impediment. Did only the trader suffer, piracy might continue unmolested; but there was danger of piracy leading to revolt, and that was an event to be deprecated.

It was this great difficulty which stood in the way at Newchwang. Had it been possible to make arrangements with the growers of pulse in the country, the oil machine would probably have turned out a success. Without adequate means of communication, such an arrangement was not practicable, and the native dealers in oil and beancakes at Newchwang held the trump card in their hands. However profitable, eventually, the improvement in the manufacture would have turned out for themselves, there was an immediate possibility of the loss of a profitable monopoly; and as the promoters of the mills were not in a position to take this monopoly in the flank, they eventually succumbed before it. We do not certainly affirm that, had the enterprise been undertaken on a less scale, it would have proved more successful, but there is every probability that it would. The first beginnings of success would have had a tendency to attract to its side the native element, and this once gained, the road to eventual profit would have been the easier.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 12th Feb. arrived on the 30th, by the M. M. str. *Peiho*.

A mail left for America on the 30th, by the P. M. str. *Oregonian*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. str. *Iraouaddy*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

It is now announced that the Prince of Wales will not visit India in November.

A strike at Dewsbury has been settled.

The French Assembly has adjourned, the question of dissolution being unsettled.

Bishop Munster imprisoned.

The Prussian Chamber has disendowed Bishops.

Pathfinder won the Great National.

Obituary—Mr. Mitchell, the Tipperary member.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Cricket Club was held on the 24th ult. The statement of accounts showed that the Club was not so flourishing pecuniarily, as it might be; and it was resolved to authorise the incoming Committee to ask the Recreation Fund Trustees for a gift of Tls. 500 towards the general improvement of the ground. Some other subjects were also discussed, in connection with the ensuing season's campaign; and the following were elected as the Committee for the year, Messrs. Tate, St. Croix, Souper, Scott, Caldbeck, Anderson and Hamilton.

The annual meeting of shareholders in the Chinese Insurance Co. was held in Hongkong on the 25th March. The Report shows that the net premia taken during the year (after a return of 33⅓ per cent.) amount to $237,541. The losses sustained, however, have been so severe that no dividend is to be declared. It is hoped that the eventual out-turn will show a small profit on the year's working.

The weather has not been fortunate for the Easter holidays; and men who went up-country Thursday night, relying on the fine weather then prevailing, were badly disappointed. The wind worked round to the South East on Friday, and rain began to fall on Saturday morning, continuing in heavy showers throughout the day and night. Sunday was still disagreeable, though less wet. The wind had worked round to the North-east, and blew strong and cold, with an occasional drizzle.

A prospectus has been issued of a Water Works Company which proposes to take up the very necessary project of supplying the Settlement with pure water. The projectors purpose taking water from the Hwangpoo, at a point below Dow's Wharf. The proposed capital is Tls. 30,000, to be raised in 300 shares of Tls. 100 each.

It is said that M. Godeaux is likely to go home very shortly, and is to be succeeded by M. Lemaire.

The elections for the Municipal Council for the ensuing year come off on the 6th and 7th April. Thirteen candidates have been nominated, and have declared their willingness to serve if elected. We are very glad to see that there is to be again a lively contest. "Contest" is perhaps not the right word to apply to an election in Shanghai, because the gentlemen nominated do not canvas for suffrages, and consent, rather than seek, to enter upon office. But it is desirable, for the satisfaction even of these gentlemen themselves, as well as for the satisfaction of the community and the honour and glory of our Municipal institutions, that there should be more than the necessary nine names placed before the Electors. The latter can certainly not complain if there are no more, because the remedy is in their own hands; it is in the power of any two electors to nominate a qualified candidate. But it is far more gratifying to the Councillors themselves, to feel that they hold office by popular choice, rather than as a matter of course because no choice existed. In fact, we believe several of the gentlemen who have come forward on the present occasion, did so on condition that there should be enough nominations to ensure a contest. And it certainly tends to make the office more honourable, that it should be the result of real election, instead of going a-begging, as it has sometimes done. We would like to see, always, a score of nominations; and the more there are, the more ready will men be to stand. It is quite clear that no more than nine men can be elected, so some must be left out; and the more companions there are likely to be in defeat, the less hesitation will there be to incur the chance.

Advantage has been taken of the Easter holidays, to move the books and furniture of the Hongkong Bank to the new building where, we understand, business will be carried on directly.

Telegraphic communication between Shanghai and Amoy, which had been interrupted for a week, was re-established on Thursday.

The Volunteers had a very successful parade on Tuesday. An account of the proceedings will be found on another page.

On Tuesday, a strong party of seamen and marines, with band, pioneers, and a field gun, were landed from H. M. S. *Modeste*, and marched to the Race Course; where, under the command of Captain Buller, they were put through some field movements, which were performed with great precision.

We are informed that the members of the Nagasaki Rowing Club have invited the members of the Yokohama, Kobé and Shanghai Clubs to join in a friendly competition at a Regatta in Nagasaki, during the first week in May. The race to be rowed in

Canton fours, without sliding seats. We hear that the invitation is to be accepted by the S. R. C., and that the selection of a crew is going on. As the date fixed for the race is "Race week" in Shanghai, there should, we think, be no difficulty about the gentlemen chosen getting away.

Another seizure of opium, alleged to be smuggled, was made on Monday night. The attention of some *lekin* runners was attracted to a jinriksha, in which a foreigner, who said his name was Walker, and a coolie were riding; and, according to Walker's statement, they forcibly dragged both him and the coolie out of the vehicle. The coolie had several balls of opium concealed in different parts of his clothing, which Walker claimed as his. All concerned went to the Central Police Station, where a charge of assault against the runners was made by Walker, and he was permitted to take the opium away with him on the understanding that all were to appear next morning at the Mixed Court. On Tuesday, the case was called on before Chên and Dr. Yates, the U. S. Assessor; but, Walker claiming to be a British subject, the hearing was postponed till next morning, when the charge was dismissed.

The talk of the garrulous frequenters of the city teashops has turned, of late, almost exclusively on the tonsorial institution. A portion of the Imperial mourning order, twenty-four days of abstinence from the razor, yet remain, before barbers can legally resume their occupation. Cases are imagined and reported daily, of this or that person incurring the penalty. A proclamation makes this one thousand blows as regards unprivileged persons, and degradation or fine as regards persons of literary or official rank. No case of severe beating is reported, and some cases are said to have been dismissed by the magistrate with a reprimand. Field-labourers are commiserated, for they more than others complain of the aching from which they suffer when unshorn, until the hair attains considerable length. As natives living in the foreign Settlement are generally found shorn, the mandarin runners in the City are often perplexed when they see a well-dressed fellow, whose head is clean shaved, whether to seize him or not. When they are sure that it is a City man who has thus offended—and multitudes do offend, encouraged by the immunity that is extended to our native fellow-residents—they easily mulct him on the spot, offenders always preferring summary street justice to an interview with the magistrate.

We are sorry to hear that the steamer *Yuen-tze-fei* has been lost near Amoy.

The *Singapore Times* brought by the French Mail gives some intelligence concerning the loss of the steamer *Hongkong*. "The disaster occured in the Red Sea, about 1½ days' sail past Aden, when at 5 o'clock in the morning, the steamer suddenly struck on an unknown reef within five miles of Abdel Kiab, and sank within five minutes afterwards. The boats were lowered, and every effort was made to save the passengers and crew, but we regret to learn that a Mrs. Walton, with five children, passengers for Yokohama, who had got into a boat, were carried down with the ship while the boat was still hanging to the tackles, and never seen more. The first officer and seven men went down in the same boat, and the captain, who was also in this boat, saved himself by swimming. All the boats that got away from the ship arrived safely at Aden; but we regret to learn that some of the crew are still unaccounted for, and must have gone down with the ill-fated ship."

In our shipping reports will be found the particulars of an unknown reef, discovered by Captain Bryant of the American barquantine *Samos*, from Newcastle, New South Wales. From observations taken, the reef is situated in Lat. 10.37° N. and Long. 141.50° E., in the vicinity of the Caroline Islands.

The *Kanagawa Maru* met with an accident during her passage from Nagasaki to this port. Off the Amherst Rocks, she broke her shaft, of course rendering the engines useless. Sail was made, and the steamer reached port Saturday, and was towed to Tung-ka-doo Dock the next morning, for the necessary repairs. These will of course occupy some time, and throw her out of her turn on the line. The *Takasago Maru*, which is due here on the 1st April, will therefore be turned round and despatched on Saturday the 3rd.

The steamer *Glenfintas*, having damaged some of the blades of her propeller in the Suez Canal during the passage out, has, to avoid the expense of docking, been canted at the Hongkew wharf sufficiently for the necessary repairs to be made.

In the present year there will be two eclipses of the sun. The first, on April 6, a *total* eclipse, invisible at Greenwich, begins at 3h 38m Greenwich mean time, in long. 35° 14′ E. of Greenwich, and lat. 33° 4′ S. and ends at 9h 16m a.m. in long. 134° 19′ E., and lat. 25° 27′ N. Visible in South Africa, India and China. At the Cape of Good Hope the sun will rise partially eclipsed, and at the most Northern parts of Australia, simple contact only will take place shortly before sunset. The second, an annular eclipse will take place on the 29th September, and will be visible in North America, South of Europe, and Africa; invisible in Australia.

The "Translation of the Peking Gazette for 1874," just issued from this office, is, as usual, a reprint of the translations published from week to week in the *N.-C. Herald*. This is the third volume of the series, and has the advantage over its predecessors of an elaborate index, which will inmeasurably increase its value for reference. The index is divided into six chief heads—such as Court Affairs, Judicial and Revenue, External Relations, &c., &c.; and these again are sub-divided under minor heads, such as Audiences, Appeals, Corea, &c.; so that any important edict or memorial can be easily traced. An article on the status of the Gazette, published last autumn in the *China Review*, forms an appropriate preface.

The Peking Gazette of the 4th March contains a memorial from Shen Pao-cheng and the Authorities of Foh-kien, asking that certain restrictions on emigration to, and trade with, Formosa be removed. An edict granting the request was published on the 15th February. The memorial is sensible and interesting.

The Peking Gazette of the 6th March contains a sensible protest by the late Viceroy of Nanking, against a proposal by the Censor Hu Ting-kwei to raise funds for repairing the banks of the Yellow River, by issuing 200 extra salt licenses. The Viceroy pithily suggests that, if there were an opening for the sale of the salt, the idea would be a useful one; but the secret lies rather in quickening consumption than in increasing supplies. There is already such an accumulation of salt in the hands of licensees that they have to take it in yearly turns to sell their stock; and to add more, would be to risk a deadlock. If the Viceroy had added that the abolition of the monopoly and the imposition of a light duty would be a means both of increasing revenue and quickening consumption, he would have told a useful truth.

Our correspondent Philo-Coreanus sends us another interesting letter about COREA. According to his information, the Chinese Government advised the King to make treaties with foreigners, if he were pressed to do so; and Philo-Coreanus suggests that England should try to open negociations.

By the steamer *Leeyuen* we have positive advices from TIENTSIN that the Customs difficulty has terminated. The Territorial Taotai issued a proclamation virtually promising that the new rule should be abandoned, and the merchants began opening their shops and taking delivery of their cargo; they stopped again however at 11 a.m. on the 24th, under advice that this proclamation would not actually protect them against the Customs Taotai's demand, and that they had better wait for the arrival of the Viceroy, who was expected that evening. His Excellency did arrive in the afternoon, and was at once petitioned by the merchants, in the sense of their previous remonstrance. Our latest news, dated 1 a.m. on the 26th, says that the Viceroy has given positive instructions to the Customs' Taotai, to abandon his proposed changes and revert to the old order of things.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from CHINKIANG, on the 29th March, 1875: "A marked improvement has taken place in the value of Cotton goods; but it has in no way checked the demand, which still continues good. Sandalwood depressed by large supplies. Demand for iron very small."

The *Daily Press* is informed that the Attorney-General of MACAO arrived in Hongkong on the 15th instant, to contract a local government loan of $150,000 with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, for the purpose of reconstructing the public buildings and roads of Macao, destroyed by the late typhoon.

The *China Mail's* SAIGON correspondent writes, under date of 16th March, to the effect that Tonquin will be opened on the 1st of June, provided the Annamites do not even yet find means to postpone it. The man-of-war *Indre* was expected shortly from Tonquin. It is said that Mr. Rheinart has been designated Consul at Hue, and Mr. de Champeaux at Hanoi.

Summaries of FOOCHOW, FORMOSA, JAPAN, and HONGKONG news will be found on another page.

Editorial Selections.

THE TIENTSIN DEADLOCK.

When first mentioning the occurrence of the deadlock at Tientsin, we surmised that it could not last long, as Chinese officials usually give way when they have irritated their subjects to the point of combined resistance. The event justifies our surmise as to the facts, though perhaps not quite as to their incidence—that is to say, the obnoxious order has been virtually withdrawn, though not by the official who issued it. The first proclamation ordering the collection, in Tientsin, of the *likin* barrier dues, was issued on the 6th March, and a proclamation virtually annulling it was posted on the 23rd. The Customs Taotai seems, however, to have held out till the last possible moment—even if he has not been over-ruled, rather than given way, in the end. It was not till the Chinese traders had unanimously closed their hongs, and the Banks and Pawnshops were on the point of following their example, that the Territorial Taotai issued a re-assuring notice which seems to have restored confidence. —And the retreat seems to have been effected none too soon. A general meeting of the Guilds was called on the appearance of the Customs Taotai's third proclamation (published in our last issue), and so much alarm and dissatisfaction were expressed, that it was resolved to suspend all business till a satisfactory settlement could be arrived at. The dealers in foreign goods and Chinese southern produce accordingly closed their hongs on the 21st, and the Banks and Pawnshops had resolved to follow the example when (on the 23rd) the Territorial Taotai, Wu, stepped in to the rescue. The merchants had, it is said, petitioned this official and other high local mandarins, all of whom advised their colleague to retreat. The latter however was obstinate, and the public feeling against him grew so bitter that it is believed he could not have shown himself abroad without risk of insult, or worse treatment, from the populace. For his Order had affected not only the merchants but every coolie whose employment hinged on the commerce of the port. Every porter, lighterman and street-carrier was shut out of work by the refusal of the merchants to take delivery of their cargo, and by the general stoppage of trade. Our correspondent points out that these men are dependent, in the Spring, on their daily labour for their daily food. They have exhausted their Summer savings, during the winter; and if the Pawnshops had also closed they would have been without the last resource of the Chinese labourer. No wonder then that the feeling of irritation was great, and that riots were apprehended in case this last step had been taken. Either the Customs Taotai became at last alarmed at the trouble he had created, or the local Authorities felt obliged to step in between him and the people. The proclamation which we print on another page shows the course taken. We might almost infer from its tone that it was resolved on in general official conclave, against the will of the offender. For the language is by no means conciliatory or complimentary to that official, while all possible capital is made by the Proclaimant. "As," says H.E. Wu, "The functions of the Customs "Taotai pertain to the collection of "revenue, his aim is to make the "receipts as full as possible. But as the "functions of my own office relate to "the supervision of affairs, *my* concern "is for the welfare of the people. * * * When the deputation of mer- "chants and tradesmen came to my "yamên to solicit my services, I at once "addressed the Customs Taotai, pro- "posing that he should refrain from "enforcing the rule, and I also reported "to the Viceroy upon the extenuating "difficulties of the merchants, &c., &c." "Therefore, this proclamation is issued "to inform all merchants and tradesmen "that they must at once open their shops, "and resume business as usual. By no "means must individual doubts and "fears cause the obstruction of trade. "If, in future, Yamên subordinates or "local vagabonds should attempt any im- "position under the guise of inspecting "merchandise, you are free to come to "my Yamên and make complaint, when "the matter will be at once attended to." The proclamation was issued only just before the last steamer left, and the opinion seemed to be that it would satisfy merchants and lead to a resumption of trade. Whether or not the impression is correct, that the obnoxious order was issued with Li Hung-chang's approval, will probably appear bye-and-bye. But even if it were, it is hardly likely that he will venture to re-enforce it, in face of the strong dissatisfaction it has excited.

COREA.

Over his favourite signature of "Philo-Coreanus," our Newchwang correspondent sends us another interesting letter about the position of affairs in Corea. Our readers will remember the amusing account he gave in January last, of the warning sent by the Chinese Government, that France, America and Japan had united to attack the little country, and of the vigorous measures of defence that were immediately concerted. Some time in July, a messenger bearing a flag in one hand and a letter in the other, rode furiously to the Capital, screaming "War, War!" as he passed through the country. The warning proved to come from Peking, and was to the effect that Europe, finding it difficult to fight Corea alone, had coalesced with Japan, and the three powers named had united for the purpose of invasion. Corea was warned, therefore, to prepare, and see whether she could make sufficient resistance; if not, to make a treaty of alliance and commerce; and all would be well. The message was so remarkable, that it required all our confidence in our correspondent's sources of information, to give it credibility. That China should try to irritate Corea against Japan, at a time when she was on the point of war with the latter, was not surprising; but that even Chinese statesmen should suggest the necessity of America and France combining with Japan to crush Corea, was almost too ridiculous. However, Chinese statesmen do such extraordinary things, that one almost ceases to wonder at their eccentricities; and there certainly was some report of a joint expedition having been talked of, in Yokohama. So we set down the despatch as an ingenious effort to enlist an ally, by clothing a vague rumour in terms likely to flatter the self-conceit of the Court addressed. The effect seems, at any rate, to have been to awaken a lively feeling of alarm throughout Corea. Every man who could hold a gun was enrolled, and soldiers were posted wherever it was thought ships could come. The principal points of the coast were fortified; ditches, sown with lances, were dug across the chief lines of route; sentries were posted on every eminence along the coast; cultivation was hindered, and trade was at a standstill.

Our correspondent's present letter carries us a step further. Having made what preparation they could for defence, the Coreans appear to have sent an Embassy to Peking, to enquire into the circumstances of the threatened invasion; and the Chinese Emperor, or his advisers, are reported to have addressed the Embassy as follows:—"It is quite true that these three powers want to fight you; but if you make a treaty with France and America, Japan could not by herself declare war. It would, therefore, be a good thing for you to do; for those two countries are respectable, and I have made treaties with them myself, without suffering harm therefrom* * *. The only two stipulations they require are—commercial liberty and permision to build churches. If you can agree to that, you have nothing to fear." Marvel upon marvel! Here we have the Emperor of China holding a brief for foreigners, and advising Corea to enter into the very treaties which are generally believed to be the most aggravating thorn in the side of Chinese statesmen. Still, the advice was good, and seems to have impressed the young King of Corea; though his Ambassador uttered an indignant protest against the possibility of so civilised a State treating with outer barbarians. Our correspondent does not pretend to quote the exact words of the conversation, but believes he is well informed as to its drift; and events seem to confirm him. After the return of the Embassy from Peking, in September, the King began to withdraw the extra soldiery, and avow an intention of accepting the Chinese advice if the warning were fulfilled. If foreigners did come, none could say where they would land, and the scattered bands of soldiers would be useless. Besides, although he did not wish to treat, negociation would be preferable to war, in which a number of his people would be killed. The Peking Government advised him that he need not fear any damage on the part of Europeans; and if it were possible to preserve life while keeping Corean institution uninjured, why should not treaties of alliance and friendship be made? The conclusion does credit to the King's good sense, and if the British Minister can see his way to verify our correspondent's information, it will be thoroughly worth while to act upon his hint. It is unlikely that Corea could become a place of great trade. What information we have about the country leads us to set it down as fairly productive, but not rich. Père Regis wrote,

in the seventeenth century: "Though Corea be mountainous, it is fertile, especially the provinces of Ching-tsing, Kingshang and Tswenlo. The chief commodities of the kingdom are cotton-paper, which is strong and lasting and of a higher price than any in China; the famous plant ginseng, gold, silver, iron, the gum of a tree resembling a palm tree, with which whatever is varnished seems to be gilt; hens with tails three foot long, little horses three foot high, mineral salt, with sable and castor skins." The catalogue is not imposing, though some of the items are interesting; and the catalogue given in the *Annales de la Propagation*, of articles which the Chinese furnish in exchange for these products, at the annual fair, is scarcely more so. "Dogs, cats, pipes, leather, stags'-horns, copper, horses, mules and asses" do not form an important list. We know, however, that there has existed in recent times an active demand for cotton goods, whenever the Government has permitted their importation; and we may infer that a trade which can even exist under present difficulties, would be capable of much greater development if merchandise could be laid down by sea, instead of having to incur the expense and exactions incidental to an overland journey through the Corean Gate.

TURKESTAN.

The journey of Mr. Margary, who succeeded in penetrating alone across the Burman frontier from Yunnan, is in itself a proof of how easily China might initiate a profitable trade along her Western frontier. Chambers of Commerce at home are probably mistaken in their estimate of the importance to British trade, of having a well defined route opened from Burmah to the South-Western provinces of China. If, however, the successful opening of this route be a matter of not much moment to home interests, the same cannot be said of its effect on China. To the South-Western provinces, the possibility of an additional exit for their natural trade would be an inestimable boon. At present, they are practically shut out from the rest of the world. Chinese exclusiveness seals their Western frontier, and Chinese impositions put as practical a stop on commerce with the rest of the Empire. Geographically, they are not easily got at; many physical difficulties exist on the way, but the gigantic repressive system of China broods over all, like the Sphinx over the doomed city. What is true of Yunnan, we notice also in Sze-chuen and Kansuh. It was not without reason that the Baron von Richthoven, when at Honanfoo, felt that he stood at the gate of Central Asia. East of him lay the Yellow river, still unemployed for purposes of commerce; while to the west stretched the loess of North-China, finally to merge into the deserts of High Asia; and beyond those the fertile and interesting districts of Kashgar, Yarkand, Khoten and the other less known districts of Eastern Turkestan. Here, no impracticable passes, such as that of Karakorum, interfere to render communication impossible. The intervening district can be traversed in all directions, with no greater inconvenience than the presence of the sandy patches of Gobi; across which, at all previous periods of the world's history, it has been found practicable to establish caravan roads. Practically, these roads are no more useful for the purposes of commerce than if they had to cross inaccessible mountain chains. It is in fact easier to make one's way from India across the Himalayas, than from Sunchow to Eastern Turkestan. In the one case, nature opposes its greatest obstacles; the traveller has to journey for weeks over the snow line, through districts utterly uninhabitable for man. In the other, the restraints are mainly the artificial ones of strife and misgovernment.

For nearly a hundred years, the Chinese held nominal control over Turkestan. That is to say, they kept a Resident and a garrison at each of the chief towns; but it was well understood that the Resident should not interfere too much with the existing state of affairs. A small tribute was sent from the various districts to Peking, in return for which costly presents were distributed, while the expenses of the Provinces had to be met out of Imperial funds. Occasionally, the hot blood of the inhabitants got excited, and a general row was the result. In such cases, the usual practice of the Chinese garrison was to retire within their fortifications, and remain still till all was quiet outside. Sometimes they themselves were the objects of attack, when their chief measures seemed to have been somewhat similar. They retired within their fortresses, generally impregnable to the poorly armed insurgent troops, and waited till their opponents became reduced by internal dissensions, or had got tired of the attack. Then they issued forth, and took vengeance on all whom they could catch, innocent or guilty. Sometimes these arts were not successful, and the garrisons prepared to sacrifice, by their own act, the lives they saw were doomed. More than once or twice, whole garrisons have blown themselves up bodily, finding that otherwise they inevitably had to succumb. This was the sort of government exercised by China over Eastern Turkestan. It was neither profitable nor very honourable. Such as it was, some little trade was possible. In ordinary times, the post roads were kept open for the passage of Government couriers, and this led to opening roads generally. The Turkish tribes from the North were not, however, always very regardful of the *status quo*. A rich caravan was a rare temptation, and Chinese garrisons would not leave their forts to look after such small deer. So matters were not very prosperous, and it needed little, when the spark of rebellion was lighted, to make it flare up from one end of the land to the other. It would scarcely be conceived that, now that Turkestan is settled under an able ruler, the Chinese would care to re-establish such a state of affairs. China, however, is not the only power which holds *non possumus* as a matter of faith. There are still Ambans for the cities of Turkestan, and doubtless these Ambans have a direct interest in getting to their posts, could they only succeed in doing so. There may be Ambans, of course, as well as bishops, *in partibus;* but we would scarcely imagine that a power could be foolish enough to really injure itself in the attempt to restore them to offices, at the very best time, little more than nominal. The Ameer of Kashgar has shown himself willing to open mercantile transactions with his neighbours. It is unlikely that he regards China with any special feeling of dislike. Actually, he has never come in contact with a Chinese army. Still, the Government of Peking thinks that in some manner it is aggrieved by the presence of the Ameer in territory which it supposed was its own; and for the purpose of asserting its claim keeps an enormously expensive army at Hami, which has to draw all its supplies from Kansuh, through the Kiayu Mên. On his side, the Ameer has succeeded in pretty well establishing his power over the whole of Eastern Turkestan, to the frontiers of Kansuh. He has succeeded in getting the Tunganees—always a source of terror to the Chinese—into order, and is only anxious to develope the country which he has thus wrenched from the hands of anarchy. The way is open towards the coast. There is no practical reason why Honanfoo should not become the gateway of Central Asia, and certainly no power would gain so much from the operation as China herself. The Chinese themselves, in ancient times, advanced along the same route. Indragiri, or Indra's mountain, exists still in the corrupted forms of the Tengri Tagh and the Tien Shan, the Mount K'i of the Book of Poetry. T'an-foo, like his Grecian analogue, Danaus, watered his steeds at the streams which issued at their feet. It is certainly selfish that they should now seek to close behind them the gates through which they originally advanced to empire.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL v. W. H. FOGG

The case decided last week in the United States Consular Court, is one of the most interesting that has arisen here for some years—interesting both intrinsically and because it is the first deliberate attempt that has been made to assail, in any Court, the status of our Municipal Government. It is to be regretted that the matter should have been forced to this extreme, and we sympathise with the anxiety shown by the Court that the case should be referred to another tribunal. We do not see, however, that the Municipal Council could avoid pressing it to an issue, in face of the Defendant's refusal to bring his complaint before the next Ratepayers' meeting. All the formalities necessary to the assessment of his land were observed, and ample time had been allowed for payment of the tax. Obviously, the Council would have failed in their duty, had they not pressed for payment; and we do not see that it was in their power to accept the Defendant's proposal of a compromise. With the individual hardship of the case they had nothing to do; they had simply to collect a tax which had been imposed and assessed under a Regulation and a custom of thirty years standing. And we cannot but regret that the Defendant did not think it better to appeal for relief to his co-Ratepayers, rather than assail institutions which it is the general

interest to uphold. It may be answered that the action originated with the Council, but we are sure that action would not have been taken had Mr. Twombly intimated his intention of laying the matter before a general meeting of Ratepayers. As it is, it will be a matter of general congratulation that the Court has seen its way to uphold our local constitution.

We have said that we sympathise with the Court in its anxiety to avoid deciding a case which placed it in a painful dilemma. For, as a matter of fact, the loser must in either case be aggrieved. If research convinced the Court that the Land Regulations were not legally binding, the necessity would ensue of upsetting—*quâ* American citizens—the basis of our self-government. If it found itself able, on the other hand, to uphold these Regulations, the alternative was to inflict an undoubted hardship on the Defendant. The points at issue are so well-known that it is hardly necessary to recapitulate them. Almost every land-owner in Shanghai has given up a portion of his property to form Municipal roads. The original title-deeds, however, have not been altered, and continue to exhibit the full area of the original plot. The custom has always been to assess the land tax on the area shown in the title deeds, with the evident result that land-owners pay, to the Municipality, taxes on land which has been surrendered to Municipal use. The hardship is in most cases so trifling that it is probably worth the while of few only to contest it, and of those few none have apparently cared to do so. Mr. Twombly's, however, is an extreme case The property which he represents is a corner lot, and has therefore suffered the deduction of two roads—with the result that, out of 14 mow inscribed on the title-deed, he is really in possession of only 8. It is not surprising that he should chafe at paying for nearly double the area of land he really enjoys, and we fully recognise the fact that he has always been willing to pay such a tax as appeared to him to be just. What is regrettable is, that he did not bring the whole question before a meeting of Ratepayers, and invite them to direct that assessments shall be made, in future, on the reduced and real area of properties. Such a change would not be without inconvenience. It would probably involve raising the rate of taxation, and it would unquestionably entail much additional labour in the Municipal offices—with the certain result, however, of more equable taxation. Whether the Ratepayers would think the gain sufficiently great to overpower the inconvenience, we will not venture to predict. But we are quite clear that it would have been preferable to exhaust this, and every other mode of appeal, rather than attack a system of Municipal Government which has been carefully built up, and which does its work economically and well.

It must not be forgotten, moreover, that the alternative is already open, to Ratepayers, of rectifying their title deeds and reducing the titular to the actual area. As the assessment is made on the area shown in the title-deed, the desired relief is thus at once attainable. But Ratepayers have not generally cared to do this; they prefer retaining the larger area, in view of eventualities; and Mr. Twombly especially declines to circumscribe within his compound walls a right which, he contends, reaches over the foreshore to low water mark. One cannot blow hot and cold with one breath. One can hardly claim ownership of land and yet refuse to pay for it. If one elects, for any reason. to retain a nominal ownership of land practically surrendered, one can hardly refuse logically to pay taxes upon the land so claimed. Otherwise, the remedy it is at hand—get the title-deed amended. This is one alternative. An appeal to the Ratepayers to alter the custom of assessment, is another.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

During the evening of the 17th inst., H. E. Sun Sze-ta, the acting Customs Taotai, issued another (his third) proclamation regarding the levying of "Barrier dues" on Chinese produce 土貨 (published in the *N.-C. Herald* of March 25th). He, on the present occasion, calls upon the owners of Chinese produce stored in the warehouses of this place, and imported during the last six months of last year, to pay, within five (5) days from the 22nd March, the "Barrier dues" leviable on it; or, failing this, they will be called upon after that date to pay double the amount of dues leviable. The Taotai's second proclamation was dated the 9th inst., making a period of eight days between the issuing of the two proclamations. As a despatch can go from Tientsin to Paouting in 24 hours, and a reply to it can be received here in Tientsin within 48 hours, the length of time between the issuing of the second and third proclamations tends to prove that the Taotai is acting under the inspiration of his superiors, and is not carrying out the new system of his own accord. Indeed, we may be sure that he would not have dared to make the innovation without Li's approval. Had a proclamation been issued at the end of last season, announcing the intention to collect the Barrier dues at the time of receiving the import duties, Chinese importers would, ere the opening of this season, have made their arrangements to meet the new order of things. As it is, the new system came upon them quite unexpectedly.

Rumour says that the Governor-General will leave Paouting for Tientsin on the 22nd inst, and may thus be looked for on the 25th inst. Rumour also says that our new Customs Taotai, Le Chaou-tang, who was gazetted last 27th Nov. as Taotai for Tientsin, would leave Canton or Hongkong on the 19th inst, for the North. The new Customs Taotai for Newchwang is here at present, on his way to his port, and will leave on the 21st inst., in the steamer *Formosa*, for Newchwang.

Training began on the race-course yesterday morning. The coffee tent had been erected the day before, to meet the event. I fancy our prospects are very good for having a first-class spring meeting.

We have had a return to colder weather This morning, there was a hoar frost, and the thermometer stood at 29° Fahrenheit.

19th March.

I mentioned in my last letter, that his Excellency Sun, the Customs Taoutai, had issued another—his third—proclamation on the afternoon of the 17th instant; and that in this one he had demanded the payment of Barrier dues on goods imported during the second half of last year. Subsequently, the Chinese traders held meetings at which it was finally decided to close their shops and hongs on the 21st instant, (one day before the Taoutai's new system would come into operation) and to cease doing business till they could arrange matters on a satisfactory basis. On the 21st instant, it was impossible for any one to buy a foot of cotton manufactures, a catty of sugar, a pair of Chinese shoes or in fact almost anything Last night I was told that the owners of the money shops and the banks would also immediately close their establishments; and that it was feared the owners of the pawnshops would to-morrow or next day follow their example—after which we might speedily expect to see anarchy rampant in Tientsin. The out-of-door laboring classes depend, in the spring, upon each day's labor to supply each day's food for themselves and their families; as the savings of the previous year have been exhausted during the past winter season. Immediately that the mercantile traffic of the port is brought to a standstill, porters, wheelbarrow men, and the lighter or cargoboat men cease having employment, cease receiving pay, and consequently are in want of the necessaries of l fe.

Yesterday afternoon, the Chefoo (prefect) and the Chiheen (the district magistrate) issued proclamations ordering the trading population to open their places of business, and carry on their usual mercantile occupations; and to meet the occasion these documents were drawn up in the customary cajoling mandarinegal style. The trading people, however, being perfectly alive to the preservation of their sycee, are not to be blarneyed on the present occasion, into breaking their strike,—as we may call their action—till they have reliable assurances that the Taoutai cannot carry out the system he has announced in his proclamations. I have just heard (6 p.m.) that the district magistrate's proclamation states that the Customs Taoutai has been acting, in demanding the Barrier dues as stated in his proclamation, "in accordance with the instructions of his superior," who is, as we all know, the Governor-General of the province of Chihli. The proclamations are posted up in the city, and not near the British settlement, so I have not seen them.

Yesterday, I was informed by an expectant Taoutai, one of the Governor-General's attachés, that his Excellency would reach here from Paouting on Friday next the 26th instant. As there exists at this moment a complete stoppage of all the mercantile traffic of the port, and as this has already caused suffering amongst the out-of-door classes, which will increase every twenty-four hours; and as his Excellency will, when on the spot, have ocular demonstration of the unsatisfactory state of affairs generally, it is to be hoped that he will, directly after his arrival, delay not a moment in adopting measures to place the traffic of the port upon a satisfactory basis; so that the people may pursue their usual mercantile occupations without delay.

The whole of the cargoes, consigned to Chinese, of the two large steamers *Shantung* and *Taku* which arrived here from Shanghai the day before yesterday, have been landed and stored in the warehouses of the foreign agents of the steamers; not a single bill of lading having been presented by the consignees, to take delivery of their cargo.

I feel it impossible to avoid mentioning here, that I have been told by respectable Chinese of this city that there exists amongst the Chinese thinking and well-to-do people of this place, considerable apprehension that the public tranquillity is seriously jeopardized by the present situation of affairs, owing to the needy portion

of the population being unable to employment. Should their wants incite them to commence pillaging, they will, judging from their antecedent life, be speedily joined by some of the bad hats belonging to the Southern Legion. And I also, further, cannot avoid mentioning that on calling on a foreign resident here to-day to hear his views, he said he had come to the conclusion that the present interruption to trade arose from political causes, and was not due to the collection of the Barrier dues; but that these were employed to create the trouble. Last night, while cogitating over the events of the last few days, I, very strange to say, had come to the same opinion. We can have communication with either Paouting or Peking, in 24 hours, and the unsettled state of this place, I have not the smallest doubt, has been accurately known at both places, from first to last; yet we have no evidence that orders have come from either place to re-establish the customary traffic, abolish the new Custom House system of collecting Barrier dues, or in fact do anything to establish order.

23rd March.

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9 p.m.

Since writing the above, I hear that the Customs difficulty has ended in the virtual abandonment of the obnoxious regulations. The Chinese traders held a meeting on the 20th instant, at which they resolved to close their shops on the following day. They did so, and the Bankers and Pawnshops had resolved to follow their example, when the Territorial Taotai stepped in and gave people to understand that the obnoxious order would be withdrawn. I append a copy of his proclamation:—

"Wu, of the 2nd rank, a Brevet Provincial Treasurer, and by Imperial Decree Intendant of the Circuits of Tientsin Fu and Ho-chien Fu, &c., &c., makes the following proclamation:—

"On my return to Tientsin yesterday, from my visit of inspection to the Grand Canal, I found that on all sides merchants had suspended business and closed their shops; and upon inquiry it appeared that this had been done in consequence of H. E. the Customs Taotai having revived an old rule, by which the payment of arrears in the Revenue taxes was to be enforced according to instructions given to the District Magistrate. The merchants and shopkeepers had, consequently, been worked upon by their dread of the infliction.

Now, as to this matter, since the functions of H. E. the Customs Taotai pertain to the collection of Revenue, his aim is to make the receipts as full as possible; and as the functions of my own office relate to the supervision of affairs, *my* concern is for the welfare of the people. I know full well that the successive years of floods in this district have retarded its prosperity, and that you—merchants and tradesmen—have suffered from the decline of business, from reduced capital and small profits; circumstances which make it hard for you to comply with the change proposed.

When the deputation of merchants and tradesmen came to my Yamên to solicit my services, I at once addressed H. E. the Customs Taotai, proposing that he should refrain for the present from enforcing this rule, and adhere to the existing regulations; and I also reported to H. E. the Viceroy upon the extenuating difficulties of the merchants, and requested him to extend his favor by setting aside the proposed rule. His Excellency is uniformly influenced by feelings of tender compassion, and cannot refuse his favor in compliance with the request. You should all consider this, and not waste time in doubtful hesitation.

Therefore, this proclamation is issued to inform all merchants and tradesmen that they must at once open their shops, and resume business as usual. By no means must individual doubts and fears cause the obstruction of trade.

If, in future, Yamên subordinates or local vagabonds should attempt any imposition under the guise of inspecting merchandise, you are free to come to my Yamên and make complaint, when the matter will be at once attended to.

Let all render obedience, and evade not this special proclamation."

23rd March.

Some of the shops were opened yesterday, on the assurance of the Territorial Taotai's proclamation that trade should be carried on as before; and that any other arrangements would be made after arrival of the Governor-General. To day, the shops generally have opened. The Customs Taotai's proclamations have thus been set at nought. Affairs had such a serious aspect, that the Territorial authorities found themselves compelled to change the policy of their colleague, who is not a Territorial official, and is not accountable for disturbances amongst the people. Hence Wu Taotai's paper.

5 p.m.

This is my second letter of to-day. I wrote to you about two hours ago, saying that the shops opened this forenoon; the Territorial Taotai having issued, late yesterday afternoon, a proclamation that the traders might set their minds at rest, and for the present resume their business. On the strength of this proclamation, the Tientsin traders began taking delivery of their cargoes this forenoon, *early*, but at eleven o'clock they knocked off, as the assurances of the Territorial Taotai could not protect them from the Custom House Taotai's demands. So that at this moment, we are exactly in the same position as before—namely, the shipping traffic is at a stand still.

24th March.

In continuation of my letter of 23rd instant, relative to the stoppage of trade at this port, through measures undertaken by the Customs Taotai, touching the payment of Barrier dues, immediately after the payment of the foreign Custom House duties, I have now to report that, after dispatching my letter to you to the steamer office, at 6 p.m. on the 23rd instant, I received a note from a merchant in the Settlement, telling me that he had just been informed that the shops in the city had been, since 3 p.m. that day, opened to business, and asking me if I had heard of such. About an hour later, I was told by a Chinese who had just come down from town, that if any were opened they must be few indeed, as all he had seen were closed. At about 9 p.m., I was favored with a few minutes' perusal of a copy of a proclamation, which appeared, from its tenor (it had no heading), to have been issued by the Territorial Taotai of Tientsin; and was to the effect that, on the arrival of the Governor-General, the existing difficulty of the merchants with the Custom House would be arranged; and ordering the merchants and traders, in the meantime, to open their shops and go on with their usual occupations. On the following morning, accordingly, many of the shops opened for business; and some of the Tientsin traders came to the Settlement and began taking delivery of the cargoes which had come for them by the last arrived steamers. A couple of hours later, about 11 o'clock, however, they stopped work; owing, it was said, to their having received intelligence from the city, that it had been considered, on the whole, the best course to desist lightering goods from the Settlement to town till the Governor-General, who was expected that evening, had arrived. We learned, yesterday evening, that His Excellency had reached his yamên late in the afternoon. This forenoon, we heard in the Settlement that the Chinese mercantile people had presented a petition to him regarding their grievances with the Customs Taotai. Rumour says that the names of the merchants appended to it were written "round-robin" fashion, to avoid making any particular man appear as a leader in the movement. The result of petitioning the Governor-General, I do not yet know.

This steamer will leave to-morrow morning. The gale of to-day detained her 24 hours in port, as she was to have left this morning.

6 p.m.

I have just learned, on very good authority, that His Excellency, Sun, the Customs Taotai, has handed in his resignation to the Governor-General. I am also given to understand that the old order of things will be restored at the Customs, as regards the collection of interior dues—namely, they will be gathered on the goods going into the interior from Tientsin, as formerly. I also understand that the Tsung-li-yamên have written to Canton, to Le Chaou-tang, the mandarin appointed last November as Customs Taotai at Tientsin, to ascertain whether he can take office or not. It has hitherto been rumoured that he was detained in Canton through ill health, and might not be able to take office here.

PURITAN.

25th March.

The Viceroy has given positive instructions for the Customs Taotai to abandon his proposed changes.

26th March, 1 a.m.

COREA.

When the Emperor of China's message, received 6th moon, 1874, as per my letter of December last, had been well digested by the Government of Corea, an Ambassador was despatched to Peking, in order to glean every information from the fountain head. The Emperor of China is supposed to have addressed the Embassy thus: * * * * "It is quite true that these three Powers want to fight you; but, I think, if you make a treaty with France and America, Japan would not, by herself declare war. It would, therefore, be a good thing for you to do so; for those two Governments (France and America) are respectable, and I have made treaties with them myself—without suffering any harm therefrom. Do as you think fit, although I am of opinion that it would be beneficial to you, as they don't want to take your country. The only two stipulations they require are:—1st, Commercial liberty. 2nd, Permission to build churches. If you can agree to that, you have nothing to fear."

The Corean Ambassador replied: "How can we, who have so many rites which must be carefully followed, ally ourselves with States that have none at all—*i.e.*, Coreans are noted for politeness and good manners, with all virtues, and could not possibly treat with European people, or such like barbarians."

Whether the above is exactly what occurred, it is too much to declare; but it is so rumoured throughout the country, and it is certain that, after the return of the Embassy from Peking, about 8th moon, 1874, the King of Corea withdrew the extra soldiers who had been encamped at Kang-hoa, notwithstanding the ex-Regent's (his father's) earnest protestations.

To justify the measure, the King is reported to have said: "Even if men from other countries came to us, we don't know where they would land, and all these forces would be like a small stone thrown into the sea. Although, I don't wish particularly to treat with them, it seems to me that a great number of my people would be killed in a war, and to prevent that, it would be right to have peace and make a Treaty. Moreover, I am led to believe that we need

not fear any damage on the part of Europeans. If, then, it be possible to preserve lives, and our institutions are not to be injured, what can prevent our making treaties of alliance and friendship?" Thereupon the King's orders to withdraw all extra soldiery were at once carried out, and there are now at Kang-hoa, and at the other posts, none but the ordinary troops.

My object has been generally to state what passes in a country so shut out from all communication; but it may not be out of place now to suggest that Corea is getting ripe for entering the family of nations, in which China and Japan are prominent members. Your readers are more likely to doubt the correctness of the Emperor of China's address to the Corean Embassy, than the reply of the latter, especially as it would serve China's purpose at the time, to give full employment to the Japanese, while the Formosa difficulty was pending; yet it must be borne in mind that, by inducing the Corean Government to make peace with France and America, independently of Japan, the latter's jealous fears might operate to the advantage of the Celestial Empire, by causing unfriendliness between her then enemy (Japan) and France and America. It must be considered also, that Corea pays tribute to China, and it may be very necessary to assist her at some future period (not far distant, judging from the encroachments at the Amoor), when Russia will feel strong enough to claim another slice of the East. Anyhow, Corea is not a difficult country to penetrate, and the people, we know from the kindness shewn to shipwrecked crews on many occasions, are nearer to the Japanese in character than to the Chinese. The only question is as to the King's mind, and there is every reason to believe that, if overtures were made by any great Power like England, France, America, or Germany, a treaty could be made without any risk. It would be a great honour for England to introduce Corea into the "family" without a struggle; and I think England would more likely succeed, as she has not attempted any coercion like the other Powers. The Emperor of China's death will not affect the conduct of the Corean Government, unless there be some [illegible] in Peking. At any rate, it would be easy enough to send the new Admiral's letter to the King of Corea; and I believe a meeting could be easily managed now.

Philo-Coreanus.

Newchwang, 20th Feb.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* is informed that despatches have been sent from the Tsung-li Yamên to the high officials of the Maritime Provinces, instructing them to take due measures for the protection of the Great Northern Telegraph Company's Sea Cables. This has been done in compliance with the request of the foreign diplomatic body at Peking and will set at rest all doubt as to the legality of the Company's position, in so far as their sea lines are concerned.—It is also said that the Local Government are about to engage the services of a first class Civil Engineer to report on the condition of the river between the Bridge and Pagoda Anchorage, as well as to devise the best practical means of deepening the channel abreast of the Arsenal. Steam-dredges will be ordered so soon as these preliminaries are settled.—Foreigners at Shanghai were told to engage a Civil Engineer for themselves, to survey the Woosung bar, and the idea of dredging has been simply ignored.—M. Giquel will be accompanied on his homeward trip by a few Chinese students. He will arrange for the instruction of these youths, in modern arts and sciences, at the best public schools in France and England. During his absence in Europe, M. de Segonzac will take charge of the Arsenal.—A Chinese newspaper has been started in Foochow under foreign auspices.—The weather has been unusually warm for the time of the year.—Several of the native inhabitants have been severely beaten and cangued for refusing to comply with the mourning ordinances consequent upon the death of the late Emperor.

FORMOSA.

We are informed that active measures are in course of completion to open up Formosa to Chinese enterprise, in a way calculated to properly develop the resources of that island. The recent memorial to the Throne upon the subject has evidently had good effect, as orders have been issued to the mandarins of Formosa to afford every aid and protection to immigrants, a number of whom are stated to be setting out from the ports of Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow, for the purpose of settling there. Chinese reports place the number of families thus seeking fresh fields and pastures new, at two thousand, which would give a probable average of 8,000 individuals, who would carry with them at least the habits of a far higher civilization than that of the aborigines. We do not learn what specific measures are to be taken for the protection of the immigrants, but understand that troops are to be sent over to "pacify" the natives in the first instance No doubt the end in view will be somehow achieved, the Chinese having a good reputation as successful colonists. The impulse which such a movement might give to the Sugar and Camphor trades is not to be despised, and if, as reported, the Coffee plant will also thrive in Formosa, the Chinese agriculturalist is just the man to make its cultivation pay. Doubtless the Pe-paw-hwans will scarcely view the new movement with that unqualified approval which it is the prerogative of civilized people to extend to all that comes under the head of progress. But that will merely be "human nature," and if they too strongly oppose the "improvement" of trade and agriculture, they will probably find the process extended to themselves. On the whole, we fancy that the Chinaman is a less bloodthirsty immigrant than the Anglo-Saxon, being content to dwell in peace with uncivilized neighbours if not too strongly provoked. But in any case, the inevitable law will, we suppose, obtain; and it is quite possible that, if some future Chinese Cooper tells the story of the "Last of the Pe-paw-hwans," the date of the incidents will be "*circa* 1880."—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the Hongkong Chamber of Comm rce was held on the 22nd March. Among the chief subjects mentioned in the report were those of protection to wrecked vessels on the coast of China; the re-survey of the coast; and the probable opening to trade of the ports of Annam, in the Gulf of Tonquin. A discussion of the latter subject turned on the advisability of sending a delegate to that country for the purpose of obtaining information regarding its commercial capabilities, as suggested in the report. Ultimately, Mr. Pyke moved, "That in the opinion of this meeting the whole matter be left to the committee, with the understanding that the expenses should not exceed $1,000" The motion was seconded by Mr. Greig, and carried unanimously.—The *Press* says it is stated that Russia is endeavouring to procure a revision of her commercial treaties with China, with a view of obtaining more favourable concessions.—In the case Fabregas *v.* Espantoso, a rule has been granted, calling on the Plaintiff to show cause why the damages should not be reduced to $12,000, or why there should not be a new trial.—The British brig *Britain's Pride*, bound to Ningpo, has put into Hongkong, leaking, she having been ashore in coming out of Manila harbour.—The *Diario de Manila* of the 18th March, states that a fire broke out on board the British steamer *Yuen-tze-fee* on the morning of the 17th, but the crew were able, without any other assistance, to extinguish it in a few minutes.—The *China Mail* gives a translation of an article in a native local paper, the *Chung Ngoi San Po*, which deals with a re-organization of the army proposed by Li Hung Chang. He suggests that each province should have on an average a standing army of 10,000 men, and the different provinces be divided into five divisions, each under the command of a generalissimo. The soldiers to be trained and disciplined under foreigners. The native journal also says that, for the protection of the coast, China ought to have at least four ironclads, and recommends the Government to send more students to Western countries to study law, military and naval tactics, and navigation.—H. M.'s Transport ship *Adventure* arrived on the 13th March from Yokohama, with the officers and 276 non-commissioned officers and men of H. M. Royal Marines. The *Adventure* left again on the 17th for Natal, calling at Singapore.—Admiral Ryder has visited the Aberdeen Docks, to see if they could take in the *Audacious*.—A Chinaman who was summoned for having dirty premises, pleaded that it was Sunday, and he could not think of making anyone work on a day that foreigners so much respect! He was fined $10.—Garrison sports were to be held on the 29th and 30th March.

NAGASAKI.

There is a certain amount of gossip in Nagasaki papers, but of news in the ordinary sense of the word, none.—The *Rising Sun* relates that a Japanese died lately from a fish-bite, with symptoms of poisoning.—A jin-rick-sha man found $3.000, took it to the Police Station and refused to accept any reward!—The steamer *Luzon*, which has been under repair for some time, came out of dock on the 12th, and made a successful trial trip.—A ceremonial in memory of the men who died in the Formosa expedition was to be performed on the 22nd March, and Government offices were to be closed on the occasion.

HIOGO.

The Hiogo papers are, if possible, more devoid of news than the Nagasaki. An exhibition of relics is being held at a great temple in Kioto.—Here also a man has picked $100 and taken it to the Police Station, but he condescended to accept half.—A native flower show is to be held at Osaka on stated days during this and the next month.—The Kobe A. D. C. are going to give an entertainment.—Naval athletic sports are to be held for the amusement of the men of H. M. S. *Sylvia* and *Mosquito*.—The Osaka correspondent of the *News* says, "Considerable progress has been made towards getting the Adjikawa branch line into working order, and, if no fresh delay occurs, we may expect to see it opened within the next three weeks. This done, and the new landing pier at the Kobe terminus finished, the goods traffic which is now so trivial should figure to a respectable amount in the weekly returns of our little railway.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* says the amount set aside for the present half-year in aid of primary schools is about 262,000 *Yen*, and is distributed over 62 *Ken*.—At eleven o'clock on the night of the 12th, a fire broke out at Kanda, in Yedo, and before it could be stopped twenty-seven houses were

destroyed. A fire which broke out at Sawabe, in the province of Mutsu, on the morning of the 6th inst., destroyed over a hundred houses.—It is said that a large body of troops has been despatched into Jôshiu, to repress an outbreak in that district.—The *Herald* says the editor of the *Tokei Journal* has disappeared, and that the paper itself has ceased to exist.—Captain Rice, of the *Vasco de Gama*, has written to the *Herald* to disprove the assertion that the long passage of his vessel was due to parsimony on the part of the P. M. S. S Company in stinting him of coal.—Roses have become the rage in the capital; and, as with tulips in Holland in by-gone times, absurd prices are being paid for them.—The case of Davison *v.* Beato has been settled in H.M.'s Provincial Court, by a verdict for the plaintiff for the gross sum of $8 302.65, which disposes of the set-off claimed by the defendant.—*L'Echo du Japon* says:—"It is not only on the coast of China that pirates are met with, the coasts of Japan have been for some days their favouite haunt; above all, the sea between Gheichan and Bizen. Already several junks have been seized and pillaged by them in that sea. Orders have been given by the officers of the prefectures of these provinces, offering a large reward to anyone who is able to seize any of the pirates."—The *Gazette* copies from a native paper the intelligence that the convention of *Kazoku*, respecting the practicability of constructing a railway to Awomori, has come to a decision in the affirmative.—Tagagi Hojo, a *Shizoku* of Saga-ken, now studying in St. Petersburg, has married a fair Russian, named Elizabeth Nicolairo, an *accoucheuse* of some repute.—Tobacco is to be taxed on and after 1st January next.—The body of a boy aged about seventeen, and a girl of about fifteen, were found in the water near Honjo, Tokio, on the 13th inst. They are supposed to have committed suicide together.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

March 1st.—(1) Yang Shao-ho, an assistant Expositor of the Hanlin, memorializes submitting his views With regard to the augmentation in the number of degrees obtainable at the different provincial examinations, he represents the harm that is wrought to the cause of devotion to the ancient fountains of learning by the enlargement of the area of admission, whereby genuine application is discouraged. The additional degrees that have been granted during the last twenty years, in reward for contributions to the exchequer in a time of warfare, should now, in his opinion, be withdrawn, the provinces having already enjoyed to a sufficient extent the advantages of the Imperial bounty. On the subject of the military service, he expatiates on the inefficiency into which the regular army has fallen, its duties being discharged wherever troops are required by irregulars ("braves"), whom it is necessary to enlist for the purpose. Whilst the regular army, unpaid, undrilled, and with its ranks only nominally filled, has become next door to useless, the forces of irregulars who have been retained in the different provinces since the restoration of peace have also, it is insinuated, fallen into a condition of no slight inefficiency. The remedy that the memorialist proposes is to fill up the ranks of the regular army by drafts from the irregular forces. With reference to the skill in the use of the lance and bow, in which the soldiery of the three Manchurian provinces were heretofore preëminent, the memorialist, who served at one time as Adjutant-General in Shantung, where he had an opportunity of personally observing this fact, now hears that a falling off in efficiency is noticeable among the soldiery from that region, who have been sent to join in the Western campaign. He solicits that the proper authorities be called upon to institute regulations for amending this state of affairs.

(2).—The Censor Yeo Peh-ch'wan memorializes adding his protest to those which have already appeared in the *Gazette*, against the continuance in official employ of the late Taotai at Tientsin, after being placed in mourning by the death of his father.

March 2nd.—(1.) A Decree, in reply to a memorial by Hwang Yü, a Vice-president of the Board of Punishments, who has reported respecting an additional number of the women of An-hwei, who perished during the recent rebellion, and for whom no sacrificial offerings have as yet been provided. With regard to the 586 persons, of whose names a list has been presented, it is ordered that the proper Board take measures for providing marks of Imperial distinction, with the exception of such among them as have already been thus honoured, and that their relations be allowed to erect memorial temples or mural tablets at their own expense.

(2.) The Governor-General of Chihli reports the trial and sentence of a woman named Lin Chang-she, for the offence of presenting a supplication to the (late) Emperor by the roadside. The suppliant, having been persuaded by a female relative, a widow, who had a grievance with regard to the ownership of some land, to present a complaint to his Majesty when passing along a public thoroughfare, is condemned, under the statute in such cases made and provided, to the penalty of eighty blows, with privilege of commutation.

March 3rd.—(Court Circular.) The Prefect of Shun-t'ien Fu reports a fall of snow of upwards of 3 inches, at Peking, on the 28th Feb.

(1 and 2.) The Manchu General, Governor-General, and Governor of Fuhkein, and Shên Pao-chêng, Commissioner for Maritime Defence and Foreign Affairs in Formosa, jointly memorialize on the following subjects:—

(*A*).—The application of the late Acting-Magistrate of the Kia-l district is forwarded, in which he declares that the guardian deity of that city has long been conspicuously accessible to the prayers offered up, on occasion, for either rain or fine weather, and that a most noteworthy instance of his supernatural interposition occurred in 1862, when the city was besieged by the insurgent leader Tai. At this juncture a severe earthquake occurred, which threw down some of the battlements, but left the walls of the city undisturbed In answer to the prayers that were offered at the temple, when the rebels endeavoured to storm the town, an oracle was granted assuring a safe result, and the people took heart therefrom, so that a desperate defence was made, and the city was preserved from capture. It is now prayed that an additional title of honour be conferred upon the god in question.

(*B*).—The attention of His Majesty is solicited to an application presented by certain of the literati of T'ai-wan Fu, embodying a panegyric upon the heroic Chêng Ch'êng-kung, entitled Prince of Yen-p'ing 延平郡王 and honoured by the bestowal of the surname Chu, under the Ming dynasty. Devoted to scholarship in his youth, he became involved, on reaching the age of manhood, in the troubles which befel the State; and, imbued with the prevailing sentiments of heroic devotion, he postponed the obligations of filial mourning to the duties of patriotism. He found in the midst of the waste of waters a dominion which he transmitted to his descendants, and which was by them surrendered to the Imperial sway. His former opposition being condoned, his name was admitted to a place in the record of the loyal servants of the dynasty; and in the ensuing ages his supernatural intervention has been granted when cries of distress have arisen in times of natural calamity. The common people have offered sacrifices to him in humble shrines without official authorization, and it is now requested that the erection of a temple and the bestowal of a canonical designation on the departed hero may be Imperially sanctioned. In support of this petition, the Imperial Commissioner Shên, inditer of the memorial, together with his colleagues, after observing that although Chêng Ch'êng-kung in his lifetime necessitated the employment of the sword of the State, in the palmy days of the dynasty, to effect his subjugation, yet his character was of a kind to serve as a healing example to the turbulent and lawlessly disposed; and it is on record that in the 39th year of K'ang Hi (A.D. 1700) His Majesty declared in an edict that the deceased had been one of the supporters of the Ming dynasty, not a revolted rebel against His Majesty's own rule, and sent officials in charge of the coffins of both Chêng Ch'êng-kung and his son King 經 to be conveyed for interment at Nan-ngan, where a tumulus was to be raised over their remains and a memorial temple to be erected. As this temple, however, is on the mainland, it is of no avail so far as the people of Formosa are concerned; and it is now besought that a canonical designation be conferred on the spirit of Chêng Ch'êng-Kung, and the erection of a temple in his honour at T'ai-wan Fu be sanctioned. (For rescript see [illegible]

March 4th.—(Court Circular.) Li-jui had audience of leave on proceeding to Corea to promulgate the Imperial manifesto. (See *Gazette* of January 30th).

(1)—The authorities of Fuhkien, and Shên Pao-chêng, Commissioner for Maritime Defence and Foreign Affairs in Formosa, memorialize soliciting the removal of the restriction on colonization in Formosa. Referring to a memorial dated January 18th, in which they had already reported the opening of access into the mountains at both the north and the south of the island, and the arrangements they had in contemplation for establishing posts at Lang-k'iao and K'i-how, they have now to observe that with the exception of the lands occupied by the aboriginal tribes, the whole interior of Formosa is entirely uninhabited. Lands which might be cultivated lie waste, overgrown with forest and sending forth pestilential miasma, a refuge for the savage aborigines who lie in wait there for victims of their murderous designs. Though pathways may be cut across the hills they are nevertheless shunned as unsafe, and soon become obstructed by the undergrowth. The response that has been made to the late invitations to cultivators to take up new lands has been limited in the extreme, the fact being that the population of the settled part of the island is by no means abundant in proportion to the extent of its area. A prohibition has long been maintained against the emigration of Chinese from the mainland to Formosa; and although it has not been enforced to the letter, yet, so long as the interdict is not removed, the local authorities have always been fearful of committing an infringement of the law if they were to encourage the influx of settlers. The enterprise of opening up the mountain region, however, renders the introduction of cultivators absolutely necessary; and to obviate hesitation on the part of the people, the removal of the interdict is indispensable. The ancient enactment is found to be to the following effect:—"The surreptitious crossing over to Formosa by the people of the mainland is forbidden. On any vessel making the surreptitious voyage being captured, the master and crew shall be punished in different degrees, penalties shall be inflicted on the civil and military authorities, and the soldiers and police shall be criminally dealt with."

A further enactment provides that "in the the case of persons acting as crimps to decoy the inhabitants of the seaboard into surreptitiously crossing to Formosa, offenders in the first degree shall be transported into military servitude, and accessories shall be punished with 100 blows and banishment for three years. The penalty of 100 blows and one month in the cangue shall be inflicted on the remaining junk masters, who are bound as security for the offending person. The persons emigrating shall receive 100 blows and be sent back to their native places. The civil and military authorities found guilty of negligence shall be subjected to penalties as may be due." Other enactments are quoted to the same effect. In addition to these, it is further provided that for the offence of entering the territory of the aborigines, 100 blows shall be inflicted; and the same penalty, with 3 years banishment added, for engaging in such occupations as gathering rattans, snaring deer, felling timber, and collecting coya-fibre in proximity to the savages. Stone monuments were moreover erected at the entrance to the mountains at the northern and southern extremities (?) of Taiwan, (the term cautiously used here is 勢, signifying *condition* or *appearance*), beyond which were the limits of the savages. Penalties were prescribed for the officials guilty of negligence in the case of any persons surreptitiously going beyond these bounds with ventures of merchandize. Penalties were also [illegible] with the savages. The withdrawal of all these ancient restrictions is now solicited. It is furthermore stated that, according to a longstanding rule, no person was allowed to engage in the business of iron founding in Formosa, for the manufacture of domestic hardware or agricultural implements, without a license from the Treasurer of Fuhkien, obtained through the government of the island. Only 27 persons were thus licensed for the entire island, and the iron they employed was to be brought from Changchow on the mainland, under penalties for unauthorized extraction or sale of the ore or metal. Of late years, however, the ports of the island have been opened to trade, and pig-iron is included in the tariff of imports, so that what was formerly forbidden to be produced in China is now imported from the countries of Europe. Whilst the conditions are thus wholly altered, it frequently happens that ill-disposed soldiers or police trump up pretexts for levying extortions from the people at large, whilst the licensed iron-founders seek to enforce a monopoly in virtue of their recognized position, greatly to the public injury. Another prohibition on the statute book is that against the exportation of bamboos, the object being to prevent the supply of materials for sails and stagings to piratical junks. In virtue of this prohibition, bamboos transported from point to point in the neighbourhood of the ports are subject to inspection, although the fact is that sea-going craft make use of matting or canvas for their sails, and are in no wise dependent on the use of bamboo. The inferdict, consequently, serves only as an additional vehicle for extortion on the part of the soldiery and police. The removal of all the abovementioned longstanding prohibitions is solicited, in the interest of the colonization of Formosa. (For rescript, see *Gazette* of Feb. 15-16).

March 5th.—The Governor-General and Governor of Fohkien memorialize reporting the arrival of sundry shipwrecked Liu-Chiuan barbarians at Foochow. On the 18th December last, the commandant at Min-an received a communication from the district Magistrate of Ts'ung-ming in Kiang-su, forwarding a Liu-chiuan junk with eleven natives on board, together with their effects. On being examined, it was found from the statements taken that the junk had sailed on the 16th July last, on a trading voyage from Napa, and had been dismasted in a gale on the following day. She drifted in the course of the next seven days to the coast of China, and was taken by Chinese who came to the rescue, to the magistracy of Tsung-ming (estuary of the Yangtsze). Clothing and food were supplied by the Magistrate, and the junk was repaired, after which steersmen were put on board, and the junk was towed by a steam gunboat to the frontier of Fuhkien and Chêhkiang, where she arrived on the Dec. 4th. After being provisioned by the Magistrate of Yü-hwan T'ing she continued her voyage to Foochow. From the day of their arrival at the Liu-chiuan lodginghouse, the authorities have issued the daily ration, as provided by regulation, of 1 *shêng* (about 1 pint English measure) of rice, and 6 *cash* for salt and vegetables. On departure, the shipwrecked mariners will further be supplied with provisions for one month.

March 6th.—(1) The acting Governor-General of the Grain Transport reports that the apprehensions entertained towards the close of last year, for the safety of the banks of the Grand Canal in its Southern portion, owing to the strong pressure of the waters flowing in from the Yellow River, had passed away in the early part of January, as the volume of water decreased.

(2) The (late) Governor-General of the two Kiang, Li Tsung-hi, memorializes with reference to a decree received by him on the 2nd January, in which the tenor of a memorial by the Censor Hü T'ing-kwei, proposing a scheme for the raising of a large amount of revenue for the expenses of the Yellow River service, was forwarded. Upon this the Governor-General has to remark that, under the new regulations for the Hwai nan Salt Division (including Kiangsi, part of Kiangsu, Anhwei, and Hu Kwang), 500 *yin* 引 (each about 364 catties) of salt are allotted to one *p'iao* 票 or license, and that, consequently, the issue of 200 extra licenses would be an addition of 100,000 *yin* of salt placed on the market. If for each license the payment of Tls. 6,000 were received, an addition to the revenue would be made of Tls. 1,200,000. Supposing that there were an opening for the sale of the salt in question, this would certainly afford an auxiliary source of income on behalf of the river-works; but he has to submit that the secret of the gabelle revenue does not lie in augmentation of the supplies available for distribution, so much as in the quickening of sale for consumption. In earlier times, the salt brought to the distributing centres by the licensees, was got rid of as fast as it arrived; but increasing competition has led to a gradual accumulation of stock. The licensees, who began by finding themselves able only to make one delivery a quarter, have at length reached such a point that their turn for disposing of their importations comes only once a year. It is found that the salt accumulated at the distributing centres of the Two Hu, Kiangsi, and Anhwei, amounts to upwards of 360,000 *yin*, which the dealers are altogether nonplussed how to get rid of, and this does not include the salt *in transitu* or in the intermediate storehouses. Owing to the long delay that must elapse before that salt can be put on the market, it is exposed to various forms of deterioration. The only salvation for the traders lies in their adherence to the rule of successive rotation in the disposal of their ventures. These facts, with others to the same effect, are urged as a sufficient objection to the proposed addition to the number of licenses issued.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.

March 7th.—(1) A decree, remitting certain portions of the land-tax in some of the Southern districts of Chihli, on a representation by the Governor-General of the extent to which the lands in question have suffered from inundation.

(2) The Censor Sun Fêng-siang memorializes, protesting against arrangements proposed by the Board of Ceremonies for limiting the number of candidates to be allowed to come forward at the provincial literary examinations, on the motion of the assistant Civil Governor of Fêng-t'ien, Chang Sü-kiai, who memorialized on the subject in 1873. The Censor now urges, taking Shantung as a province of the middle order in this respect, that in the province in question the number of degrees of *Kü-jên* conferred, including those newly added to the list, is seventy-one, with 13 of the *fu-pang* or subsidiary class. The number of cells in the examination hall has been increased to upwards of 12,000, and for the 1873 competition more than 14,000 scholars came forward. The number who actually entered for the examination, after rejection of a certain proportion at the preliminary test, was upwards of 12,000. If, however, the standard regulation were complied with, which allows only the following proportion to come forward in a Province of the middle order—viz., 60 for each degree as *Kü-jen*, and 30 for each degree of the *fu-pang* class, the number of candidates sent forward from the districts could not exceed some 4,600 all told. The increase in the number of candidates is attributable to the relaxation of the rules granted from time to time in reward for local contributions during the rebellion, and the Censor deprecates a withdrawal of privileges which have been highly prized by the literary class.

March 8th.—(1) K'ung Siang-k'o, the hereditary representative of Confucius, invested with the title of Duke, memorializes, expressing his lamentations on the decease of his late Majesty, the intelligence of which reached him at his home on the 24th January. After a panegyric on the virtues of the deceased sovereign, he requests permission to visit Peking to present himself before the Throne, as he did in 1865.—Rescript granting the request.

(2) The Governor of Hupeh memorializes, denouncing the acting Magistrate of the District of Hien-fêng for sundry acts of corrupt conduct and perversion of justice into a means of extortion. A rescript, stripping the offender of his rank, has already appeared.

March 9th.—No documents of importance.

March 10th.—(1) A Decree in reply to a memorial by the Assistant Hanlin reader Pao-t'ing, who has admonished their Majesties the Empresses with his views respecting the control of the eunuchs of the palace and economy in the expenses of the household. In reply it is observed that the memorialist's warning is dictated by a praiseworthy desire to prevent the possible growth of evils, and that as regards the eunuchs, it has been fully recognized by succe-sive sovereigns that not the smallest approach to freedom can be allowed to this class of persons. On the subject of household expenditure, the Comptrollers will be enjoined to adjust their outlay to the regulated income of the Privy Purse, and not to make unjustifiable applications for extra subsidies from the general revenue.

(2) The Governor of Cheh-kiang memorializes requesting that the name of Yang En-shu, Magistrate of the Shan-yin District, may be removed from the official list under that heading, owing to prolonged absence from his post. The Magistrate, having been recommended for nomination to this office, was required by the Board to proceed to Peking for presentation to the Emperor, after which he was to return to his post on probation only. Having left Cheh-kiang in July 1871 for the purpose of proceeding to Peking, he has never returned; and it has

been ascertained on enquiry that he has purchased a certificate of rank as Taotai from a sale-of-titles office in Hunan. Having failed, however, to pay up the extra amount required from him to make good his want of a recommendation for promotion from his actual superiors, the Board has refused to confirm his new rank, and likewise to discharge him from dirty in Chêhkiang. It is now requested that, he has absented himself for such a length of time from duty, his office may be declared vacant, in order that another appointment be made.—Granted by rescript.

(3) In a supplementary memorial, the same Governor reports the appointment of the late Magistrate of Chu-ki to act as Magistrate of T'ien-t'ai, vice Ting Shu-liang, removed from office—(probably in consequence of the late rising in that district).

March 11th.—(1) A Decree. A memorial has been received from Tso Tsung-t'ang, Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, &c., who requests that a Taotai be stripped of his rank and excluded for ever from the public service, as well as that a penalty be inflicted upon himself. Ho Yüan-tsin 何元普, Intendant of the An-suh circuit, was an official who had already been denounced for misconduct, when Tso Tsung-t'ang memorialized in his favour, soliciting restoration of his original rank and his appointment as acting Taotai of the above-named circuit. Notwithstanding this, the official in question, so far from shewing repentance and a desire to atone for the past, has thrown obstacles in the way of public business, manifesting conduct the most unworthy, deceitful, and devoid of principle. Let him be stripped of his rank, and excluded for ever from re-employment. In summoning to his headquarters, without due cause, an official of bad character, already stripped of his rank, Tso Tsung-t'ang himself has committed a fault not easily excusable. Let his name be handed to the Board for decision as to a penalty.

(2) The assistant Reader of the Grand Secretariat, Kwang-an, memorializes submitting his views with respect to the recently declared succession to the Throne. He submits that, whereas it is true that the servants of the State are not called upon to meddle with the Sovereign's prerogative in the adoption of an heir, yet it appears to him that, where some trifling modification suggests itself as desirable, after the satisfactory conclusion of an arrangement of the kind, it behoves a Minister not to remain silent. After referring to the lamented decease of his late Majesty, and extolling the wisdom and foresight with which the two Empresses have caused an heir to the Throne to be adopted, with the proviso that his Majesty's future son shall become adoptive heir to the deceased Emperor, the memorialist thinks it his duty to refer to an analogous case which has struck him, in the history of the Sung dynasty. T'ai Tsu, the founder of that line (A.D. 960-975), transmitted the succession to his younger brother, in obedience to the command of his mother, instead of making his son his heir (the arrangement being that T'ai Tsu's son should succeed on the death of T'ai Tsung, the second sovereign.) Subsequently, however, by the solitary advice of Chao Tsin, T'ai Tsung named his own son as his successor, in lieu of his nephew (the rightful claimant of the Throne.) Objections innumerable were the result of this departure from the rule prescribed by the Empress mother of T'ai Tsu. If, at the time, her Majesty had commanded her decree to be inscribed on a tablet of iron 鈇券, thus constituting a patent immovable as the Nine Tripods of Yü or as the T'ai Shan itself, the counsel of Chao Tsin would have been powerless to interfere with it. The memorialist now recommends that, to guard against any possible departure from the declared will of their Majesties in the course of future years, the great assembly of Princes, Nobles, Ministers, and heads of departments be convened to decide on the preparation of a tablet of iron to record for ever their Majesties' decree. (For rescript severely reprimanding Kwang-an for his presumptuous intermeddling, see *Gazette* of Feb. 21st.)

March 12th.—This day's *Gazette* is wholly occupied with the memorial by the Censor Wang Chao lan, urging financial, civil service, and army reform, a full abstract of which has already been given, with the rescript, in the *Gazette* of Feb. 23rd.

March 13th.—(Court Circular). Kwei-ts'ing, Vice-President of the Board of Works at Moukden, had audience on his arrival at Peking. (N.B.—This is the official lauded by the Censor Li Hung-mu, in his memorial published on the 23rd February, for his uprightness while acting as Comptroller of the Household, in contradistinction to Kwei-pao and Wên-si, the officials whose degradation was granted by rescript to the memorial in question).

(1) The Governor of Chêhkiang memorializes applying for a memorial structure in honour of an aged lady of the province, who has seen seven generations living and who has, herself included, five generations of her family living at present day. The lady in question, now 95 years of age, has three sons, thirteen grandsons, seven great-grandsons, and two great-great-grandsons. The application, accompanied by a copy of the genealogical register, is referred to the Board of Ceremonies.

(2) The same Governor applies for sanction to the resumption of a payment of eight taels per annum out of the public funds for the maintenance of Spring and Autumn sacrifices in honour of a President of the Board of War under the Ming dynasty, named Hu She-ning, who aided in suppressing the formidable revolt of Prince Chên Hao (in A.D. 1519). A temple in his honour was erected at the district city of Jên-ho, but during the rebellion, when the records were lost and affairs fell into confusion, the accustomed sacrifices were suspended.

(3) The same Governor reports an engagement which took place in August last, on the coast of Chêhkiang, close to the border of Fuhkien, with some piratical junks which had been chased up from the South. The Imperial war-junks, under the command of the Acting-Brigadier of Wên-chow, aided by a steam-gunboat, fell in with the pirates near Koh-sien Ao, and having obtained the weather-gage during the prevalence of a furious gale of wind, bore down upon them and opened fire with their heavy guns. Two of the pirate-junks were sunk, as well as one of their boats, a great number of the piratical crews being thus sent to the bottom, and the crew of the remaining three-master, finding the odds against them, put their helm about and ran the junk ashore. The pirates, having taken to the hills, were hotly pursued by a landing party from the Imperial squadron, and a great number perished by falling over precipices in their flight. Thirteen prisoners were taken, and twenty-four heads were brought in from the scene of action. On board the piratical junk five imprisoned persons were found and liberated. Honours are solicited on behalf of the officers and soldiers who achieved this exploit.

March 14th.—(1) A Decree, appointing a commission of high officials, with the Grand Secretary Pao-yün as President, to supervise the drawing up of the history (實錄 Veritable Record) of the late Emperor's reign.

(2) A Decree. Let Kwei-ts'ing 桂清 be transferred to the post of second Vice-President of the Board of Works, with charge of the Coinage department. Let Na-jên 訥仁 be transferred to fill the post of Vice-President of the Board of Works at Moukden. (*N.B.*—With reference to Kwei-ts'ing, see *Gazette* of 13th inst.)

(3) A memorial, by Liang Sêng-pao, Sub-Director of the Court of Literary Record, urging certain modifications in the system at present pursued in the revision of examination essays.

March 15th.—(1) A Decree, ordering that the jail-warden of the Wei district, in Chihli, be stripped of his rank, and made a prisoner for trial, in consequence of the escape of certain prisoners under his charge.

(2) The Presidents of the Board of War memorialize, forwarding a memorial lodged in their hands for presentation by the titular Secretary of the Board, Wei Kang, which they have duly examined and found free from objectionable expressions. The memorialists, referring to the Empresses' decree inviting counsel, has to request that the Governments of all the Provinces be called upon to institute measures of reform of the civil administration. He begins his homily with the following chain of argument: It is [proverbially] the people who are the foundation of the State. If the foundation be secure, the prevalence of good government may be looked for. The means of sustenance are [proverbially] [illegible] Heaven. If Heaven be in harmonious accord 和 [with the remaining constituents of the universe], then years of plenty may be counted on. But let grasping and heartless officials hold the reins of power, and outcries of complaining be heard on high, then Heaven will not be in harmonious accord. Let the State be wanting in upright and virtuous servants, then calamity and woe will again and again be experienced, and the foundation will in consequence be disturbed. To dissipate the visitations of Heaven, mankind must be in harmonious accord; and whoso would protect the interests of the people, must make the civil administration pure. Thus it was in the days of old, and a survey of the existing condition of affairs shews the same to be more than ever an urgent necessity. In the memorialists' humble opinion, the corruption of the civil service throughout the Empire has reached in recent years its extreme development. The causes of this may be classed under eight heads. Here follows a categorical enumeration of the evils the memorialists would expose, which are as follows:—1. Laxity in the system of admission into the public service. 2. Extravagance in dress, entertainments, and establishments. 3. The facility with which acting-appointments and temporary incumbencies are conferred on expectants of office, without regard to their character or fitness, and often as a means of extricating the nominee from debt. 4. The system of "indemnifying" 調濟 officials, who have held for some time unproductive appointments, by transferring them to more lucrative posts. 5. The suppression of the regulation system of advancement in the public service (viz., through the literary examinations), by the lavish employment of patronage. 6. The wide extension of the purchase system as an avenue to substantive rank; its original and harmless intention being the bestowal of mere titles. 7. The abuse of the recommendation system, by which means many worthless persons obtain advancement. 8. Neglect on the part of the higher authorities to scrutinize with sufficient care the competency of expectant officials, before conferring positions of trust upon them.—The above constitutes the list of accusations which the memorialists have to bring against the civil service. The only proposal, with a view to reform, is that a fresh hortatory decree be issued to the Provincial Governments, who are accordingly called upon to reform existing abuses.

Public Meetings.

THE CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of members of the Shanghai Cricket Club was held on the 24th March. Present, Mr. Tate, in the chair; Messrs. Jaffray, G. de St. Croix, Moore, Boomer, Hawes, Manson, Tobin, Mowat, W. de St. Croix, Caldbeck, J. L. Scott, Hamilton, Walker, Waller, Hearn, D. Brand, and S. Reynell.

The Chairman proposed that the minutes of the last meeting, as printed in the *North-China Daily News*, should be taken as read. Agreed to.

The statement of accounts, which was circulated in the room, was also taken as read. The following is an abstract :—

Statement of Accounts.

Season, 1874-75.

Expenditure :—

Advertising, Printing and Stationery	Tls.	49.60
Entertainment account		49.45
Rent, one year		300.00
A'kew's contract for maintenance of ground		480.00
Tiffin account		75.46
Gear		119.08
Sundry expenses		2.06
Ground expenses, &c.		186.68
Exchange		3.27
Pavilion account		444.62
Shroff		7.42
Suspense account		5.63
	Tls.	1,723.27

Receipts :—

Balance	Tls.	147.69
Subscriptions		1,100.00
Entrance fees		200.00
Iron Roller, half-share of proceeds of sale		162.50
Interest account		4.06
Balance		109.02
	Tls.	1,723.27

Debit Dependency :—

Rent, one and a half year	Tls.	450.00

Mr. Tobin proposed, and Mr. Mowat seconded, that the accounts be passed.—Carried unanimously.

The Chairman asked the attention of members to the estimate of income, &c., for the ensuing season, and called on the Hon. Secretary to read it.

The Hon. Secretary said the list was then in the hands of members, but he might mention that the chief item in the expenditure was the amount for rent, Tls. 750, which would be due on the 31st of Dec. If that were paid, they would commence the next season with a debit balance of Tls. 370. The next principal item was the gear account. It was absolutely necessary that the goods should be ordered, and they were, in fact, on their way out. Under the head of Income, the estimated revenue from Subscriptions and Entrance fees had been based upon the experience of the past few years, and might safely be depended upon.

Mr Manson thought the incoming committee might ask the Recreation Fund Trustees for a rebate of the rent due. The ground was in very bad order, and the amount of rent owing would help to put it right. He thought if the Trustees were asked, they would agree to it. The ground was not open only to members of the Club, but also to outsiders, who paid no charges. It would want relaying next season, and the Club would not be able to do it without assistance.

The Hon. Secretary said that, even supposing they paid the Tls. 750 rent, they would probably next season be as much to the good as they were now to the bad. He, however, had no doubt that, if the Trustees of the Recreation Fund were written to, they would give the Club some assistance, as they had done before. But the amount of rent to be provided for was obliged to be included in the estimate, as the Trustees could, under the lease, force the Club to pay it.

Mr. Manson said, of course they could; but he did not see why they should not be asked to help the Cricket Club, as they had done the Rowing Club and Race Meeting.

The Hon. Secretary said they had also helped the Cricket Club. He thought Mr. Manson's suggestion might be left for the consideration of the new Committee.

The Chairman thought the Committee should receive some positive instruction from the members on the subject.

A general conversation ensued, after which

The Chairman said it seemed they were all agreed that the incoming Committee should be instructed to write to the Recreation Fund. It might be taken as simply instructing the Committee, or if the members chose, it could be put in the shape of a formal resolution.

It was considered better to pass a resolution on the subject, and

Mr. Manson accordingly proposed :—

That the incoming Committee be instructed to apply to the Recreation Fund Trustees for a sum not exceeding Tls. 500, for the general improvement of the Cricket Ground.

He also thought it should be pointed out to the Trustees, that the Club permitted anybody to come on the Ground, and did not charge anything for admission, which they were entitled to do.

The Chairman thought that was a question, as were all details, for the consideration of the incoming committee.

Mr. Jaffray seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Secretary next called attention to an estimate of Tls. 42, for repairing and painting the Pavilion, and asked that the committee should be instructed to have the work done.

Mr. Mowat said there was a large bill paid for repairs to the Pavilion last year, and asked whether the present outlay was necessary?

The Hon. Secretary said the expenditure last year was for a new roof and other matters. The suggested repairs and painting were much required. There was another question he wished to have settled, as to the charge to the members of rent for the use of lockers.

The subject was talked over, and it was finally determined that the charge should be continued.

The next business was the election of a committee for the ensuing year, the Hon. Secretary announcing that, with the exception of Mr. Hearn, all the old members were willing to accept office again. Some conversation ensued as to the desirability of throwing open the election to a ballot, but, as being in accordance with rule, and as a saving of time, the names were written on the same ticket, and

Mr. Tobin proposed, and Mr. Manson seconded, that Messrs. Tate, St. Croix, Souper, Scott, Caldbeck, and Anderson, with Hamilton (in the place of Hearn) should be the committee for the year.

Carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and Committee brought the meeting to a close.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Council Meeting on 22nd March, 1875.

Present :—Messrs. John G. Purdon (Chairman), Geo. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, Wm. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, Robt. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, A. G. Wood, and the Secretary.

The Cash State for the 20th inst. was laid on the table.

Roads.—Keecheong Road: Rectification of line on west side between the Broadway and the River.—Plan submitted and approved.—*Szechuen Road: Widening between Foochow and Hankow Roads.*—Decided to offer the owners compensation at the assessed rate per *mow* for portion measuring 0m. 0f. 9l. 1h. of Lot 1009 T. D. 1002, required for the widening Szechuen Road on west side.

Hankow Road.—Widening on South side between Szechuen and Keangse Roads.—As the carrying out of this improvement would necessitate the moving back of the old Quong Loong Junior Mess—the expense of which would be considerable—the Council decided that while the widening of the road is desirable, it would be too costly to carry out at present.

Lighting arrangement with the Gas Co., for changing the hours of lighting the public lamps, so that they could be lighted earlier during the winter months, was approved.

Easter Holidays.—Decided to close the Municipal offices on Good Friday and Saturday, the 26th and 27th instant.

Election of New Council.—It was decided to suggest to the Consular Body the 6th and 7th Days of April, as convenient for the Election.

Leave.—The Secretary was granted a few days' leave of absence. Mr. Pond to officiate as Secretary in the meanwhile.

HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—REPORT.

The Committee have the pleasure of placing before the Chamber a report of their proceedings for the year ending December 31st, 1874. Many of the subjects which have been under consideration, and the action of the Committee in respect thereto, are doubtless already familiar to the Members, especially that relating to the "Blockade of the Port by Customs' Cruisers," the correspondence and discussion regarding which have, from time to time, appeared in the public press. It has, however, been thought advisable as a matter of record, to here recapitulate the action of the Committee, and the results which have up to the present been obtained. Beyond this subject, the past year has presented no features of more than ordinary interest to the trade of this port, and furthermore has been uneventful politically, with the exception of the Formosan difficulty, which was brought to a peaceful termination through the agency of the British Minister at Peking.

The Commission appointed by the Government to inquire into the subject (of the Blockade of the Port of Hongkong by Chinese Customs Cruisers) having completed its labours, the Committee in June last made application for a copy of the Report. This, however, was declined by the Executive, and the necessary steps were accordingly taken to address the Home Authorities. A memorial embodying the views of the Chamber was drawn up and forwarded to the Right Honorable the Earl of Carnarvon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies: copies were also sent to the various Chambers of Commerce in the United Kingdom, as well as to several prominent Members of Parliament, requesting their co-operation in pressing the subject upon the attention of the Imperial Government.

The Committee regret that up to the present time they are unable to report any tangible results having been obtained; but they have satisfaction in stating that they are aware that the Home Government has now taken the subject in hand, and that a final decision of this vexed question may shortly be expected. Prominent among those who came forward in reply to the appeal of the Committee for co-operation, was the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, whose Committee at once addressed the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, whose letter to the Chairman is an able and especially interesting paper upon this subject.

In addition to the efforts put forward by the Chamber in this behalf, a very important and influential meeting of the community was held in the month of August, the result of which has been the publication of a pamphlet containing a complete resumé of the whole subject, together with all public documents connected therewith, which has been extensively circulated in England among Members of Parliament, and those who would be likely to take an interest in the subject.

In the month of July last, a telegram was received from the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, urging this Chamber to co-operate with it in obtaining an acceleration of the Indian and China Mails, a revision of the terms of the subsidy by which the Company was to be allowed to run its steamers through the Suez Canal, being then under consideration by the Postmaster-General.

The question was brought before the Chamber at a Special Meeting held in August, when, after discussion, it was determined to postpone further consideration of the subject until written advices could be received from the Bombay

Chamber. Before, however, these arrived, the question of the revised terms of the subsidy had been definitely settled in London, and received the approval of the House of Commons, and it was accordingly deemed undesirable to take any further action in the matter. A very strong memorial had been forwarded by the Bombay Community, who were much more intimately interested in the proposed changes than the foreign residents in China and Japan.

The number of vessels wrecked upon the Coast within the last few years, and the unvaried and certain pilfering and looting of the cargo which always goes on, at times accompanied by loss of life, but more especially the wreck of the steamer *Canton*, which occurred just outside the port of Foochow in August last, has drawn attention to this subject. An important and interesting correspondence between the Foochow Chamber and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at that port with reference to the neglect of the Chinese Authorities, when called upon, to afford the necessary assistance and protection in this particular case, has been carried on, but it is to be regretted that no results whatever have been obtained. Another instance is thus afforded of the impunity with which the Chinese Authorities disregard their Treaty obligations, and of the feeble attempts made by Her Majesty's Representatives to obtain redress when applied to. The question is one of no small importance to those who are largely interested in shipping, and it is hoped that some further action will shortly be taken which will be productive of more satisfactory results.

The occurrences which followed the terrible typhoon which passed over this Colony in September last, afford further proof of what is complained of above. Cargo boats, lighters and other property belonging to this Colony, which had broken away from their anchors or moorings and drifted out of the harbour, were afterwards found in adjacent waters in the possession of villagers, who had either stripped them of all that was valuable, or broken them to pieces. Claims were made for the value of this stolen property through H. B. Majesty's Consul at Canton, and although some portion has with difficulty been recovered, several claims are still unsettled.

Since the last General Meeting of the Chamber, a reply to the memorial sent to the Navy Department of the United States, has been received from the Secretary of the Navy, in which he states "that as soon as his Department is enabled to equip and employ the necessary force, in addition to its operations in the North Pacific, it will be gratified to co-operate in the Re-survey of the Coast of China, with whatever surveying forces of Great Britain or other powers may be then employed upon that work." This will, no doubt, be satisfactory to the Chamber.

The Committee have heard that it is probable that the ports of Annam, on the Gulf of Tonquin, will shortly be thrown open to foreign trade generally, and would, therefore, submit for the consideration of the Members, that in such an event, it would be desirable for the Chamber to send a delegate to that country for the purpose of obtaining information regarding its commercial capabilities. The reports that have already appeared in print have contained only scientific information.

The Committee have much pleasure in noting the establishment, within the past few months, of a Chamber of Commerce at Amoy, and its deliberations and influence will, doubtless, materially assist and benefit the common interests of foreign trade with China.

4th November, 1874.

To the Honorable P. RYRIE,
Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I have perused with extreme interest the documents forwarded to me in yours of the 21st August last.

I am gratified to find the general Community at Hongkong is at last adequately alive to the injurious results, both to Native and British interests, arising from the vexatious conduct of Chinese cruisers to Junks visiting and leaving Hongkong.

I do not, however, see that any new principles are involved in the discussion. I have, moreover, already very fully placed on record my convictions as to the policy which should be followed. Therefore, and also because I gather from your communication that my successor has already gone into all details of the question, and has doubtless ere this placed his opinion very fully before the Secretary of State, when forwarding the Report of which you speak, I felt it would be scarcely opportune in me at present to urge my personal views on Her Majesty's Government. I am consequently precluded from, at this moment, giving the Chamber the particular assistance which you seem to ask.

At the same time, I doubt if I could urge now any arguments more forcible than those which I urged four years ago, at a time when it was my duty to press them on Her Majesty's Government.

I sincerely hope, however, that the present crisis may eventuate in some satisfactorily guaranteed undertaking by the Chinese Government, to conduct their Revenue business in a manner more in accordance with the usages of civilized nations, and not involving, as at present, an abnormal, unprecedented, and offensive breach of international courtesy—leading up frequently, as might be anticipated, to actual violation of international rights, supported no doubt by as much painfully contradictory evidence and perjury, as certainly prevailed and was proved to prevail during my tenure of office, and which such a system must always engender.

It is, therefore, on every account desirable that such an unfortunate state of things should be terminated, because such a practical Blockade as is now maintained, of a British Port in time of peace, is unquestionably most detrimental to British prestige and influence, and is consequently no less injurious to native progress than to British commerce; for I am convinced the two things are intimately connected.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL.

Amusements.

M. REMUSAT'S CONCERT.

Notwithstanding the lamentable demise of the Philharmonic Society at the very beginning of the present season, there has been no lack of musical entertainments in Shanghai this winter. Not to include the Amateur Negro Minstrel Performance, the festive evenings at the Club Concordia which, being of a semi-private nature, cannot hardly be counted, and the Saturday réunions at the Temperance Hall, in which vocal music largely figured, we are, in addition, able already to chronicle five exclusively musical entertainments of the most legitimate character. The concert of Tuesday evening was fairly attended, and the various numbers of the programme were, for the most part, creditably executed. We have never heard M. Rémusat himself play better than in the two difficult pieces which he contributed — one a transcription for the flute of the Solo part in Spohr's 8th Violin Concerto (the slow movement), and the brilliant Fantaisie on one of Donizetti's Operas. It is so rare to hear Orchestral music correctly played that we have much pleasure in thanking M. Rémusat for his successful effort to bring one of Haydn's beautiful symphonies to a hearing. Though all the available force of our instrumental amateurs was not mustered on the occasion, the symphony went off very well, and we have, again, specially to notice the efficient manner in which it was led. As we have now no amateur flutist, M. Rémusat himself had to give the more important portions of the flute score, and this probably accounts for a certain want of precision occasionally noticeable.

The singing was uniformly excellent, the *soprano* air meeting with special favour; which was indeed only due to the great art and finish with which it was given. The same artist performed on the pianoforte, with less success, Beethoven's Sonate Pathétique, as people will call it, though the composer never gave it any such title. A piece of such artistic importance, so well known, and, we may add, of such length, should not be attempted at a public concert, unless the executant entrusted with its exposition possesses very exceptional powers as a player—which was hardly the case in this instance. Some graceful trifle by Heller or Leduc, would, in the circumstances, have probably taken better with the audience. The Bass song from the *Africaine*, is, like all Meyerbeer's music, slenderly provided with melody, and though full of dramatic power, it suffers—partly, perhaps, for this very reason—when given in a detached form. To say that it was admirably sung, is only to repeat our usual estimate of its singer's performances. Curiosity to hear the celebrated Rose Song, from Balfe's posthumous Opera, *Il Talismano*, was, we believe, the chief motive power that led many—ourselves among the number—to the concert, and we are happy to say that the expectations created by the tone of musical criticism in London (where competent critics are to be found) were not disappointed. Balfe's melodic inspiration never deserted him, and the song under notice shows him at an advanced period of his life in full possession of the gift which won for his early production, the *Bohemian Girl*, a place in the *répertoire* of every Lyric Theatre in Europe. The song is by no means an easy one to sing. It demands a voice of very high register, the modulations of key towards the end require a very accurate ear to follow them, and the complicated, if ingenious, accompaniment adds its *quota* to the difficulties of the vocalist. The first of these difficulties might have been shirked by the easy expedient of transposition, but our Amateur Tenor decided with creditable courage to sing the song in its original key as the composer wrote it, and as Signor Campanini sang it at the first production of *Il Talismano* in Drury Lane. No Tenor, probably, except a Duprez or a Wachtel, could reach B flat in Alt with absolute ease, and it is not discreditable to an amateur that some traces of effort should have been perceptible in the attainment of so singularly high a pitch. Nevertheless, the height was well reached, and quite faultlessly as regards intonation, nor did the slight perceptible forcing of the voice much impair the general effect produced by this beautiful composition. At its conclusion, there was a general and enthusiastic redemand, but a repetition of so trying a work would have been too much to expect from an amateur, and another of less pretension was wisely substituted. This, as we must not forget to notice, was not the only occasion on which Balfe's music was heard at the concert. The lady whose artistic singing was so warmly appreciated, gave, in reply to an *encore*, the familar "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls." We must say, however, it was taken in so fast a tempo as to make the pleasing, if somewhat hackneyed, ballad. The other vocal items in the scheme were Mr. Wells' finished rendering of a Romance from a forgotten Opera of Donizetti's, and a duo for Soprano and Bass, by Maillart. This last concluded a concert which reflects great credit on the conductor, for the arduous efforts which its preparation must have cost him; and on the amateurs who assisted him, for the careful study which they must have bestowed on the works that they so effectively interpreted.

THE S. V. C. PARADE.

The Volunteer parade on Tuesday afternoon was a decided success. About 150 men of all arms turned out, and went through the various manœuvres with most creditable precision. The march past, and the final advance in line with the band, were especially well done, and were deservedly commended by Major Hart, at the close.

The Force mustered in front of the Custom House, Rangers on the right, Artillery second in line, and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Rifle Companies and the Miholoongs in the order named. After the usual preliminary movements, the order was given "fours right," and the Force marched off by way of the Foochow and Honan roads and the Maloo, for the Race Course. It is needless to say that the streets were, as usual, thronged with Chinese on-lookers. A number of foreigners also had gathered in the interior of the Course, to watch the proceedings.

On reaching the Recreation Ground, column was formed on No. 1, and the whole Force was then wheeled into line in front of the Cricket Pavilion,

where the Chairman and Members of the Municipal Council were standing. A general salute was given, and the Members of Council, accompanied by Major Hart, walked down the ranks, front and rear, on a tour of inspection. They then again took upon their position in front of the pavilion, and the Volunteers were faced about and reformed into column. The whole Force then marched past in the usual order of precedence, going through the movement with steadiness and regularity. Square was then formed on No. 1 Co., the Rangers and Artillery occupying the rear and left sides. Advancing into the centre, the Civil Commandant called out the prize-winners, and handed them their certificates with a few complimentary remarks :—

Private Glass (Miholoong)—National Rifle Association Silver Medal (1st), and as member of the Winning Company Team.

Private Carnie (No. 1 Co.)—Municipal Challenge Cup for the year.

Private Milsom (No. 1 Co.)—The Ladies' Purse—which he acknowledged as follows: —I have great pleasure in receiving from you the Ladies' Prize. I only regret that one of the Shanghai Ladies has not come herself, as has been done on many previous occasions, to deliver it with her own fair hands. That was one great charm and value of the prize. However, we Volun- [illegible] interest in us they have shown, in again contributing a prize; and I, personally, for the handsome purse they have given on this occasion. I will ask you to express to them our hearty thanks, and an assurance that we will continue to look for their support.

Private Wyatt (M. H. L.)—National Rifle Association Silver Medal, (2nd) Municipal Challenge Cup (2nd), Ladies' Purse (2nd), a prize as member of the Winning Company team, and a certificate for the Gold Cross as Champion of the Meeting (which has been sent for to England).

Captain Tucker (No. 3)—The Officers' Cup.

Private Starkey (No. 3)—The first Con- [illegible] Bisley" (No. 1)—The second Consolation

Sergeant Dunman, Private Housman, Private Andrew—As members of the Winning Company Team.

Column was then again formed, and various manœuvres were gone through, ending with a general advance in line, which is a difficult movement even for regular troops, and which was performed with most creditable steadiness by the Volunteers. The order was then given to "shoulder arms," and Mr. Purdon advanced and spoke a few complimentary words. He said:—"Volunteers,—It is not often that, in performing a public duty, I have the satisfaction of feeling that *all* parties are pleased, but this is an exception. You, I trust, are pleased at the distribution of prizes, and the very creditable turn-out this afternoon. I know the community are, and the Council are pleased at being the means of expressing this appreciation. The Volunteer Corps is an organization of which Shanghai is justly proud, and which it is willing and anxious to maintain. There is no reason why it should not be 500 strong, if others who could, would do as you have done, fall in, and swell the ranks of a force of which we have reason to be proud and which would always be our protection."—Major Hart, on behalf the Volunteers, acknowledged the compliment, and said he was sure if ever the Volunteers were called on for duty, they would be found ready to perform it.

This closed the review, and the Force marched back to the Bund in the order in which it had come out, Lieutenant Groom carrying the S. V. C. colours in the centre of the line. Before dismissing the men, Major Hart complimented them on the efficient way in which they had gone through the manœuvres, especially noting the precision of the advance in line, which he characterized as perfect.

Correspondences.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—A recent paragraph in your paper called attention to the eclipse of the sun, which is to take place on Tuesday of next week, April 6th. As it will be visible here as a partial eclipse, the following particulars of time of beginning, magnitude, &c., calculated for Shanghai, may be of interest :—

Partial Eclipse of the Sun at Shanghai, April 6th, 1875.

Beginning,	3h. 13m. 1s.	Mean Time at Shanghai.
Greatest Phase,	4h. 18m. 33s.	
End,	5h. 17m. 24s.	
Duration,	2h. 4m. 23s.	

Magnitude, 0.675 (sun's diameter being 1), or 8.1 digits, on sun's southern limb.

First Contact,	143° to left	W. of sun's N. point ,, vertex	for direct image.
Last Contact,	80° to E. 20° to left	,, N. point ,, vertex	

[illegible] two-thirds of the sun's diameter will be covered at the time of greatest obscuration. It must be borne in mind also that the predicted times of the various phases are exact, only upon the supposition that the Ephemeris of the Moon is correct; but owing to the imperfection of the Lunar Tables, the calculated times are subject to an uncertainty amounting to a considerable fraction of a minute.

By projecting the path of the total eclipse on a chart, from the data given in the Nautical Almanac, it will be found that we in Shanghai are about 600 miles north of the northern limit of total eclipse. The line of this limit, after crossing Siam, just cuts off the S.-E. corner of 40 miles south of the southern extremity of Formosa. The line of central eclipse runs a few miles south of Bankok, passes almost exactly through Hué, the capital of Annam, and runs directly through one of the largest of the Bashee Islands, south of Formosa, as it enters the Pacific.

The best *possible* place for observing the eclipse would be at a point in the Indian Ocean almost on the Equator, and S.E. of Ceylon. Here the total phase will last more than 4½ minutes. The best *available* places will be in the Nicobar Islands, the coast of Tenasserim, and in the vicinity of Bankok, Siam, at which points the totality will last from 4½ to a little less than 4 minutes. Your readers will doubtless have noticed that Her Majesty's Government have made a grant of £1,000 to aid in securing observations of the eclipse, which Mr. Hind states will take place under more favourable circumstances as to duration, track, &c., than any other one before that of April, 1893. Interesting particulars regarding the additions to our present knowledge of the sun's corona, which it is hoped will be furnished by this eclipse, will be found in the *Spectator* of January 16th.

Yours very truly,

E. C. T.

Shanghai, 29th March.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly allow me, through the medium of your valuable paper, to draw the attention of the public residents at the Treaty ports to the following, which may be fairly termed a serious breach of propriety, and great carelessness of the value of human life on the part of the commander, or officers in charge of H. C. I. M.'s training ship *Kienwei*.

The facts of the case are as follows:—Standing on the evening of the 29th of January at my door steps, in conversation with a gentleman, we were surprised to hear a shot fired from the *Kienwei*, in a direct line for us, and still more was our astonishment when a rifle bullet passed over our heads within a few feet. On going on board ship and making complaints to the Captain, our observations, in place of being taken with gravity, were treated with an amount of levity not at all pleasing.

Let us hope that in future more care will be taken in the use of firearms on the part of those entrusted with them on board Chinese vessels, or more serious results may occur, which may lead to stricter investigation from those in high authority.

Respectfully yours,

NOT BULLET PROOF.

Keelung, 10th March.

Miscellaneous.

EASTER-DAY IN OUR CHURCHES.

Sunday last, being Easter-day, was observed in the Churches of the Settlements with special services set apart for that day; and, carrying out the now customary practice both at home and abroad, the sacred buildings were more or less decorated for the occasion. Trinity Church, however, went least out of its ordinary course in this respect, the altar only being ornamented, on it being erected a floral cross. The Anthem sang was "Why seek ye the living amongst the dead?" by Dr Hopkins, organist of the Temple Church, London; with Boyce's *Te Deum*, the Psalms being chanted both morning and evening. In the morning, the Rev. Canon Butcher preached from Mark xvi., verse 2; and in the evening from Matthew vi., verse 13.

The Church of Our Saviour, Hongkew, was more elaborately adorned, the ladies of the congregation having displayed much industry and taste in the arrangement of the decorations. Over the altar was the sentence, in coloured letters, "The Lord is risen indeed;" and over the pulpit, another sentence, "Blessed are they that have not seen, yet have believed;" crosses composed of white camelias were placed on the pulpit and font, the altar-cloth being further ornamented with white camelias, having a cross of red ones in the centre, while on the altar itself stood another cross of white camelias. There were other decorations of a similar kind, and altogether a very pleasing effect was produced. An appropriate Easter Anthem was sung, and the pastor, the Rev. G. B. D. Miller, preached from John xx., verse 29.

At St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Cathedral the services were of a profusely ornate character. The altar was as usual decorated with flowers, and around the building were hung a number of bannerets of various colours; while the ordinary choir, strong in itself, was supplemented by the band of the French ironclad *Montcalm*. Vice-Admiral Kranz, with his staff, the Captains and Officers of the *Montcalm*, *Couleuvre*, and *Volta*, and upwards of two hundred seamen and marines, were present, in full uniform; as were also the officials of the French Consulate-General. Somewhat in imitation of the gorgeous ceremonial at St. Peter's, the seamen and marines were drawn up in line down the middle of the Cathedral, while near the altar was stationed an armed guard composed of about half-a-dozen marines. The Mass was what is termed "plain chant," with the exception of the part following the consecration, when, with a full burst of music,—organ, band, and choir—was sung a magnificent "O Salutaris Hostis," with thrilling effect, the service concluding in the ordinary manner.

Both on the entrance and departure of the Vice-Admiral and his Staff, with the officers of the squadron, the band played in subdued tones. There was a crowded congregation of foreigners and Chinese, but principally of the latter, and they seemed to be deeply impressed with the brilliancy and solemnity of the unwonted scene before them.

Law Reports.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, 25th March.

Before GEO. F. SEWARD, Esq., *Consul-General.*
W. S. WETMORE, F. D. HITCH, J. C. ALLEN, } *Associates.*

The MUNICIPAL COUNCIL *v.* W. H. FOGG.

Claim for Tls. 350.70, *Arrears of Land-Tax.*

This morning, the Court delivered the following judgment, which had received the unanimous assent of the associates :—

The leading question which has been raised in the case is the one whether the Land Regulations are of binding effect upon citizens of the United States.

A conclusion upon this point may be most readily reached by a review of the Treaty stipulations which affect it, and a statement of the nature of the Regulations and of the manner in which they have been issued.

The British Treaty of 1842 contains the first stipulations, under which the port of Shanghai was opened to foreign trade. They are as follows :—

Article II.—"His Majesty the Emperor of China agrees that British subjects, with their families and establishments, shall be allowed to reside, for the purpose of carrying on their mercantile pursuits, without molestation or restraint, at the cities and towns of Canton, Amoy, Foochowfoo, Ningpo, and Shanghai; and Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain &c., will appoint Superintendents, or Consular officers, to reside at each of the above-named cities or towns, to be the medium of communication between the Chinese authorities and the said merchants, and to see that the just duties and other dues of the Chinese Government, as hereafter provided for, are duly discharged by Her Britannic Majesty's subjects."

The next stipulations are contained in the British Supplementary Treaty of 1843 and are as follows :—

Article VII.—"The Treaty of perpetual peace and friendship provides for British subjects and their families residing at the cities and towns of Canton, Fuchau, Amoy, Ningpo and Shanghai without molestation or restraint. It is accordingly determined that ground and houses, the rent or price of which is to be fairly and equitably arranged for according to the rates prevailing amongst the people, without exaction on either side, shall be set apart by the local officers in communication with the Consul, and the number of houses built, or rented will be reported annually to the said local officers by the Consul for the information of their respective Viceroys and Governors, but the number cannot be limited seeing that it will be greater or less according to the resort of merchants."

The next are those of the United States Treaty of 1844, as follows :—

Article XVII.—"Citizens of the United States residing or sojourning in any of the five ports open to foreign trade shall enjoy all desirable facilities to obtain houses and lands suitable for their purpose, or to lease of the people lands on which to build houses and warehouses or shops, also hospitals, churches and cemeteries. The local authorities of the two Governments will select in concert the sites, having due regard to the feelings of the people. The parties interested will arrange between themselves the rates of rents, the proprietors on the one side not demanding exorbitant prices, the purchasers on the other not insisting in an unreasonable manner on certain points, but each conducting with justice and moderation."

The French Treaty, made at a later date in the same year, contains stipulations which I translate as follows :—

Article XXII.—"Every Frenchman who, in conformity with Article II of this Treaty, shall arrive at one of the ports open to foreign trade, may, whatever the length of his stay, rent houses and storehouses for the disposal of his merchandize, or rent land and built houses and storehouses himself. Frenchmen may in the same way establish churches, hospitals, almshouses, schools, and cemeteries. To this end, the local authorities, after having arranged with the Consul, will designate the quarters most suitable for the residence of Frenchmen and the sites where they may place the buildings mentioned. The terms shall be freely discussed between the parties interested, and regulated so far as may be by the average of local prices. The Chinese authorities shall prevent their people from overcharging or requiring exorbitant rates, and the Consul on the other side will take care that Frenchmen use no violence to procure the consent of the proprietors. It is moreover well understood that the number of houses and extent of ground, to be set apart for Frenchmen in the ports opened to trade, shall not be restricted, and shall be fixed according to the need and convenience of those having rights. If the Chinese desecrate or destroy the French churches or cemeteries, the guilty shall be punished with all the rigor of the laws of the country."

These are the provisions of the first Treaties, and they are not varied essentially by later ones.

It cannot be held, I think, that there is anything in these Articles which gives in specific terms to the Foreign Powers concerned, the right to set up at this port Municipal Regulations, that is to say Regulations for the establishment and control of a police force, and the administration of roads, sewers, public wharves, &c.

The several Treaties, however, provide that citizens of the several Foreign Powers shall be amenable only to the authorities of their respective countries, or to those authorities acting in conjunction with the native authorities. The appropriate Articles of the United States Treaty of 1844 may be taken to indicate the spirit and scope of the provisions of all the Treaties in this respect. They are as follows :—

Article IV.—"For the superintendence and regulation of the concerns of the citizens of the United States doing business at the said five ports, the Government of the United States may appoint Consuls, or other officers at the same, who shall be duly recognized as such by the officers of the Chinese Government, and shall hold official intercourse and correspondence with the latter, either personal or in writing, as occasion may require, on terms of equality and reciprocal respect."

Article XXI. * * * *

"Citizens of the United States, who may commit any crime in China, shall be subject to be tried and punished only by the Consul, or other public functionary of the United States thereto authorized according to the laws of the United States."

* * * * * *

Article XXIV. * * * *

"And if controversies arise between citizens of the United States and subjects of China, which cannot be amicably settled otherwise, the same shall be examined and decided conformably to justice and equity by the public officers of the two nations acting in conjunction."

Article XXV.—"All questions in regard to rights, whether of property or person, arising between citizens of the United States in China, shall be subject to the jurisdiction, and regulated by the authorities of their own Government. And all controversies occurring in China between citizens of the United States and the subjects of any other Government shall be regulated by the Treaties existing between the United States and such Governments respectively, without interference on the part of China."

These Articles, more or less, perfectly exempt all citizens of the United States from the control of the Government of China.

It would be possible at this point to indicate the difficulties which, in the course of the development of foreign intercourse with China and in view of these peculiar provisions of the Treaties, might be expected to arise in the administration of Municipal affairs, at this and other ports of the Empire. I am not, however, so much concerned now with these difficulties as with the means which have been taken to meet them.

The first code of Land Regulations was prepared by Captain Balfour, H. B. M.'s Consul and Kung Mookew Intendant of Circuit, at Shanghai, in 1845. They were promulgated by the Intendant in a Proclamation, which has been translated as follows :

Proclamation.

"Kung Mookew, Imperially appointed Intendant of Circuit of Soochow-foo, Sungkeang-foo, and Taitsang-chow, and Superintendent of Customs in the province of Keangnan, again issues a Proclamation in accordance with the Treaty.

"In the year 1842, the Imperial commands were received in reply to a Memorial permitting commercial intercourse being carried on at the five Ports of Kwangchow, Fuhchow, Heamun, Ningpo and Shanghai, allowing merchants and others of all nations to bring their families to reside there, and providing that the renting of ground for the building of houses, must be deliberated upon and determined by the local authorities in communication with the Consul, both acting in conformity with the feelings of the local inhabitants, so that mutual and perpetual harmony might be attained.

"Hence it has been determined, in conformity with the feelings of the inhabitants and the circumstances of the locality of Shanghai, that the ground North of the Yang-king-pang and South of Le-kea-chang should be rented to English merchants, for erecting their buildings and residing upon, and some Regulations which have been agreed upon in reference thereto, and to which obedience is necessary, are hereinafter specified."

This Proclamation and the Regulations mentioned in it were sent by the Intendant to Captain Balfour with a letter of which the following is a translation :—

"I now take all the Regulations first and last agreed upon by us in communication together, in accordance with the Treaty, which have already been separately published by me, the Tautai, and hung up at the Custom house, and specially forward a copy thereof, requesting the Honorable Consul will examine into, translate, and publish them generally for the information of all renters of property North of the Yang-king-pang, that they may act in obedience thereto. Wherefore I write this, wishing the Consul daily happiness."

The code of Regulations thus framed and promulgated, was enlarged and extended in 1854. It was declared in a notice issued by the Consuls for Great Britain, the United States and France, that these amended Regulations had received the approval of their respective Ministers, and of "His Excellency Woo, the chief local authority representing the Chinese Government at Shanghai."

Another code of Regulations was prepared at Shanghai, in 1866, by the community in public meetings assembled, with the advice of the Consular body, and the Judge of the British Supreme Court, and proclaimed in 1869 by the Ministers of Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and the United States. They have more lately received the approval of the representatives of other Governments, and at different times that of all the foreign Governments concerned.

The Land Regulations of 1845 and 1854, were then the joint issue of the local representatives of the Chinese Government, and of the foreign officials concerned. The acts thus performed by the Chinese officials have remained unquestioned by the Chinese Government for a very long period, and being within the immediate view of the Government may be held to have been accepted by it.

The acts thus performed by the representatives of the United States, and approved by the Government, by its Secretary of State, may be remarked upon as follows :—

The Minister and Consuls for the time being of the United States in China are authorized by an Act of Congress to make Decrees and Regulations for certain purposes. I long since pointed out the limited scope of this authority, and my view was approved by the Government. Without entering here upon the argument that was involved, I may say simply that it cannot be held to cover the case now in question. It is moreover true that the procedure taken by United States Officials in this case has not been conformed to the Act, and the Regulations would fall if based upon supposed procedure of the kind.

It may, however, be held that the Regulations should be regarded as the issue of the Chinese authorities, and that our action indicates only our approval of them.

Instances of analogous action may be found in the Harbour and Pilotage Regulations. These were published by the territorial authorities. Our approval was first procured, and is taken to mean that we admit the right of the Government to make the given Regulations, and will support them as Regulations, which are, and of right ought to be, of binding effect.

We come now to a logical position. What is there in the Treaties which may be construed to mean that China has yielded jurisdiction over her territory? What are all Municipal Regulations but an assumption of a certain jurisdiction of the sort? If we hold such jurisdiction, we do it then by delegation from China, which delegation is outside of Treaty stipulations, although it may be held to be a normal result from them.

It will be at once said that we are treading upon delicate ground, for, if we hold our municipal functions by delegation from China, she may at any time withdraw her consent to our exercise of them, and the whole municipal system falls.

To this I answer that, while foreign Courts can enforce the Regulations as the right and proper issue of the territorial sovereignty which the foreign governments have approved as such, foreign officials may in their political capacity defend the Regulations and claim that they shall be held intact, as being part of an agreement or contract entered into between the sovereignties involved. They have been solemnly framed and promulgated. Properties have been bought, and moneys have been invested under them. The comfort, convenience, health and good order of a vast population are at stake. Under these circumstances, many cogent considerations can be adduced in defence of the Regulations and against the right of the Chinese to abrogate or change them without our consent.

We are moreover so situated in virtue of the exterritorializing provisions of the Treaties, that it would not be easy to enforce any Regulations without our consent, and we are thus able to exert a certain pressure upon the authorities to uphold such Regulations as we deem right. The authorities have uniformly shown a disposition to give us all reasonable support and aid in Municipal matters and, if we act reasonably, may be expected to continue to do so. The situation then is not one which need excite apprehensions.

It will not be overlooked that the systems of municipal control existing at Shanghai and at other places in China are not uniform. The Chinese have united with us here in framing and proclaiming Regulations. At other ports they have leased lands outright, and in this and other ways agreed to leave Municipal matters to the sole control of the foreign authorities and residents. But the fact that Municipal powers have been delegated elsewhere in some other way than has been done here, is not material, so long as we recognize the principle that such powers are to be considered as coming to us by delegation outside of the Treaties, and take due notice of the terms of the given delegation.

I have no special knowledge of the method or methods under which Municipal matters are managed at the different foreign settlements of Japan. As the Treaties of Western states with that Empire are similar to those with China, we would expect that questions of Municipal Government would be met there in much the same way as in China. But being of later date, they ought to be more perfect, and should indicate to us the result of matured study in this connection. Perhaps, then, the fact that Municipal matters there have been left more or less perfectly to the territorial authorities, will illustrate the principle which I have advanced.

It was remarked in the course of the hearing of this case, that the Land Regulations of 1869, have not received the formal sanction of the native authorities. Upon this point I have to say that those Regulations are essentially the same as the code of 1854. Moreover, they were communicated to the local authorities in 1869, and have never been objected to by them. They have on the contrary been consistently sustained and enforced. I see no reason therefore why the same legal effect should not attach to them as to those of earlier date.

So far as I am able to judge, the taxes now sued for were regularly assessed under the Regulations.

I believe also that I have no authority to review or correct the assessment. I am nevertheless of the opinion that assessments should not be based upon the title-deeds without reference to or consideration of the areas actually occupied by the individual and the public. Six fourteenths of the land of the defendant is in the occupation of the public, and he is taxed for the whole area at the same rate per mow as another bund lot holder, whose title-deed calls only for the area within fences, the real value per mow of the respective lots being admitted to be the same. This is not just, and I trust that the Council will find it convenient to compromise with the defendant upon some equitable basis, as many preceding Councils have done, or to bring the question before the Ratepayers for instructions. In such case it will be appropriate for the Council to assume the costs of this suit, the Defendant having continuously and consistently offered to settle the matter in an equitable way. As a matter of law, however, I have no recourse, but to give the case with costs against the defendant.

March 24th.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General.*

Charge against a Seaman.

A seaman of the *Marmion*, named Carnagie, was charged with drunken and disorderly conduct, and with having gone to a stateroom of the ship, which was used as a larder, and with another person causing two hams to disappear.

The master of the ship deposed that the prisoner had given him much trouble, and fomented a feeling of dissatisfaction among the others of the crew.

Prisoner admitted that he was drunk at the time specified in the charge, and did not know what he was about.

The case was dismissed, the master being authorised to charge against the prisoner's account the price of the two missing hams.

March 26th.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General.*

Unlawfully cutting and wounding.

Charles Mills, keeper of a grog-shop in Hongkew, and who has been before the Court on previous occasions, charged with offences of violence, was brought up to-day charged with unlawfully cutting and wounding Michael Regan and James Hayes, firemen of the *Lotus* and *Bengal* respectively. It appeared that several firemen of the *Lotus* went ashore early in the day, and found their way into the prisoner's place. The men were noisy and he ordered them out, taunting one of them with having stolen something from a shipmate fifteen months ago. The men left the house, and seem to have remained on shore all day, as they went back to the house in the evening the worse for liquor. Mills had also been out drinking, and returned home about the same time. A disturbance commenced, and soon assumed a serious aspect. Bottles and other missiles were thrown in all directions, inflicting more or less injury upon several of the combatants. It is said that three of the *Lotus* men were not so drunk as the others, and tried to quell the tumult, but could not do so. Mills is stated to have armed himself at first with a sort of life-preserver, with which he struck right and left, and he was afterwards seen using at different times a slung-shot and a small sword. With these weapons he inflicted some severe wounds on two or three of the *Lotus* men, who, however, defended themselves vigorously, and mauled Mills rather seriously about the head. Hayes, the *Bengal* man, was said to have been lying on the floor of the bar, in a state of intoxication, having taken no part in the melée, when Mills, having succeeded in driving the others into the street, made a cut at him with some weapon, inflicting a serious wound on his head. This man was seen crawling out of the bar into the street, on his hands and knees, bleeding profusely, and he lay in the gutter for some time longer while the affray was continued around him. It is not clear how this disgraceful scene terminated, but eventually Mills was taken into custody, and charged as above stated. He was found to have received a severe beating; one of the *Lotus* men had received two or three cuts on the wrist, and another's eye was injured. Dr. Macgowan was called to attend Hayes, and he found that, in addition to the cut on the head, the man had also received a punctured wound under the left eye. Neither of the wounds were, however, of a dangerous character, but it was thought advisable to keep Hayes at the Hongkew Police Station all night.

Prisoner's defence was that the men became quarrelsome among themselves, and used obscene language. He endeavoured to turn them out, but was immediately attacked with soda water and other bottles. He defended himself as well as he could, and at last succeeded in turning them out, when there was a free fight in the street, and he was himself knocked down and kicked about the head. He denied using any of the weapons alleged.

The Court, however, considered the evidence was against the defendant, and sentenced him to fifteen days' imprisonment for each offence.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, March 25th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate Chen, and Dr. Yates, U. S. Assessor.

Robbery from the Person.

A well-known Chinese thief was charged with stealing a gold watch, chain, locket, finger-ring and miniature compass, the property of a foreigner. About two o'clock on Tuesday morning, the foreigner was riding in a jinriksha along the Bund, and was accosted by the prisoner, who offered to conduct him to a house of entertainment. The offer was accepted, and the prisoner was invited to take a seat in the 'riksha, which he did, and the pair rode together to the Kiangse road, where the prisoner got out and went away, making some excuse. Almost immediately, the foreigner discovered that his watch and trinkets, which he valued at $270, were also gone. Pursuit was useless, but information given at the Central Police Station led to the discovery and capture of the thief. It was ascertained that a man (who turned out to be the prisoner) had been offering a gold watch in pawn, and he was brought to the Station. He of course denied that the watch he had was the one in question, and as the foreigner could not remember either name or number of his, the case seemed difficult. Inspector Fowler, however, made the prisoner strip, and under the hollow of his foot was found the chain and other trinkets. How he managed to walk, was a mystery, but the discovery proved the case against him. The articles were shown to the foreigner, who was then on board a steamer bound to Japan, and he identified them as his.—Upon this testimony, and without requiring the attendance of the prosecutor, Chen was satisfied of the guilt of the accused, and sentenced him to a month's cangue, and 200 blows with the bamboo.

Jinricksha obstruction at the Club Concordia.

Two jinriksha coolies were charged with obstructing the entrance to the Club Concordia with their vehicles. Sentenced to 30 blows each. Inspector Wilson asked that they should also be cangued at the place, but Chen refused.

March 31st.

Before the Chinese Magistrate Chen, and A. Daverport, Esq., British Assessor.

Charge of Highway Robbery and Assault against Li-kin Runners.

Two *Li-kin* runners were charged by John William Walker with the above offence.

Prosecutor deposed that on Monday night, about eight o'clock, he was going along the Kiangse road with his coolie. They were in a jinriksha. The accused came up to the vehicle, and in the presence of a foreign constable and other persons, pulled prosecutor and the coolie out of it. Prosecutor asked the foreign constable to protect him, and he said he could not do so. One of the *li-kin* runners took hold of the coolie by the *queue*, and after beating him, dragged him to the Central Police Station. Prosecutor also went there. The coolie was so badly beaten that he (prosecutor) was obliged to call in Dr. Little to attend him, and he had given a certificate to that effect. Prosecutor was also knocked down and beaten in the road, but not so badly as the coolie. They all went to the Central Police Station, prosecutor going by another

route to that taken by the runners and the coolie. They were pulled out of the jinriksha because he (prosecutor) had some property in it. The foreign constable stood by and saw it done. The property was opium. It was in the jinriksha. It was not exposed to view. It was on the person of his coolie. At the Central Police Station, he asked Inspector Fowler to detain the opium till the following morning, but he refused to do so.

Mr. DAVENPORT—Where were you beaten?

Prosecutor raised his left arm, and pointed to his hand and wrist, and also to his side. The coolie was beaten much worse; and, if the Court wished it, he (prosecutor) could produce Dr. Little's certificate as to his condition.

Mr. DAVENPORT—The Court wish you to produce it.

Prosecutor said he had not got the certificate in his pocket, but would fetch it. He left the Court, but in a few minutes returned, and asked—Will you permit me to go home for it?

Mr. DAVENPORT—It is not worth while.

Prosecutor—But I have got it. Next morning I told Mr. Fowler so, and he said he did not care a —— for Dr. Little's certificate.

Mr. STRIPLING said he did not believe Mr. Fowler would utter such an expression.

P. C. Wright (13), the foreign constable alluded to, deposed that he saw the coolie pulled out of the jinriksha. The prosecutor was not pulled out—no one touched him in his (witness's) presence. He did not see the coolie beaten.

By Prosecutor—You did not ask me to protect you. You asked me to take you to the Police Station, and I told you that you could go there if you liked.

Mr. DAVENPORT (to Prosecutor)—Why have you not brought your coolie here?

Prosecutor—Because he is sick; I could not bring a sick man here.

Mr. DAVENPORT—Then why did you not bring Dr. Little's certificate, saying so?

Prosecutor—I did not imagine Dr. Little's certificate would be required.

Mr. DAVENPORT—It is required, because you bring a charge of highway robbery with violence against the defendants, and you say your coolie was so badly injured that he cannot appear here, while your own witness has gone against you.

Prosecutor—What witness?

Mr. DAVENPORT—The policeman, Wright.

Prosecutor—Oh, yes; of course. I want to see the bail-book, as I suppose entries are made at the Police Stations when persons accused are released? I suppose this was entered. I should like to see the book here.

Mr. STRIPLING said it was not customary to show the bail-book at any person's request.

Prosecutor—Well, then, the refused charge-book; I want to see if my charge is entered.

Mr. STRIPLING—The police do not take every charge you may choose to make.

NE SING SHA, one of the accused, deposed—I heard privately that seven balls of smuggled opium were being brought along the Kiangse road in a jinriksha. I called police, when it came up, and ordered the jinriksha coolie to stop. I told the coolie inside to get out of the vehicle, and come with me to the Police Station. On my saying that, the prosecutor, who was also inside, began to beat me with his hands. After that, the coolie came out of the jinriksha, and we took him to the Police Station. Prosecutor went there with P. C. Wright, but by another direction. Two balls of opium were concealed in each of the coolie's sleeves, and three others under his outer clothing. The coolie was not struck at all. I only took hold of him by the arm.

Prosecutor—Dr. Little can prove whether that is true.

Inspector FOWLER stated that it would appear that the coolie could not have been pulled about much, as none of the opium had fallen from his clothing. The coolie's clothes were dusty, but he did not seem to be hurt when brought to the Police Station. He said he had been assaulted. He walked away from the station, carrying the seven balls of opium, as though there was nothing the matter with him. If the Court wished, he (Mr. Fowler) would explain why he did not detain the opium at the prosecutor's request.

The COURT did not ask for the explanation.

Prosecutor muttered something several times about Dr. Little and the certificate, and Mr. DAVENPORT told him not to interrupt the Court. Dr. Little was not present, or the Court would be glad to hear what he could say in the matter. But he was not there, neither had the prosecutor thought proper to bring the certificate. The Court must be guided by the evidence before it

The evidence having been interpreted to Chên,

Mr. DAVENPORT said to Prosecutor—Your case has broken down as you have proved nothing. The prisoners are discharged.

Prosecutor—I did not come here to prove it; I'll go before Mr. Medhurst. I only came here to make a statement.

Mr. DAVENPORT—Why did you come here taking up the time of the Court? Go away.

Prosecutor left the Court, expressing his intention to take the case before H.B.M.'s Consul.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 31st March.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* GEORGE WHITE.

Defendant is a fireman, at present living at the Sailors' Home. He was charged with assaulting a native police sergeant and a constable, in the employ of the Municipality, at half-past twelve on Monday night.

Acting-Superintendent STRIPLING, in stating the case, said there were five or six men together in the Broadway road at the time named, and the defendant interfered with a barrow coolie. The native constable tried to prevent him, when the defendant struck him, and on the sergeant coming up, defendant kicked him on the leg. A tree had also been broken, and defendant had a branch of it in his hand.

Defendant said there were six men in company, and it was one of the others, and not him, who committed the assault. The Police took him (defendant) because they could not take any of the others. He had had a little drink, but was not drunk.

Mr. STRIPLING said that defendant's statement with respect to none of the other men being taken, was false. Three of the others went to the Police Station, but defendant was identified as the man who committed the assault.

The native sergeant gave evidence against the defendant, identifying him as the man who assaulted him.

A foreign Constable deposed that he did not see the assault committed, but saw the Chinese constable trying to take the defendant into custody. He (witness) went to the defendant, and told him he had better go to the Police Station, and he went there with three others.

Defendant, in answer to a question by the Court as to whether he could pay a fine, said he did not know, he was paid off from his ship a fortnight ago, with $71.

His WORSHIP ordered the case to stand over for a little while, in order to ascertain from Mr. Bowen, Superintendent of the Sailors' Home, what the defendant's means were.

Ultimately, the defendant was fined $4; in default, a week's hard labour. The fine was paid.

Clippings.

The steamer *Fu-yew*, Captain Croad, left Hongkong on the 26th ulto. at 11.30 a.m. Arrived at Shanghai on the 31st. Had thick foggy weather from Hongkong to the White Dogs; thence to Namki, strong N.E. and N.W. winds, with much rain, thunder and lightning. Then had strong N.W. winds and cloudy weather to arrival. Passed a Chinese Frigate, bound same way, off Namki, on the 29th.

The s.s. *Yunching*. Captain Gibbon, left Tientsin on the 27th ult., passed the steamers *Shanse* in the river, and *Taku* inside the bar bound up. Passed H.M.S. *Dwarf* bound westward. Rounded Shantung Promontory at 11.30 p.m. Passed Shaweishan on the 30th at 4 p.m. Anchored at the Lightship at 7.10 p.m. same day. Arrived at Shanghai at 7.30 a.m. Had a heavy N.W. gale from the Promontory to Shaweishan, remainder of passage moderate breeze and squally weather.

The American Barquantine *Samos*, Captain Bryant, left Newcastle, New South Wales on Jan. 28th, and arrived at Shanghai on the 25th inst. At 10 a.m. on the 10th inst., passed an unknown reef, which appeared to be about three quarters of a mile in length North and South, and about half a mile wide East and West; the sea breaking heavily on it. Capt. Bryant considers the reef to be just awash, and from reliable observations taken the same day and for several days previously and subsequently, places the danger in Lat. 10.37 N. and Long °114.50 E.

On Monday morning, at about half-past two o'clock, a burglary was committed at the house of a foreigner, residing in the French Settlement. The house was entered through the back door, and a clock, two table-cloths, a hearthrug, and other property carried off. The affair was reported at the French and English Police Stations, and in the forenoon, two Chinese were captured in the English Settlement, with the property in their possession. They were taken next morning before the French Mixed Court, and remanded.

We have received a number of books from Messrs. Kelly & Co., for review.

"Remains of Lost Empires," by P. V. N. Myers.—Harper & Brothers, New York.

"The Vatican Decrees." by W. E. Gladstone.—Harper & Brothers.

"Nursery Noonings," by Gail Hamilton.—Harper & Brothers.

"The Island of Fire," by Rev. P. C. Headley.—Lee & Shepard, New York.

"Lost for Love," by Miss Braddon—Harper & Brothers.

"In Honor Bound," by Charles Gibbon—Harper & Brothers.

"Jessie Trim," by B. L. Farjeon,—Harper & Brothers.

"Hagarene," by George A. Lawrence—the American News Company, New York.

"The Life and Habits of Wild Animals, illustrated from designs by Joseph Wolf, with descriptive letter-press by Daniel Giraud Elliot"—Harper & Brothers.

A Japanese lady has invented means of reconciliation between quarrelsome partners, which should not be confined in practice to that part of the world. Having quarrelled with her husband, she decided upon dying. Not content with relinquishing this dreary world, she endeavoured to do it at the greatest possible sacrifice. She bit out her tongue and awaited death. Fortunately for all parties, death did not arrive as soon as her husband. She was therefore saved. And now Nakamura has a model wife. When he complains of the toughness of his steak, she can merely look at him. Turning his eyes in another direction, he can make the most satirical comments upon feminine economy; can wonder why women never do learn how to keep down the grocer's bill to save a portion of their husband's salary; can assure her that a little variety of delicacies for breakfast is something that any women of sense could find; can grumble at the milliner's bill, and growl about the coal being all out, without receiving a word of remonstrance. He can tell her why the baby cries without being challenged to remedy the evil, and can generally enjoy himself without danger of a squall. Why should Japan monopolize such a boon?—*Am. paper*

We have seen a great deal of nonsense written about China in London papers, but nothing to beat the following extract from the *Daily Telegraph*. "His poor little Majesty, Toai-shun Aisin Kioh-lo Tung-chi, Emperor of China, has departed this life. If we could hear this event with Chinese ears, it would be perfectly simple to comprehend and explain why the weather has of late been so gloomy and unpleasant. His Majesty was Tientsye, or Son of Heaven, and, as even foreign devils must be aware, First Cousin of the Moon and Brother to the Sun. It would not be unnatural, therefore, for pigtailed people to ascribe the absence of the solar orb day after day, and the frantic conduct of the elements, to deep concern at the demise of one who

stood in such close relation to the powers of the universe. The subjects of his late Majesty will indubitably think that the cyclones which devastated the China coast towards the close of the year 1874 were symbols of the coming disaster—signs that Ai-sin Kioh-lo Tung-chi, eighth in descent from Shun-che, first of the Ming dynasty, was about to join his great relations in the realms above."—A more complete tissue of twaddle and blunders could hardly be penned.

The working of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1843 is again apparent. For a considerable time British shipowners resident in North China and Japan have been subjected to great inconvenience and uncertainty in the matter of registering their title, and by parity the nationality of the ships they became possessed of. This blot has at last been removed by the approval of Shanghai as a foreign port of registry for British ships, and we are glad to find by the *London Gazette* of the 19th inst. that the Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint William Handyside Tapp, Esq. (with whom we are informed the project originated), Her Majesty's Registrar of Shipping at Shanghai. Mr. Tapp, who is well-known and deservedly appreciated, both at home and in the sphere of his past duty, has been over ten years in the Consular service at Shanghai, and is thoroughly conversant with the procedure of registry and merchant shipping law, and further has, as may be expected, an intimate knowledge of the local requirements. We are informed that the appointment is most popular. It must be, however, borne in mind that the Registrar elect will not, under the terms of the Order in Council, be enabled to exercise his functions until a month after his appointment has been duly posted in the Consular offices at Shanghai.—*Civilian*, 23rd January.

The steamer *Glenfinlas*, Captain H. G. Wilcox, R. N. R., left the Downs Jan. 30th. Experienced light Easterly winds to Cape Ushant, and fresh Southerly winds with N.W. swell to Gibraltar, arriving there at 5 a m. on the 4th Feb. From thence to Cape Casine had strong N.W. winds and heavy swell, ship rolling heavily. Arrived at Malta on Feb. 8th, and left the same day. Arrived at Port Said on the 12th. On Feb. 14th, during the passage through the Canal, struck something and damaged propeller. Anchored in the Lake Ismalia. Arrived at Suez at noon on the 15th. Left same day, and experienced thick hazy weather in the Red Sea. Passed Perim Island on the 20th. Had strong head winds and sea to Cape Guardafui, and light N.E. winds to Point de Galle. Arrived at Singapore, March 9th. Left on the 11th, and had moderate N.E. winds during the first and strong head winds during the latter part of passage to Hongkong. Arrived on March 17th, left on the 20th, and arrived at Shanghai on the 24th, at 3 p.m. Had strong head winds and sea throughout. Vessels spoken during the passage :—February 26th, s.s. *Sarpedon*, bound West, Lat. 9.38 N., Long. 66' 9 E.; Feb. 28th, s.s. *Mandalay*, bound Rangoon, Lat. 8.13 N., Long. 73.35 E.; March 3rd, ship *Canterbury*, bound West, Lat. 5.45 N., Long. 84.45 E.; March 4th, s.s. *Glenroy*, bound West, Lat. 5.47 N., Long. 88.30 E.; March 22nd, s.s. *China*, bound South-west, off Tongying Island.

The British ship, *Champion of the Seas*, Captain Wilson, reports : Left Cardiff on Nov. 7th. Crossed the Equator on Dec. 2nd, in Long 31° W. Passed the Meridian of Greenwich Dec. 22nd, and South Cape of Tasmania on 24th Jan. Came through the Great Eastern Passages, experiencing strong squally weather in the vicinity of the New Hebrides, during which lost considerable canvas. From thence to port fine weather, making the passage in 128 days. In Lat. 27° 43' S. and Long. 28.33' W., about 3 p.m., sighted a dismasted ship to leeward; kept away, and on nearing her found her to be the iron ship *The Foundling*, of Liverpool, on fire. Every particle of woodwork had been destroyed, and her sides were red hot, at every roll emitting steam. It was the intention of Capt. Wilson to scuttle her if possible, as she had still apparently four or five hundred tons of coal in the hold in a fierce glow. But the weather being threatening the idea was abandoned, and the *Champion of the Seas* proceeded upon her course; that night it was very squally, and fore topgallant sail was split. Although a good look out was kept, no signs of the crew were to be seen, and Captain Wilson believes that they had been picked up, as the vessel was directly in the track of outward and homeward bound vessels.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 ⅞ dis. ex 72½
Steamer Cos	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co..	100	3 p. c.	78 cash.
Union Steam Navigation Company	50		20
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal.
China Coast S. N Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 70½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T. 10 p. sh	220
Footung Dock Co.	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	1 0 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 3c0 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 550
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 535
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 81 April
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	430
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	126
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	138
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 350	6 p. c.	600 nominal
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	1 p. c.	98 cash
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 at 5/7	first year	£99 ex. 5/7

Exchange

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅞

J. F. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per str. *Dragon*, for Foochow—Mr. J. P. Barnes. Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. W. van Corbach, J. A. Harris; 17 Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Messrs. A. Burman, H. Lamb, A. Campbell, A. Sykes, Y. Wada; 10 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Baron Hollenben, Messrs. Wm. Murray, T. A. Edwards, R. S. Edwards, D. W. Jones, J. Fraser, A. Stewart, J. B. Margesson, Otto Muller, J. Kavow; 8 in steerage. For San Francisco—Mrs. Philips, Captain C. E. Hallett and European servant, Messrs. Geo. Hughes, Edward Cunningham; 3 Europeans in steerage.

Arrived.—Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. J. Foster; 69 Chinese. Treasure—$32,000. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—1 European, and 108 Chinese. Treasure—$61,000, Opium—113 chests. Per M. B. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Roper and two children, Dr. Beaumont, Messrs. J. S. McColl, J. Thompson, A. Bean, J. F. Rodewald, H. F. Abell, J. Davidson, Alex. A. Tough, H. Barnett, M. Robins, Maida Kamatuchi; 21 in steerage. Treasure—$14,800. Per str. *Taku*, from Tientsin—Treasure—Tls. 34,700. Per str. *Nanking*, from Hankow—Messrs. Jenkins and Castro. Per str. *Bengal*, from Hongkong—Messrs. R. Edwards, T. A. Edwards, J. R. Hodgkins, J. B. Margesson, J. Fraser. Per ship *Titan*, from New York—Mr. W. F. Havemeyer. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Iburg, Thomas, and two Europeans on deck; 108 Chinese. Opium—67½ chests. Per str. *Consolation*, from Takao—2 Europeans, and 50 Chinese. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Swatow—65 Chinese. Per M. M. str. *Peiho*, from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Fryer, Messrs. Creagh, Buissonnet, Pardon, Eastell, Baconier, and MacGrath. From Suez—Mr. Kostilef. From Singapore—Mr. Glover. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. Ede and infant, Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Knoop, Dr. H. Nissen, Messrs. Buchamann, Smith, and L. Boyer.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Iraouaddy*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Messrs. Buchheister, Ch. Schmidt, Wisner, Olyphant, Chang Sung, a Chinese Lady, one Japanese. For Suez.—Mr. and Mrs. Ivanoff, Mrs. Von Glehn, and infant. For Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Pugh and three children, Messrs. Rougelot, Dupuy de Loine, A. Dillon, and Laurent.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Ozonometer.	Initials.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.
Mar	° ′	°	°	°					
25	29.952	59.0	74.0	54.0	7	m	..	6	S. S. W.
26	30.200	56.5	55.0	45 0	8	c	..	7	E. N. E.
27	30 000	55.0	57.0	47.0	8	o	6	7	S. S. E.
28	29 903	56.0	58.0	45.0	8	r	11	8	N. N. E.
29	30 050	46.0	51.0	41.0	8	o	6	3	N. W.
30	30.000	48.5	53.0	43.0	8	c	..	6	N. W.
31	30.050	48.0	52.0	41.0	7	b	2	3	W. N. W.

Explanation.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy). o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm; Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

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BIRLEY, WORTHINGTON & Co.,
Z *Agents.*

5fe-76 2442 Shanghai. 16th July, 1872.

NOTICE.

During my temporary absence from Hankow, I have authorized Mr. O. Molotkoff to sign my firm, N. A. Ivanoff & Co., per procuration.

N. A. IVANOFF.

NOTICE.

Mr. O. MOLOTKOFF is authorized to sign my name per procuration.

N. A. IVANOFF.

n 6ap 2849

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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LONDON *(E.C.)*

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1874-5.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon ... s.s.	May 28	London	19,047.41	.....	19,047.41
Glenartney ... ,,	... 29	,,	16,967.44	.....	16,967.44
Nizam ..... ,,	... 30	,,	1,882.71	.....	1,882.71
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 31	,,	17,274.24	.....	17,274.24
Hongkong ..... ,,	... 31	,,	15,651.23	.....	15,651.23
Cawdor Castle ,,	June 3	,,	18,201.09	.....	18,201.09
Ada ..... s.v.	... 6	,,	7,410.97	.....	7,410.97
Nestor ..... s.s.	... 5	,,	4,913.37	.....	4,913.37
Ava ..... ,,	... 6	,,	856.44	.....	856.44
Gordon Castle * ,,	... 7	,,	15,628.78	.....	15,628.78
Cutty Sark ... s.v.	... 12	,,	9,529.87	.....	9,529.87
Zambesi ..... s.s.	... 13	,,	8,465.50	.....	8,465.50
Achilles ..... ,,	... 13	,,	11,925.40	.....	11,925.40
Nankin ..... ,,	... 15	,,	20,089.08	.....	20,089.08
Japan ..... ,,	... 18	,,	19,171.62	.....	19,171.62
Iraouaddy ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1,243.06	.....	1,243.06
Deucalion ..... ,,	... 20	,,	11,687 24	168.80	11,856.04
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	4,514.41	261.22	4,775.63
Venetia ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,023.77	1,584 45	3,608.22
Canton † ..... ,,	... 27	,,	3,257.19	.....	3,257.19
Peiho ..... ,,	July 4	,,	503.98	702.32	1,206.30
Menelaus ..... ,,	June 7	,,	6,244.62	723.01	6,967.63
Lammermuir ... s.v.	... —	,,	10,056.42	.....	10,056.42
Cathay ..... s.s.	... —	,,	4,254.34	1,393.84	5,648.18
Thermopylæ ... s.v.	... —	,,	9,868.68	.....	9,868.68
Dartmouth ... ,,	July 16	,,	3,309.61	.....	3,309.61
Sir Lancelot ... ,,	... 17	,,	8,624.68	.....	8,624.68
Menzaleh ..... s.s.	... 18	,,	2.44	.....	2.44
Glenlyon ..... ,,	... 18	,,	5,608.76	2,187.53	7,796.29
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	,,	4,205.48	1,398.68	5,604.16
Jas. Shepherd s.v.	... 24	,,	8,518.75	.....	8,518.75
Malwa ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	3,645.19	1,507.97	5,153.16
Priam ..... ,,	Aug 1	,,	8,540.91	499.46	9,040.37
Meikong ..... ,,	... 1	Marseilles	532.64	470.22	1,002.86
R. Riding Hood s.v.	... 4	London	6,754.13	.....	6,754.13
Lauderdale ... ,,	... 5	,,	6,980.87	.....	6,980.87
Glamis Castle s.s.	... 6	,,	16,263.00	1,592.43	17,855.43
Teheran ..... ,,	... 8	,,	2,012.47	951.19	2,963.66
Patroclus ..... ,,	... 14	,,	9,281.27	411.10	9,692.37
Eliza Shaw ... s.v.	... 8	,,	6.30	.....	6.30
Norham Castle ,,	... 15	,,	7,575.34	.....	7,575.34
Kaisow ..... ,,	... 15	,,	8,536.39	.....	8,536.39
Sindh ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	482.32	421.66	903.98
Lothair ..... s.v.	... 21	,,	8,490.42	.....	8,490.42
Peking ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	4,132.07	2,258.77	6,390.84
Glenroy ..... ,,	... 22	,,	13,685.68	1,741.53	15,427.21
Leucadia ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,931.75	.....	9,931.75
Anadyr ..... s.s.	... 29	,,	.....	1,424.45	1,424.45
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	5,310.72	2,126.11	7,436.83
Wylo ..... s.v.	... 31	,,	8,891.43	.....	8,891.43
Mirzapore ..... s.s.	Sept 5	,,	3,773.66	1,548.15	5,321.81
Lotus ..... ,,	... 5	,,	7,228.82	1,557.15	8,785.97
Glengyle ..... ,,	... 9	,,	1,511.57	340.75	1,852.32
Diomed ..... ,,	... 10	,,	3,922.63	178.42	4,101.05
Tigre ..... ,,	... 12	,,	932.31	1,445.44	2,377.75
Borealis ..... s.v.	... 14	,,	7,852.56	.....	7,852 56
Duke of Abercorn ,,	... 17	,,	11,475.46	.....	11,475.46
Bokhara ..... s.s.	... 19	,,	2,292.25	1,678.42	3,970.67
Woodlark ..... s.v.	... 25	,,	9,337.83	297.88	9,635.71
Antenor ..... s.s.	... 25	,,	2,268.69	1,145.00	3,413.69
Amazone ..... ,,	... 26	,,	1,181.00	3,673.94	4,854.94
Glenartney ... ,,	Oct 6	,,	3,640.39	1,814.16	5,454.55
Travancore ... ,,	... 8	,,	3 22	.....	3.22
Ulysses ..... ,,	... 8	,,	3,255.31	1,946.31	5,201.62
Olympia ..... ,,	... 10	,,	1,741.11	1,540.80	3,281.91
Ava ..... ,,	... 16	,,	658.34	598.30	1,256.64
Halloween ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	7,707.74	480.07	8,187.81
Hongkong ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	1,329.88	1,375.70	2,705.58
Coulnakyle ... s.v.	... 31	,,	4,435.14	1,236.42	5,671.56
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	... 30	,,	196.97	2,837.91	3,034.88
Essen ..... ,,	... 30	,,	2,147.19	2,406.88	4,554.07
Baroda ..... ,,	Nov 5	,,	1.50	.....	1.50
Cawdor Castle ,,	... 7	,,	790.62	319 98	1,110.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 7	,,	1,774 32	1,909.25	3,683.57
Hoogly ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	994.64	994.64
Nestor ..... ,,	... 17	,,	1,564.15	110.00	1,674.15
Guinevere ..... s.v.	... 20	,,	5,869.32	1,490.98	7,360.30
Glaucus ..... s.s.	... 24	,,	1,640.46	1,206.29	2,846.75
Cathaya ..... s.v.	... 27	,,	4,853.91	1,611.53	6,465.44
Peiho ..... s.s.	... 27	,,	.....	911.32	911.32
Braemar Castle ,,	... 28	,,	357.80	1,468.15	1,825.95
Deucalion ..... ,,	Dec 1	,,	1,629.34	4,539.82	6,169.16
Sylvia ..... ,,	... 1	,,	306.68	135.45	442.13
Agamemnon ... ,,	... 10	,,	601.15	1,460.72	2,061.87
Mikado ..... s.v.	... 3	,,	.....	259.64	259.64
Carried forward ...			487,998.01	66,633.47	551,536.49

* Lost on Coast of Lisbon. † Lost in River Min.

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			487 998.01	66,633.47	551,536.49
Meikong..... s.s.	Dec 11	London	.....	41.47	41.47
Achilles ..... ,,	... 19	,,	10.48	1,509.72	1,520.20
Sindh ..... ,,	... 24	,,	.....	1,059.42	1,059.42
Glenearn..... ,,	... 31	,,	1.90	893.44	895.34
Thibet..... ,,	... 31	,,	0.40	349.68	350.08
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 31	,,	123.32	1,286.57	1,409.89
Mary Whitridge s.v.	... 31	,,	2.96	5,640.63	5,643.59
Laju ..... ,,	... 31	,,	1,399.06	2,517.18	3,916.24
Anadyr ..... s.s.	Jan 7	,,	.....	826.87	826.87
Ajax ..... ,,	... 8	L. v F'chow	124.28	699.14	823.42
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	London	.....	1,138.68	1,138.68
Sarpedon ..... ,,	... 27	,,	1,049.77	2,730.33	3,780.10
Gwalior ..... ,,	... 28	Bombay	.....	102.47	102.47
Tigre ..... ,,	Feb 4	London	2.73	693.75	696.53
do. ..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	170.55	170.55
Priam..... ,,	.. 4	L. v. Fchow	20.22	1,055.41	1,075.63
Amazone ..... ,,	... 18	London	.....	227.52	227.52
Hector ..... ,,	... 22	,,	262.27	930.90	1,193.17
Kashgar ..... ,,	... 25	Bombay	.....	140.03	140.03
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	London	.....	203.19	203.19
Ava..... s.s.	Mar 4	,,	.....	1,217.52	1,217.52
do..... ,,	... 4	Bombay	.....	229.81	229.81
Sunda..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	134.48	134.48
Diomed ..... ,,	... 13	London	.....	3,708.00	3,708.00
Omba ..... v.s.	... 17	,,	.....	1,040.16	1,040.16
Hoogly ..... s.s	... 18	,,	.....	1,447.34	1,447.34
		Total.....	491,270 24	92,137.47	583,407.71

TO UNITED STATES.

VESSEL'S NAME.	CLEARED.	FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Kiangse ..... s.s.	Ju 13	New York	2,122 75	.....	2,122.75
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	149.52	.....	149.52
Costa Rica..... ,,	July 2	New York	1,154.99	1,518.99	2,673.98
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	,,	.....	136.18	136.18
Cathay ..... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	542.63	542.63
Ajax ..... ,,	... 18	London	285.60	970.66	1,256.26
Golden Age ... ,,	... 21	New York	658.93	4,420.40	5,079 33
Oregonian ..... ,,	Aug 4	,,	844.40	2,610.96	3,455.36
Golden Age ... ,,	... 11	,,	.....	837.22	837.22
Bengal ..... ,,	... 13	,,	649.88	4,357.31	5,007.19
Pleiades..... ,,	... 21	,,	1,880.47	9,899.13	11,779.60
Oregonian ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	1,370.93	1,370.93
Killarney ..... ,,	Sept 1	,,	533.07	8,117.06	8,650.1ɛ
Nevada ..... ,,	... 2	,,	.....	3,016.46	3,016.46
J. R. Worcester s.v.	... 5	,,	966.74	4,100.70	5,067.44
Glenfinlas ..... s.s.	... 15	,,	76.61	8,090.95	8,167.56
Galley of Lorne ,,	Oct 9	,,	291-72	6,230.11	6,521.83
Wemyss Castle s.v.	... 17	,,	155.81	5,612.28	5,768.09
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 26	,,	.....	391.60	391.60
do. ... ,,	... 26	San F'cisco	.....	412.22	412.22
Leander ..... s.v.	Nov 6	New York	.....	7,440.45	7,440 45
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	,,	.....	371.90	371.90
Nevada ..... ,,	... 25	,,	.....	249.06	249.06
Mkado ..... s.v.	Dec 1	,,	2.33	4,523.95	4,526.28
Conqueror ..... ,,	... 4	,,	.....	5,407.60	5,407.60
Lady Louise ... ,,	... 11	,,	544.77	4,585.79	5,130.56
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 11	San F'cisco	.....	699.89	699 89
Nevada ..... ,,	... 23	N.Y.&SanF	.....	2,866.29	2,866.29
Ajax ..... ,,	Jan 8	New York	30.15	... ...	30.15
Sooloo..... s.v.	... 8	,,	0.72	4,357.46	4,358.18
Golden Age ... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	1,547.55	1,547.55
do. ... ,,	... 13	San F'cisco	.....	2,147.06	2,147.06
Costa Rica..... ,,	... 6	,,	.....	664.89	664.89
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	New York	.....	70.00	70.00
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	210.51	210.51
do. ..... ,,	... 20	San F'cisco	.....	853.66	853.66
Golden State... s.v.	... 23	N.Y.vF'cw	.....	534.67	534.67
Sarpedon ... .. s.s.	... 27	New York	.....	2,254.67	2,254.67
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	,,	0.54	5,708.48	5,709.02
Priam..... s.s.	Feb 4	,,	.....	95.48	95.88
Costa Rica..... s.s.	... 1	,,	.....	1,696.29	1,696.29
do. ..... s.s.	... 1	San F'cisc	.....	96.81	96.81
Nevada ..... s.s.	... 13	New York	.....	57.79	57.79
Star of Jamaica s.v.	... 16	,,	.....	2,541.63	2,541.63
Hector ..... s.s.	... 22	,,	.....	57.75	57.75
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	,,	1,735.78	6,067.25	7,803.03
Oregonian ..... s.s.	Mar 1	,,	.....	59.49	59.49
Diomed ..... ,,	... 13	,,	.....	917.61	917.61
Nevada ..... ,,		San F'cisco	12.88		12.88
		Total.....	12,097.66	15,305.10	127,402.76

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Nizam .....s.s.	May 30	London	.....	1.60	1.60
Sarpedon..... .. ,,	Ju 27	,,	0.90	.....	0.90
Costa Rica ..... ,,	July 2	Nagasaki	1.86	.....	1.86
Menelaus ..... ,,	... 7	London	1.62	.....	1.62
New York ..... ,,	... 7	Japan	8.70	.....	8.70
Cathay..... ,,	... 11	Hongkong	56.81	30.15	86.96
Ajax ... . ,,	... 18	London	2.50	.....	2.50
Malwa ..... ,,	... 21	,,	5.09	747.53	752.62
Bengal..... ,,	... 2	Yokohama	30.55	.....	30.55
Teheran ..... ,,	Aug 8	Bombay	.....	482.50	482.50
Shantung..... ,,	... 12	Tientsin	346.37	.....	346.37
Peking .... ,,	... 22	London	3.50	246.97	250.47
Anadyr ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	24.70	24.70
Hector ..... ,,	... 29	,,	.....	3.36	3.36
China ..... ,,	... 25	Hongkong	345.12	795.52	1,140.64
Mirzapore..... ,,	Sept 5	,,	.....	14.56	14.56
Travancore ..... ,,	Oct 8	Bombay	.....	183.25	182.25
Malacca..... ,,	... 22	,,	.....	50.33	50.33
		Carried forward	803.02	2,580.47	3,383.49

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
		Brought forward	803.02	2,580.47	3,383.49
Iraouaddy ..... s.s.	Oct 30	Marseilles	58.61	.....	58.61
Appin ..... ,,	... 27	C. Ports	74.10	.....	74.10
Paouting ..... ,,	... 30	,,	256.23	... ..	256.23
Shingking ..... ,,	... 27	,,	2,953.53	.....	2,953.53
Delhi ..... ,,	... 27	Bombay	.....	337.52	337.52
Geelong ..... ,,	Dec 3	Hongkong	.....	175.42	175.42
Mikado ... . s.v.	... 3	Japan	.....	2,171.64	2,171.64
Ajax ..... s.s.	Jan 8	Hongkong	1.24	.....	.....
Provence ..... ,,	... 21	Japan	.....	91.52	91.52
Nevada ..... ,,	... 20	,,	1.08	.....	1.08
Amoy ..... ,,	... 26	Hongkong	.....	14.40	14.40
Inverness ..... s.v.	... 29	Japan	66.90	.....	66.90
Tigre ..... s.s.	Feb 4		.....	4.37	4.37
Costa Rica..... ,,	... 22	Nagasaki	2.25	.....	2.25
Northampton... s.v.	... 27	Japan *			
		Total.....	4,216.96	5,375.34	9,592.30

* 2,057 Packages for transhipment.

SHANCHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	26,785	29,142	3,460	1,697	61,084	..	61,084
Subsequent Shipments	1,200	1,170	265	57	2,692	..	2,692
Total....	27,985	30,312	3,725	1,754	63,776	..	63,776

COTTON.

	Cleared	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report..		135,318.11	..	..	243,694.28	..	..	75,935.41	..	..	454,947.80
Subsequent Shipments		3,543.60	..	..	27,998.85	..	..	4,054.80	..	..	35,497.25
Total....		138,861.71	..	..	271,593.13	..	..	79,990.21	..	..	490,445.05

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 27TH MARCH, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,504½	1,804.50	243	191.60	147	176.40	10	10.00
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	5	5.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	1,809½	1,809.50	243	191.60	147	176.40	10	10.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore.....	40½	40.50	97	116.40	47	56.40	1	1.00

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa.....	289½	289.50	66½	66 50	30	30.00	128	128.00	135	135.00	..	..	49	49.00	..	..	..	..	697	698.00
Patna	26	31.20	..	..	8	9.60	1	1.20	14	16.80	..	..	10	12.00	..	..	..	..	59	70.80
Benares	12	14.40	..	..	..	..	9	10.80	8	9.60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	34.80
Persian	..	..	1	1.00	..	..	..	..	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3.00
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	327½	335.10	67½	67.50	38	39.60	138	140.00	159	163.40	..	..	59	61.00	..	..	..	..	788	806.60

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 31st, 1875.

Arrivals—On 24th and 25th instant, the s.s. *Glenfinlas* and *Bengal* from London, and yesterday, the M. M. steamer *Peiho*, with the English mails of 12th ultimo. Also, the sailing ship *Titan*, from New York.

Telegrams.—Nothing new under this heading.

Piece Goods.—Advices from Tientsin extend to 24th instant. At that date, confidence with regard to the *Li-kin* trouble had not been restored. On the 27th, the S. S. *Shantung* brought down news that the Territorial Taotai, Wu, had issued a proclamation, enjoining tradesmen and others to re-open their shops (which had been closed) and to resume business, intimating at the same time that he had *proposed* to Sun—Customs' Taotai—the abandonment, for the present, of his recent obnoxious imposition, and the adherence to "existing regulations." But his proposition apparently fell short of the requirements of the case; and, although Wu has assured the people that H. E. Li—the Viceroy—"is uniformly influenced by feelings of tender compassion, and cannot refuse his favor in compliance with the request"—to repeal the edict in question—the dealers still "waste time in doubtful hesitation;" nor will they be satisfied with anything short of its annulment under Li's own seal—so say the Northern agents stationed here.

Hankow, 27th March.—"A considerable business in imports" is reported, but prices there have still to advance, ere they are on a level with those current here. In *Grey Shirtings*, the heavy makes alone seem to have improved, and the best chop of them is not yet over Tls. 2.80 per piece, while at date, the foreigners' market had little more than begun to be affected by the demand for *T-Cloths* and *Drills*, noticed last week. Of *Lead*, sales had been made at Tls. 6.40 per picul, but the enquiry was weak.

Chinkiang, 27th March.—Recent supplies of Plain Cottons—and these have been large—have all been cleared, and a good demand still prevails.

Japan.—No news. Commercially, the last letters to hand were as discouraging almost as it is possible to conceive.

The market at this port has been in an excited state since this day week, and a very large business in Plain Cottons has been put through. The following is a *precis* of what has been reported, but, it is believed, that although it be large, it is under the mark:—

6-lbs.	*Grey Shirtings*	13,500 pieces.
7-lbs.	*Do.*	25,000 ,,
8¼-lbs.	*Do.*	160,000 @ 170,000 pieces.
9 & 10-lbs.	*Do.*	7,000 pieces.
6-lbs.	*T-Cloths* from first hands	6,000 ,,
7-lbs.	*Do.*	62,000 ,,
8-lbs.	*Do.* about	30,000 ,,
	White Shirtings, all reeds	35,000 ,,
	Drills, 14 and 15-lbs., nearly	60,000 ,,
	Jeans	33,500 ,,

And, with one or two exceptions, prices have materially improved. The nature of the business—*i.e.* whether it be the result of a real trade demand or speculative—is not easily determinable, but even if speculation has played an important part in it—and the large settlements "to arrive" do, to some extent, support this surmise—the natives alone are concerned in it. This argues a strong confidence in the future on their part, more especially as the buyers—to a man almost—are either the Agents of the inland traders, or the traders themselves.

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—Sales ex *Forward Ho*,—viâ the Cape, sailed 16th January from London,—have been made, which is rather a novel and very strong feature in the market for this article. "On the spot" Dewhurst's *Red Pheasant* chop has realized Tls. 1.39 per piece. 7-lbs.—Scarcely anything to be met with now under Tls. 1.45 per piece, and very ordinary chops selling freely at Tls. 1.48 *a* 1.50 per piece. Dewhurst's *Eagles* are nominally worth Tls. 1.60 per piece. 8¼-lbs.—An advance of 3 *a* 5 cents per piece, all round nearly, has been established. Butterworth's *Green Globe* has been sold at Tls. 1.69 per piece. Collie's *Lion-on-Bale* at Tls. 1.79. Dewhurst's *Eagle* and Mendel's *Hand* and *Branch* have been done at Tls. 2.00 per piece and *E-Wo Green Dragon* to-day has touched Tls. 2.05 per piece. For *Jinkee Stag Head* Tls. 1.80 per piece has been declined, and sundry chops that were barely marketable at Tls. 1.70 when last mail left, have been placed at Tls. 1.75 per piece. *Heavy Shirtings.*—Of these it is unnecessary to say more than that the value of hard cargo is still on the rise. *Tunsin* Dewhurst's *Eagle* is now said to be retailing at Tls. 3.10 per piece.

White Shirtings.—The market is not very steady, some holders, being actuated by the fears of heavy floating supplies, have accepted lower prices, while others have obtained some slight advantage in their operations since last mail day. 72 Reed, and finer, have been wanted, and, owing to their scarcity they are dearer. 56 *a* 60 Reeds have also been in more demand, but as yet they are unchanged in value. Dewhurst's 56 and 64 Reeds have found buyers at Tls. 1.87½ and Tls. 2.20 per piece respectively, while the commoner chops of 56 and 60 Reeds rule about Tls. 1.68 *a* 1.80 per piece. Of 64 Reeds the sales have been principally of chops obtainable at Tls. 1.86 *a* 2 00 per piece.

T-Cloths.—The market seems to be cleared of all saving the best kinds of Mexicans 7-lbs., and until yesterday—when matters quieted down a little—it looked as if even these would not last long either, but rates have risen to a point which whispers a little more caution to buyers; and it remains to be seen whether a little deliberation will start them afresh. Holders appear confident in their position. Heavy transactions in both 7 and 8-lbs. ordinary Mexican counts have been entered into, to arrive, and prices have gone against buyers in almost every parcel booked. The improvement in the value of 7-lbs. during the week cannot be less than 6 c. per piece, while that of 8-lbs. is better by 2 *a* 3 c. per piece. Ordinary Mexicans, 7-lbs., are still wanted.

Drills.—The demand for this article has, as it were, taken holders by storm, and a large proportion of the stocks on hand have changed ownership this week. Very full prices have been paid for fine 15-lbs. English *Dragon* chop, of which settlements have been made under orders from the Japanese Government, it is said; and the Chinese buyers have likewise paid extreme rates for their purchases. Both the Hankow and Tientsin merchants have bought extensively, and the latter have also operated largely in *Jeans* at prices which compare very favourably with those offered last week.

In **Sheetings** there has not been any business, and that in

Fancy Cottons scarcely deserves mention to-day. A similar remark is applicable to

Woollens.—Indeed attention has been almost exclusively centred in *Plain Cottons* since last mail day, the value realised by all the other sales put together being under Tls. 25,000. In that estimate the Auction sales of last Thursday are not taken into account. C.P.H. *Scarlet Long Ells* have been sold at Tls. 7.10 per piece and sales of Camlets—good assortment, at Tls. 13.35, are reported. *Spanish Stripes* are firmer and C.P.H. Scarlet is worth Tls. 0.61 per yard.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.1.0	14.2.5	14.1.0	12.7.0	13.3.0	...	...	12.2.5	12.8.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.1.0	7.0.0	6.5.0	7.0.0	7.2.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.4.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.1	0.5.6	0.5.8	0.5.9	0.6.1	0.60	0.57	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.6.0

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 25TH MARCH, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.	Brown.
C.P.H. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	14.00/14.10	14.25/14.30	14.05/14.10	12.70	13.25/13.35	...	.....	.....	12.80	.....	...
G.G.M. ,, p. pce ,,	13.40	13.25/13.30	13.45	12.70	13.22½	...	.....	.....	12.67½	.....	...
S.S.G. ,, p. pce ,,	13.32½/13.40	13.10/13.15	13.35/13.45	12.70	13.17½/13.20	...	.....	.....	12.65	12.70	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.59¼/0.60¼	0.56/0.56½	0.57½	0.60¼/0.60½	.....	0.68	0.57½	0.59¾	0.56¼/0.56¾	.....	0.57½

SALES.—*Camlets*, C.P.H., 500 pcs., av. Tls. 13.92½; G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.30; S.S.G., 400 pcs. av. Tls. 13.24 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 378 pcs. av. Tls. 0.58½ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.63¼ *a* 1.64 per piece.

	T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₩ pc.	1.4.5	to	1.6.0
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.6	,,	2.0.0
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.3.0	,,	2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs..... ,,	2.6.5	,,	2.8.0
Tun Sin ..... ,,	3.0.5	,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.0	,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3	,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0	,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.3.5	,,	2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0	,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5	,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....	2.3.2	,,	2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.2.9	,,	2.3.8
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.5	,,	2.0.0
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5	,,	.....
SHEETINGS—			
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0	,,	3.8.0
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5	,,	2.9.5
T-CLOTHS—			
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.5	,,	1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.8	,,	1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.8	,,	1.3.3
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.4.0	,,	1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.7	,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.9.0	,,	2.2.5
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.5	,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0	,,	2.6.5
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.2.0	,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.5	,,	2.6.0
CHINTZ—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5	,,	1.5.0
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.5	,,	1.4.0
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.3.5	,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0	,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0	,,	4.9.0
T. REDS. 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0	,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₩ yd.	0.1.6½	,,	0.1.9½
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4	,,	0.1.4¾
26 in. ,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.1
BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,	0.0.4½	,,	0.0.6
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....₩ pc.	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.5	,,	1.5.5
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.8.0	,,	0.9.5
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.1.0	,,	14.0.0
G G ,, ,,	13.3.0	,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.2.0	,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₩ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,	0.5.7	,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.8½	,,	.....
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.1	,,	.....
LONG ELLS—			
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ₩ pc.	7.1.0	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.1.0	,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.8.0	,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.7.5	,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,	10.0.0	,,	12.6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ..... ,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5	,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail-Rod Iron.*—Fair sales of Nail-Rods are recorded this week, but all brands—ordinary assortments—saving the very best, show a weakening market. *Dawe's* import maintains former value; and for special sizes—suitable for the NEWCHWANG trade—an advance on former rates has been established. Of the smallest sizes there is none in stock, and these being wanted for JAPAN are also rather firmer. *Lead.*—The natives have been enquiring more after L.B., and some reports state that business to an extent of nearly 1,200 tons at Tls. 6.10 per picul has been done, but it has not been possible to trace the rumours to any trustworthy source. The majority of holders are firm, and "Euthoven" Lead is held for Tls. 6.00 per picul, free of brokerage, but floating cargo is being offered on the market on much easier terms. *Tin Plates.*—Importations from Hongkong for a time weakened the position of this article, and a few hundred boxes changed hands at Tls. 6.10 per box for I.C. The market is hardening again, however, and sellers now demand Tls. 6.20 free of brokerage. *Tin.*—Prices shew a further decline, and still there is no disposition amongst the native buyers to do business, beyond actual requirements. *Copper.*—*Slab* is once more quotable at Tls. 18 *a* 18½ per picul, but there is little on hand and rates are nominal.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

	Tls. m. c.		
QUICKSILVER .....per Pcl.	155.0.0	*a*	160.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....per Box	6.1.0	*a*	6.2.0
Small ,, ... ,,	.....		.....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0	*a*	6.7.5
18 ... } no demand. ,,	7.0.0	*a*	.....
19/23 } ,,	7.7.5	*a*	8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.... ,,	19.6.0	*a*	.....
Fok Chok ..... ,, ... ,,	19.0.0	*a*	.....
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,	13.7.0	*a*	.....
STEEL .....per Tub	3.3.0	*a*	3.4.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.	4.4.0	*a*	4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	.....	*a*	.....
Slab, best ... ,, ... ,,	18.0.0	*a*	18.5.0
Ore ..... ,, ... ,,	.....	*a*	.....
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.2.0	*a*	3.3.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton	30.0.0	*a*	.....
NAILROD IRON—			
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.1.5	*a*	3.2.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,	2.5.5	*a*	2.6.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,	2.7.5	*a*	2.8.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.9.0	*a*	3.0.0
Round ..... ,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.0.5	*a*	6.1.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,	... ..	*a*	.....

	Tls. m. c.		
COTTON—Common New .....per Pcl.	8.2.0	*a*	8.6.0
,, Medium ..... ,,	9.0.0	*a*	9.6.0
,, Best..... ,,	10.0.0	*a*	10.6.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0	*a*	6.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0	*a*	5.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0	*a*	5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0	*a*	5.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0	*a*	4.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0	*a*	4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
Common ... ,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.8.0
,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0	*a*	2.6.0
PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	8.8.0	*a*	9.0.0
—White ..... ,,	15.0.0	*a*	18.0.0
RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.6.0
—Good to fine .... ,,	3.8.0	*a*	4.0.0
—Best..... ,,	4.2.0	*a*	4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0	*a*	2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.5.0	*a*	3.7.0
Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0	*a*	10.0.0
Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0	*a*	18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK ..... ,,	0.7.0	*a*	1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.8	*a*	0.5.5

COTTON.—There have been scarcely any transactions, but as yet no alteration in prices is apparent.

EXCHANGE.—Bank paper to a considerable amount has been settled during the week at 5s. 9d. Rates are weak at the close, none of the Banks caring to sell much at the figure. Credits find buyers at 5s. 9½d., and Documents at 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d., but there is not much private paper on offer. On India, a small business has been done at Rs. 306 on Calcutta. On Hongkong, the rate is weak at 27⅛.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7⅛d.		₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 9d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9½d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d.		,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight ..... Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.35		,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...Rs. 306	₩ 100	Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 306½	₩ 100	,,
ON HONGKONG.—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27½ per cent. disc.		

INTEREST.—7½ *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—72.975 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.80 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 171.50 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,550 per Tael.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 29th March, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 64 @ 68, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	4,799	10,850	3,400	16,650	3,750	13,249	...	...	...	1,200	...	...	...	7,800
T-Cloths ..... ,,	3,895	3,429	4,450	9,320	4,940	8,400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,440
White Shirtings ..... ,,	400	900	150	1,008	500	7,600	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	2,750
Drills ..... ,,	...	180	...	390	210	930	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	720
Jeans ..... ,,	150	40	...	450	200	3,300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	80	1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	100	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	50	50	...	100	550	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	160	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	170	230	40	420	60	1,400	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	1,160
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	...	550	...	...	...	900	...	...	...	696	...	...	...	50
Velvets ..... ,,	30	...	30	114	30	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	168
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	24	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	200	400	600	200	...	150	...	...	926	...	...	...	...	2,000
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	400	...	100	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	300
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	...	72	12	54	144	42	...	...	84	...	...	...	...	348
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	12	54	6	211	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Camlets ..... ,,	20	260	160	1,060	...	170	...	...	190	...	40	...	...	100
Long Ells ..... ,,	20	100	140	380	...	20	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	60
Lastings ..... ,,	20	60	20	220	80	60	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	20
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	40	20	50	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	60	295	...	238	430	299	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	650
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	50	100	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	550	63	...	20	...	...	1,656	...	...	168	504	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	126	130	1,536	240	132	120	...	...	...	...	161	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 31/3/74.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	61,698	803,492	140,646	944,714	1,364,100	763,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	46,874	468,421	57,333	286,495	423,600	1,101,000
White Shirtings ..... ,,	13,358	136,345	41,862	181,244	140,700	42,000
Drills ..... ,,	2,580	91,240	14,027	74,129	226,900	448,500
Jeans ..... ,,	4,220	62,817	15,120	87,998	53,700	57,600
Sheetings ..... ,,	1,280	6,980	2,000	12,600	7,300	50,800
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	350	9,791	1,999	18,098	11,200	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	497	1,478	1,800	890
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,490
Brocades, White ..... ,,	100	3,821	46	5,284	3,700	.....
,, Dyed ..... ,,	750	10,036	1,500	12,782	32,000	25,500
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	240	2,715	880	5,600	10,000	6,100
Chintzes ..... ,,	3,600	35,927	7,443	23,861	76,600	101,000
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,196	20,712	4,800	29,650	35,800	20,000
Velvets ..... ,,	522	10,224	510	14,927	12,400	17,000
Velveteens ..... ,,	126	2,268	696	3,050	2,000	6,900
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	4,476	40,604	6,659	22,569	54,700	110,000
Muslins ..... Pcs.	1,200	5,086	400	1,300	7,300	25,600
Dimities ..... ,,	160	4,460	200	1,930	12,200	10,200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	756	10,378	522	10,634	11,000	31,000
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	487	4,457	411	5,384	11,400	20,000
Camlets ..... ,,	2,000	18,040	2,090	17,603	22,200	18,000
Long Ells ..... ,,	760	15,300	1,060	13,680	7,400	14,750
Lastings ..... ,,	560	7,318	2,200	7,720	12,800	6,600
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	270	2,270	499	2,399	9,300	2,600
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	320	4,820	... ...	4,149	3,400	.....
,, Figured ..... ,,	1,972	28,348	3,879	17,113	117,300	121,500
,, Crape ..... ,,	250	5,430	... ..	2,800	18,500	8,100
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	2,454	20,852	3,360	20,734	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,961	27,369	1,260	51,212	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Foochow, Iraouaddy, Khiva, Lotus, Patroclus, Bengal, Glenfinlas, Titan, Peiho,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—There have been only a few buyers in the market, but a fair amount of Green Teas has been settled during the week. Prices show no material change from those ruling at the date of last mail. Recent settlements are, for the most part, being shipped to America, for which country, the *Silver Eagle* and *Dilpussund* are fully engaged.

Settlements for the week have been—

Fychow, Moyune, &c.	7,981	½-chests,	at Tls.	18	*a* 32½.	Stock— 6,277	½-chests.
Pingsuey	1,549	,,	,,	21	*a* 25.	2,972	,,
Shanghai-packed	491	,,	,,	22	*a* —.	2,250	,,
Total	10,021	,,				Total... 11,499	,,

Export to Great Britain to date (exclusive of lost Cargoes) is—

	1874-1875.		1873-1874.
Black	65,088,835 lbs.	against	58,683,383 lbs.
Green	11,651,708 ,,	,,	9,774,690 ,,
Total	76,740,543 ,,	,,	68,458,073 ,,

To America and Canada—

Black	1,843,937 lbs.	against	801,149 lbs.
Green	16,905,589 ,,	,,	20,147,426 ,,
Total	18,749,526 ,,	,,	20,948,575

SILK.—By last public telegrams the London silk market is reported "scarcely opened, but tendency is firm," with deliveries to the 26th inst. of 2,400 bales Chinas. Since the departure of the English mail on the 26th inst. (with 425 bales for London, 237 bales for the Continent, 46 bales for the Coast, and 17 bales for Singapore), the amount of business transacted is estimated at 400 bales, making total settlements to date 68,900 bales against 56,000 at same date last year. The following are the prices reported to have been paid :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Yakee Chop Nos. 3 and 3½	Tls. 390 & 365	19s. 3d. & 18s. 1d.	Frs. 54.09 and 50.69 on [joint account.
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and "Kin Hock"	Tls. 327½ & 300	16s. 3d. & 14s. 11d.	Frs. 45.55 and 41.84
Blue Elephant	Tls. 312½	15s. 6d.	Frs. 43.54
S S.S. Dollar chop	Tls. 277½	13s. 10d.	Frs. 38 74
Common Tsatlees	Tls. 255 *a* 270	12s. 8d. & 13s. 5d.	Frs. 35.71 *a* 37.75

The P. M. s.s. *Oregonian* left yesterday with 61 bales for New York which were taken at quotations showing a decline on previous rates. The unsold stock is further reduced and is now estimated at 1,100 @ 1,200 bales.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

April 1, 1875.

Arrivals.—March 24th, Am. sh. *Titan*, from New York ; 25th, Br. str. *Dragon*, from London ; Am sch. *Samos*, from Newcastle, N.S.W.

Departures.—None other than Coasters.

The French mail steamer *Iraouaddy* takes 474 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅝d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 304 *a* 305, noml. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 305 *a* 306, noml. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅜. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.15 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.60 per 100. Copper cash, 1,590 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report :—There has been but little business done since 24th ultimo, owing to the Easter holidays.

H. & S. Bank.—Some transactions have again taken place at 15 % *dis.* and Exch. 72¼, and a few shares are still wanted at same rate.

S. S. N. Co.—The market opened with business at Tls. 80, but a few shares have since been sold at Tls. 79. Shares are now obtainable at Tls. 78.

Docks.—*Shanghai Docks* have been placed at Tls. 220, and *Pootungs* at Tls. 88.

Gas.—A small business has been done in Shanghai Gas Shares at Tls. 141, at which there are sellers.

Fire Insurance.—*Hongkongs* have been placed at $480 ; *Victorias* at $126, and *Chinas* at $133. Shares are obtainable at same rates.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* are on offer at Tls. 585. *China and Japans* have been placed at Tls. 81 for 30th April, and there are sellers on same terms.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co—A small business has been done at Tls. 101 for 31st July, and also for 31st August, and at Tls. 98 for cash. Shares can still be placed at same rates.

Chinese Imperial Loan.—A small business has again been done at £99.

The Weather has again become cold. The thermometer on Friday reached 74, but the wind worked round to the Eastward during the night, and heavy rain fell on Saturday. Sunday was less wet, but cold and raw. It has since been dry, but cloudy and unsettled. The extreme range of the thermometer has been from 74 to 41, which was last night's minimum.

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THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 413. SHANGHAI, APRIL 8, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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Hongkong, ... ,, 31		Nagasaki, ...Apr. 1	
Tientsin,..... ,, 31		Foochow, ... ,, 2	

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Jan. 14 } Received 18th Feb.
Shanghai,..... ,, 8 }

BIRTHS.

At South Gate, Kiangnan Arsenal, on the 3rd April, Mrs. JOHN RENNIE, of a Son.

At Shanghai, on the 4th inst., the wife of Mr. E. BYRNE, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At Shanghai, on the 5th April, 1875, at H. I. G. M.'s Consulate, before W. Annecke, Esq., GEORGE POLITE to ANNA NEWGASSE.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Patroclus*, for London—Mrs. Knott and Miss Knott, Mrs. Behncke, Mrs. Penrose, Miss Johnston, Capt. Kidley, Mr. Williams. For Amoy—Mr. W. Power. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Takasago Maru*, for Nagasaki—Capt. J. Will, Mr. J. A. Glover, and one Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. J. R. Thompson and two in steerage. For Yokohama—Capt. Vieillard, Capt. Percin and servant, Messrs. B. Kestileff and M. Bouquet. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Kanagawa Maru*—Mrs. F. E. Heyden and European maid. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, for Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cornabe and two children, Messrs. E. Tobin, H. M. Fleischer, J. Jackson, R. D. Jackson and R. J. Kerr. For Yokohama—Mrs. and Miss McClatchie, Mrs. Jas. Bonabeau, Miss L. Klein, Messrs. F. R. Wetmore, R. H. Andersou, John Hart, W. A. Horn, C. David, D. V. King and R. Phœnix. For San Francisco—Messrs. H. Buchanan, P. E. Ray and Thos. Barclay.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Europe*, from Tientsin—12 Chinese. Per str. *Fuyew*, from Hongkong—60 Chinese. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Takasago Maru*, from Japan—Dr. Müller, wife and servant, Capt. Kaasburg, wife and servant, Capt. Mooney, Capt. Bosquet, Messrs. E. B. Souper, McAllister and servant, and P. Young. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, from Japan—Mrs. Chas. S. Coy, Mr. and Mrs. Mulford and child, Mrs. Bayne and two children, Mrs. R. N. Brown, Mrs. S. R. Brown, Miss Smith, Capt. Will, Messrs. F. M. Smith, J. Bryner, D. McLean, Kingdon, J. Prentice and D. D. King; one Japanese. Twenty in steerage. Per str. *Fychow*, from Hankow—One Sister of Mercy. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Messrs. Wetmore, Anderson, Hart, Horne, Bartolini, Bryant, Barclay; Mr. and Mrs. Schonfeld. Per P. & O. str. *Pera*, from Southampton—Mr. and Mrs. Pemett and two children. From Suez—Mr. Ray. From Hongkong—Miss L. M. Fay, Messrs. J. G. Dunn, Edgar, Lemarchand; 82 Chinese. Per str. *Ichang*, from Hankow—Dr. Hallett. From Chinkiang—Mr. Medhurst. Per str. *Shanse*—Messrs. C. R. Thatcher, Walker, J. T. Jackson, and J. Jackson. Per str. *Glengyle*—Messrs. Henderson, Specke, Snethlage, Loam; 60 Chinese. Per str. *China*, from Hongkong—Capt. G. H. Harrington, Mr. H. M. Fleischer; 40 Chinese. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—One European; 53 Chinese. Per P. M. str. *Nevada*, from America—Messrs. Beebe, Buffman and C. C. Blakeslee. From Yokohama—Mrs. F. A. Goddard, Mrs. E. Freeman, Messrs. C. J. Andrews and Clancy; two in the steerage. From Hiogo—Mrs. R. A. Jamieson, two children and servant, Messrs. C. Lucas and servant, R. G. Ogle and servant; two in steerage. Per str. *Appin*—One European.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. str. *Pera*, for Southampton—Mrs. C. B. Clarke and infant. For Venice—Messrs. George Withers and William Mitchell. For Hongkong—Mr. Beyer.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1875.

WE have had more than once to thank the *Pall Mall Gazette* for an intelligent interest in Chinese affairs, contrasting favourably with that of the greater portion of the Press in Great Britain. Since the time of the Burlingame Mission, the *Gazette* has been rather apt to colour its facts with the roseate hue of expectation, and has seldom been content to register what is, without an allusion to what is to be. The plain facts were, that the Chinese had built several arsenals; the inferences which our contemporary desired to put forward on these facts, were that China was on the road to progress. The utter collapse of the arsenals—even in the petty difficulty with Japan—coinciding as it did with our own expressions of opinion as to the extension of those institutions, has not failed to have its effect on the opinions of our contemporary. Still desirous, however, of showing how rapidly affairs are advancing, it takes up three more recent institutions as its evidence of the more wholesome condition of affairs. Of the three, one at least is unfortunate. When the Chinese Government was in the last stage of funk, at the apparently imminent breach with Japan, it was ready to seize on any suggestion which seemed to afford a ray of hope towards extricating itself from its helpless condition. The conduct of affairs fell at first very much on the shoulders of the authorities at Foochow; while Amoy, from its harbour and situation, was the natural base of operations. M. Giquel advised the Provincial Government to lose no time in having a line of telegraph set up between the two. Negotiations were at once entered into with the Great Northern Telegraph Company, and the early completion of the line urged.

> "The devil was ill,
> The devil a saint would be;
> The devil was well,
> The devil a saint was he."

The difficulty with Japan seemed likely to be tided over, and doubts were thrown on the authority under which the line was undertaken. Peace between the two countries was patched up, with the result that the telegraph has been put a stop to altogether. So much for progress in this direction.

We have lately had occasion to speak our opinion with regard to the so-called China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. We do not lay much stress on the fact that that Company was mainly formed with the hope of fighting foreigners with their own weapons, and forcing them, by competition, out of China. Out of evil often good arises, and anything that would lead to real progress, we would gladly welcome, whatever the motives of its origin. We have shown that the

native company, so far from being an institution to benefit trade, was in reality only kept afloat by a most serious interference with it; how its seemingly cheap freights were only met by increased taxation, and how this taxation was applied in keeping up a staff of useless officials, who grew fat out of transporting from the provinces to the Capital, a quantity of rice which, when it got there, was not needed for its supposed purpose of feeding the garrison, and became simply a drug on the market. To collect the tax in kind, has been shown to be a grievous burden on the provinces, affording opportunities eagerly availed of, for peculation and oppression. To forward the rice to Peking, contrary to the natural course of trade, has been shown to require some Taels 300,000, annually, to be raised by additional taxation from the already aggrieved provinces, or an amount nearly equal to that needed for payment of the interest of the debts recently incurred. It is a small matter possibly, but one worthy of record, when speaking of the pretended progress of China, that the tonnage dues raised from the Company's steamers do not contribute one *cash* towards the maintenance of lights or the conservation of harbours.

The third sign of the future progress of China noted, is the advent of Mr. Henderson, with instructions to make preparations for opening the coal and iron mines of Chihli. Now, we quite agree with the *Pall Mall*, that here are the elements of progress, but we have our misgivings as to the actual result. It needed some ingenuity to convert the China Merchants' Co. into an increased burden on the resources of the Empire, and an additional stumbling-block in the developement of healthy trade. Chinese ingenuity has, however, been equal to the occasion; and the same perverseness which has resulted in the failure of the arsenals has not been ineffectual in the other instance. When we see the mine at actual work, and have the opportunity of enquiring into its practical results, we only hope we may have the opportunity of being able to endorse the views of our contemporary. With regard to the *Pall Mall Gazette* itself, we are glad to acknowledge that it has distinguished itself amongst its contemporaries by an intelligent interest in Eastern affairs. Its information has, on the whole, been trustworthy, and in many cases bears evidence of having been drawn from really well-informed quarters. The *couleur de rose* which has undoubtedly marked its speculations with respect to China may, however, have been mainly the result of those sources to which it applied. Foreigners in the employ of the Chinese Government have naturally had, without discredit to themselves, a sufficient amount of *esprit de corps*, and a sufficient personal interest in the *statu quo*, to lead them to lend a roseate hue to their communications. On the other hand, those who were interested with the carrying out of British policy in China, are as naturally averse from stating bare facts which would go far to prove their own want of success. The British Minister whose culminating labour was the composition of the Peking Convention—fortunately never ratified—has, to a certain extent, an interest in painting in glowing terms the intended progress of China, which would have taken place were it not for the rude rejection of his Convention; and, following in the path of the late British Minister, are many who, from an imperfect consideration of the subject or from other motives, were ready to follow the lead set. In seeking its information from such sources, the *Pall Mall* has found, at the same time, elements of strength and weakness. It has avoided the absurdities of its home contemporaries with respect to matters of fact, but, in the bright tinges with which it has overlaid those matters of fact, it is in reality doing an injustice to our permanent interests.

THE MURDER OF MR. MARGARY.

The sad news brought by the mail, of the murder of Mr Margary, in Yunnan, will be read with the deepest regret. Few men who have lately passed through the Shanghai Consulate have been better known than Mr Margary, and every one who knew him esteemed him. We can say with all sincerity that the Service has sustained a great loss by his death, and that very many people in Shanghai have lost a valued friend.

News of Mr. Margary's death appears to have reached Peking quite ten days ago, although we were ignorant of it in Shanghai. They evidently assumed however, in the North, that we should be sure to have had the first information, for a few details of the occurrence are only mentioned casually in a private letter received on Monday by Mr. Medhurst. These go to make the outrage appear of the most brutal and painful character. It is said that Mr. Margary was enticed into one of the yamêns at Manwyne, with three of his Chinese servants, and was there killed, while the rest of the party were attacked but escaped with the loss of all their effects, three Europeans of their number being wounded. It is further stated that Mr. Margary's head was placed on the city wall. Apprehension was also entertained about Mr. Ney Elias, who seems to have separated from the main body of the expedition; but we are glad to hear that private advices have been received, saying he is safe. He had started on a more southerly route, and was turned back by the Chinese officials.

Manwyne, is a town in Yunnan at the foot of the Kakyen passes, and clearly within Chinese territory. It is remarkable that, in a letter to Mr. Medhurst of the 28th January, recording his safe arrival at Bhamo, Mr. Margary mentions this very town where he is said to have been murdered, as a locality where he had spent a week in comparative quiet and enjoyment, while his man Liu went in advance to communicate with Colonel Brown, at Bhamo. It is odd that the inhabitants should have proved so daring and bloodthirsty on the return journey, when he was supported by other Europeans and a considerable band of followers. The inference is clear, from this and from the details, that the murder was done at official instigation. And now that the sad event itself appears beyond doubt, we can almost hope that this part of the information will prove true. For the difficulty of identifying the criminals will then be removed. In any case, such a brutal outrage, on a British official protected by Imperial passport, will surely lead to a demand for stern reparation, and convince the Home Government what sort of civilisation is that possessed by the Country which they have elected to treat as an equal.

It is remarkable that information of the disaster should have failed to reach Shanghai earlier. Mr. Medhurst has hitherto been kept punctually acquainted with the movements of the Mission, by the Commissioner of Rangoon, and received a telegram from him on the 26th March, saying that Mr. Allen was to leave that place on the 28th March, for Shanghai viâ Singapore. This telegram makes no allusion whatever to the catastrophe, so it is to be inferred that an intermediate one has been somehow lost. Mr. Allen, it will be remembered, was also with the Mission, having accompanied it from Rangoon; and his sudden return only corroborates the sad intelligence. Judging from the date of his departure, he will be here by the next English mail, and from him we shall learn particulars of the event.

No official news has been yet received from Peking, of the action which Mr. Wade purposes taking in regard to the murder of Mr. Margary. It is understood, however, that he has taken the case strongly up, threatening even to haul down his flag unless a powerful commission of British and Chinese officers is forthwith delegated to look into the whole case and punish the perpetrators. We cannot hear that anything is yet known as to the result of the negociations; but as there had been time for telegraphic instructions to reach Peking from London, it may perhaps be assumed that Mr. Wade is acting under instructions from home.

It is worthy of note that Calcutta telegrams of the 7th March say orders have been received from England to hold several regiments in India ready for active service. The purpose is not stated, but it was thought likely the attack on Colonel Brown's party had something to do with the preparations. If the Chinese fail to make full reparation, the march of a few thousand men into Yunnan from British Burmah will be easy.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 19th February arrived on the 5th instant, by the P. & O. str. *Pera*.

The American mail of the 13th March arrived yesterday, by the P. M. str. *Nevada*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. str. *Pera*.

The following telegrams have been received during the week :—

An immense Tichborne demonstration took place in Hyde Park yesterday, Dr. Kenealy presiding.

The Spanish Government has refused to allow the Duc de Montpensier to return.

The Biscayan Provinces have refused contributions to Don Carlos.

The Pope has exhorted the Prussian Bishops to continue resistance to Bismark's vote.

Belgium complains of offensive language used by the Clerical Press.

Obituary—Mr. John Martin, M.P. for Meath.

A meeting of shareholders in the China and Japan Marine Insurance Company was held on the 5th April. The accounts shewed a profit on the year's working of Tls. 4,000. This was insufficient to permit the declaration of a dividend. Messrs. Drysdale, Little, Behn, Bade, and Sutherland are directors for the current year.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Yacht Club was held on the 31st March. The minutes of the last meeting, and statement of accounts for the season 1874-75, were passed after some discussion, and the meeting then proceeded to the election of officers, Mr. A. J. Little being re-elected Commodore ; Mr. S. B. Hill, Vice-Commodore ; Mr. J. Wilson, treasurer ; Mr. Dillon, prize-bearer ; Messrs. Coryell and R. Mackenzie, auditors ; Mr. Hewett, treasurer ; Mr. Tucker and Mr. Lambert, hon. treasurers ; and Messrs. Ashley, C. P. Blethen, J. P. Croal, and Viguier (in addition to the ex-officio members), committee of management. The date of the race for the Challenge Cup was left to the decision of the committee ; and with respect to the regulations as to crews for Corinthian races, notices of motion were given by the Commodore and Vice-Commodore, to be brought on at a meeting to be called a fortnight hence, in accordance with rule. A full report will be found on another page.

We print, on another page, a report of proceedings at the annual meeting of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

It will be seen from the minutes which we print elsewhere, that the Chinese Polytechnic Institution is making good progress. The Committee have sufficient funds in hand to justify them in buying ground and erecting a building, and gratifying promises of support have been received from many quarters.

The Minutes of the French Council meeting of the 23rd March, carry us a step further in the negociations about the Yang-king-pang. It will be remembered that the last letter of the French Council suggested the following points for submission to the Arbitrators :—

1st.—Is the Bund in its present position an obstacle to navigation ?

2nd.—Does the encroachment prejudice the interests of property along the line of the creek ?

3rd.—Does not the acceptance by the English Council of a plan of a bridge adapted only for the present (narrowed) width of the creek, vitiate their reclamation ?

The English Council objected to the latter clause, as being not one for submission to arbitration, but at most only an argument. The French Council have consequently agreed to withdraw it ; but wish to substitute another which was accidentally omitted from their first letter :—

"Have encroachments been made by the English Municipal Council on the left bank of the Yang-king-pang ? If so, are these encroachments an obstacle to navigation, and do they prejudice the interests of the bordering land owners ?"

The reply of the Council to this proposal, is awaited.

Further correspondence has also taken place, about the share to be borne by the respective Councils in building or repairing bridges over the Yang-king-pang. The French Council protest again the apparent willingness of the English Council to let the bridges collapse. The question, they urge, is one easily susceptible of adjustment, and if they won't have the French and English Ministers for arbitrators, arbitration in some other way is still the best way of settling it. In the meantime, the French Council are willing to pay half the cost of getting out a new bridge for the Bund end of the creek, on the understanding that they shall be repaid the difference if the point be decided in their favour. The reply of the English Council to this proposal, also, is awaited.—Both Councils equally repudiate the charge of being responsible for any possible interruption of traffic.—A slight give-and-take alteration in the bund line of the Creek, on the French side, between the Rues Petite and Montauban, is mutually agreed to.

The French Gas Co. decline to submit their contract with the Municipality to interpretration at Saigon, because they hold that there is no doubt as to its meaning. The Council think otherwise, and purpose forcing the Company into arbitration.—Messrs. Butterfield & Swire purpose building a shed on the wharf which they have erected in front of the French Bund. —The question of the roads alongside the Ningpo Joss House is to be left in the hands of M. de Rochechouart.

The annual election of a Municipal Council for the English Settlement was held on the 6th and 7th inst. It resulted in the election of Messrs. Cowie, Hart, Heyden, Kidner, Krauss, Lemarchand, Mackenzie, Purdon and Webb. Seven of these gentlemen are members of the old Council. Two—Messrs. Hart and Krauss —are new nominations.

Elections to four vacancies on the French Municipal Council will be held on the 20th April. Two vacancies are caused among the French members, by the resignation of M. Lemonnier and the expiry of Mr. Maignan's term of office ; and two among the Foreign members, by the resignation of M. Lang, and the expiry of Mr. Ewald's term.

It would have been interesting to know something more than is stated in the last Municipal Minutes, about the chance of widening the Hankow road, between the Szechuen and Kiangse roads. We are told that it would be too costly, because it would involve moving back the old Kwongloong junior mess. Of course the Council cannot afford to pay for re-building, and will have to wait until the proprietors think of doing so, before negociating for a few feet of frontage on that particular spot. But we notice that building is going on at the Szechuen road corner. Could not a little widening be done there, to prevent a new building being erected quite on the present line of road ?

The programme has been issued, of the S. V. C. Rifle Meeting, to be held on the 11th, 12th and 13th May. A very good idea is the introduction of two prizes to encourage recruits, which will be shot for on the 27th instant. Practice is going on actively, and some good scoring is being made, notwithstanding the windy weather prevailing.

Telegraphic communication between Shanghai and Amoy is again interrupted.

These few days, ended on the 5th inst., Tsing-ming flowers have been in great demand among the Chinese. It appears that flowers may be plucked anywhere, by anybody, with impunity. Communism in flowers at this season is an established fact. All who have been to ancestral tombs, and there performed the customary rites, on returning, pluck flowers wherever they find them. Lest flowers belonging to foreigners should attract those who know no better than to pluck them, as well as to caution the knowing ones, Chên has issued an admonition in verse, stating that the police will surely apprehend persons found trespassing against the floral rights of foreigners, in which event offenders will be sorry when it is too late.—On and after the 5th, flowers will be found exposed to no special danger. In his admonitory notice, Chên uses the uncomplimentary character "I" to designate foreigners. Perhaps it was to avoid tautology, but quite likely from habit, as officials of every rank persist in its use, when writing of us among themselves.

The French ironclad *Montcalm* left the anchorage Tuesday, and proceeds to Ningpo. The French corvette *Volta* will follow for Ningpo on Friday. Both vessels will then go to Nagasaki, and a French man-of-war will come over to take the place of the *Volta*.

As the M. M. steamer *Iraouaddy* was steaming down the river Friday morning, she fouled the swinging boom of the hulk *Water Witch*, carrying it away and taking the mast out of a houseboat moored to the boom ; passing onwards, before she could swing to the tide she fouled the hulk *Berwick Walls*, and slightly damaged a houseboat moored alongside. Neither did this end her misadventures, for, on crossing the Woosung Bar, she took the ground just outside that obstruction. A telegram despatched to Shanghai stated that she was very slightly aground, and M. Hennequin at once despatched a tug down to assist her, and she was got off on the evening tide. The accidents may be attributed to the strength of the flood tide

We hear that the well-known coasting

steamer *Nanzing* has been purchased by the China Merchants S. S. Co., and that the price was Tls. 20,000.

The remains of two men drowned in the Whangpoo so long ago as December last, have been found by the river police floating during this week. One of the poor fellows was Edward Carpenter, a marine of very good character, belonging to H.M.S. *Ringdove*. On the 19th December he went to visit an acquaintance on board H.M.S. *Modeste*, and returning at night, and quite sober (being, in fact, a teetotaller) he accidentally fell into the river from a sampan and was drowned. His remains were discovered floating among the junks off the native city, and were identified by his uniform and some private marks on his under clothing. The other unfortunate was a seaman of the *Achilles*, who on Christmas Day fell from a sampan while going from Hunt's Wharf to that steamer. His remains were picked up yesterday morning, close to the Naval Yard. Both have been buried.

A collision has occurred between the C. C. S. N. str. *Ocean* and the C. M. S. N. str. *Fusing*, on the voyage between Shanghai and Tientsin. The latter sank immediately, and fifty-five of those on board were drowned. The following particulars of the accident are given by the *Ocean*. The *Ocean* reports having encountered thick weather immediately after leaving Chefoo. On the morning of the collision, she was going at reduced speed, with the whistle sounding when, at 10.40 a.m., the whistle was answered by another steamer on the port bow. The Captain and second officer were on the bridge. Orders were at once given to port the helm, stop the engines, and reverse full speed, which orders were instantly obeyed. The look-outs then reported something right ahead, and in less than one minute she came into collision with the *Fusing*, striking her on the starboard bow close to the fore-rigging. A large hole was knocked in the *Ocean's* port bow, above and below the water line, about 10 feet by 5 feet. The steamer *Fusing* was settling down by the head, and as soon the ships got clear they lost sight of one another. The *Ocean's* boats were all lowered, and proceeded to the assistance of the sinking steamer, being guided by the cries of the Chinese passengers. The *Fusing* foundered almost instantly, and the passengers were clinging to the wreckage. The first boat, in charge of the 2nd officer, picked up the chief officer of the *Fusing* and eleven Chinese, who were floating on a ladder. The second boat, in charge of the 1st officer, picked up eleven more Chinese; and a boat in charge of the second and third officers, rescued 13 others; and a 4th boat was despatched in charge of the 3rd engineer. Only one boat belonging to the *Fusing* got clear of the wreck, with the European portion of the crew, (except of Mr. Stewart, the third engineer, who was drowned) and some Chinese—23 in all. After putting the rescued men on board the *Ocean*, the boats returned and searched for over two hours amongst the wreckage for any other survivors. The compradore was found floating, quite dead. Many of the Chinese saved had sustained severe bruises, and had an arm or a leg broken; their wants were attended to as soon as possible. All attention was then given to the condition of the *Ocean*; the hole in the bow was blocked up with planks and bags of rice, and all hands—crew and passengers, were set to work to jettison the cargo (which consisted mostly of bean-cake) out of the fore compartment. By midnight, the ship was sufficiently lightened to enable her to proceed for the nearest port. Two Chinese died on board the *Ocean*, and their bodies, with that of the compradore, were brought to Shanghai. The C. M. steamer *Nanzing* was despatched to the scene of the disaster yesterday, in the hope that some of the bodies may be recovered.

H.M. gunvessel *Frolic*, which left Shanghai on the 6th of December, as was then stated, for the East Indies, on arriving at Hongkong received orders to proceed instead to the Sulu Seas and cruise off the coasts of Labuan and Borneo. One evening in January she ran on an unknown rock, and remained fast for about four hours, when she fortunately got off without material damage. Having performed her mission, she returned to Hongkong and was there docked and repaired, afterwards resuming her voyage to Shanghai, where she arrived on Tuesday. She encountered rough weather on the passage up, and was obliged to anchor on more than one occasion. The Sulu Seas were surveyed by H.M.S. *Sylvia*, but the rock on which the *Frolic* struck is not marked in the Admiralty charts.

Our readers will be amused by a paragraph which we reprint from the *London & China Express*. The little "self-glorification" in which we often indulge at St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's dinners, is taken extremely *au serieux*, and we are put coldly down into our proper place. But what is most notable, is the test by which we are tried. We habitually neglect to attend meetings of the N.-C. Branch of the Asiatic Society! That is the standard, and by it we are condemned.

The *China Mail* notes the following movements in the Consular service:—Mr. Hewlett, who was to have succeeded Sir Brooke Robertson, as Consul at Canton, has been struck down with fever, so that in all probability Sir Brooke's departure will be delayed for a considerable period. Mr. T. Watters, who has arrived in Hongkong from the North, is on his way to relieve Mr. Frater at Swatow, the latter gentleman proceeding to Amoy to take the place of Mr. Phillips, who will act as Consul in room of Mr. Pedder transferred to Foochow. Mr. Sinclair, the present Consul at that port, will proceed home by the second mail in April.

A correspondent sends us an account of a race meeting held at Newchwang on the 20th March. It appears to have been wedged in between a rainfall and a snowstorm, but to have been thoroughly successful in spite of difficulties.—There were five steamers in port on the 26th—four loading for the South and one for Nagasaki.—Messrs. Bush Bros.' Circular says:—Manufactures have arrived in considerable lots, and the natives are not very anxious to come forward with offers, for fear that further supplies may overstock the market. Malwa—last sales, Tls. 460 per chest. Produce quotations are:—Beancake, Tls. 2.98 per 10 ps.; Peas, Tls. 2.20 per 300 c.; Oil, Tls. 2.20 per picul.

Our Tientsin correspondent gives a connected history of the late troubles at that port, which will be read with interest. Of course, a good deal of the ground has been gone over before, but a good deal of new matter is introduced, and the letter forms a lucid and complete exposition of the affair. The Viceroy has replied in very vague terms, to a petition from the merchants against the new mode of levying barrier dues, but it seems to be understood at Tientsin that the project will be abandoned. The Customs Taotai will retain his post until the arrival of the Cantonese, Li Chaou-lang, who was gazetted to the appointment in November last, but has been prevented from taking it up. The retention of the Taotai in office seems confirmatory evidence that he was acting with Li's knowledge. A reconciliation seems to have been arrived at between him and the Territorial Taotai, for we hear they both dined with Li Hung-chang on the 30th.

Messrs. Spencer & Wolff of Chinkiang, write on the 5th April:—Extensive sales of piece goods have been made during the week, at advancing rates, but advices received from Shanghai this morning have tended to check any further rise; the market, however, closes steady at quotations.

The only late news from Nagasaki is that the steamer *Courier* arrived from Newchang on the 1st April, and that the weather has been as changeable as it has been in Shanghai. On Tuesday it hailed, and blew very strongly. Wednesday was rainy, with thunder and lightning; Thursday, though fine, was very cold.

From Yunnan we have, viâ Rangoon, telegraphic information that the Exploring Expedition from Burmah was attacked at Manwyne, and compelled to return; and that Mr. Margary and three of his Chinese servants were murdered. It is believed that Mr. Wade demands the despatch of a joint Commission of British and Chinese Officials, to investigate the outrage on the spot.

The *Foochow Herald* says severe fighting is reported from Formosa. The aborigines are said to be well armed—better in fact than the Chinese troops. The Footai will leave for Tai-wan-foo in a few days, and will assume entire control in Formosa.

The American ship *Bunker Hill*, which caught fire and was sunk in Manila harbour on the 3rd ulto., is again afloat, and efforts are being made to get the cargo, consisting of hemp, sugar and molasses, removed as speedily as possible, in order to fully ascertain the amount of damage done, which appears to have been very considerable. The contract for raising the vessel was taken by Messrs. Wilke and Earnshaw, at $9,000, and the time occupied 29 days. The damaged cargo is being sold by auction.

Summaries of Foochow, Hongkong, and Japan news will be found on another page.

Editorial Selections.

FORMOSA.

A DECIDED advantage has ensued from the quarrel between China and Japan, in the attention which it has drawn to Formosa. Shên Pao-chen, the Special Commissioner who has been appointed to regulate Formosan affairs, appears to be going about his work sensibly, and the Peking Government seem willing to be guided by his advice. His last move has been to abolish the extraordinary restrictions on emigration, and on certain branches of trade in Formosa. It is decidedly curious that, at a time when China was sustaining, at the risk of war, her claim to Formosa as an integral part of Chinese territory, there should have been in force a law making emigration thither from the mainland a penal offence. Shên Pao-chen has discovered an old enactment, as follows:—"The surreptitious crossing over to For-"mosa by people of the mainland, is "forbidden. On any vessel making the "surreptitious voyage being captured, "the master and crew shall be punished, "penalties shall be inflicted on the "civil and military authorities, and the "soldiers and police shall be criminally "dealt with." Persons emigrating were to receive 100 blows, and persons decoying others to emigrate were to be banished. Penalties were also enjoined for crossing into the territory of the savages, which was carefully marked off. Penalties were enjoined on officials who let traders pass these limits, and intermarriage with the aborigines was equally forbidden. The Japanese might have founded no mean argument on all this, to sustain their claim that the Eastern half of Formosa was not Chinese territory. A district so carefully fenced off, so perfectly isolated, could be hardly claimed under the law that a State must be fulfilling the duties of Government, in any given country, in order to have a valid claim to sovereignty. However, that is all passed, and Shên Pao-chen has now procured the removal of the restrictions which hindered the population and improvement of the island. The Peking *Gazette* of the 15th February contains an edict removing the prohibition upon emigration, and removing also an extraordinary prohibition which formerly existed upon trade in iron and bamboos. According to a long-standing rule, no person was allowed to engage in the business of iron-founding, for the manufacture of domestic or agricultural implements, without a license from the Treasurer of Fuhkien; and the iron used was to be brought from Changchow, under penalties for the unauthorized extraction of native ore. Another prohibition was against the exportation of bamboos, the object being to prevent the supply of materials for sails and stagings to piratical junks. And the Commissioner explains that, in virtue of this prohibition, bamboos transported from point to point in the neighborhood of the ports were subject to inspection, and were subjected to frequent extortion on the part of the soldiery and police. These restrictions, as we have said, are removed by the same edict, which goes on to approve the Commissioner's design for bringing the waste lands of the interior under cultivation. Thanks to the prohibition against emigration, the Chinese have not penetrated beyond a fringe of coast. "With the exception," writes Shên Pao-chen, "of the lands "occupied by the aboriginal tribes, the "whole interior of Formosa is unin-"habited. Lands which might be culti-"vated, lie waste, overgrown with forest, "and sending forth pestilential miasma; "a refuge for the savage aborigines, who "lie in wait there for victims of their "murderous designs." The picture is highly coloured, but not far from true; and the Commissioner deserves every credit for the steps he is taking to develope the resources of the island. Now that he is encouraged instead of hindered, the persevering Chinaman will steadily press backward the barbarian line, and the naturally fertile soil will be gradually recovered to better uses. That Formosa should have flourished at all under the treatment it hitherto experienced at the hands of the Government, says volumes for its natural capability. The only fear, now, is that the process of organisation it is about to undergo may involve the introduction of a locust-flight of officials who will impede, by squeezing, harrassing, and generally obstructing trade, all the good Shên Pao-chen is trying to do by legislation. We have heard enough of official taxation in Formosa—the camphor monopoly, and more recent impositions on tea and coal, for instance; and Shên will find ample room for extending free trade principles beyond the two local industries he has named, besides taking care that these principles are not neutralised in other directions. Under wise government, Formosa may become a very valuable province; and the measures which have been recently taken to develope its resources tend, so far, in the right direction. Already we are told that two thousand families are setting out from the ports of Foochow, Amoy and Swatow, for the purpose of settling in the new district opened up to them. That the movement will involve collision with the aborigines, can hardly be doubted; there have been already severe encounters between these and the Imperial troops, since the Japanese withdrew. And one blot on the prospect held out, is the treatment which the natives are likely to suffer at the hands of a brutal soldiery. It is hardly likely that they will amalgamate with the new settlers; nor is it likely that they will allow themselves to be quietly driven back; yet the colonists must be supported; and it is to be feared the Mandarins will not restrain their men in the future, more than they have in the past. Still the aborigines seem, from what we have heard, good for better things than extinction.

THE TIENTSIN DEADLOCK.

THE recent dispute in Tientsin is at the same time one of the most curious and instructing events which have occurred in China within recent years. Division of labour is usually considered a mark of increasing civilisation, and the manner in which the Chinese continue to mix together, in the same office, judicial, military, and financial affairs, has often excited the surprise of Foreigners. It is, however, very curious to observe how completely the attempt to separate the departments broke down at Tientsin. In China, so far is the custom of isolation carried, that officials of corresponding station have little intercommunication. Each mandarin is supposed to look after his subordinates, and obey his immediate superior. Practically speaking, he is untrammelled, except by the possible secondary results of his actions. He is a judge, but, as a judge, he makes law for himself. He is officer of the troops, and drills, or has them drilled, as seems best in his eyes. He collects revenue; and, provided he hands to his superiors the customary amounts, excites no outrageous complaints, and manages to get through his term of office without a public riot or demonstration, no questions are asked as to the means by which he has raised it. His office is supposed to be autonomous; he is given all power, and takes all responsibility. The one great object he is to set before him, is to avoid any popular commotion. In this last, practically speaking, lies—now that the Government of China has become a cumbrous old machine, out of gear, and only carrying on by the *vis inertiæ* of its former activity—the only assurance that officialdom shall not degenerate into pure tyranny. In the case of Tientsin, the division of labour seemed in a great measure to take away that responsibility. Taotai Sun was entrusted with getting in the money; Taotai Wu, with soothing the payers. The former knew that, for any reasonable amount of discontent, Wu, and not he, would in the ordinary course of events be held liable, while he would have all the advantages to be derived from an increase in the revenue collected. Sun would, in all probability, get away before any serious disturbance took place, with the fruits of his cleverness, while Wu would be left to bear the responsibility of discontent within his jurisdiction. Such, in ordinary cases, would have been the result. But Sun had excited the fears of a powerful body, and fear will often impel men to more desperate measures than courage. The obnoxious rules for levying taxes on trade, evidently were but part of a machinery which could be made use of for raising still further exactions. The Foreign Customs were able to give an accurate report of the goods which came under their observation, and, unlike the Native offices, the books were regularly made up, and kept open for inspection. To turn this machinery beyond the purpose for which it was intended—of raising a Maritime Revenue—was the happy idea which suggested itself to Sun Taotai's mind. As the Customs Returns would be there to tell tales of every man's business, and the Taotai was in the mood for collecting as much money as he could before quitting his post—the merchants engaged in the foreign trade of the port not unnaturally took alarm. Overt action on their part they knew was usless, so they took the only course which, to their peculiarly Chinese minds, seemed open—namely, rigid abstention from business. They knew that Taotai Sun would by such means be hurt in his most tender point—his pocket; and they likewise knew that, however desirous he might be of forcing them to trade, he had scarcely the means at his command which should

convert a man into a merchant against his will. True, they lost, themselves, heavily by such a course. They were forced to hold over goods, and lose markets and interest on investments; but another force would, by this very means, be called into the field. Not only they, but a large portion of the population of Tientsin had come to be dependent on the trade by Foreign vessels. Boatmen, barrowmen, muleteers, and small dealers had all their own personal interests at stake. As they lived but from day to day on their earnings, they would soon get uneasy; and as they had nothing to lose, but possibly some plunder to gain from a disturbance, they would be ready to engage in any desperate undertaking at a moment's notice. Though to Taotai Sun, who only had charge of the financial department, this might seem a light matter, Taotai Wu, who was responsible for the peace of his district, looked upon it as decidedly serious. Still, as each was supreme in his own way, and neither was desirous of consulting the other, affairs became so serious that a *deus ex machinâ* in the person of the Viceroy had to be invoked. Though it is scarcely possible that Taotai Sun would have attempted to enforce his new system without an understanding with his superior, it has been apparently found advisable to rescind the objectionable rules. In the interests of trade, both Native and Foreign, we are well pleased at the issue. The determination of the merchants has won the day, while they remain free from any overt charge. We have seen a curious book, where *vis inertiæ* was attempted to be raised to the status of an independent force. Had the author only lived in China, he might possibly have found ampler illustrations of his theory than the laws of nature elsewhere afforded him.

INDIAN TEA.

In continuation of our recent sketch of the history of tea planting in Assam, it may not be uninteresting to add a general remarks—quoting the same authority as before—upon tea cultivation in the Bengal Presidency. Tea, it appears, is cultivated to a greater or less extent in five divisions in Bengal, viz., Assam, Dacca, Kuch Behar, Chittagong, and Chota Nagpur, which rank in importance in the order named; Chota Nagpur, however, is perhaps hardly worth mentioning, as less than 900 acres are said to be under cultivation, and even Chittagong is not much more important.

It is considered that on the whole tea is in a better position, and that its prospects are more hopeful in Cachar (Dacca Division) than in any of the other districts. This district has three disadvantages:—(1) many of the Gardens are planted on the sides of steep hills, the soil of which is liable to be washed away by the heavy rains; (2) the soil is in many cases inferior; and (3) the class of plant is, as a rule, not good, there being some 70 per cent. of the China variety, 20 per cent. of hybrid, and 10 per cent. of indigenous. The first two drawbacks are probably exaggerated and admit of easy remedy, but the third is more serious, for the hard leaf of the China shrub costs more in manufacturing than the soft leaf of the other kinds, and is less valuable. Against this, however, must be set the fact that the China plant is very hardy and yields leaf when the other more delicate species would be worth nothing; besides, with higher cultivation and changed conditions of existence, it is thought that it may improve. Against these drawbacks Cachar has many advantages; the climate is particularly well suited for tea, more so indeed than that of Assam or the Darjiling Terai; the labour question does not seem likely to cause any difficulty; and the planters there have made more progress than those of any other district in substituting scientific methods in cultivation and manufacture for the crude experiments which caused much loss in earlier times.

In Assam the two most important districts are Seebsagar and Durrung, and it is generally supposed that the soil and climate of the former are preeminently suited for tea, but some give the preference to the latter. Seebsagar, however, has an immense advantage over both Cachar and Darjiling in the superiority of its plant, which is chiefly hybrid. The Durrung teas, too, are stated to be of the finest quality consistent with a large outturn, but the district is unfortunately peculiarly unsuitable to imported labourers; there are also, it seems, some complaints in Seebsagar—though only in minor districts—of an inadequacy in the supply of labour. Notwithstanding this, a strong desire is evinced to extend cultivation largely in the latter district, a fact which may be the cause of much future difficulty.

In the Darjiling district (Kuch Behar division) there are two distinct tea-growing tracts, in which the industry is carried on under totally different conditions. In the high hills, where the levels of the cultivated land range from 2,500 to 5,500 feet of altitude, the soil is in many respects the best of any tea district, but this great advantage is more than counterbalanced by the steepness of the hills, and the comparative unsuitability of the climate; the greater proportion of the plants, too, are of the China species and below the average in quality. The labour difficulty, however, does not at present exist to any appreciable extent, and moreover machinery has been employed with much success. The climate of the Terai, again, is not so well suited to tea as that of Assam or Cachar, the soil is not nearly so good as that of the hill-districts, and the labour question is a very serious difficulty, so serious indeed that for many reasons it would appear to be almost insuperable.

Before proceeding to sum up briefly the conclusions arrived at in the Report, it may not be out of place to mention here the outturn of tea in the various divisions in the year 1872. Assam with its five districts produced 6,150,764 lbs., of which 1,500,000 lbs. were grown by the Assam Company. The outturns of the Dacca and Kuch Behar divisions were 5,296,169 lbs. and 2,955,926 lbs. The unimportant divisions of Chittagong and Chota Nagpur only raised 204,112 lbs. and 53,200 lbs. respectively.

After stating his opinion that no encouragement given by Government can help to the development of the tea industry in Bengal beyond certain limits imposed by the conditions of labour, food supply, &c., Mr. J. W. Edgar concludes his elaborate report in the following terms:—In dealing with land, I think that the question of labour should not be left out of sight. . . I think, too, that speculation and land-jobbing should be discouraged, and that no land should be alienated without most careful previous survey and demarcation. In dealing with the labour question, no opportunity should be lost of encouraging free labour. . . . For the rest, roads and other means of communication towards and within the tea districts should be pushed forward as rapidly as the resources of the Empire may allow, and no means should be left untried to encourage the increase of the local population and of the cultivation of food-staples in these districts.

THE TRADE OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Shanghai has scarcely the same interest in the trade of San Francisco, as have the Southern ports of China and those of Japan. Indeed, so far from increasing our connection with that port, statistics go to prove that the value of our trade has for the last few years been diminishing rather than otherwise. Still, placed *en rapport* as we are with the Golden State, we are disposed to offer her our congratulations on the very successful year she has passed through. We can do this with all the more sincerity that our own experience of the year has been different; and that although, in such circumstances, we might be credited with the possession of envy, hatred, malice, and uncharitableness, we are the more prepared to look with hope for the future, and from the success of our neighbour (shall we call it?) across the Pacific, to draw a good augury for our own eventual success. The *Commercial Herald and Market Review* of 14th of January, with praiseworthy diligence, gives a full and lucid review of the trade of the past year. San Francisco has so magnificent a territory behind it, and is so admirably situated, that it is no wonder the commerce of the port is increasing at such a rate that it bids fair ere long to rival the great sea-ports of the Atlantic. At present, as a producing district, California is making rapid strides. Its wheat market has long been celebrated, and annually increases, as the means of communication with the interior are perfected. Unlike China, the Government of the State fully appreciates the condition of affairs, so that, if the concessions made to railways seem magnificent, they are in reality more than repaying the State in the flood of prosperity on which it seems to have entered. Wool is likewise an important staple; the value of the year's export amounting to no less than eight million dollars. Wine is becoming an article of importance in the export trade; Californian wines to the value of $400,000 having been exported by sea during the year, exclusive of large amounts sent overland. The only fear seems to be that the Californians, in their anxiety to make their State yield every necessary or

luxury of life, may endeavour to develope the number rather than the amount of its staples.

It is of course to its yield of the precious metals, that California more immediately owes its present position. Money is not only the sinews of war, but also of trade, and when the available capital of the State is increased by the production, during twelve months, of 85 millions of dollars' worth of gold and silver, all exchangeable for the products of industry, we have a clue to its present condition. California so far has made a wise use of its producing power, and has laid the foundation of a permanent prosperity. Compared with Shanghai, we may notice some curious contrasts. San Francisco imported in 1874 some thirty-one-and-a-half million dollars worth of foreign goods, and exported about twenty-eight-and-a-half. Shanghai imported of foreign goods as nearly as possible double the amount, in addition to a coasting import of over fifty millions of dollars. It exported goods to the value of some eighty-six millions of dollars, or as nearly as possible three times the export of San Francisco. Yet San Francisco thrives on its trade, and can afford to build marble palaces, while Shanghai sits down in mud and plaster. In one case the trade is of a progressive nature; in the other it seems to stagnate, and brings no profit to any one engaged. More than four thousand ships, with a burden of a million-and-a-half tons entered San Francisco during the year. Upwards of eighteen hundred, with a burden of eleven hundred thousand tons, entered Shanghai in the year 1873—so that San Francisco, while more than doubling the number of ships, reckoned only an extra tonnage of four hundred thousand. Comparisons are odious, but there is certainly some reason why, with such statistics, the recent prosperity of the two sea-ports should be so different. The figures quoted for Shanghai, again, refer only to foreign trade, or trade in foreign ships—the large native trade is left out of account. The population of San Francisco is now some 240,000,—living in one of the finest cities in the world. That of Shanghai, natives and foreigners, is about 300,000, of whom the greater number live in dwellings—that are not palaces.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

By the *Leeyuen*, which left this morning for Shanghai, I despatched the intelligence to you that His Excellency Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General, had returned to this, late in the afternoon of the 24th instant, from Paouting; and that it was reported that His Excellency Sun, the Customs Taotai, had sent in his resignation to the Governor-General.

As far as I can accertain this evening, it is not known what steps the Governor-General will take relative to the collection of the Barrier taxes or dues; but it is supposed, from the report of the Customs Taotai having resigned, that his new system has not been deemed satisfactory. Taking it for certain that the Customs Taotai will vacate his post, the person who will fill it will require some time, say two or three days, to take over the accounts, monies, and seal; so, should it be intended that a proclamation shall be issued to cancel the system which had been contemplated by Sun Szeta, we cannot look for this document till the new acting Customs Taotai shall be in charge. In the meantime, the stoppage of trade still exists to a large extent. I am not yet aware that the Tientsin dealers have resolved to take their goods from the foreign godowns in the settlement, and from the Bund, which is covered at this moment with merchandize, and carry them to their warehouses in town. I also hear that the principal hongs still remain closed.

I have just learned that there is a report in town this afternoon, that a Censor has memorialized the Imperial Regents in relation to the stoppage of trade at Tientsin; and that the blame is thrown upon the Governor-General, the superior of the Customs Taotai, Sun Szeta. Rumour says that the Governor-General has to-day memorialized the Regents on the tenor of the Censor's observations, and on the situation of affairs generally at Tientsin at this moment. I should think that the Governor-General will have no difficulty in replying satisfactorily to the attack; the Barrier dues were levied before, and it is the new manner only of the Taotai's levying them now, which is objected to by the merchants.

In the *Peking Gazette* of the 22nd March, there is a Decree appointing Tseng-kwo-tseuen (brother of the celebrated Tseng-kwo-fan) Governor of the province of Shense.

25th March.

In my letter of the evening of the 25th inst., I mentioned that I had heard that H. E. Sun-sze-ta had, that day, handed to the Viceroy his resignation as acting Customs Taotai. From this act, the public might be imagined to infer that the policy which he had been lately pursuing, relative to the manner of levying the Barrier taxes, had been deemed a mistake by his Superior.

Since Sun-sze-ta has, through his late action in endeavouring to establish a new system for the collection of the Barrier taxes, obtained a notoriety which will make him an historical character, it has occurred to me that it will be not inappropriate to cast a glance over his career, from the time when he first made his appearance at Tientsin, as a protégé of H. E. Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General of Chihli, and Imperial High Commissioner for Foreign Affairs.

On the 4th June last, soon after Sun-sze-ta's arrival at Tientsin, from Shanghai, he first came into contact with foreign officials at this port, as one of Li's attachés, in connection with negotiating the Peruvian Treaty, in concert with Chiu Kiu, the then Customs Taotai; and during the many consultations and discussions which took place, in relation to the arranging of that international event, we are aware that Sun-sze-ta took a very active and prominent part. After the signing of the Peruvian Treaty, and on the former Customs Taotai, Chiu Kiu, suddenly, on the 28th July last, ceasing to hold office, Li Hung-chang appointed Sun-sze-ta to fill the vacant post—a very lucrative one—of Customs Taotai, till the arrival of an official who might be appointed permanently by the Central Government; and which, as we subsequently learnt from the *Peking Gazette* of the 29th Nov. last, appointed Le-chaou-tang, an officer then holding the post of Customs Taotai in Formosa. Sun-sze-ta is by profession an official lawyer, one of a class of official men employed, and in general handsomely paid, by the territorial authorities as private advisers in regard to judicial cases and official (territorial) business generally. They are almost always natives of the prefecture of Shaou-hing in Chehkeang province, of which Sun-sze-ta is a native.

On the 5th March, Sun-sze-ta, as acting Customs Taoutai, issued a proclamation informing the Chinese traders engaged in the Tientsin import traffic that he would hereafter levy the Barrier taxe 卡稅 on all native merchandize 土貨 imported in steamers or sailing vessels, immediately after the payment of the sea or Custom House foreign tariff duties, in order, as he affirmed, to prevent in future the evasion of the payment of the Barrier taxes; the records of the Custom House shewing, he further stated, that the evasion of the payment of the Barrier taxes, under the old system of collecting them, had, when the goods were about going into the interior, hitherto been constant. Up to the present time, the Chinese *inland* traders had paid, or were supposed to have paid all the Barrier taxes when on the point of taking their import merchandize from Tientsin into the interior; and the *importing* traders into Tientsin had had nothing whatever to do with such payments. The new system was impracticable, as a moment's consideration shews. The importing traders were not likely to sell a parcel of goods to one inland trader to convey in one direction; but would in all probability sell portions of a parcel of goods to several inland traders; one of whom would go North, another South, another West, and so on; and as the pass, received on the payment of the Barrier taxes, could only accompany one of the portions, the other portions of the original parcel ran the risk of being called upon to pay Barrier taxes again. And the importing traders, being besides led to understand, from information acquired from the Customs officials (and which information was later corroborated by that received at the Customs by Mr. Sheppard, the Consul for the U. S. of America at this port), that all their imported merchandize, no matter whether native or foreign, would be called upon to pay the Barrier taxes immediately after the payment of the import tariff duties—they came to the resolution to refuse to take delivery of their goods from the steamers, and to leave them under the charge of the agents of the steamers, to be landed on the British Settlement Bund, or to be stored in their warehouses till they could come to an arrangement, on a satisfactory basis, with the Customs.

As the new system of the Customs Taotai for levying the Barrier taxes had likewise a detrimental effect upon the steamer traffic, and on the foreign import traffic generally, the British, American, and German merchants of the port, on the 8th instant, addressed their respective Consuls on the situation. Mr. Mongan, H.B.M.'s Consul, during the afternoon of the 9th instant, sent a message to the Customs Taotai, through the Acting Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Twinem, telling him that if he levied Barrier taxes on foreign merchandize, he, the Consul, would deem it his duty to protest against such a proceeding. After receiving a message in reply, Mr. Mongan sent a despatch to H.B.M.'s Minister at Peking on the subject, and on the state of affairs generally. Mr. Bismark, Consul for the Emperor of Germany, and Mr. Sheppard, Consul for the U. S. of America, during the afternoon of the 9th instant, had a personal interview with the Taotai at his yamên, respecting the state of affairs. About 9 o'clock in the evening of the same day, the Customs Taotai issued a second proclamation, which was posted near the gates of the different foreign hongs in the British Settlement, distinctly stating that the Barrier taxes would only be levied at the Custom house upon native merchandize, and not upon foreign merchandize. On the 10th instant, the importing traders commenced taking delivery of their goods from the Bund, and from the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chihli* to convey them to town to their warehouses there. On the 11th March, the import traffic had again apparently begun to go on as formerly.

During the afternoon of the 17th inst., however, Sun-sze-ta issued another

proclamation (his third one) calling upon the Tientsin importing traders to pay up all the Barrier taxes remaining unpaid upon all native goods which had been imported during the last half of the past year; and at the same time ordering them to make the payments before the 22nd March, or failing to do this they would be punished by fines.

This proclamation, as a matter of course, created a great sensation amongst the Chinese mercantile classes of Tientsin. Meetings were subsequently held to discuss, and consult about, the latest action of the Customs Taotai; and to decide, finally, upon what steps they should take to meet the exigency of their situation. On the 21st instant, one day before the new system of the Customs Taotai would come into operation, the owners of the shops and hongs in Tientsin closed their places of business and rigorously refused to sell anything; and we later learnt that they had resolved, at their final meeting, to stop doing all business till they could have their grievances redressed satisfactorily by an authority superior to the Customs Taotai.

Late on the day of the 22nd instant, we heard that the Chehien (district Magistrate) and the Chefoo (the prefect) had that day called together on the Customs Taotai, to advise him to cancel his new plan for collecting the Barrier taxes, and to fall back on the old system, as the public peace of the city was seriously menaced by his action. It was rumoured afterwards, that Sun-sze-ta told them that it was his duty as Customs Taotai to adopt efficient measures for the collection of the Customs revenue; and that it was, at the same time, their duty, as territorial authorities, to preserve order and tranquility at Tientsin. On the following day, the Chehien and the Chefoo issued proclamations, advising the mercantile classes to open their shops and hongs and resume business. The Territorial Taotai, on that day, called on the Customs Taotai to remonstrate with him on the new measure he had adopted for the collection of the Barrier taxes; and we were told later that the Customs Taotai informed him that he was resolved to adhere to the rule he had promulgated in his proclamations, the collection of the Imperial revenue demanding him to do so. The Territorial Taotai returned to his yamên, and shortly afterwards issued a proclamation calling upon the people to open their places of business; and telling them he would for the present stand by them. Late in the afternoon, some few shops opened, apparently for business; and, on the following morning, some of the import traders came to the Settlement to take delivery of cargo; but at 11 a.m. they stopped work, for they had, they said, received intelligence from town that the resumption of business at present would be injurious to their interests, as the matters in dispute had not been definitively settled.

Late in the afternoon of the 24th inst., H. E. Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General, arrived here from Paouting. On the evening of the 25th instant, it was stated in the Settlement that the Customs Taotai Sun-sze-ta had sent in his resignation to the Governor-General.

Paouting city lies 350 *li* or 117 miles English; and Peking 240 *li* or 80 miles English, from Tientsin. While Li Hung-chang resides for the winter season at Paouting, it is perfectly easy for the Chinese authorities at Tientsin, by the Government horse couriers, to send a dispatch to Paouting in twenty (20) hours; a dispatch would of course take the same time to come from Paouting to Tientsin. If we then give the Governor-General a period of eight hours to read a dispatch and to write a reply to it, we see that written communication can be kept up between the two cities in forty-eight hours. The Customs Taotai's first proclamation was issued on the 5th March, and his third on the 17th March. H. E. Li Hung-chang would, I am sure, have learnt of the last one on the 18th March. We must bear in mind that there are, at Tientsin, besides the Customs Taotai, several other officials—territorial and military—namely, the Chehien, the Chefoo, the territorial Taotai, the military Chintai, the Southern Legion Tetuh, the Salt Taotai, the superintendent of the Arsenal, &c.; and as it may be reasonably supposed that the Customs Taotai, like the rest of mankind, has his unfriends, I consider it quite impossible that some of those officials did not give H. E. Li Hung-chang frequent news of passing events—even if Sun-sze-ta himself had not done so, which I feel sure he would constantly do in his own interest. Hence, if Sun-sze-ta had not been acting in accordance with the approval of H. E. Li Hung-chang, the latter could have easily stayed proceedings and cancelled any obnoxious regulation. Li Hung-chang arrived here on the afternoon of the 24th instant, six days ago; yet, up to the present hour, *no public proclamation* has appeared, cancelling the Customs Taotai's new system, as promulgated in his three proclamations of the 5th, 9th and 17th March. I wish it to be understood that the public ought not to hold the Customs Taotai entirely responsible for the new system he wished to establish for the collection of the Barrier taxes; but that he was clearly acting by the approval of his Superior. He was not exacting new taxes, but was only levying the usual Barrier taxes in a different manner from that pursued formerly. We have seen that the new system could not be carried into practice, because it was established on erroneous ideas as to the working of the Tientsin inland traffic. There was—on the part of their Excellencies Li Hung-chang and Sun-sze-ta—simply an error of judgment in trying to establish a system which was unfitted for the Tientsin trade. It cannot be shewn that there was any intention to add new duties to those already in existence. There is no doubt, however, that the attempt to establish a new system of levying Barrier taxes has caused a great deal of injury to the Tientsin trade. News of the late events will have gone inland to the traders, and will have caused them to go to other markets, Chinkiang and Hankow, rather than come here.

Rumour says that Sun-sze-ta has been calling on the Governor-General at least once, if not twice, daily since the latter's return to Tientsin. The Censors at Peking—the China Press—could not avoid taking notice of the Tientsin stoppage of trade; and it will require considerable display of ability on the part of the Governor-General's six private secretaries (she yē), and Sun-sze-ta, to word the Report for the Government to foil the prying investigations of the Censors. The Censors' memorials to the Throne, and the Governor-General's replies will be well worth the study of students of Chinese, as able writing for the occasion.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 27th March, the death of the Empress Kea-shun, wife of the late Emperor Tung-che, is announced as having taken place that morning between 3 and 4 o'clock. We had heard here for some days back that the Empress was seriously ill and expected to die. The Chinese here say that she was leading a miserable, unhappy life, and that she must have welcomed death, although only 17 years of age. For a Manchow lady, she was considered very accomplished, being able both to read and write Chinese easily.

PURITAN.

30th March.

Subjoined is a translation of the answer given by Li Hung-chang to the Tientsin merchants' petition, which appears to be as vague as possible. It seems to be understood, however, at Tientsin, that the Viceroy has really overruled the Customs Taotai's action, and that business will go on as before.

"In regard to the Fookien and Canton Merchants' Petition—according to trading regulations, originally instituted, native merchandise arriving at Tientsin by steamers or sailing ships, after paying half duty at the Foreign Customs has to pay (full) duty at the (native) Customs, and by what reason should merchants expect to have this lessened? Since the opening of the Foreign Customs, old regulations as to payment of duties at the Native Customs have continued to be in force. Recently, the Territorial Taotai and others, after deliberation with the Hai-Kwan Taotai, already issued a proclamation, and there is no occasion for you merchants to make more ado about the matter. As to the statement that a rebate was formerly allowed on duties paid, and stated terms fixed for payment, probably this has been merely a temporary measure of expedience without being recognised in the rules laid down in writing.—At the same time, taking into consideration the fact that trade has not yet recovered from the effects of floods and scarcity; therefore, the Customs Taotai will, in the matter of weights, as well as everything else, expeditiously take action in a satisfactory manner, as expediency requires, and send in his report, that consideration may thus be shown. Nor must you merchants think of making clandestine profit by smuggling, and then trump up excuses for opposing the authorities. Copies of the petition under consideration, and its enclosure are sent (to the Taotai). As to the Petition from the Ginger and Chow-chow Cargo Dealers of Tientsin, the reply to the Canton and Fookien petition also applies to this. In regard to the Petition from the medicine and other shops, as far as their statements coincide to some extent with the Canton and Fookien Petitions, the Customs Taotai will examine old regulations and take effective action as expedience requires.

23rd of 2nd moon.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* says Mr Sinclair, for many years Her Majesty's representative at Foochow, was to leave for home on the 27th. The best wishes of the community go with him. It is uncertain whether he will return.—The same paper says: An early tea-picking is anticipated, owing to the mildness of the weather. First crop Congous are expected to arrive a fortnight sooner than last year.—The *Man Chien Lieu* contain an account of disturbances at Shukong, in connection with an alleged desecration of graves. The people of the place appear to be in a state of great excitement, and troops have been called out.—The *Herald* says: The Min Magistrate went down toward the lower part of his district some days ago, with a a force of a thousand soldiers. A report was abroad that he had gone to arrest and punish the people who destroyed the telegraph. There is not probably the slightest truth in the report, as the depredations were mainly committed in the Fuh-tsing district, where the Min Magistrate has no jurisdiction. It is more likely that he has gone to stop some of the clan fighting, which is so prevalent in the southern part of the district.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun*, of the 26th ult., says a notification has been issued by the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, relative to certain changes in the weight

and designation of silver yen. The name has been altered from silver yen to that of Trade dollar, the latter being four grains heavier than the former.—According to a notification issued by the Governor of Nagasaki, a festival in commemoration of the soldiers whose lives were sacrificed during the Formosan war, was celebrated on the 22nd instant. The festival did not wind up until late on the Wednesday night, when it was officially brought to a conclusion. The proceedings are described as having been of a comical character, and were, in one sense, appropriately terminated by a free fight between some Japanese soldiers and Chinese. Both natives and celestials were captured by the police, and taken to the Police Station.—The mosquito plague is described as having already set in at Hiroshima with such fierceness as to excite public notice; and in another paragraph, a plague of dogs is complained of, as being almost intolerable in some of the cities. At Shimonoseki, for instance, "nearly every house has its dog, and upon witnessing a stranger they band together and attack him with the fury of wolves."—The business of the Japanese Telegraph will, in April, be conducted in the new building connected with the Post Office at Nagasaki. A branch line is to be constructed between Nagasaki and Higo Ken. One thing that strikes the tourist in the interior of Japan as exceedingly singular, is the fact that the telegraph line actually passes through many large towns, containing from 10,000 to 20,000 inhabitants, and yet the people are prohibited from participating in its benefits from the want of local offices.—The *Cosmopolitan Press* says the formation of Volunteer Corps is advocated. The exhibition is recorded of a Japanese female who possesses the extraordinary power of stretching her neck fully twelve inches or more. "The sight was a most hideous one to behold, and as there seems to be no deception practised, it is certainly a very dangerous method of obtaining a livelihood."

HIOGO.

There has been another fire at Osaka, by which sixteen houses were burned. There was a strong breeze blowing at the time, so considerable damage was done before it could be got under.—Great complaint is made of mismanagement at the Yokohama Post-Office. The *Hiogo News* has received eight weeks' English papers by one steamer.—The Kobé A. D. C. have performed "Milky White" and "The Turkish Bath." To judge from the following verses of a local song introduced into the latter performance, Hiogo is not much better satisfied with the course of trade than Shanghai:

Raw Silk, that noble article, the merchant well abuses,
At Home they find that half-a-crown per pound it always loses.
Tobacco never now comes out, and Copper's always falling,
Whilst Wax and Camphor losses show which really are appalling.
Ri fol de rol.

Tea, for a wonder, showed a chance of paying once this season,
When merchants thought that Congress would, for some financial reason,
The Import Duty re-impose. Alas! their hopes were shaken:
In Congress, and in thinking Tea would pay, they were mistaken.
Ri fol de rol.

I think there's not a merchant here just now who'd mind confessing
That if there were no Imports it would rather be a blessing.
They don't fetch cost, and sales are few, so charges and commission
Will not pay rent of premises and living in addition.
Ri fol de rol.

Some Athletic Sports were held on the 18th March, under the auspices of H.M.S. *Sylvia*, and seem to have afforded much pleasure.—The following (native) carriage tax has been imposed:—Carriages drawn by two or more horses, 3 yen per annum; by one horse, 2 yen; goods carts, 1 yen. Jinrikshas carrying two men, 2 yen yearly, and carrying one man only, 1 yen. Carts drawn by bullocks, etc., 1 yen; or 50 sen according to size.—A Japanese who has just seen foreigners for the first time, at Kobé, writes to the *Minato Shimbun*, that "they are really noble beings, and that when Japanese meet them it is as the meeting of a rat with a cat. In view of this inferiority all should strive to gain knowledge."

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail*, of March 20th, publishes a remarkable instance in illustration of the rapid way in which Japan is following Western customs, even in fiscal matters. It says, "A most important reform has been made this week in the taxation of the country. It consists in an abolition of the taxes on some two hundred and fifty articles, and the substitution for them of a tax on tobacco and saké. The annual revenue abandoned is about $1,200,000; while the revenue which the new taxes may be expected to yield is about $2,000,000."—Another very important step taken, is the revocation of the prohibition on the export of rice, forced on the Government while the late dispute with China was pending.—A party, consisting of about fifty Loochooans, arrived during the week from the South, having been summoned to the capital by the Government. It is believed that the head men of the islands have recently exhibited some remissness in obeying instructions, and that the deputation will be called upon to offer some pledge for their more perfect obedience in future.—In the Ohno bankruptcy case, it is now stated that the total liability of the bank amounts to 7,000,000 yen, and it is estimated that the assets will allow a dividend of 55 per cent.—The *Nichi-Nichi Shimbun* states that the price of rice at Osaka rose on account of the late assemblage there of high officials. Two attempts at incendiarism were made in one night at the taverns known respectively as the "Pacific" and "Far East." In each case a rag, steeped in kerosine, had been employed for the purpose. The danger was averted by the promptitude of the occupants.—The *Echo du Japon* states that the proposed railway between Tokio and Awomori is to be shortly commenced. The same authority also says that the plans of a short line between Tsuruga and Simatsu, in the province of Echizen, have been approved by the Railway Department. This line is to be 7 *ri* in length, and is estimated to cost 770 000 yen, and will join the line between Kioto and Otsu.—The *Herald* says the torpedo boat, designed by Mr. E. S. Boynton, which has for some time been under construction for the Japanese Government at the yard of Messrs. Whitfield & Dowson, was launched on the 22nd ult. It is expected that she will be in readiness to be used for making experiments in about a month.—A bowling match between eight members of the Yokohama United, and eight of the German Club was played on the 19th and 20th ult., when the latter Club scored another easy victory. Mr. Becker made the best score for the Germans, and also the best of the match, his total being 1,507, whilst Mr. Milne headed the Y. U. side with 1,473, being the second highest score. The total score of the German Club was 11,565, whilst the Y. U. Club scored 10,702, the former thus winning the match by 863 points.—The *Gazette* calls attention to the fact that there are many natives who labour for the public weal, and Government does not fail to recognise their exertions. A native residing at Naniwa-cho, Tokio, planted trees at his own expense inside Yorozuyo-bashi, which with the labour of planting them cost 85 yen and 68 sen, and Tokio-fu has rewarded this public benefactor by presenting him with three silver cups.—Telegraphic communication has been completed between Saga, in Hizen, and Kumamoto, in Higo, both important military centres. In Yezo, communication has just been established between Fukuyama (Matsumai) and Otaru, *viâ* Hakodate and Satspore.—A meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on the 17th ult., at which Mr. Goodwin read a paper entitled "On Japanese Legends," in which he showed, by several illustrations, that a marked similarity existed between some of these, and stories which, in various forms, may be found among the peasantry in Europe.—The body of another huge cuttle fish has been found by a fisherman, floating in the water. The fish is said to have measured 12 feet long, and one of its arms was a foot in circumference.—Recently, an Englishman, who resides at Kawaguchi, Osaka, while out shooting near Sakai, accidently shot a child. The *Nichi-nichi Shinbun*, speaking of this unfortunate occurrence, says a correspondence on the subject has taken place between *Gaimusho* and the British Consul, and that it was finally agreed that the sum of 5,000 yen (?) should be paid by the person who caused the accident,—the real fact being that the child was only slightly hurt, and eleven yen was all the compensation demanded.—The Mikado has been unwell, but is now better.

HONGKONG.

The *China Mail* notes the arrival of the Viceroy of Canton and his suite by the *Avoca* from Shanghai. The *Avoca* on her arrival went alongside the Company's wharf, where she was immediately boarded by several steam launches and gigs, and numbers of mandarins of various grades of rank, many of the latter bearing big bundles of highly-coloured complimentary cards and addresses under their arms. Owing to the national mourning, H. E.'s reception was of a quiet nature. He did not land, but proceeded to Canton in the evening, in the steamer *Powan*, which he chartered for the occasion. He has fixed the morning of the 31st as the time for taking over the Viceregal seal.—Anent the loss of the *Yuen-tzefei*, the *Press* says, a telegram from Amoy on the 29th states that she had gone on shore off Dodd Island. All lives are saved. The steamer *Douglas* was sent to her assistance in the hope of getting her off, as she had sustained damage to only one compartment.—The Hongkong Rifle Association had their meeting on Friday last at the Kowloon Ranges. There was a large assembly of spectators, and the meeting was very successful, the shooting being good and the weather favourable for the occasion.—The Garrison Sports were commenced on the 30th, and seem to have gone off successfully, notwithstanding heavy showers. Just as they were concluding, rain began to fall heavily, and from the immense and continuous down-pour throughout the night, it is inferred that the rainy season has at length set in. The weather continued so bad that the second day's sport was put off.—The *Times* says H. M. S. *Vigilant* was to leave on the 4th for Tientsin.—The British bark *Onward* has been sold at auction for $6,000.—The proposed farewell banquet to Mr. Mitchell was to take place at the City Hall on the 31st.—At the Peak the maximum temperature recorded in the *Gazette* of Saturday during the past week was 70, the minimum 53.5; at the Harbour Master's Office, Praya West, the maximum was 76, and the minimum 61.5.—A Chinaman has been killed at the Kowloon Naval Rifle Range. Disregarding

the red flag warnings, he persisted in picking up the bullets fired, and was at length struck by one and fell. He was conveyed without loss of time to the Civil Hospital, but died in about half-an-hour after his admittance.—The *Mail* understands the first prize of the last Manila lottery fell to Hongkong. It was won by a Parsee gentleman and a Chinese compradore, each owning half a ticket. The lucky Chinaman is employed in the Great Northern Telegraph Company.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

March 16th.—(1) A Decree, granting the request of P'an Wei, the Financial Commissioner of Fuhkien, for permission to retire from the service on the score of ill health. He is succeeded by the Judicial Commissioner, Pao-hêng, whose place is taken by Kwoh Sung-tao, now at Peking.

(2) A Decree, stating that, in the present year, military inspections are due in the provinces of Chihli, Shansi, Shensi, Szech'wan, and Kansuh. The Governors-General, or Governors of these provinces, including Li Hung-chang and Tso Tsung-t'ang, are severally commanded to hold these inspections in person.

(3 and 4) Memorials by the Court of Censorate, forwarding two appeals in murder cases, from natives of the province of Chihli—one with reference to the assassination of a peasant in a village squabble, the other the complaint of the widow of a petty military officer, who denounces her brother-in-law for the alleged murder of her husband and son, and for indirectly causing the suicide of her son's wife. The authorities, she implies, are in league to deny her justice, and she especially charges the district Magistrate of Tientsin with endeavours to hush up the case. Referred in the usual manner.

March 17th.—(1) A Decree. The Censor Wang Chao-lan memorializes, representing that an excessive mortality takes place among the prisoners in the Board of Punishments, and requesting that pending arrears be disposed of. Inasmuch as the system of incarceration is a question affecting the lives of the people, injunctions have been repeatedly been laid upon the Board to dispose of pending cases with due diligence; and it is scandalous, indeed, that no less than ten deaths from exhaustion should have taken place in one month, during the period when the Censor was acting, the month before last, as visitor of the prison. Let the chief authorities of the Board at once prescribe a limit of time within which all cases before them, whether already adjudicated or still undetermined, shall be definitely disposed of, in order that there may be no further delay. Compassionate regard should likewise at all times be extended to the prisoners in custody, and the jailers be stringently prohibited against shewing them ill-treatment. It is imperative that all abuses be done away with, in furtherance of the sovereign's determination that wisdom and sedulous care shall direct the administration of justice.

Public Meetings.

THE CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held on the 5th April. Present—Messrs Drysdale (in the chair), A. J. Little, O. C. Behn, Hugh Sutherland, C. E. Bade, Directors; J. Jaques, M. Hawtrey, R. C. B own, F. G. White, John Forster, Overbeck, Wainewright, Pollock, Banyard, Cance, White, Groom, Thurburn, Wilson, and John Dunn (Secretary)—representing 1411 votes.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said—The first resolution to bring before the meeting is to pass the minutes of the last meeting. To read them will occupy a considerable time, and there being only one point therein requiring any comment, I will propose that the minutes be taken as read. At the last meeting, a resolution was passed regarding the reduction of the capital of the company. You are all aware of the steps taken with the Shanghai shareholders. A circular letter was sent to each shareholder, to obtain their consent or disapproval, and the result showed that far from unanimous sanction could be obtained, which made the Directors decide not to take further steps in the matter. We have heard from London, that any reduction in the capital of the company would be looked upon in an unfavourable light. The question may, therefore, be considered as set at rest. Without further remarks, I now propose—

That the Minutes be taken as read.

Seconded by Mr Pollock, and carried.

The Chairman then called attention to the report and accounts. The report had been in the hands of the Shareholders for several days, and he had but few remarks to add to what was there stated. It was not a satisfactory duty for the Directors to lay before the Shareholders such a report, but if the season, which had been so disastrous to underwriters, be considered, we must congratulate ourselves that we have a balance, although small, to the good. He (the Chairman) had seen several reports on Home Companies, which showed a considerable balance on the wrong side. This has been causing a stir amongst the underwriters, and there is at present a strong feeling that rates should be raised; if not, we shall have to bide our time, and do a steady, and as safe a business as possible, as a change must come. The Directors would have liked to pay a dividend, but the amount being so small, it was agreed that the whole should be carried forward. If the next term is a fortunate one, an effort will be made to give a liberal dividend to the Shareholders, which in a measure will compensate them for the past year. However, in doing so, the Shareholders will not forget the interest of contributors, who will receive, as far as it can be granted, a fair bonus for their support to the Company. The business of the Company compares favorably with last season, and so far in 1875 there is a decided increase. Last year, Tls. 30,000 was earned during the first three months; for this, it is estimated, Tls 40,000. The losses by the report are put down at Tls. 4,000; but, since it was printed, the loss of the *Yuen-tsze-fei* increases that by about Tls. 7,000—in all, say Tls. 11,000. The Directors decided to open a branch in London on the 1st January, 1876, under the management of Mr. Schmidt, and have every confidence in an increase of business. Mr. Schmidt will employ his time, after taking a holiday, in working up and making himself thorough acquainted with the Company's business. A Committee will be appointed to assist him. The London Agents, Messrs. Robt. Benson & Co., have given complete satisfaction. The chief reason the change has been decided upon, is that supporters prefer an independent agent to a firm which is in business. From information received to-day, Messrs. Benson & Co. will assist in the selection of a Committee, for which they deserve the thanks of the Shareholders. The head office charges have had the attention of the Directors, and they are glad to report that a reduction of about Tls. 3,000 has been effected. The risks for 1874 are well run off, and there are no full lines outstanding; none, he believed, exceeding Tls. 10,000 or Tls. 12,000 If any shareholder had any remarks to make, he would be glad to hear them.—(No remarks offering). He would now propose—

That the report and accounts as printed be passed.

Second by Mr. Little, and carried *nem. con.*

Report.

The Directors beg to place before the Shareholders a Statement of the Company's Accounts for the six months ending 31st December, 1874, shewing at that date a Balance in hand of Tls. 15,087.89, which sum they propose to carry forward to new account.

It is estimated that after all claims for 1874 have been settled, and allowing for re-insurances, there will be a surplus of about Tls. 4,000 in favor of Working Account of the current year. In the event of any salvage being recovered from the wreck of the S.S. *Japan*, it will go to increase the foregoing amount.

The losses for the year have been unusually heavy, and under the circumstances the Directors regret that they cannot recommend the payment of a Dividend to the Shareholders. The income of the Company continues satisfactory, but owing to the practice of returning 33⅓ per cent. on local risks, the Net Premia shew a deficiency; this heavy cash discount absorbs the return that would otherwise have remained for distribution to the Contributors.

The Premia earned from 1st January to 31st March of the current year are estimated at Tls. 40,000, while the losses reported to date amount only to Tls. 4,000.

Mr. R. W. Little resigned his seat at the Board on his departure for Europe, and Mr. A. J. Little has been appointed to fill the vacancy. This appointment is now submitted to the Shareholders for confirmation.

In compliance with the Deed of Settlement, Mr. Thos. M. Drysdale and Mr. C. Emil Bade now retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

The Accounts have been audited by Mr. Geo. R. Corner and Mr. O. Brandt, whom the Directors recommend for re-election as Auditors for the current year.

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1874.

Dr.

	Tls.
To paid up Capital	300,000.00
,, Reserve Fund	52,000.00
,, Amount due to Agencies	4,634.84
,, Unclaimed Dividends	767.79
,, Balance of Working Account, 31st December, 1874	15,087.89
	Tls. 372,490.52

Cr.

By Cash on Deposit in Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	141,000.00
,, Cash on Deposit in Chartered Bank of India	100,000.00
,, Cash on Deposit in Chartered Mercantile Bank of India	40,000.00
,, Cash on Deposit in Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris	30,000.00
,, Cash on Deposit in Agra Bank, Limited	20,000.00
,, Cash on Deposit in Deutsche Bank	10,000.00
,, Cash on Current Account in Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	11,243.17
,, Cash in Secretary's hands	1,405.06
,, Cash on Dividend Account in Hongkong and hanghai Banking Corporation	679.40
,, Amount due by Agencies	14,926.35
,, Shanghai Premia to collect	2,669.57
,, Office Furniture	566.97
	Tls. 372,490.52

Working Account.

Dr.

To Balance brought forward from 30th June, 1874	51,663.70
,, Net Premia taken from 1st July to 31st Dec. 1874	87,767.88
,, Transfer Fees	35.92
,, Exchange	372.69
,, Bonus on Re-insurances	69.88
,, Interest	9,003.47
	Tls. 148,911.54

Cr.

By Losses paid	116,117.53
,, Re-insurances	2,847.97
,, Directors Fees	1,250.37
,, Head Office Charges	7,977.17
,, Agency Charges	2,489.99
,, Agency Commissions	3,160.99
,, Amount written off Cost of Furniture	64.03
,, Balance	15,087.89
	Tls. 148,911.54

Mr. Sutherland next proposed, and Mr. Behn seconded—

That the appointment of Mr. A. J. Little as a director of the Company be confirmed.—Carried.

Mr. Little proposed, and Mr. Behn seconded—

That Messrs. T. M. Drysdale and C. E. Bade be re-elected Directors of the Company.—Carried.

Mr. GROOM asked whether Mr. Carmichael were still a Director of the Company?

The CHAIRMAN said no formal resignation had been received from him.

Mr. GROOM asked, because his name was still on the list of Directors. It was pretty well known he was not coming back. Would he remain on the Board in London?

The CHAIRMAN could not yet say.

Mr. BADE next proposed, and Mr. SUTHERLAND seconded—

That Messrs. Corner and Brandt be re-elected auditors for the current year.—Carried.

This closed the business of the ordinary meeting.

The meeting then resolved itself into an extraordinary one, to consider a proposed amendment in the Deed of Settlement.

The CHAIRMAN said the proposed alteration of the Deed of Settlement was to increase the Directors' powers to invest the funds of the Company when good opportunity offered. The Banks now offered very small interest on deposits, as compared with former years; only 5 per cent. was now obtainable, as against 6 and 7 per cent. which used to be obtainable. Whereas there was no doubt money could be loaned at a more favourable rate with every security to the Company. The Clause in question (Clause 90) now stood as follows:—

The Capital for the time being, and all other monies in the possession of the Company (except such sums as the Court shall consider necessary for the disbursements of the Company), shall be invested *in the Public Stocks, Funds, or Government Securities of Great Britain or India, or in the Colony of Hongkong, or placed in deposit on Loan in Local Banks, or in any first class London Banks*; and from time to time converted, realized or drawn out as occasion may require, or as the Court shall consider expedient; and all cheques or orders for the conversion, realization or withdrawal of such Capital, Monies, Stocks, Funds, Government Securities, Loans, or Deposits shall be signed by two of the Directors, and the Secretary for the time being, in case of transactions at Shanghai; and in the cases of Branches or Agencies having a Local Committee, or a Board of Directors, by two members of such Committee or Board of Directors, and the Manager, Secretary or Agent, for the time being.

It was proposed to alter it to read as follows:—

The Capital for the time being, and all other monies in the possession of the Company (except such sums as the Court shall consider necessary for the disbursements of the Company), shall be invested *in the Public Stocks, Bonds, Funds or Securities of the Government of Great Britain or of India, or of any Colony or Dependency of the United Kingdom, or of any Foreign Country or State, or in Shanghai Municipal Debentures or Securities, or upon Mortgage of Real or Leasehold property in Hongkong, China, Japan or elsewhere, or in or upon deposits or Loans at interest in or to any Bank or Banks established at Shanghai or elsewhere*: and from time to time converted, realised, or drawn out, as occasion may require, or as the Court shall consider expedient; and all cheques or orders for the conversion, realization, or withdrawal of such Capital, Monies, Stocks, Funds, Government Securities, Loans, or Deposits, shall be signed by two of the Directors, and the Secretary for the time being, in case of transactions at Shanghai; and in the cases of Branches or Agencies having a Local Committee, or a Board of Directors, by two members of such Committee or Board of Directors, and the Manager, Secretary or Agent, for the time being.

He would propose that the Clause as altered be adopted.

Seconded by Mr. SUTHERLAND and carried *nem. con.*

This closed the business of the meeting, which separated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Yacht Club was held on the 31st March, the attendance being more than usually numerous. The chair was taken by Mr. A. J. Little, Commodore; and there were also present—Messrs. G. B. Hill, Vice-Commodore; C. P. Blethen, J. H. Vail, C. V. Housman, H. E. Amoore, H. B. Miller, A. Thurburn, W. White, B. Palamountain, J. Crofts, E. A. Oliver, C. J. Ashley, W. H. Richard, J. E. Waller, J. J. Tucker, J. Brown, and W. H. Hewett, Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed; and the statement of accounts for the season 1874-75 was taken as read, as follows:—

BALANCE SHEET—SEASON 1874-75.

Receipts.

		Tls. Cts
To Reserve Fund		1,166.00

Disbursements.

By Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Fixed Deposit		1,166.00

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Receipts.

			$ Cts.
To Interest Account			106.77
,, Members Subscriptions			521.00
,, ,, Entrance Fees			35.00
,, Entrance Fees, Yachts Challenge Cup, Spring Regatta		60.00	
,, ,, House Boats, Spring Regatta		25.00	
,, ,, Yachts, Spring Cup		20.00	
,, ,, Ships Boat Race, Spring Cup		15.00	
,, ,, Autumn Cup		12.00	
,, ,, Corinthian Cup		12.00	
,, ,, House Boat Race		8.00	
			152.00
To Cash from 1874			289.36
			$1,104.13

Disbursements.

By Cups and Prizes, House Boat Race, Spring Regatta		75.00	
,, ,, ,, Ships Boat Race, Spring Regatta		30.00	
,, ,, ,, Corinthian Cup		50.00	
			155.00
By General Expenses, Printing Bye Laws		132.38	
,, ,, Advertising and Printing		150.28	
,, ,, Field and other Papers		29.00	
,, ,, Rent one year		100.00	
,, ,, Sundries as per Vouchers		144.20	
,, ,, Steamers Refreshments —Challenge Cup		97.14	
Autumn Cup		78.85	
			731.85
By Cups—Challenge Cup	Not collected	50.00	
,, ,, House Boat Race		30.00	
,, ,, Spring Cup		75.00	
,, ,, Autumn Cup		50.00	
			205.00
By Cash on hand			12.28
			$1,104.13

Assets—

Cash in Hongkong Bank	Tls. 41.22
Buoys and Moorings, Chains, &c.	$ 136.69
Furniture, &c.	$ 99.00

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Mr. BLETHEN seconded that the accounts, as printed, be passed.

Mr. WHITE drew attention to a small item of $29, subscriptions to the *Field* and other papers, which papers were supposed to lie on the table of the Club room for the convenience of members. He was not aware that the room was open for that purpose, or he might have availed himself of the privilege, and he did not know that the papers alluded to were ever seen by the members. The amount was not a very large one, but considering the position of the Club's finances, he thought curtailment was necessary; and, as the papers in question seemed of little use to the Club, he questioned the propriety of continuing them. He thought *Hunt's Nautical Magazine* was sufficient for the purposes of the Club.

The SECRETARY said among the papers subscribed for were the *Field*, *Wilkes Spirit of the Times*, and *Hunt's Nautical Magazine*. They were all of interest to yachting men, and it ought not to be forgotten that the *Field* had noticed yachting at Shanghai, and had given a lengthy report of one of the races.

Mr. MILLER said it was not his fault that the papers mentioned did not lie on the table, for they were never brought to the Club-house. He asked what had become of them?

The SECRETARY replied that the numbers were sent to be bound.

Mr. MILLER said even if the papers had been brought to the Club-house, they would have been of no use, for nobody ever came there to ask for them.

Mr. WHITE moved, and Mr. G. B. Hill seconded—

That the magazines and papers, with the exception of *Hunt's Nautical Magazine*, be discontinued as soon as possible.

Several members disagreed with the proposition, and

The CHAIRMAN said they had at least got the nucleus of a good Club in Shanghai, and should do all they could to keep it together. One of the best means of maintaining interest in it, was to spread information respecting yachting here and elsewhere, among the members.

A vote was then taken, but only five hands being held up in favour of the motion, it was lost by a large majority.

It was understood that for the future, the Club-room would be open to members as a reading room, and that all the papers and magazines subscribed for would be found on the table.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the election of officers for the ensuing year.

The ballot resulted as follows:—Mr. A. J. Little was elected Commodore; Mr. G. B. Hill, Vice-Commodore; Mr. J. Wilson, treasurer; Mr. Dillon, prize-bearer; Messrs. Coryell and R. Mackenzie (in place of Mr. R. F. Eastlack), auditors; Mr. Hewett, hon. secretary; Messrs. Tucker and Mr. Lambert, hon. measurers; and Messrs. Ashley, C. P. Blethen, J. P. Croal, and Viguier (in addition to the ex-officio members), committee of management.

For the election of auditors, there were no fewer than five ties between Messrs. Mackenzie and J. E. Waller, the latter being at last permitted to withdraw at his own repeated request.

Mr. VAIL proposed—

That the Committee be asked to exercise greater care than heretofore with regard to the position of Stakeboats, and Course to be run over, so that no dispute can possibly arise after the race is over.

Mr. WHITE seconded the motion, and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business demanding their attention was the arrangements for the Spring Regatta. The Committee suggested that the Challenge Cup should be raced for on the 17th inst.; and that the Club should give another Cup, to be raced for on the 24th inst. He (the Chairman) should propose that one of them should be a Corinthian race. About Tls. 200 had already been subscribed up to the present date, toward the cost of the Challenge Cup, but it was hoped that amount would be increased by further subscriptions before the date of the race. As to the course to be selected, the Committee were in favour of the Woosung course, as being more suitable, and presenting greater variety.

The HON. SECRETARY said he thought the Club were in a position to give a good challenge cup. They had been promised Tls. 200 towards its cost, and he suggested that the Club should make up the amount to Tls. 500, especially when they remembered it would have to be won two years in succession to become the property of the winner.

Mr. MILLER suggested that the winner should have the option of selecting his own Cup, at whatever store he chose, as being likely to lead to competition among the various firms to supply a cup of the most artistic work.

This was objected to, and the subject was not pressed.

Mr. WALLER having seconded the Chairman's proposition as to the dates of the Spring Regatta,

A conversation ensued, and, it appearing there was a difficulty about tides on the days named by the Chairman, it was agreed, without a division, to leave the fixture and selection of course to the decision of the Committee, the value of the cup to be advertised as not being less than Tls. 200. It was also resolved that Tls. 75 should be given from the Club funds, for a Cup for the Corinthian Race.

Mr. Tucker asked if there was any restriction as to the kind of sail to be hoisted in the race for the Challenge Cup?

The Hon. Secretary read the rule bearing on the question, and it appeared there was no restriction.

The Chairman said he had to propose an alteration in Rule 13, in the margin of which was printed, "Candidates elected at meetings and by Commodore." The election by the Commodore was not mentioned in the body of the rule. He thought it was a very good rule indeed, especially with reference to Corinthian races. They would remember that at the last Autumn Regatta there was much difficulty in obtaining Corinthian crews, and to obviate such difficulty for the future, he would propose that it should be allowed to put a man on board to make up a crew for a race, and ballot for him afterwards. It was done in the Rowing Club, and there was no reason why it should not be in the Yacht Club.

Mr. Ashley strongly objected to such an alteration. Who would guarantee that the man so put on board could be received by the Club? He might, also, be blackballed, and even if he were not, a boat winning in that way would, under the rule, be disqualified, the man not being a member when she won. He preferred the rule remaining as it was.

The Chairman said he thought it would be unlikely the man would be blackballed, unless he was a regular sailor; and of course it would be understood that seamen were not to be so put on board.

Mr. Blethen suggested that the president of the race should have the power to accept the man.

The conversation was prolonged, until

The Hon. Secretary pointed out that before any rule could be altered, it was necessary to give fourteen days' notice of such intention, and that the proposed alteration must then be brought before a general meeting of members.

The Chairman then gave notice of motion, as follows:—

That the Commodore or in his absence the Vice-Commodore, or in their absence the President of the match for the time being, shall have power to elect a member to sail for a Corinthian Cup on the morning of the race, subject to a ballot if demanded by ten members.

Mr. G. B. Hill also gave notice that he would move—

That should the member elected by the President of a match be blackballed on being balloted for, the owner of the boat in which he sailed shall forfeit the entrance fee of a member; but the boat, if a winner, shall not be disqualified.

There being no other business, the meeting broke up with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE CHINESE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION AND READING-ROOM.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee of the Chinese Polytechnic Institution and Reading-Room, held at the C. M. S. N. Company's Head office, on Friday, April 2nd, 1875.

Present—Messrs. Hsü-Chung-hu, Tong King-sing, A. Wylie, T. W. Kingsmill and J. Fryer.

On the motion of Mr. Wylie, Mr. Fryer took the Chair.

Mr. Fryer stated that the meeting had been called at the suggestion of Mr. Medhurst, principally with the view of coming to a final determination respecting the purchase of land and the erection of a building, as well as to report upon the progress that was being made by the Institution generally.

Mr. Kingsmill explained, by reference to a plan of the Settlement, the position and advantages of a piece of land on the Hankow Road, for which he had been for some time negotiating. As, however, he could not positively guarantee that a road would be opened hereafter by the Municipal Council, giving proper access and frontage to this land, it was agreed that some other place must be found.

Mr. Hsü-Chung-hu stated that both he and his father had spent much time, and had taken a great deal of trouble in endeavouring to purchase some land on the Canton Road; but that, owing to several difficulties that had arisen, they had not up to the present time been successful. He, however, believed that, if the Committee were willing to wait a little longer, he might be able to conclude the purchase on advantageous terms.

Mr. Fryer mentioned that he had received an offer of about 6 mow of ground at a more reasonable price than either of the former, and that this land appeared both to Mr. Medhurst and himself to be in a suitable locality and to possess some special advantages. After considerable discussion, however, it was decided that its distance from the most frequented parts of the Settlement was too great to make it a desirable position.

Mr. Tong-King-sing proposed a plot of vacant ground on the Hankow Road, which he thought could be purchased at the same price as the piece mentioned by Mr. Kingsmill, and which, moreover, possessed the great additional advantage of having a South frontage on the main road.

Mr. Wylie suggested that the Committee should go and examine the land in question at the close of the meeting, and come to a decision respecting it on the spot. This suggestion was afterwards carried out, and it was determined to offer to purchase 5 mow at the rate the owner had specified—viz., Taels 500 per mow.

Mr. Hsü-Chung-hu suggested that, as soon as the ground was purchased, a building should be erected in the Chinese style of architecture, but with modifications in the interior, so as to fit it for the different purposes of the Institution, and yet at the same time not to offend the tastes of such high native officials as would be certain to become visitors. The buildings for the Exhibition of machinery, appparatus, &c., could be of a rougher description and connected with this main building. The expense would not be very heavy, especially as he was ready to supply the plan himself, and to arrange for the work with a native contractor who had erected most of the buildings at the Arsenal.

Mr. Fryer supported Mr. Hsü's proposition.

Mr. Kingsmill said that he had already prepared a plan which embraced all Mr. Hsü's ideas, and was prepared to undertake the whole matter of building if duly authorized by the Committee.

Mr. Hsü-Chung-hu thought that the funds left for building purposes, after purchase of land, would be so small that the strictest economy would be necessary. He was able and willing to manage the work himself, gratuitously, and did not see the necessity of paying for the services of a Foreign Architect. He, moreover, objected to belong to a Committee of which any member was to be allowed to charge for his services.

Mr. Wylie thought it would perhaps be better on the whole to employ a Foreign Architect, because of the necessity for continual care and supervision during the erection, as well as the importance of the work being done by some one who could be made responsible.

Mr. Tong King-sing considered that the commission of 2½ per cent. on purchase of land and of 4 per cent. on Chinese building, would not after all amount to much in the present case; and that a considerable amount of work had to be done for it which would fall heavily on any one not living on the spot. In deference, however, to Mr. Hsü's objection, it was agreed to wait till Mr. Medhurst's return to Shanghai, in order to have his opinion before coming to a definite conclusion on this point.

Mr. Fryer suggested that a report of the progress and future prospects of the Institution, embodying the list of donations and annual subscriptions up to 31st of March should be drawn up at an early date and translated into Chinese. It might be printed both in English and Chinese, and circulated gratuitously. This was agreed to; and Mr. Tong-king-sing promised to obtain the Chinese Subscription book with the names of annual subscribers from Mr. Wang-yung-ho, who had been asked to collect native subscriptions.

Mr. Fryer then gave a few statements about matters connected with the Institution, that had arisen since the last meeting. He said that Mr. Wade had sent from Peking a subscription of 100 Taels, and expressed his approval of the scheme. Fêng, the Taotai of Shanghai, had promised through Mr. Hsü to give a liberal donation. Several officials of high rank, in passing through Shanghai, had promised their support. The Honourable Mr. Lawrence had kindly consented to act as Honorary Secretary of the Home Committee which, by last advices, was to hold its first meeting as soon as the prospectus and regulations of the Institution, finally determined upon by the Shanghai Committee at their last meeting, should come to hand. Messrs. John Bourne & Co., the agents for the Institution, had received an offer from a firm in Halifax, to subscribe the sum of ten guineas; they had also forwarded several packages of articles for exhibition, collected from various manufacturers. Messrs. Llewellyn & Co., of Shanghai, had offered a collection of pure drugs and chemicals; other local firms had promised to send articles when there was accommodation for them. Messrs. Mackenzie & Co. had kindly consented to take delivery of packages that were arriving, and to give them temporary godown room until the building be got ready for them; and lastly, H. E. the Taotai had promised to allow packages of apparatus for the Institution to pass the Imperial Maritime Customs duty free.

John Fryer,
Hony. Secretary.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 23 Mars, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents, M.M. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, H. Maignan, E. Millot. H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Comte de Rochechouart, Chargé d'Affaires de France à Pékin, répondant à celle que le Conseil lui a adressée relativement à l'affaire de la Pagode de Ningpo. Le Conseil émet l'opinion que, conformément au désir exprimé par M. de Rochechouart, le réglement de cette question doit être laissé entre ses mains.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Municipal Council.

Encroachment—Yang-king-pang Creek.

Shanghai, 18th March, 1875.

Sir,—The Council, on Monday last, had placed before them your letter of the 13th inst., in reply to the one I had the honour to address to you on the 8th, regarding the appointment of Arbitrators, and the points to be submitted to them for their decision

The Council note with pleasure that M. Godeaux, Consul-General for France, has kindly consented to act in conjunction with Mr. Medhurst.

With regard to the points to be submitted, my colleagues desire me to say that, as by your acknowledgement of the encroachment in question on the Yang-king-pang, our first point is done away with, it is not necessary therefore to include it in the question before the Arbitrators.

With regard to the two new points, which you state your Council intend submitting to the Arbitrators, I am desired to state what I had already stated verbally to you at the meeting of the delegates, that the Council could not agree to have those points submitted as part of the question. The Council regard them as partaking of the nature of arguments to be used in support of a case, and not as distinct points for arbitration; and if brought forward at all, should be brought forward in that way by your Council, when this Council can bring forward their arguments to combat them; and they do not doubt that, on reconsideration, you will agree in this view.

The question then to be submitted to the Arbitrators—the fact of the encroachment being admitted—would be simply these two points :—

1. Is the Bund in its present position an obstacle to navigation?

2. Does the encroachment prejudice the interests of property along the line of the creek?

If this meets your concurrence, nothing remains but to fix a day when each Council will place before the Arbitrators their facts and arguments in the case, which, I presume, had better be in writing, so that each side may have an opportunity to answer, in writing, the arguments adduced by the other, and that will close the evidence to go before the Arbitrators, unless they wish for further evidence or explanation.

The Council are much gratified at your recognising the desirability of agreeing to a fixed width of the creek for the future, so soon as the result of the arbitration is made known.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman French Municipal Council.

Cette lettre répond à celle qui a été adressée le 13 Mars au Président du Municipal Council, pour lui faire connaître qu'indépendamment des bases sur lesquelles les deux Administrations ont accepté en 1873 de faire porter l'arbitrage de la question d'empiètement sur le Yang-king-pang, le Conseil avait l'intention de soumettre à l'examen des arbitres deux nouveaux points qui résultent, l'un, de faits qui se sont passés postérieurement à la date de cette acceptation, et l'autre, d'empiètements commis par le Municipal Council.

A ce propos, le Président informe ses collégues que, par une omission regrettable et contrairement à l'esprit et au sens de la lettre même adressée au Président du Municipal Council, un seul de ces deux points y a été mentionné, et que le plus important, celui qui résulte d'empiètements commis par le Municipal Council, a été omis.

Le Président est chargé d'exprimer au Président du Municipal Council tous les regrets du Conseil pour l'erreur matérielle qui a été commise, et d'énumérer à nouveau les points que la Municipalité Française declare vouloir soumettre à l'appréciation des arbitres. Le Conseil approuve, à cet effet, la rédaction de la lettre suivante :

MONSIEUR,—Dans la lettre que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous écrire le 13 Mars, pour vous faire connaitre les points que le Conseil désirait soumettre aux Arbitres chargés de juger la question d'empiètement sur le Yang-king-pang, une regrettable omission a été commise en ne mentionnant que l'un des nouveaux points et oubliant entièrement le plus important.

Voici les points sur lesquels le Conseil désirait faire porter l'arbitrage :—

1e.—La construction du quai du Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est elle un obstacle à la navigation?

2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

3e.—Le non envoi du mémoire annoncé par le Municipal Council dans sa lettre du 15 Janvier, 1873, et son consentement ultérieur à la commande d'un pont en fer dans des proportions qui sont justes suffisantes pour l'écartement des deux rives du Yang-king-pang, telles qu'elles existent aujourd'hui, n'a-t-il pas vicié la réclamation du Municipal Council, et autorisé le Conseil Municipal à considérer comme définitif l'alignement actuel?

4e.—Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le Municipal Council sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang. Dans d'affirmative, ces empiètements sont ils un obstacle à la navigation du canal, et portent-ils préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

C'est ce dernier point qui malheureusement n'a pas été transcrit dans la lettre signée par moi.

Aprés vous avoir témoigné mes vifs regrets pour l'omission qui a fait placer devant vous et vos collègues une expression tronquée de la délibération du Conseil dans sa séance du 12 Mars, je suis heureux, en réponse à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 18 Mars, de vous informer que le Conseil ne désire pas insister, comme point d'arbitrage, sur la conclusion qui pourrait être tirée du silence du Municipal Council pendant deux ans, sur la réclamation à laquelle il avait annoncé cependant, à l'origine, devoir donner la forme la plus pressante.

Afin d'obvier à tout malentendu, je vous prie, donc, de me permettre presque une redite en énumérant ici les points que le Conseil entend soumettre à la décision des arbitres.

1e.—La construction du quai du Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est elle un obstacle à la navigation du canal?

2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

3e.—Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le Municipal Council sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang. Dans l'affirmative, ces empiètements sont-ils un obstacle à la navigation du canal, et portent-ils préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

Espérant que les deux Administrations se trouveront d'accord pour faire régler, d'un seul coup, par la décision des arbitres, toute controverse relative à des empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, je vous prie, Monsieur, d'agreér l'assurance de ma considération trés-distinguée.

Le Président du Conseil,
A. VOISIN.

Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
Président du Municipal Council.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Municipal Council.

Yang-king-pang Bridge No. 1.
Shanghai, March 19th, 1875.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 13th instant, I beg to say that this Council have given the subject therein referred to, the very careful consideration it deserves, as they are anxious to do all in their power to prevent, not only disagreements with your body, but above all the convenience of the public being in any way interfered with. They are, however, of the opinion that the question, as to what is the proper proportion of the expense of maintaining bridges over the Yang-king-pang to be borne by each Municipality, is so entirely one in the discretion of the Community that they feel obliged to decline your proposition to leave it to the decision of the French and English Ministers at Peking. The annual meeting of Ratepayers takes place within a few weeks, and should the question then come up, the Council will be instructed what course to pursue.

The Council wish me, however, to state that they do not consider the responsibility of interruption to the traffic, should it occur, would in any degree rest upon them, as the determination not to bear, as hitherto, an equal share of the cost of the Bridges has been taken only by your Council.

In this connection, I might add that many of the bridges are rapidly approaching an unsafe condition. For obvious reasons, the Council have avoided bringing this forward in the discussion, but it is only right now to point out, that in all probability the Council ere long for their own protection will have to give public notice that certain bridges are dangerous, particularly for heavy vehicles.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN Esq.,
Chairman French Municipal Council.

Le Conseil décide que la réponse suivante sera faite à cette lettre :—

MONSIEUR,—D'après le désir du Conseil, je viens répondre à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écire le 19 de ce mois, relativement au pont du Yang-king-pang No. 1, pour m'informer que la proposition de décision par arbitrage à Pekin de la proposition dans laquelle chaque Municipalité doit supporter les dépenses d'entretien des ponts du Yang-king-pang, faite par ma lettre du 13 Mars, n'a pas rencontré l'approbation de votre administration.

Le Conseil a remarqué, avec regret, que tout en rejetant le mode d'abitrage à Pékin, le Municipal Council n'en propose lui-même aucun autre, et que du désir de la Municipalité Française de ne supporter, que dans ce qu'elle croit être une juste proportion, les dépenses d'entretien des ponts, il tire la conclusion que ces ponts ne doivent être ni remplacés ni même réparés.

Quant à l'interruption probable de la circulation, vous en repoussez toute responsabilité pour votre administration; mais vous me permettrez de vous faire remarquer que l'administration Française est encore bien moins responsable de ce que, d'une divergence d'appréciation de la qualité des dépenses incombant à chaque Municipalité pour l'entretien des ponts, votre Administration veut faire une condition même d'existence de ces ponts. C'est faire dériver des actes du Conseil une conséquence qui n'en peut ressortir; en effet, de ce que le mode de réglement à Pékin de la partie purement financière de la question ne parait pas au Municipal Council devoir être adopté, il ne semble en aucune façon qu'une autre solution ne puisse être trouvée et, surtout, il n'en découle pas que la circulation doive être interrompue sur les ponts du Yang-king-pang, ainsi que votre lettre cependant le donne à entendre. La question même d'existence des ponts n'aurait jamais dû, parait il, être soulevée, car leur existence est une nécessité indiscutable; ce qui est discutable, c'est le montant de la part contributive dans les dépenses que doit supporter chaque Municipalité pour maintenir cette existence.

C'est, donc, un point purement financier et nullement vital qui constitue la difficulté pendante. Aussi, le Conseil, étant d'avis que les ponts doivent être remplacés et entretenus sans délai, au fur et à mesure qu'il est nécessaire de le faire, désire vous rappeler sa lettre du 13 Mars par laquelle il a donné son consentement à la commande, par les soins du Municipal Council, d'un pont en fer destiné à remplacer le pont actuel en bois No. 1. Il croit qu'il est indispensable de faire sans retard cette commande, et que la part contributive de chaque Municipalité dans la dépense qu'elle entrainerait, pourrait être déterminée ultérieurement, si votre Administration y consent, par un arbitrage portant sur des faits et des chiffres, et statuant d'une manière générale dans quelles proportions les dépenses d'entretien des ponts du Yang-king-pand doivent, en bonne équité, grèver le budget de chaque Municipalité, de façon à ce que les finances de l'une ne puissent paraître être protégées aux dépens de celles de l'autre. C'est, je n'en puis douter, cette fin que peut désirer le Municipal Council, et c'est simplement celle que veut le Conseil Français. L'entente parait, donc, devoir être facile; j'oserais même dire qu'elle est inévitable, si j'étais certain que le Municipal Council voulût admettre ce principe d'arbitrage.

Dans cette hypothèse, et dans le cas d'une commande faite avec son consentement par votre Administration, le Conseil est tout disposé á payer, provisoirement, soit un tiers, soit moitié des dépenses, sous la condition qu'un versement sera fait par l'une des deux Municipalités á celle qui, d'aprés les conclusions des arbitres, se trouverait avoir payé plus que sa part des dépenses d'entretien des ponts du Yang-king-pang.

Espérant que les efforts du Conseil, pour dégager de ce débat toute pensée autre que celle d'une solution équitable pour les intérêts du public en général et plus spécialement de ceux qui possèdent des deux côtés du Yang-king-pang et concourent au soutien des deux Municipalités, seront appréciés et secondés par votre Administration, je vous prie, Monsieur, d'agréer l'assurance de ma considération très-distinguée.

Le Président du Conseil,

A. Voisin.

Monsieur J. G. Purdon,

Président du Municipal Council.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council, en réponse à celle qui lui a été adressée le 11 Mars, pour soumettre à son approbation un projet de rectification d'alignement du quai du Yang-king-pang.

Shanghai, March 19th.

Sir,—Your letter of 11th inst., enclosing plan, shewing where you propose making certain alterations in the Bund line of the Yang-king-pang Creek, on your side, between the Bridges Nos. 2 and 3, has been laid before the Council.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding, the Council have drawn up a plan on an English scale, and if, as they understand, the width of the Creek will be narrowed in at the points colored blue on the plan from 1ft. 6in. to 2ft., and increased in width at point marked red by 11 feet, the Council desire me to state that they have no objection to your adopting such line.

I have been requested to take this opportunity of suggesting that the two Councils should arrange on a common scale for plans, say 50 feet to an inch, as it would very materially assist in a thorough understanding of the plans submitted by one Council to another.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

A. Voisin, Esq.,
Chairman French Municipal Council.

L'Agent-Voyer a reçu l'ordre de procéder immédiatement à l'exécution des travaux, en se conformant strictement à l'alignement adopté par le Conseil et approuvé par le Municipal Council.

Le Secrétaire est chargé de remercier M.M. les Agents de la Compagnie du Gaz, pour les renseignements qu'ils ont obligeamment fournis sur l'état des lanternes à gaz.

Communication d'une lettre du Président des Administrateurs de la Compagnie du Gaz, informant le Conseil que la dite Compagnie ne peut adhérer à la proposition qui lui a été faite de soumettre le contrat passé entre elle et la Municipalité à l'interprétation d'un magistrat à Saigon. Le refus de faire droit à la demande de réduction dans le prix du gaz formulée par la Municipalité est basée sur ce qu'il n'y a pas, suivant les Administrateurs du gaz, une divergence d'opinion sur l'interprétation d'aucun article du contrat.

Le Conseil ne partageant pas cet avis, décide de mettre la Compagnie du Gaz en demeure de soumettre à une décision arbitrale l'interprétation à donner aux termes du contrat.

Lecture d'une lettre de M.M. Lacroix, Cousins & Cie. exposant les raisons pour lesquelles ils ne prennent pas part à la contribution volontaire dite taxe commerciale. Ces Messieurs ayant, toutefois, demandé quelques renseignements, sur la part qu'ils auraient à prendre à cette taxe, dans le cas où elle serait assimilée à une taxe obligatoire, le Conseil espère que les explications fournies par l'Administration amèneront un changement dans la résolution de M.M. Lacroix. Cousins & Cie.

Communication des lettres par lesquelles les propriétaires de lignes télégraphiques sur la Concession consentent à payer à l'Administration un abonnement annuel pour l'usage des poteaux télégraphiques qu'elle pourrait être amenée à établir à ses frais pour assurer le service télégraphique.

Offre de M. Bishop de fournir gratuitement à la Municipalité l'usage d'une ligne télégraphique qu'il établirait et entretiendrait à ses propres frais.

Des arrangements antérieurs avec la Compagnie du Great Northern Telegraph, et la nécessité de ne pas perdre tout droit de contrôle de l'entretien des lignes télégraphiques empêchent le Conseil de pouvoir accepter l'offre de M. Bishop.

Examen d'une demande en décharge d'impôt locatif Chinois. Le Conseil ne peut voir aucune raison pour faire droit à la réclamation du pétitionnaire.

Le Comité des Travaux est chargé de prendre connaissance d'une pétition de divers habitants du quartier de la Concession, réclamant une modification à l'état des rues de ce quartier et un supplément d'éclairage.

Communication d'une lettre de M.M. Butterfield et Swire, informant le Conseil qu'ils se proposent d'ériger un hangar en fer sur le wharf qu'ils ont construit en avant du quai du Wampoo.

Le Conseil, sur le rapport du chef de la Garde, décide de ne pas effectuer le transfert de licence pour débit de boissons qu'il avait autorisé conditionnellement à la dernière séance.

Examen des rapports des chefs de service.

Tirage au sort des Conseillers sortants : M. Maignan, Membre Français et M. Ewald, Membre Etranger, sont désignés par le sort.

La séance est levée.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The fourth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at Hongkong, on the 25th. Present : Messrs. André, (chairman), Belilios, Geary, Kerr, Burrows, McIver, Seaman, Baker, Wheeler, Nicaise, Hall, Grant, Jameson, Capt. Cairns, Fung Tang and Pow Achow.

The Chairman, having read the notice calling the meeting, said the report and balance sheet had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, and if they had no objection it would be taken as read. The last year had been a very disastrous one for Marine Insurance offices, and this Company had suffered along with the rest. The latter months in the year had been especially disastrous, with the losses of the *Japan* and the *Mongol*, and if it had not been for these the directors would have had a much better report to present. Still he thought the shareholders would be satisfied with the result of the year's working, considering the many catastrophes that had happened, besides the typhoon. On the basis of the previous year's working, there was an actual increase of about $25,000. The prospects of the Company for the ensuing year were very favourable, and the business was constantly increasing. Up to now, he was glad to say, they had experienced no material losses. Before he proposed the adoption of the report, he should be glad to answer any questions.—No questions were asked, so he then proposed that the report and balance sheet be adopted.

Report.

The Directors have now to submit to the Shareholders their Report upon the Company's business for the year ending 31st Dec., 1874.

As will be seen from the accompanying statement of Working Account, the net premia taken have amounted to $237,541.18, against $259,529.63 in 1873, showing an apparent falling off in the business of the Company of some $22,000. It is to be remembered, however, that the premia upon all local risks have been subject during the year to a gross return to the assured, of 33⅓ per cent., against 10 per cent. during the previous year; and, when allowance is made for the difference, an actual increase in the Company's business appears.

The losses sustained have been severe, and render inadvisable at present any appropriation of the balance standing at credit of Working Account, which is carried forward pending adjustment of outstanding claims. The amount due upon these will, however, in all probability, be materially reduced by sums recovered in salvage which cannot yet be accurately ascertained, and it is hoped that on settlement of all outstandings a small profit upon the year's working will be the result.

The current year has opened auspiciously. An average business has been done, whilst no material losses have as yet been reported.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, two members of the Board, Mr. E. R. Belilios and Mr. Adolf André, retire in rotation, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Captains Cairns seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Geary proposed the re-election of Messrs. André and Belilios as directors.

Mr. McIver seconded, and it was agreed to.

Mr. Burrows proposed the re-election of the auditors, Mr. McIver and Mr. Nicaise.

Mr. Belilios seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. Nicaise having moved a vote of thanks to the directors and General Managers for the efficient way in which they had looked after the interests of the Company, the meeting terminated.—*Daily Press.*

HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce was held at the City Hall, on the 22nd ultimo. Present :—Hon. P. Ryrie (Chairman), Messrs. J. Greig (Vice-chairman), Nelson, André, Belilios, J. S. Lapraik, Karberg, Pyke, G. Sharp, Kahn, Dalrymple, F. D. Sassoon, and Vaucher.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been adopted,

The Chairman said the next thing would be the passing of the report. Before moving that it be adopted by the meeting, he had very little to say. The great question of the blockade of this port was still under the consideration of the Government at home. He had had no official communication about the Chamber's memorial on the subject, but he had heard from more than one source privately that the matter was engaging the very serious attention of the home government, and they might expect to hear something of it shortly. That part of the report referring to the protection of wrecked vessels on the coast of China, was one that had been taken up very strongly by the Foochow Chamber, and he thought they would all agree that it was a subject which it was the duty of this Chamber to take notice of. It was almost invariably the case when a wreck took place, that plunder followed. There had been cases where the mandarins had protected the property, and shown solicitation for the lives of the shipwrecked people, in forwarding them to some of the ports ; but as a rule no officials of the Chinese Government were near, and consequently unfortunate vessels which might be wrecked were plundered of everything. With respect to the re-survey of the Coast, members would see that a reply had been received from the United States Naval department to the memorial upon the subject. As far as the interests of the British Government were concerned, he believed it was their intention, as communicated by Admiral Shadwell, to undertake the matter as soon as they were in a position to do so. The present Admiral, Vice-Admiral Ryder, he (the Chairman) had reason to know was just as keenly interested in the matter of the survey of the Coast of China as was Sir Charles Shadwell, and he (the Chair-

man) had not the slightest doubt that when the time arrived, he would afford every assistance in his power to carry it out. There was just one question in the report which he thought might create a little discussion, and that was the suggestion that had been made in connection with the opening of Tonquin. Some members might think that the Chamber was not in a position to send down a delegate. He thought, however, that Tonquin was so very close to Hongkong, that if a steamer or gunboat were going down, the expense of sending a delegate from the Chamber would be very inconsiderable. He thought it important that they should know something about that country, and there would be very little expense about it. He did not think there was anything else in the report to remark upon. He proposed that it and the statement of accounts be passed.

Mr. Belilios seconded.

Mr. Pyke said he supposed the clause about sending down a representative to Tonquin was not binding if the report was passed.

The Chairman said the matter had merely been put in to invite discussion. They only submitted it for that purpose; and if after the report was passed it was the opinion of the meeting that nothing should be done, nothing would be done.

The report was then put to the meeting and passed.

The Chairman then asked if any member had anything to say about the sugestion of the Committee with reference to the delegate.

Mr. Pyke said no doubt it would be very advisable to obtain information with regard to Tonquin, but he had a lively recollection of the Chamber, partly at his own suggestion, sending Mr. Moss to explore a district in that neighbourhood. The result of that expedition was certainly not so successful as members anticipated. It would be a very doubtful proceeding to send a man to Tonquin, partly from the difficulty of getting a suitable one. There would be no use in sending one like Mr. Moss. He was no doubt very energetic, and clever to a degree on certain points, but the information that he elicited at the cost of some $2,500 was certainly not remunerative to the Chamber. He thought before the committee decided on sending anyone to Tonquin, the greatest care should be taken in his selection. He asked if they had anyone in view.

The Chairman said a young gentleman here had offered himself. He did not know much about his qualifications.

Mr. Pyke said there was no doubt that as far as Mr. Moss's expedition was concerned it was a miserable failure. The Chamber, as he had already said, spent $2,500 on it, and for all the good that it resulted in, the money might as well have been thrown into the sea. Therefore, he thought they ought to pause before they spent a similar sum. The Chinese would no doubt soon find out the most suitable description of goods for Tonquin; and, as far as he was personally concerned, he was of opinion that it would be better to leave the trade to develope itself instead of sending a delegate.

The Chairman said the idea of the committee was not to equip a man as Mr. Moss was equipped. But if a gunboat was going down they might probably offer to take a man. It had occurred in the case of the ports in the Upper Yangtsze, and might occur again. In that case the expenses would be reduced to a very small sum.

Mr. Pyke said the Chinese had been trading with Tonquin for a long time. His firm had sold goods for it, and he had no doubt the Chairman had also. He did not think there was anything particular to elicit. There was a large demand for manufactured goods; but the result hitherto of foreigners opening up new places had been to add to their own expenses and to make way for the natives to make all the profits.

The Chairman said the committee had only intended to spend a few hundred dollars.

Mr. Pyke said just so; but he thought it would be as well to leave it to the resources of those who were connected with the trade. A number of native firms in Macao had been trading with Tonquin for years past. At present the goods were sold on the spot here without incurring any expenses. If they sold them at Tonquin they would get no more for them than they did now.

The Chairman said if they sent a delegate they might get some valuable information without entertaining the idea of sending the goods down there.

Mr. Pyke said that if the Chamber sent a delegate it would be more or less in an official form, and he thought a stranger going to Tonquin might be rather liable to mislead.

The Chairman said they were only proposing to do what had been done formerly. Two or three gentlemen from the Shanghai Chamber went up the Yangtsze, and there was no doubt that the trade there had increased.

Mr. Pyke said no doubt it had, but had it been increased more than it would have been if it had been confined to Shanghai?

The Chairman said he thought they had better take the sense of the meeting on the point, and asked if any of the members wished to say anything on the subject. The committee had only mentioned that probably, on the opening of the port, a similar offer might be made to what he knew was made on a former occasion. If so, the committee merely wished to know if they would be authorised to send a delegate down. Some expenses would necessarily be entailed, but it would be nothing like the amount they spent on the Moss expedition.

Mr. Belilios said when Mr. Moss was appointed, there was a discussion as to his capability. He thought they might adjourn the matter now till a man was found, and then they could meet and discuss his capabilities also. The Chamber could then vote any sum they might think necessary.

The Chairman said it required ten days' notice to call a special meeting, and in the meantime the opportunity might be lost.

Mr. Andre was of opinion that it should be left to the committee to settle.

Some conversation ensued, and ultimately it was agreed to leave the matter to the Committee, it being understood that the expense was not to exceed $1,000.

A Committee was then ballotted for, and resulted in the election of the following:—Messrs. Ryrie (Chairman), Greig (Vice-Chairman), Nelson, André, Dalrymple, Kahn, Karberg, Belilios, and Keswick.

The Chairman said he had now a resolution to propose. The members had all no doubt read the able letter attached to the report which had just been laid before the Chamber. He thought that that letter very clearly showed the interest which the writer of it took in the welfare of the Colony, and he need hardly say here the way in which he laboured for its benefit, and won the admiration of a very large majority of the community here. There was no doubt that when he was Governor of Hongkong, some of them perhaps thought differently to him on certain points; but at the same time, in any matter affecting the Colony generally, and with respect to any injury coming from anyone outside, they had in Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell the best champion the Colony had ever seen. (Applause.) He (the Chairman) had read several despatches, for the protection of the Colony, to those who were inimical to it, and in writing them and defending the interests of Hongkong, Sir Richard MacDonnell incurred the blame of the Imperial Government. He (the Chairman) thought such a man as that deserved the recognition of the Chamber. When here, he always had great respect to any opinions expressed by its members. Many important matters he referred to the Chamber, and was guided in a great measure by the results of its deliberations. Recently, the Chamber forwarded him a copy of the memorial, and they had to-day his reply to it. He (the Chairman) also knew that Sir Richard's exertions for the welfare of the Colony had not yet ceased, for he was still advocating the interests of the Chamber in the matter of the blockade with the Government at home. With these things in view, the least thing the Chamber could do would be to pass a vote of thanks to him. The Chairman then moved,

That the thanks of this Chamber be voted to Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, for the interest he continues to take in the commercial prosperity of this Colony, as indicated by his letter to the Chamber, dated 4th November last.

Mr. Kahn seconded the resolution, which was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sharp said it might be interesting to some of the members to know that the pamphlet which they and others had printed had been very widely circulated. He had heard by the last mail that no less than 744 copies had been placed in the hands of all the Chambers of Commerce, and all the members of Parliament. A number of copies had also been sent to the leading journals, and although he had heard at present nothing of it, he hoped to do so in a mail or two. The map had been very well executed, and the gunboats marked very prominently, and anyone who looked at it could at once see that there was no possibility of getting to or from Hongkong without the chance of being overhauled. If one in every ten of the total number printed was read, he thought the money that had been spent upon them would not have been thrown away.

The Chairman said he had intended to refer to that pamphlet, and state that very great credit was due to Mr. Sharp for compiling it; not only was that the opinion of people in this Colony, but it had been written out to him from home. He thought both that Chamber and the community of Hongkong were very much indebted to Mr. Sharp for the trouble he had taken in the matter (applause.)

Mr. Pyke said before the meeting separated, he wished to call the attention of the Chamber to certain clauses in the Stamp Act, one of the clauses of which pressed heavily on those who had transactions with Swatow or Amoy, whose merchants banked their money here. Bills drawn in this Colony bore a very small stamp, and it seemed invidious to merchants at Swatow and Amoy that their cheques should not be placed on the same footing. There was a way of getting over the difficulty, by the correspondents there advising that they had written to place a certain amount at the credit of those here. But this was not a desirable mode of doing business. He thought the Chamber ought to call the attention of the Government to this, and also to a clause which had occupied the attention of bankers, and that was with regard to the duty charged on notes for circulation. With reference to the cheques of Swatow or Amoy, he mentioned that if a bill for $3,000 were sent from those ports here, the duty would be $1.50, but if the same cheque were drawn here the duty would be only 2 cents. The Government, he supposed, would not give up this source of revenue without seeking for an equivalent, but he thought the Chamber ought to memorialise it on the subject. He moved—

That the Chamber do memorialise the Government for the revision of the Stamp Act of this Colony.

Mr. Nelson seconded the resolution. The Stamp Act as it stood required revision, and if it were revised, the Colony would be benefitted by it.

The Chairman said the Act had been revised once, and before that revision took place, a meeting of the Chamber was held to consider what alterations were necessary. He regretted to say that not many practical suggestions came out of it. He hoped when the revision came on again, that they should make more suggestions than they did last time. He asked whether, in the excessive duty complained of, Mr. Pyke intended to say that that this Colony suffered.

Mr. Pyke said those here suffered.

The Chairman said, in reference to the duty on bank notes, he himself had brought it forward in the Council on two occasions.

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said there was one more subject which he had to lay before them. He did not know whether all the members of the Chamber were aware, but some of them might know, that Dr. Eitel was now engaged in the revision with a view to the republication of Williams' Tonic Dictionary. There could be no doubt that this dictionary was a work of great value, and that if it was allowed to go out of print it would be a great loss to those who were acquiring the Canton dialect of the Chinese language. Every day there were some young men growing up and learning to speak this dialect, and he thought it a matter of the greatest importance that the book should be republished and revised. In fact, gentlemen who knew the Canton dialect and spoke it very well, had told him that without their tonic dictionary they could not get on at all. It was absolutely necessary for every student in this district, and under these circumstances he thought it would not be very creditable to the Colony if Dr. Eitel was to engage in this very laborious work without being pretty well assured that he would not be a loser himself by it. He had already received a grant from the local Government, but that grant would not be sufficient to cover the expenses. He had, therefore, appealed to the Chamber to assist him. The funds of the Chamber were certainly at present not so very prosperous as they could desire; in fact the receipts had just barely covered their expenditure. He regretted on Dr. Eitel's account that the Chamber could not afford him a very large sum, but it could spare a small amount, and no doubt he would be very thankful for it. He was not prepared to say the amount, but he thought $100 or $200 would be as much as they could spare. He moved that the matter be left in the hands of the Committee.

Mr. Sharp seconded. He thought the more that was known of Chinese the better it would be for them, the better it would be for all here, and the better it would be for China, and for the world. If it was thought by Dr. Eitel that the dictionary was important in facilitating the acquisition of that which was very difficult, as they all knew—in fact which had been too much for most of them there—he thought they ought to give him all the help they could.

The motion was put and carried.

The Chairman said that concluded the business.

Mr. Belilios: I propose a vote of thanks to those gentlemen who for the past year have managed the affairs of the Bank,—I mean the Chamber (loud laughter).

The meeting then terminated.—*Daily Press.*

Amusement.

YINGTZE RACES.

20th March, 1875.

Our Race Meeting came off yesterday, after having been postponed twice on account of the rain, which had spoilt the Course. Fortunately, the advice of our weather-wise residents, who were earnest in their prognostications, was taken, and the Meeting was not delayed further, for the storm which was predicted burst upon us this morning with such force as only can be experienced in these northern latitudes. The wind (N.W.) is so strong that it is difficult to walk against it, even if it were not painful to face the snow, or more properly speaking, the icicles which almost blind one. We had had comparatively mild weather of late, and some had come to the conclusion that the winter was really gone and that stoves could be dispensed with, but if such a conclusion has been acted upon, it will be necessary to get under the blankets in order to keep warm. Two sailing vessels and a steamer were observed near the Bar, and it is to be trusted they are securely anchored.

But *revenons à nos moutons*, as my intention is to chronicle the result of the Races, just now. It is right, however, to tell you that we had a Grand Stand, which was graced by nearly all the beauty and fashion of Yingtze. The first Race was

The Manchurian Cup.—Value, immaterial in a pecuniary point of view. Catch weights. ¾ mile. And was contested by:—

Mr. Warwick's white pony *Sultan* 1
,, Druggist's grey pony *Rajah*..... 2
,, Carr's grey pony *Shamrock* 3
,, Yazzeah's grey pony *Viceroy* 4

Sultan won easily, hands down, *Rajah* and *Shamrock* being fairly up, and *Viceroy* nowhere.

The Ladies' Purse. Catch-weights. ½ mile.

Dr. Watson's iron grey pony *Iron Duke*..... 1
Mr. Druggist's dun pony *Pharisee* 2
,, Yazzeah's black pony *Bullet*..... 3
,, Bush's grey pony *Dobbin* 4
,, Wells' grey pony *Bob* 5

The favorite *Bob* refused to start at his rider's request, and so lost any chance he might otherwise have had, the struggle being between *Iron Duke* and *Pharisee*, the first named of these, however, winning, with some lengths to spare, although "*Pharisee*" (who, as one of our local wits gravely remarked, looked "sad you see"? Sadducee!) was very gamely ridden, and had no doubt received the best medicines from his master's shop. Chemicals, however, will not remove a chronic lameness, and poor *Pharisee* has doubtless run his first and last race. The fortunate rider of *Iron Duke* (Captain Man) received the Purse from Mrs. Adkins, who congratulated him in a neat little speech to which a very suitable reply was made.

We then adjourned to the Tent set apart for tiffin, which was of the very choicest and best kind—after which there was a 100 yards Foot-race—between Natives. Prize, $5. Then came the third Race.

The Newchwang Derby.—Catch-weights. 1 mile.

Dr. Watson's iron grey pony *Iron Duke*..... 1
Mr. Warwick's white pony *Sultan* 2
,, Yazzeah's black pony *Bullet*..... 3
,, Wells's grey pony *Bob* 4
,, Bush's grey pony *Dobbin* 5

This race was well contested. It looked very much like a dead heat between *Sultan* and *Iron Duke*, but the Judge's fiat was in favor of the latter, who thus carried off the two best prizes, and whose performances entirely upset the books of the knowing ones. Then came the last Race, for

The Consolation Stakes.—½ mile, catch-weights, which, after one false start, during which *Rajah*, *Bullet* and *Viceroy* raced the whole distance, leaving *Shamrock* waiting for them to come back, was decided, after another run between the four, as follows—viz.:—

Rajah..... 1
Bullet..... 2
Viceroy 3
Shamrock 4

There was considerable argument as to whether the Starter was right or wrong; but it all ended amicably in a "Second Spin," and gave some consolation to a third stable, which is satisfactory in so far that it is more likely to induce a continuance of the Races, than if the winnings had all been confined to the other two owners.

The natives attended in full force, and, from what one could overhear, were as eager to make bets as the foreigners.

Newchwang, 21st March.

Miscellaneous.

FATAL COLLISION AT SEA BETWEEN THE "OCEAN" AND "FUSING."

We have to record another of those terrible disasters at sea, a collision between two steamers, involving much loss of life, this time on our own coast and between vessels well-known in this port. The catastrophe, the particulars of which we are about to narrate, happened on Sunday morning last, at about half-past ten o'clock, when the British steamer *Ocean*, of 970 tons burden, and commanded by Captain Brown, collided with the C. M. S. S. *Fusing*, commanded by Captain Andrews, the damage being so great that the last named steamer sunk in a very few minutes after the occurrence. The weather was calm at the time, but a dense fog prevailed, and the sea was rising in a heavy though unbroken swell. The *Fusing* was, we are informed, going almost dead slow, when suddenly the sound of a steam-whistle was heard, and almost as suddenly was seen the form of a large vessel bearing dead on to her. The order was given to back astern at full speed, but before the effect of the engines could be well felt, the stranger vessel struck the *Fusing* just about the fore-rigging, and such was the force of the blow that the whole of her fore compartment was cut completely asunder. The scene that then ensued was dreadful. The *Fusing* had about 125 people, including passengers, on board, and almost before a boat could be launched, she went down head foremost. Many of the people were in the forecastle, some asleep, and as she dived into the sea, some of the poor wretches were seen running along her decks to avoid the waters that were rushing after them. Fortunately, at least in this instance, she had some deck cargo, consisting of spars of wood, and these floating as she sank were the means of salvation to a goodly number of the people on board. Captain Andrews managed to get one boat afloat, and into this were soon crammed about 26 of the passengers and crew; and to the honour of those on board the *Ocean* be it said, that vessel stopped her engines, stood by, and lowering her boats, saved about thirty more of the unfortunates, who by this time were either floating in the water or on the spars washed from the deck of the *Fusing*. Still there were many whom it was impossible to save. Some were either killed in the forecastle by being crushed by the bows of the *Ocean*, or were so dreadfully injured as to be incapable of doing anything to save themselves, and in this manner some 50 or more found a watery grave. The *Ocean's* boats were lowered, and proved the means of saving many from the floating spars, and for some time pulled round

the spot where the ill-fated steamer disappeared, in the vain hope of saving more. The *Ocean* herself received such severe injury that, had the weather been in any degree rough, it is more than probable she would not have lived to reach port. As it was, a large hole was knocked in her bows, and her fore compartment was filled with water, but luckily the bulkhead stood firm, and so another catastrophe was prevented. By stowing this compartment with bags of rice, the water was in a measure got rid of, and seeing there was no more hope of saving life, the *Ocean's* head was turned towards the Yangtsze. It should have been stated that the sad affair happened about 120 miles North of Shaweishan Island. Favoured with continued calm weather, the *Ocean* reached Woosung yesterday, when Captain Andrews and the rescued portion of the crew and passengers of the *Fusing* came up to Shanghai in another steamer, and the catastrophe became known. Among the passengers of the *Fusing* were several of the native officials known as rice-Mandarins, only one of whom, we believe, was saved by clinging to a spar. All the Europeans on board, except the third officer, were saved either by the boats or by means of the spars, being afterwards taken off either by Capt. Andrews' boat or the boats of the *Ocean*. It is said that one reason why the boats of the *Fusing* could not be got afloat was that the Chinese on her decks crowded into them and so prevented the falls working. Some of the unfortunates taken on board the *Ocean* were either so injured by being crushed, or exhausted by their immersion in the water, that they died after they were received on board the *Ocean*. Luckily the *Ocean* reached Woosung before the gale of Monday night came on, or it is believed by those on board that she must have sunk ; and therefore the tale of disaster could not have been told. The foregoing particulars were obtained at a late hour last night, but we have every reason to believe they are substantially correct.

THE "CITY OF PEKING."

Familiarised as people have been of late years with large steamers, in the vessels belonging to the Pacific, P. & O., and Messageries Maritimes lines, the appearance of the *City of Peking* in Eastern waters has excited special interest, not only because of her imposing dimensions, but because her construction marks a new epoch in ship-building in the States. A correspondent at Hongkong sends a few notes of a visit he paid the steamer there, which bear out, from an English point of view, the glowing descriptions already given by what might have been deemed the too partial Press of America.

"Successive reports of mail guns, within less than an hour, announced to the good folks of Hongkong, on Thursday morning, that the Old World and the New had met in their harbour—the *Peiho* with the French mail representing the former, and the *City of Peking* the other section of the globe. The *Peiho* is a fine large steamer, but it was not she that attracted the gaze of those who turned their eyes seaward, to watch the cautious coming in of the mails ; the much-heralded pioneer of the P. M. S. screw propellers loomed on the restricted horizon, and eclipsed every thing in the harbour. Not that her length of 427 feet over all looks leviathan, duly proportioned as it is with the modest beam of 48 feet—(there are no canals to be wriggled through between California and China)—the effect is greatly heightened by the four tall masts which form her rig, and which carry heavy yards. Lovers of the graceful in marine architecture consider their appearance almost a defect in the vessel, but people who have to make the long ocean voyage will be well pleased to find that the *City* carries her spars for use and not for show. Under favorable conditions, the ponderous steamer can ease her engines and economise fuel by displaying her canvas ; and under unfavourable conditions, such as a breakdown in her machinery, she can hold her own, or make a few knots, under sail. There is always a danger of a screw blade dropping away in a vessel putting such a strain on her propulsive agent, the more so as it is difficult to get blades, of the size necessary, welded so thoroughly as smaller ones. The danger, however, is but partial—in crossing from San Francisco on this her first trip the steamer lost but one, and she carries spare blades. The engines of the *City of Peking* consist of two high and two low pressure, the former cylinders being 51 inches in diameter and the latter 88 inches, with 4½ feet stroke. Steam is supplied from ten cylindrical return tubular boilers, each 10½ feet in length, 13 feet in diameter, and working up to 65 lbs. This steam is produced by 32 furnaces,—including that for two donkey engines ; and the consumption of coal is about 50 tons per diem. On this the vessel can make 300 miles—stated to have been her average run on the voyage to China, at by no means the best season of the year, and without full power being employed. The effective horse-power of her engines is 4,600. There are nearly 200 people on board in the various departments, of whom 6 are officers, 9 cadets, 6 engineers, with 60 men under them, 30 sailors, the others being connected with the mails, passengers, freight, and general business of the ship. Ten life-boats and four life-rafts are carried. It is unnecessary to say more about the deck arrangements, the steering gear, &c., than that they are characterised by all the ingenuity and system which distinguish first-class steamers in these times. The draught of the steamer is marked up to 25 feet, and she ordinarily draws 23, while her screw is just immersed at 21. As she is 38 feet in depth, she has therefore plenty of freeboard. Her capacity is set down at 5,500 tons, of which 1,500 is required for coal, and 4,000 is available for freight. She can also, however, take 1,500 steerage and 150 saloon passengers. What most strikes the visitor below is the immensity of the cargo space. At the moment, the most wonderful activity prevails, there being barely a week in which to discharge and re-load. Coolies are "tumbling up" from numerous hatchways, with the little pillow-slip sacks of Californian flour, recalling very much the activity of an egg-bearing colony of ants. The saloon is of course the place where one's interest in the accommodation of the vessel culminates. In its arrangement, there is a notable improvement on the old practice, a section of about one-third from the companion way (amidship end) being wholly devoted to the dining hall, which thus extends from ports to ports,—the full breadth of this fine broad steamer. The tables are suited each for eight or ten people, and instead of the long awkward forms, which require people to take their places at table in regular rotation to avoid imaginary feats in gymnastics or the disturbance of their neighbours, there are very convenient and comfortable dining chairs, fixed but working easily on a pivot. The cabins occupy the rest of the space under the quarter—the inner end is really the saloon proper—and are arranged in a double row on either side with a spacious corridor between. They are very roomy, well lighted, well ventilated, and splendidly fitted up. The style and finish of the passenger accommodation is altogether gorgeous. The heating apparatus should be noticed ; like everything else, it is designed not only to be practical, but æsthetic. Over the companion way there is a superb social hall, with a grand piano, library and other provision for recreation and amusement. There is also an excellent smoking room forward of the engines, and a barber's shop, got up as Americans know how to do it. With such steamers and good management, the P. M. S. Co. ought to succeed against any rival on the broad Pacific."

DESULTORY DOLES FROM THE SOUTH.

The weather is hot enough to produce prickly heat, and the transition from that mild disease to the more virulent one of Cacoethes Scribendi—is as simple as falling off a log.

His Excellency the Governor has taken his departure, and the reins have been taken up by another elderly gentleman, who, in mercantile phraseology, so distasteful to the official mind—will for a time sign the firm.

The labours of Government have for some time been directed towards the concoction of a marriage ordinance, which is now nearly completed. The fees have been arranged on the basis of bezique scoring—two dollars for a common, and seven for a royal marriage. The Hon. P. Ryrie considers these excessive, but some people are of opinion that matrimony is dear at any price. The Chief Justice asked if parties should be allowed to marry "*in forma pauperis.*" Jokes always fall gracefully from the lips of a Judge ; but at the moment when the limits of the poor-house are being enlarged, with the view of accommodating a daily increasing crowd, composed of the victims of impecuniosity—many of the inhabitants of Hongkong would rather have lost the Latin, and had their feelings spared. My Lord Bishop is on strike ; the result, it is believed, of some difference of opinion between His Lordship and the inferior clergy. The merits or demerits of the dispute are unknown to the uninitiated, but it is supposed that, while the higher authority considers spiritual food should consist of fish, soup, and a joint, the smaller fry contend for the addition of several entrées and much table decoration.

Macao has negotiated a loan, trifling in amount, but not altogether insignificant when contrasted with the security, two white elephants, and a worn-out Portuguese law suit.

Further Chinese loans are spoken of, offering every inducement to investors—high rate of interest, and, for security, a lien over the Woosung Bar, the only permanent thing left in China. Some people might prefer a lean over the Club Bar

The Mandarins in Canton continue intermittingly to decapitate real, or supposed, participators in the *Spark* tragedy. These petty sacrifices to justice please the officials, and don't materially diminish the population of China. Poor Mr. Mundy's plaintive appeal to a paternal government proved futile, as he himself probably expected. His case is unquestionably a very hard one, but had his career as a tea-taster in China—for which he informs the public he was destined from his birth—remained uninterrupted, he would, probably, have made the discovery that the path of a chazee is not altogether strewn with flowery pekoe—*Sic transit gloria* Mundy.

There is some likelihood of Hongkong being purchased by Bismarck, as a coaling station. The Chinese might be induced to re-claim it, were it not that, in the hands of its present possessors, it forms an admirable harbour of refuge and basis of operations for their Revenue Squeezers, to which our liberal Government accord all the privileges and immunities attaching to full-blown men-of-war.

In your Saint Patrick's dinner, a slight inaccuracy must have crept into your contemporary's report of same, where he says—"In chief, a Shillelagh *Couchant.*" *Rampant*, galore ! or bedad that self-same "sprig" has become unworthy of the hand that gently severed it from the parent trunk.—Pessimist.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, April 1st.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

W. Lent *v.* F. Gilman.

Claim $41.75.

This was a claim for the value of certain property (window and door hooks, gas globes, &c.,) missing from a house on the Bubbling Well Road, leased by plaintiff to defendant.

Defendant denied his liability.

Wm. Lent, sworn, stated—On the 10th of March last, I leased my house on the Bubbling Well Road, to defendant, for 12 months. I produce the lease. Defendant gave notice on the 7th Nov. that he proposed to quit. Under the terms of the lease, he was responsible for the house and fittings until the expiry of the lease. From information I received, I visited the house in the middle of December, and found that the place was quite deserted, the gate open, the hall door and all the bedrooms, with the exception of two, unlocked. I went all over the house and found no one in charge. I visited defendant, and told him the state of affairs, and he promised to send some one to take charge at once. On the 31st of Dec., I again received information that the doors were all open, and no one in charge, and also that several globes had been taken off the gas-burners. I then wrote to defendant (letter read) concerning it, to which he replied, and confirmed the fact that four globes were missing from the drawing-room. He also mentioned that he wished to give up the house at once, in consideration of his paying the rent up to the 10th March 1875. I did not accede to the proposition, but informed him that I held him responsible until the lease expired. Matters so went on until the end of February, when I told defendant that I was willing to take over the house, if he was agreeable. He agreed, and I therefore was twelve days in the house before the lease expired. It did not occur to me then to ascertain if anything was missing. I afterwards found that all the window and door hooks in the downstairs rooms, and one bedroom were gone, and eleven globes from the gas burners. I had the articles replaced, and sent the bills to defendant, who returned them to me. I purchased the globes from the Gas Company, and the hooks, &c., from Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. ($31.75). I also claim $3.00 for a window in the stable, and $7.00 for five hard-wood stable bars. I did not make any claim until the 10th of March last.

Defendant objected to the claim, on the ground that Plaintiff had asked to come into the house before the lease had expired, to which he consented; therefore he considered that, as no claim was made at that time, plaintiff had waived it. He admitted the matter of the globes, but if it had been pointed out to him by plaintiff then, so that he could have seen for himself, and had the opportunity of replacing the articles, there could have been no doubt as to his liability. But as plaintiff had not done so, to say the least, it was open to doubt.

His Honor expressed his opinion that there could be no resonable doubt that the articles missed had been taken from the house when it was unprotected; therefore he would give judgment for plaintiff, for the amount claimed, but without costs, inasmuch as had plaintiff had given notice to defendant of the missing articles when he resumed possession of the house, the defendant would never have disputed his liability, and thus there would have been no action.

April 2nd.

George Murray *v.* John Snowden.

Plaintiff is Captain of the steamtug *Rocket*, and he sued the defendant, a pilot, to recover $99, for services rendered to the steamer *Glenfinlas*, at his request, in August, 1874.

The defendant did not appear, but service of the summons was proved by the Court Usher.

Plaintiff said—I am Captain of the tug *Rocket*. I claim $99, for services rendered to the steamer *Glenfinlas* about the 25th August. The services were towing her off the mud at the Woosung Bar. The *Rocket* was under my charge then. I was engaged by the pilot on board the steamer, with, as I supposed, the sanction of the Captain. The Captain was not on board then. I refused to take hold of her until the very last of the flood tide, in order that the Captain might be on board. He came while the vessel was coming off. I had made fast to her before he came. He got on board while she was coming off. I at first refused to take hold of her, because the terms the pilot offered, which he stated were offered by the Captain's direction, were Tls. 50 if she did not come off, and Tls. 100 if she did. Our usual charge is Tls. 100 per tide or part of a tide. I accepted the pilot's offer at the last, rather than come back without doing anything. An action was brought in this Court on the 14th September last. I failed in that action on the ground that the Captain had distinctly declined the tug's services, and that a telegram had been sent from him saying that the tug was not wanted. Under those circumstances, I now sue the pilot. At that time I expected the Captain to pay the charge, but as it stands now, I look for payment from the pilot. I took some cargo-boats down to the steamer to lighten her. The pilot asked me if I had seen the Captain, as he had an engagement for me to tow her off. I said I had not seen the Captain. He came aboard the tug, and we went to the telegraph office and telegraphed to the Captain, asking whether he would engage me at Tls. 100 a tide. I received an answer from Messrs. Gilman & Co., the agents: "Captain Wilcox has gone down the river; cannot engage a tug-boat," Upon this I told the pilot that if the Captain did not come down at the very last of the flood, I would take his offer. If he did come, I would not accept it. I should, in that case, have gone to the Captain and asked him if he would engage the tug at Tls. 100 a tide, whether the steamer was got off or not. The pilot gave me a memorandum that the Captain had authorised him to engage a tugboat at the terms he had named.

Captain Wilcox, sworn, stated—I was the master of the *Glenfinlas* on the occasion named. She got ashore abreast of the bar, on a Thursday. I came up to Shanghai on the Monday morning. I left the pilot, Snowden, and the chief officer in charge. I gave no instructions to the pilot to engage a tugboat. I said nothing to him about it that morning. I told him I should be on board before high water that night, but if I was not there, he was to back the engines and try to get her off. The ship was then lightened 400 or 500 tons, and I knew the tide would be higher on the Monday night. I had gone up to Shanghai to ask about the future employment of the ship. I got down to the ship a few minutes past nine, and found the ship fast to the tug. I asked who engaged her, and the chief officer said the pilot had done it on his own responsibility. I asked the pilot why he had engaged the tug, and he said he did not think the ship would come off without. The tug remained fast to her about a quarter of an hour after I was on board, keeping the ship in her place. There were two kedge anchors out astern, and there was difficulty in getting them up, as the ship might have gone ashore again. I could not order the tug to cast off, because the ship was afloat, and was, in consequence, under the pilot's charge. It is not true that I told the pilot to engage a tug on the terms stated. The anchors, when I got on board, were not holding—they were just touching the ground, up and down, and we had nothing to hold on to except the tug. Her engines were moving ahead to keep the ship in position, and to prevent her drifting up the river. The pilot said to me on the Sunday—why did I not make a bargain with the Captain of the tug to pay him Tls. 100 if she got off, and nothing if she did not. The Captain of the tug had asked me several times to engage him, but I told him I did not want him. I received the telegram from the Captain of the tug as I was starting to return to Woosung, and told the agents to reply that a tug was not wanted. The ship was so much lightened, that I knew she would come off that night on the higher tide.

His Honour said the evidence given confirmed him in the view he took of the case heard in September last, when the plaintiff was unfortunately not present. He did not see how the Captain could be made responsible, as he told the plaintiff his services were not required. The Captain went up to town, saw the telegram sent by the plaintiff, and instructed the agents to telegraph back that the tug was not wanted, and he had repeated that statement now in Court. The only reason why plaintiff had taken the pilot's offer appeared to be that he felt he had better take the chance of the pilot's authority, rather than lose a tide.

Plaintiff produced the written guarantee he had received from the pilot, saying he thought it was quite sufficient to show the engagement of the tug. The Captain had also acknowledged his indebtedness to him (plaintiff) personally on two or three occasions, and said the money would be all right, and that he would leave it with the agents, or something to that effect.

Captain Wilcox again repeated that he never authorised the pilot to engage a tug. The ship's money was not his own, and he could not pay such a charge without sanction. What he told the plaintiff was that the agents of the ship, Messrs. Gilman & Co., had written on the subject, to Messrs. Macgregor, Gow and Co., the owners, in London, and if they sanctioned the payment, the agents would pay it. He (the Captain) acknowledged that services were rendered by the tug to the steamer, but he contended that they were unauthorised, and that the plaintiff forced his services on the ship.

His Honour asked if the owners had answered Messrs. Gilman & Co.'s letter?

Captain Wilcox replied that he did not know. The ship was consigned this voyage to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and he had no business transactions with Messrs. Gilman & Co. He had, however, enquired if an answer had been received, but could not ascertain.

His Honour said the case as against the Captain must fail, the pilot having engaged the tug against the Captain's instructions.

Plaintiff—But there is the pilot's guarantee. Suppose I had come upon the Captain for salvage—for Tls. 3,000 or Tls. 4,000?

His Honour—Could the steamer have been got off in the first place without the assistance of a tug? and could she have been prevented going ashore again without such assistance?

Captain Wilcox was not prepared to say; but he knew she would come off, under her own steam, with the higher tide of the Monday night, and through being lightened. That was the reason he permitted her to remain on the mud so long. The plaintiff several times asked to be engaged, but his services were always declined. The ship's bows only were on the mud—her stern was afloat.

His Honour, addressing the plaintiff, said that, as the defendant was not present, the case must be adjourned for his attendance. He thought, however, it was a case in which the steamer ought to pay, as it was she who had benefited by the tug's services.

Captain Wilcox said it would be hard to make the steamer pay for services that were forced upon her.

His Honour—If the services were not required, what induced the pilot to engage a tugboat? I cannot decide the case now, but must hear what the pilot has to say in the matter. The plaintiff will let the Court know when the pilot can attend.

April 5th.

John Meehan Walker *v.* Alexander Malcolm.

Alleged Detention of Opium.

Mr. H. Brougham Miller appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. W. V. Drummond, instructed by the Municipal Council, for the defendant, who is a sergeant of police.

Mr. Miller, in introducing the case, said what pretence there was for detaining the plaintiff's opium he did not know, but the defendant simply refused to give it up. There were four balls of opium, valued at Tls. 50, and the facts were that on the evening of the 18th March, two of plaintiff's servants were set upon by some ruffians, and pillaged of the four balls. The drug was taken to the Hongkew Police Station, and the defendant, who was on duty at the time, refused to give it up. The action was therefore brought to compel him to give it up, or, if he had parted with it in a way he had no business to, to make him pay its value.

Mr. Drummond said he was instructed by the Municipal Council to appear for the defendant, who denied that he had detained the opium.

Plaintiff was then called, and deposed—I am a merchant. I believe I am registered as a merchant. I recollect the night of the 18th March. Between six and seven in the evening, I was taking four balls of opium for sale to Hongkew. I had two servants with me, carrying the opium. I walked faster than they did. I missed them, and went home to my house to see if they were there. They were not there, and I waited a little time, when they came, and said the opium had been taken from them and to the Hongkew Police Station. I went there, and asked the man on duty to return to me my property—the opium. He said the opium was not there. Next morning I went to Mr. Stripling, and asked him the name of the officer who detained the opium. He told me it was Sergeant Malcolm. I have not got back the opium. It is my property. I value it at Tls. 50.

By Mr. Drummond—I had two servants in charge of the opium. I believe they were seized at the Hongkew bridge. I believe the defendant is the man I applied to for the return of the opium. I asked him for my property, and he said it was gone. I do not recollect the exact words I used. I stated that the property was four balls of opium. Nothing more passed. Next morning, I asked Mr. Stripling for the name of the officer who had detained my property. He said it was Sergeant Malcolm. He looked in the charge-book for the name.

Mr. Miller thought he need not carry the case any further, and that the evidence given was sufficient.

His Honour—I think not. You must trace the opium to the defendant's possession, and the evidence of the plaintiff's servants will probably be necessary.

One of the coolies was then called, and through Heding, the interpreter, deposed—I am the plaintiff's coolie. I remember the evening of the 18th of March. I and another coolie were ordered to carry four balls of opium to Hongkew. The purchaser went in front, and my master followed behind. My master's chop was on the balls of opium. At the foot of the bridge, on the other side, there were about ten men in wait for us. Those men took us to the Police Station. They were runners, and they tried to snatch away the opium. The purchaser ran away. The opium was taken with us to the Police Station. A policeman was sent with us and the runners to the Mixed Court. They were ordered to leave the opium, and go away. We went back to the plaintiff, and reported the matter. When at the Hongkew Police Station, the "head of the police," took the opium, looked at it, and then sent a foreign policeman with us to the Mixed Court. The runners did not seize the opium at the foot of the bridge. There was a struggle, and a native policeman came up, and took us and two of the runners to the station. The other runners dispersed. The opium was inspected at the Hongkew Police Station, and then handed to the runners, who carried it to the Mixed Court. The opium was fastened round our waists, and of our own accord we unloosed it. The police told the runners to take the opium to the Mixed Court, and a foreign constable was sent with them. Our tails were tied together. The runners' tails were not tied. Our tails were tied at the foot of the bridge, by the native policeman. I had done nothing more than carrying the opium. My master's name was on the paper that was round the balls.

By Mr. Drummond—My master was not in sight when we were seized at the bridge. He left us at the Garden bridge. I am sure my master was not in front of us at the time, I reported the matter to him immediately after we left the Mixed Court, at my master's hong. I do not know the exact number of runners—they were about ten. They seized us, and in the struggle a native policeman came up. None of the opium was taken from us in the struggle. It was round our waists when we got to the Police Station. We were not told to take it out—we took it out of our own accord. I can't be sure it was the defendant I saw at the Police Station. Boysen went with us to the Mixed Court; our tails were untied before we went into the Police Station by the runners. Boysen told the runners to tie our tails again, inside the Station. He made signs with his hands that we were to be tied. We did not see the Magistrate at the Mixed Court. We were placed inside the Court, and one of the officers came. We were not taken before Chên. It was then past seven o'clock.

By Mr. Miller — There was no charge made against us at the Police Station or at the Mixed Court. We were told at the Mixed Court, to leave the opium and go away.

The second coolie was not examined, it being stated that his evidence would be merely a repetition of that given by the last witness.

Mr. Miller wished to know whether the police intended to produce the charge-book?

Mr. Drummond said it could be produced if wanted.

His Honour asked if an entry of the case had been made?

Mr. Stripling said there was no charge made, but an entry had been made in the occurrence book.

His Honour said Mr. Miller should have given notice for the book to be produced.

Mr. Miller said he merely wanted to see what had been entered, and then intimated that his case for the plaintiff was closed.

Mr. Drummond said he would simply put the defendant into the witness box, to state what occurred at the Hongkew Police Station.

Alexander Malcolm then deposed—I am a sergeant of police, and defendant in this case. About 6.20 on the evening of the 18th March, the native constable at the Station gate informed me that two *likin* runners had brought four balls of opium to the Station. I immediately went into the office. I saw the runners and the other two Chinamen there. Four balls of opium were lying on the floor. I did not examine them. I told Boysen to get ready to go to the Mixed Court. They all left at 6.29—in a very few minutes. The runners carried the opium. I examined the runners' cards. They bore the seal of the Municipal Council, a number, and the signature of the Acting Superintendent, Mr. Stripling. When I saw the coolies in the Station, their tails were not tied. They were standing six feet apart at that time. They were tied by the runners when they left the Station; by the runners, without any direction from the Police. I did not see any motion made by Boysen with his hands. I did not interfere with the opium at all. The runners lifted the opium from the floor, and put it into their dress. The plaintiff came to the Police Station about 8.45 the same night. He said some opium of his had been stolen from two men in his employ, somewhere in the Hongkew Settlement. He did not ask me to return it to him. He said his business was worth Tls. 600 per month, that money was no object to him, and that he would give Tls. 10 reward for its recovery.

Mr. Miller objected to this evidence without a written statement to support it. That was why he wished to see what was written in the charge book.

Witness, examined by Mr. Miller, said—I was in sole charge of the station on that night. I knew the men were *li-kin* runners by the card. If I had chosen to have forbidden the opium being taken from the Police Station, it might not have been taken away, but it was not in my power to detain it.

His Honour said that the defendant was first sued for having detained the opium, and it appeared that fault was found with him for not having detained it.

Mr. Miller said his contention was that the opium should have been kept at the Station until it was claimed by the rightful owner. Now, that the defendant had allowed it to be taken away, he was sued for its value.

Examination resumed—My instructions are that when these people come to the Police Station, and show their card of authority, to send the opium on to the Mixed Court. That is what is done in all these cases. If I had seen that this opium bore the plaintiff's chop, I should not have detained it. It was not my province to do so, and I know no more about it.

P. C. Boysen deposed—I was instructed by Sergeant Malcolm to see the coolies and runners to the Mixed Court. The coolies' tails were tied together, but they were not in my custody. The Municipal Police had nothing to do with the matter.

By Mr. Miller—I believe I was sent to see that they were not molested on their way to the Mixed Court. My instructions were to see them to the Mixed Court, and I had no more to do with them.

This closed the case, and

Mr. Drummond said he should ask the Court to dismiss the plaint. It was formerly the practice that opium seized in this manner was taken into the City to the Chinese Court there, but now these cases are taken to the Mixed Court within the Settlement, and brought before the Chinese Magistrate and Foreign Assessors, and the assistance of the Municipal Police is given to the Chinese runners, as Revenue Officers, just as assistance is given to the Officers of any Consular Court here. That was the simple fact of the case. The defendant had nothing more to do with it than that. The opium had never been in his possession, and it was impossible for him to have detained it.

Mr. Miller said he did not know what the case was, if it was not as the plaintiff had stated it. His servants were molested, taken into custody and then to the Police Station, where their master's property was taken from them. Next, their tails were tied together, and with the runners, they were taken by Boysen to the Mixed Court. If that was not being in custody, what was? At the Police Station the defendant did not take the trouble to look into the matter at all, although the opium bore the chop of the owner, the plaintiff, and it had been detained so long now that the owner could not get it back again. If there was any quibble in the case, it was a quibble to say this was not a detention. If, on the way to the Mixed Court, the coolies had tried to run away, Boysen would have stopped them, and yet he said they were not in his custody. What power the Chinese police had in this Settlement, he (Mr. Miller) could not see. They might as well come and seize a man's watch and chain while he was walking in the Settlement, for money said to be owing to the Chinese Government. Then there was an allusion to this class of cases. What class of cases? This was a case in which the plaintiff had been pillaged, and his property taken away from him. Mr. Stripling's telling the sergeant to send the opium to the Mixed Court constituted no authority, nor did it establish the fact that the property was in the possession of the runners; for the defendant had put it out of the owner's power to recover his property at all.

His Honour—It is in the Mixed Court, is it not?

Mr. Miller—The owner does not know where it is.

His Honour—I was informed this morning that the Taotai and Mr. Medhurst would sit to decide as to who was the real owner.

Mr. Miller—That is more singular still. Why should they sit to decide upon the ownership in such a case? We do not say that Malcolm has done wrong, but that he has behaved carelessly and negligently, and so put it out of the plaintiff's way to obtain possession of his property. What he should have done, was to have detained the opium in such a way that the owner might have got it again. That he did not do.

His Honour—It seems he did not detain it at all, but got rid of it as soon as he possibly could.

Mr. Drummond said the plaintiff went to the Mixed Court, on the following day, and made application for the opium, so there was no excuse for saying he did not know where it was. He (Mr. Drummond) called to the recollection of the Court, the case of Mr. Loureiro, to which this was precisely similar.

His Honour commenced by reading his judgment in that case as reported in the *Herald* of September 26th, 1974, and then went on to say that he did not see that he could decide differently in this case. All the evidence showed that the runners and not the Police, had treated this man's servants as though they were criminals, but that did not amount to anything as affecting the case itself. The Police Sergeant said he did not know whose property the opium was, and so sent it to the Mixed Court.

Mr. Miller—But you will remember that this opium bore the owner's mark.

His Honour—Any hong name might be stamped on anything. Then, why did he not carry it openly? Why should it have been concealed, and carried around the coolies' girdles? Why not have carried it in an open and *bonâ fide* manner? I must decide in this case as in the former one. It is the second case of

the kind, and I would recommend that the question should be decided once for all by an appeal to the Chief Judge. If my decision is not right, you can have it put right, and then there will be an end to these actions. If the police are right, there will be no more of these harrassing actions brought against them, and they will know their duty clearly. The present is a case for costs, because the same point has already been decided, but I will give you the option of bringing it before the Supreme Court.

Mr. Drummond asked for costs.

His Honour—I will not make an order for costs, if Mr Miller will take the case further; but if he does not take the case further, then I shall consider that he acquiesces in my decision, which he must have known beforehand (the facts being the same as in the earlier case)—and that consequently he ought not to have brought the action. In that event I shall give costs for the defendant.

Mr Drummond—Will your Honour mention the amount of costs? There is, too, a limit of time for bringing an appeal.

His Honour—The time is fourteen days; and if the case does not go any further, I shall fix the costs at $25. Meanwhile Judgment will be for defendant.

Clippings.

Several new buildings are in progress in the Foreign Settlement. The new house which Mr. Masfen is erecting, and which is leased to the U. S. Consul, M. M. De Lano, Esq., for a term of years, is going up rapidly. The building in course of erection for the Great Northern Telegraph Company is also making fair progress, and will soon be completed. Messrs. John Forster & Co. are commencing the erection of a new hong, compradore's office, &c., on their premises, below Messrs. Birley & Co.'s. The American M. E. Mission are just completing a new building adjoining their church, to be used as a Printing Office and Theological Seminary. It is three stories in height, with a half basement; and has a fine position, overlooking the river.—*Foochow Herald.*

The telegram which we subjoin, from the *Times of India*, brought the first information of Mr. Margary's death:—

Rangoon, March 7th.

When the Expedition was near Manwyne, four marches from Bhamo, a hostile demonstration was made. This was on the 22nd February.

Mr. Margary went ahead, reconnoitring, and entered the town, when he was treacherously murdered.

The remainder of the party were attacked by one hundred Chinese hillmen, when it fell back, and arrived without further loss at Sekkaw, Bhamo.

Mr. Elias started for the southern route, but the Chinese authorities stopped him from going further than Mynemow.

The annual report of the Postmaster-General, again, owing to the dulness of trade, shows diminished receipts. The decrease in the gross revenue as compared with 1873 amounts to $5,688.91, of which $869.68 is apportioned to the Imperial Post-office and $4,819.29 to the Colonial Government. The average number of days occupied by the mail steamers in making the passage between here and Europe was less last year than in 1873, by both English and French packets. The quickest outward passage was made by the English packet, which accomplished it on one occasion in 35 days. One mail, sent from Hongkong by French packet *vid* Marsilles, was delivered in London in 35 days; the quickest homeward passage achieved by the English mail was 38 days.—*Daily Press.*

Intelligence of the wreck of the celebrated tea clipper *Maitland* on a coral reef, near Huon Island, has been received from Sydney. A passing vessel noticed the wreck, and on proceeding to the island a bottle was found containing documents which leave little doubt that the crew of thirty hands have all been lost in the South Pacific. The *Maitland*, sailing a point off the wind, was considered to be about the fastest clipper afloat. She made the fastest voyage on record from Sunderland to Hongkong, in eighty-four days, and competed several times in the great races from China with the new season teas. She left London at the beginning of last year, and was wrecked on May 25, while on a voyage from Brisbane to China for tea.—*Overland Mail*, 19 Feb., 1875.

News has been received by the Calcutta Foreign Office of an attack having been made by the Chinese upon the Burmo-Chinese Exploring Expedition. The party, under command of Colonel Horace Brown, left Rangoon some weeks since for the purpose of exploring the Western Bhamo route to China. They were attacked by the Chinese near Momein, on the upper route from Bhamo. Mr. Margary, the Interpreter, was murdered, together with five Chinese servants, and their heads exposed on the walls of Momein. Mr. Ney Elias, who was also attached to the party, but was proceeding by another route, has been recalled. As the expedition was provided with passports from the Chinese Government this attack is inexplicable. From Calcutta, we hear also that orders have been received from England to hold regiments in India ready for immediate service. It seems probable that the attack upon Colonel Brown's party has something to do with these preparations.—*Times of India.*

Our Shanghai friends recently made the gathering of St. Andrew the occasion of a little self-glorification, and have been telling one another that they are now "a mighty and increasing city, instead of a petty settlement." It affords us much pleasure to learn that they are so well satisfied with their own rate of progress, even in this progressive age; but still they must not be surprised if the outer world shows just a little unwillingness to accept, without any demur, their own estimate of themselves, for they have their shortcomings. This mighty and increasing city possesses a most useful institution, one that has done, and is still doing, good service in advancing our knowledge of matters relating to China and the Chinese, styled the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, which, when it assembled the other day to hear a learned paper read, was not able to muster the bare *quorum* of members necessary for the transaction of the most ordinary routine business. From this melancholy fact we are afraid that the love of knowledge in "the mighty and increasing city" has not kept pace with its more material development, and that there is still something lacking there to enable it to compare itself with Liverpool or Leeds. Apart from this, the sparseness of attendance at the meeting alluded to was certainly not complimentary to the author of the paper—Mr. T. Watters—when we consider that the essay in question cost him much time and labour. The paper we refer to was on the Buddhist Sutra, *Miao-fa-Lien-hua ching* (in Sanskrit *Saddharma pundarika*), which is commonly translated "The Lotus of the Good Law," and, as far as we can gather from the brief summaries in the Shanghai papers, must have been—to quote one of them—"well "calculated to throw light upon the mysteries "of the Buddhist system, especially in some of its later phases."—*L. & C. Express.*

The steamer *Ocean*, Capt. Brown, reports—Left Newchwang on the 31st ult., at 1.15 p.m. Arrived at Chefoo on the 1st instant at 6 a.m., left same day at 4 p.m., bound for Swatow. Had exceedingly thick weather immediately after leaving port; on the 4th instant, for the first four hours had strong head wind and sea; from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. dense fog, the ship going at reduced speed, and the steam whistle kept sounding at intervals of one minute. At 10.40 a.m., the whistle was answered by another steamer on the port bow. The Captain and second officer were on the bridge. Orders were at once given to port the helm, stop the engine, and reverse full speed, which orders were instantly obeyed. The look-outs then reported something right a-head, and in less than one minute came into collision with the steamer *Fusing*, striking her on the starboard bow, close to the fore-rigging. A large hole was knocked in the *Ocean's* port bow, above and below the water line, about 10 feet by 5 feet. The steamer *Fusing* was settling down by the head, and as soon the ships got clear, they lost sight of one another. The *Ocean's* boats were all lowered, and proceeded to the assistance of the sinking steamer, being guided by the cries of the Chinese passengers. The *Fusing* foundered almost instantly, and the passengers were clinging to the wreckage. The first boat in charge of the 2nd officer, picked up the chief officer of the *Fusing* and eleven Chinese who were floating on a ladder. The second boat, in charge of the 1st officer, picked up eleven more Chinese; and a third boat in charge of the 2nd and 3rd officers, rescued thirteen others, and a fourth boat was dispatched in charge of 3rd engineer. Only one boat belonging to the *Fusing* got clear of the wreck, with the European portion of the crew, with the exception of Mr. Stewart, the 3rd engineer, who was drowned, and some Chinese—23 in all. After putting them on board the *Ocean*, the boats returned, and searched for over two hours amongst the wreckage for any other survivors. The compradore was found floating, quite dead. Many of the Chinese saved had sustained severe bruises, and had an arm or a leg broken; their wants were attended to as soon as possible. All attention was then given to the condition of the *Ocean*; the hole in the bow was blocked up with planks and bags of rice, and all hands—crews and passengers, were set to work to jettison the cargo (which consisted mostly of beancake) out of the fore compartment. By midnight, the ship was sufficiently lightened as to enable her to proceed for the nearest port. Two Chinese died on board the *Ocean*, and their bodies with that of the compradore were brought to Shanghai. Passed Shawieshan at 11 a.m. on the 5th, and received a pilot on board at 3 p.m. Blowing hard from the N.N.E. at 9 a.m. on the 6th. The Captain and officers of the *Fusing* proceeded to Shanghai in a Chinese boat. Arrived at Shanghai on the 9th instant.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	15 ¾ dis. ex 72½
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	77 cash, 80 June.
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		20
North-China Steamer Compy	100		7 nominal.
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 68
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T. 10 p. sh	220
Footung Dock Co	,, 100	5 p. c.	88
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80 nominal
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	480
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	126
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600 nominal
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	1 p. c.	98 April 30.
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 @ 5/7	first year	£99 ex. 5/7

Exchange

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅞

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 7TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—The steamship *Conquest*, and the London mails of 19th February, per P. and O. steamer *Pera*.

Telegrams.—London, 2nd April.—*Mid. Or. Cotton*, 8⅛d. per lb.; 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*—*Eagle*—9s. 10½d. per piece, strong; W. B. *Lead*, £22, and *Iron*, £10.

PIECE GOODS.—Business has been almost entirely suspended here during the past week. The Tientsin dealers have done nothing either by way of purchase or of clearance. They have been waiting for Li's decision in regard to Sun's recent proclamations. The Viceroy has spoken, and a copy of his Chop was received here yesterday per steamship *Shanse*. The document is exceedingly vague, and for all that it contains, H. E. might just as well have held his peace. The merchants, however, appear mollified, if not satisfied, and now consider themselves safe in shipping cargo. They commenced clearing yesterday afternoon, and will probably begin buying again when they receive the heavy portion of their mails, which they say is coming in the steamship *Appin*—overdue. Foreigners advise a fair demand for most of the staple imports. Nor have the Upper-Yangtsze agents, resident amongst us, been doing anything either. But foreign advices from Hankow, under date 3rd instant, state that "during the past three days the news of the rise of the Shanghai "market has caused some excitement amongst dealers here, and a good business has been done in *Grey Shirtings* at 2 *a* 3 cents advance, "and there has also been a good demand for 7-lbs. *T-Cloths*, but the supply has not been large, and only 1,000 pieces 7-lbs. Collie's "*Green Lion* on bale have been sold at Tls. 1.45. In Drills there has likewise been more doing;" the sales—amounting to about 5,000 pieces, Tls. 2.42 *a* 2.46 per piece. Chinkiang.—An extensive business at advancing rates for the week ending 5th instant—market closing firmly, but quietly owing to the inactivity prevailing here. No improvement, nor any appearance thereof from Japan as yet.

Shanghai.—One sale of 5,000 pieces *American Sheetings*, ex *Titan*, at Tls. 3.72½ is recorded, and that is the most important transaction booked since this day-week. Small parcels of 14-lbs. *Drills* English—*Pillar* &c., have changed hands, and Tls. 2.37 *a* 2.38 per piece is their established value. The quotations for most other fabrics, however, are nominal, and, although holders generally profess firmness, it remains to be seen how they will act when their firmness is tested by actual offers.

The following comprises the sales reported since 31st ultimo :—

6-lbs. Grey Shirtings	1,800 pieces	at Tls. 1.34	@ 1.39½	per piece.
7-lbs. Do.	2,500 ,,	,, 1.43	,, 1.46	,,
8¼-lbs. Do.	15,000 ,,	,, 1.70	,, 1.96	,,
7-lbs. T-Cloths—Mexican	4,500 ,,	,, 1.42	,, 1.45	,,
14-lbs. Drills	4,100 ,,	,, 2.37	,, 2.38	,,
Jeans	600 ,,	,, 1.88	,, —	,,
Sheetings, American	5,000 ,,	,, 3.72½	,, —	,,
Spotted Shirtings—White	500 ,,	,, 2.22½	,, —	,,
Brocades ,,	500 ,,	,, 2.25	,, —	,,
Do. Black	500 ,,	,, 2.60	,, —	,,
Do. Dyed—Assorted	1,000 ,,	,, 2.70	,, —	,,
Turkey Reds—2¾-lbs. fine	500 ,,	,, 2.25	,, —	,,
Camlets,	700 ,,	,, 13.30	,, 13.50	,,
Figured Orleans	900 ,,	,, 3.10	,, —	,,
Lastings Black best	500 *a* 600 ,,	,, 12.00	,, —	,,
Russian Cloths, No. 2	100 ,,	,, 30.00	,, —	,,
Medium Cloths, inferior	200 ,,	,, 0.80	,, —	,,

The scarcity of supplies of 7-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, 7-lbs. Ordinary Mexican *T-Cloths*, common assorted *Chintzes*, at Tls. 1.30 per piece or so, and *Spanish Stripes* has restricted business a little; and the enquiry for these even has not been of a very lively character. To-day there is some demand for 18 in. *Velveteens*, plain black *Lustres*, cotton *Lastings*, and common 2¼-lbs. *Turkey Reds*, but the offered prices are rather too low for business.

Erratum.—In last week's report, by a printer's mistake, *E-wo Green Dragon*, 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, was quoted Tls. 2.05 per piece. The rate should have been Tls. 2.00½ per piece.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.1.0	14.3.0	14.0.0	12.7.0	13.3.0	...	...	12.2.5	12.8.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.1.0	7.0.0	6.5.0	7.0.0	7.2.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.4.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.1½	0.5.6	0.5.8½	0.6.1	0.6.2	0.60	0.57	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.5.5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 1ST APRIL, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
C.P.H. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	14.10/14.12½	14.30/14.35	14.00/14.05	12.72½	13.32½/13.37½	...	.....	.....	12.80/12.85	..
S.S.G. ,, p. pce ,,	13.35/13,40	13.10/13.15	13.35/13.40	12.65/12.67½	13.22½/13.25	...	.....	.....	12.47½/12.55	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.62½/0.62¾	0.56¾/0.57	0.57½/0,57¾	0.63½	.....	0.68	0.58	0.60	0.56/0.56½	0.59

Sales.—*Camlets*, C.P.H., 510 pcs., av. Tls. 13.90 per piece; S.S.G., 600 pcs. av. Tls. 13.26 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 378 pcs. av. Tls. 0.60 per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock, 1,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.67½ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₩ pc.	1.4.3	to 1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ,,	1.6.6	,, 2.0.0
9 *a* 9½-lbs. ,,	2.3.0	,, 2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ,,	2.6.5	,, 2.8.0
Tun Sin ,,	3.0.5	,, nom.
G. E. White Shirtings—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.0	,, 1.7.0
60 reed ,,	1.7.3	,, 1.9.0
64 ,, ,,	1.9.0	,, 2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5	,, 2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed ... ,,	2.3.5	,, 2.6.5
Best ,,	2.8.0	,, 3.3.0
Drills, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs.	3.3.5	,, 3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs.	2.3.2	,, 2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,,	2.6.5	,, 2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.	2.2.9	,, 2.3.8
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb.	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs.	1.8.5	,, 2.0.0
American ,, ,, ,,	2.7.5	,, ...
Sheetings—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs.	3.7.0	,, 3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs.	2.7.5	,, 2.9.5
T-Cloths—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.5	,, 1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.8	,, 1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ,,	1.2.8	,, 1.3.3
7-lbs. ,, ,,	1.4.0	,, 1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs. ,,	1.6.7	,, 1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.9.0	,, 2.2.5
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.5	,, 0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0	,, 0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0	,, 2.6.5
Brocades—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0	,, 2.2.5
Dyed ,,	2.6.5	,, 2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.2.0	,, 4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings.. ,,	2.3.5	,, 2.6.0

Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,, 1.5.0	Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5	,,0.0.6½	Long Ells—			
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.5	,, 1.4.0	Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....	₱ pc.	1.3.0	,, 1.4.0	Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom.	₱ pc.	7.1.0	,, ...
Scarlet	,,	1.3.5	,, 1.4.5	41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5	,, 1.5.5	,, C P H	,, ,,	7.1.0	,, ...
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.		...2.0.0	,, ...	Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,, 0.9.5	Assorted, H H	,, ,,	6.8.0	,, ...
50/52	,,	...3.7.0	,, 4.9.0	Camlets, English, S S	,, ,,	13.1.0	,,14.0.0	,, C P H	,, ,,	6.9.0	,, ...
T. Reds, 24 yds. 2½ a 3lbs. 32in.	,,	1.7.0	,, 2.1.0	G G	,, ,,	13.3.0	,, ...	,, G G	,, ,,	6.7.5	,, ...
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5	S S G	,, ,,	13.2.0	,, ...	Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,,12.6.0
Velvets—Black, 22 in...	₱ yd.	0.1.6½	,,0.1.9½	Medium & Broad Cloths	₱ yd.	0.7.5	,, 1.6.5	Crape Lastings, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,, 8.5.0
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.4	,,0.1.4¾	Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.7½	,,0.5.8½	Crape Lustres	,,	3.4.0	,, 3.9.0
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,, 0.2.1	,, T. T.-B	,,	0.6.0	,, ...	Plain—Do. Black.....	,,	3.7.5	,, 3.9.0
				,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,, ...	Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,, 3.6.0
								Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail-Rod Iron.*—A fair business in ordinary and common brands is again recorded, and dealers report an improving trade, but prices remain depressed owing to excessive supplies of all but best quality. The latter continues firm, and the smaller sizes are again dearer. *Lead.*—The natives have been doing scarcely anything, and prices are nominal. *Tin.*—This article shows a further decline, and still enquiry languishes. *Quicksilver.*—Sales of English at Tls. 120 are reported, which establishes a fall of about Tls. 40. *Copper.*—Unchanged. The small trade requirements are supplied from stocks at quotations.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.	
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	125.0.0	a 130.0.0	COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0	a 8.6.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0	a 6.2.0	,, Medium	,,	9.0.0	a 9.6.0
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	,, Best	,,	10.0.0	a 10.6.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	per Pcl.	6.5.0	a 6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1	Nom. ,,	5.7.0	a 6.4.0
18 ... nominal	,,	7.0.0	a	,, 2	,,	5.2.0	a 5.8.0
19/23 no demand.	,,	7.7.5	a 8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0	a 5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing.....nom.	,,	19.4.0	a	Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	a 5.4.0
Fok Chok ..... ,, ...	,,	19.0.0	a	,, 2	,,	4.6.0	a 4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0	a	,, 3	,,	4.4.0	a 4.6.0
STEEL	per Tub	3.3.0	a 3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	a 4.5.0	Common ...	,,	2.6.0	a 2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	.....	a	,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.0.0	a 18.5.0	,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	a 2.6.0
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	.....	a	PEPPER—Black	,,	8.8.0	a 9.0.0
HOOP IRON	,,	3.2.0	a 3.3.0	—White	,,	15.0.0	a 18.0.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	30.0.0	a	RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0	a 3.6.0
				—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	a 4.0.0
NAILROD IRON—				—Best	,,	4.2.0	a 4.4.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	.....per Pcl.	3.1.5	a 3.2.0	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0	a 3.0.0
Belgian ..... ,,	..... ,,	2.5.5	a 2.6.0	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	a 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,,	..... ,,	2.7.5	a 2.8.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0	a 3.7.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,,	..... ,,	2.9.0	a 3.0.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0	a 10.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0	Malabar	,,	16.5.0	a 18.0.0
				MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0	a 1.3.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	..... ,,	6.0.0	a 6.0.5	FLINT STONES,	,,	0.4.8	a 0.5.5
Japanese & Common Brands ,,	..... ,,	... ..	a				

FREIGHTS.—*Lydia*, Br. bq., 376 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 18 lay days—$0.35 per picul; *Condor*, Ger. bg., 235 tons, Shanghai to Wladivastock, 14 lay days—$1,360 in full; If back to Chefoo, 24 lay days—$0.45 per picul seaweed; *J. S. Stone*, Am. bq., 710 tons, Nagasaki and back, 17 lay days—$2.25 per ton coal; *Marmion*, Am. bq., 823 tons, Nagasaki to Hongkong, 20 lay days—$2.00 per ton coal; *Adèle*, Am. sch., 387 tons, Foochow to Tientsin, no lay days—private terms; *Almatia*, Am. sch., 387 tons, Singapore and back, 46 lay days—$6,000 in full.

COTTON.—The position of this export is unaltered. The business doing is trifling, but the hongs maintain their former demands.

EXCHANGE.—A fair amount of Bank paper has again been settled at 5s. 9d., at which, however, only two Banks have been willing sellers. Credits have been saleable to private buyers at 5s. 9¼d., and to Banks at 5s. 9½d. Documentary paper is quoted 5s. 9⅝d. per Tael. India.—After the departure of last mail, sales took place at Rs. 304 a 304½, but quotations are now Rs. 305½ on Bombay, and Rs. 306½ on Calcutta. A large business on Hongkong has been done at 27⅛ per cent., which is the closing rate for Bank Bills on demand.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7½d.	₱ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9½d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅝d. a 5s. 9¾d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.31¼	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, nom...	Rs. 306	₱ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,, ...	Rs. 306½	₱ 100 ,,

On Hongkong.—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅛ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7 a 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.00 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.05 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 172.02 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,570 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 7th April are reported as :—

		Malwa,			Patna,		
Stock on 24th March			3,924	Chests.		1,744	Chests.
Receipts since		,,	1,386	,,	,,	200	,,
Total.....		,,	5,310	,,	Total ..... ,,	1,944	,,
Deliveries from 24th March		,,	1,761	,,	,,	438	,,
Present Stock		,,	3,549	,,	,,	1,506	,,

Bargained Opium..... .....1,600 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing Price.
Malwa—New,...	Tls. 437	421	425
Old, ...	Tls. 460	444	450
Patna—New,...	Tls. 436	430	435
Old, ...	Tls. 452	445	445

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,409,349 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	2,317,069 ,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,043,351 ,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	1,778,729 ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	52,825,194 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,368,632 ,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,526,490 ,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	8,686,707 ,,

Black.—The season is closed.

Green.—There have been only a few buyers in the market, but a fair amount of Tea has been purchased at about last mail's quotations. Stocks are now very small, and there is scarcely anything of really good quality left on offer.

		Stock		against 1874	
Settlements—Fychows and Moyunes	12,401 ½-chests.		1,850 ½-chests,		1,380 ½-chests.
Pingsueys	1,890 ,,	,,	3,250 ,,	,,	600 ,,
Shanghai Packed	2,700 ,,	,,	1,100 ,,	,,	600 ,,
	16,991 ½-chests.		6,200 ½-chests.		2,580 ½-chests.

Prices paid have been—

	Exchange, 5/9½.	London, Freight, £3. 10s.	New York, £2 10s. per ship.
Fychows, Moyunes etc.	Tls. 17 *a* 32½	= 1/0 *a* 1/9¼	= 24½ *a* 44¼ cents per lb.
Pingsueys	Tls. 21 *a* 28	= 1/2¼ *a* 1/6½	= 29½ *a* 38½ ,,
Shanghai packed	Tls. 17 *a* 22	= 1/0 *a* 1/3	= 24½ *a* 30¾ ,,

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
BLACK	65,092,732 lbs.	58,683,383 lbs.	61,459,985 lbs.
GREEN	12,101,094 ,,	9,784,025 ,,	11,110,261 ,,
	77,193,826 lbs.	68,467,408 lbs.	72,570,246 lbs.

Export to United States and Canada—

BLACK	1,844,500 lbs.	801,149 lbs.	1,275,964 lbs.
GREEN	18,368,697 ,,	20,147,426 ,,	22,255,867 ,,
	20,213,197 lbs.	20,948,575 lbs.	23,531,831 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	77,193,826 lbs.	68,467,408 lbs.	72,570,246 lbs.
,, Foochow total season	61,581,299 ,,	55,448,663 ,,	52,937,142 ,,
,, Canton to 29th Mar.	19,863,912 ,,	15,680,217 ,,	20,366,840 ,,
	158,639,037 lbs.	139,596,288 lbs.	145,874,228 lbs.

SILK.—Public telegrams from London report the silk market "Flat and little doing." Gold Lion No. 1, 17s.; Red Peacock, 15s.; common No. 5 Tsatlee, 12s. 3d.; Hangchow Tsatlee, 12s. 9d. @ 13s.; and 9/12 moss Taysaam, 11s. 9d. per lb.

For the French mail (which closed on the 2nd instant) purchases did not exceed 450 bales, which were taken at the following prices:—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Yakee Chop Nos. 3 and 3½	Tls. 390 & 365	19s. 5d. & 18s. 1d.	Frs. 54.09 and 50.69 (on joint account.)
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and "Kin Hock"	Tls. 327½ & 300	16s. 3d. & 14s. 11d.	Frs. 45.55 and 41.84
Blue Elephant	Tls. 312½	15s. 6d.	Frs. 43.54
S S.S. Dollar chop	Tls. 277½	13s. 10d.	Frs. 38 74
Common Tsatlees	Tls. 255 *a* 270	12s. 8d. & 13s. 5d.	Frs. 35.71 *a* 37.75

Settlements this week are about 450 bales, making a total of 900 for the fortnight. "Dragon" chop is said to be taken on joint account at Tls. 390 per picul for No. 3; "Bird" chop, "Kin Ling" and "Fung Ling" have been purchased at Tls. 300 and Tls. 267½, a few bales long reel Taysaam, at Tls. 222½, and market Tsatlees, at Tls. 265 *a* Tls. 280 per picul. Nearly 200 bales of re-reels have been settled for America, prices paid being Tls. 290 @ Tls. 320 for re-reeled Tsatlees, and Tls. 305 @ Tls. 340 for re-reeled Hainings. The unsold stock is further reduced and is estimated at 1,100 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 5th April, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 69 @ 74, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	13,150	36,969	14,100	55,110	5,950	1,800	11,900	1,600	...	...	5,000	...	...	6,950
T-Cloths ..... ,,	7,520	9,450	9,915	34,029	6,125	450	11,375	4,330	...	...	...	...	...	8,680
White Shirtings ..... ,,	550	1,550	610	8,375	500	1,000	1,450	200	...	...	...	...	...	3,260
Drills ..... ,,	180	195	...	8,230	780	840	5,220	...	105	...	...	...	...	690
Jeans ..... ,,	150	140	...	2,140	800	2,450	640	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Sheetings ..... ,,	420	...	...	...	100	900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	505	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	100	50	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	50	350	100	350	650	...	200	100	150	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	80	...	...	280	200	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	40	740	400	1,779	120	300	600	210	60	...	...	...	...	1,350
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	100	150	50	275	1,160	...	9	...	...	399	...	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	..	120	144	300	90	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	96
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	48	...	192	40	...	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	200	1,000	1,200	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	...	...	1,102	...	200	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	1,000
Dimities ..... ,,	100	60	100	220	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	36	228	60	324	24	...	...	66	48	...	...	...	...	312
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	30	148	24	342	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
Camlets ..... ,,	100	410	370	1,220	30	30	60	50	40	50	...	...	...	180
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	160	300	1,100	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lastings ..... ,,	60	60	50	680	30	20	120	140	...	100	...	...	...	100
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	60	650	140	1,104	900	120	990	...	...	...	...	...	...	520
,, Crape ..... ,,	30	...	50	250	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	1,474	1,901	...	344	...	...	1,092	...	...	...	674	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	558	181	879	2,131	188	...	...	2,257	...	...	187	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries. For Week.	Deliveries. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Imports. For Week.	Imports. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Stocks. Estimated at date *	Stocks. Against 7/4/74.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	152,529	956,021	34,899	979,613	1,246,500	738,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	91,874	560,295	25,750	312,245	357,500	1,045,000
White Shirtings..... ,,	17,495	153,840	8,559	189,803	131,800	35,000
Drills ..... ,,	16,240	107,480	7,380	81,509	218,000	433,500
Jeans ..... ,,	6,440	69,257	3,509	91,507	50,800	50,100
Sheetings..... ,,	1,420	8,400	1,500	14,100	7,400	48,900
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	605	10,396	350	18,448	10,900	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	1,478	1,800	2,490
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	900
Brocades, White ..... ,,	550	4,371	499	5,783	3,600	.....
,, Dyed ..... ,,	2,050	12,086	.....	12,782	29,900	24,000
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	600	3,315	400	6,000	9,800	6,400
Chintzes ..... ,,	5,599	41,526	2,325	26,186	73,300	98,700
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,243	22,955	1,217	30,867	34,700	17,100
Velvets..... ,,	780	11,004	522	15,449	12,100	17,400
Velveteens ..... ,,	409	2,677	360	3,410	2,000	7,200
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	5,000	45,604	4,758	27,327	54,500	107,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	2,702	7,788	1,813	3,113	6,400	26,700
Dimities ..... ,,	780	5,240	.....	1,930	11,400	9,700
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,098	11,476	1,586	12,220	11,500	30,500
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	796	5,253	312	5,696	10,900	19,500
Camlets ..... ,,	2,540	20,580	1,630	19,233	21,300	16,500
Long Ells..... ,,	1,680	16,980	1,100	14,780	6,800	14,500
Lastings ..... ,,	1,360	8,678	.....	7,720	11,500	5,900
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	130	2,400	220	2,619	9,400	2,300
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	.....	4,820	60	4,209	3,400	.....
,, Figured .... ,,	4,484	32,832	1,860	18,973	114,700	119,500
,, Crape .... ,,	530	5,960	.....	2,800	18,000	7,100
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	6,381	27,233	840	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	5,485	32,854	... ..	51,212	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Khiva, Lotus, Patroclus, Glenfinlas, Titan, Peiho, Pera, Conquest,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

April 8, 1875.

Arrivals.—April 2nd, British steamer *Conquest,* from London.

Departures.—April 3rd, Br. sh. *Silver Eagle,* for New York, and Br. str. *Patroclus,* for London; 5th, Br. bq. *Dilpussund,* for New York.

The English mail steamer *Pera* takes 400 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅝d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 305 *a* 305½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 306 *a* 306½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.20. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 72.95 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.50 per 100. Copper cash, 1,585 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

H. & S. Bank.—A small business has been done at 15 % *dis.* and Exch. 72¼, at which the market closes firm, with no sellers.

S. S. N. Co.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 77 cash, and Tls. 80 for June, at which shares are still obtainable.

Fire Insurance.—*Victorias* have changed hands at $126, and *Chinas* at $133 each, and $133½ for 30th instant. The market closes with sellers of *Victorias* at $126, and of *Hongkongs* at $480.

Marine Insurance.—A few *Yangtszes* have been placed at Tls. 585. Buyers of *China and Japans* don't offer better than Tls. 80 for 30th June.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Shares are now obtainable at Tls. 98 for 30th instant.

The Weather has again been very variable. With a strong Southerly wind, the Thermometer rose on Friday and Saturday to nearly 80; but the wind hauled round to the North again on Sunday, and it has since been quite cold, the Therm. on Monday marking only 55 max. The extreme fluctuation has been from 78 to 46.

Land.—At a land auction on the 2nd instant, the following prices were realised:—A lot of land situated near the Ningpo Joss House, measuring as per Title Deed 2 *mow* 5 *fun,* and registered in the U. S. Consulate as Lot No. 175. (This lot by recent survey contains 4 *mow* of land.)—Tls. 121. A lot of land adjoining St. Catherine's Bridge, and near "Overweg's" Bungalow, measuring in area as per Title Deed 10 *mow,* 3 *fun,* 8 *li,* and registered in the U. S. Consulate as Lot No. 174.—Tls. 14 per *mow.* A lot of land situated on the Pootung side, adjoining Muirhead's Dock, with frontage on the River Whangpoo of over 2,000 feet, containing as per Title Deeds 118 *mow* 3 *fun* 3 *li* 8 *haou,* and registered at the U. S. Consulate as Lots Nos. 127, 186, and 187.—Tls. 480 for lot. A property situated at Woosung, immediately West of the Imperial Maritime Customs Harbour Master's Station, and adjoining the Station of the Woosung Road Company. Lot. 1.—A plot of land immediately West of the Woosung Road, containing about 28 *mow.* Tls. 10 per *mow.* Lot 2. A plot of land North of the last-named property, and immediately West of the Woosung Road, containing about 28 *mow.*—Tls. 10 per *mow.* A lot of land situated on the Pootung side, containing as per Title Deed 5 *mow* 9 *fun* 2 *li* 1 *haou,* and registered at H. B. M. Consulate as Lot 726, Title Deed 719.—Tls. 4 per *mow.*

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 414. SHANGHAI, APRIL 15, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Feb. 26	Hankow,	Apr. 11
San Francisco,	Mar. 13	Yokohama,	„ 7
Hongkong,	Apr. 10	Nagasaki,	„ 13
Tientsin,	„ 7	Foochow,	„ 11

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Jan. 21 } Received 1st March.
Shanghai, ... „ 15 }

BIRTH.

On the 8th instant Mrs. R. S. RAPHAEL of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 8th inst., at the Church of the Holy Trinity, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, ALPHONSE BOVET, Esq. to CORNELIA, daughter of General R. Allen, U.S. Army.

DEATH.

At Shanghai, on the 12th April, LYTTLETON HALLETT, M.R.C.S. The funeral will take place at 4 o'clock this afternoon, 13th instant, at the New Cemetery.

NOW READY.

Apply to
Messrs. TRUBNER & Co.,
8 & 60, *Paternoster Row, E.C.*

A Translation of the "PEKING GAZETTE" for 1874. The work is immensely improved this year, by a very full and complete INDEX.

By the kind permission of the Editor of the *China Review*, an able article on the "Peking Gazette," by W. F. MAYERS, Esq., Chinese Secretary to H. B. M. Legation, forms an interesting and appropriate introduction.

To be had at the *N.-C. Herald* Office, at Messrs. KELLY & Co., HALL & HOLTZ, and LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

29th March, 1875.
7, Hankow Road. tf 58

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1875

WITHOUT desiring to draw an undue contrast between the countries, it is well occasionally to mark the difference which exists between the courses adopted by the two neighbouring states of China and Japan. It may seem ungracious to be continually holding up the one as a pattern for imitation to the other; and Japan, while doing much, has done it in such a way as very often to excite rather satire than admiration. There are, however, many acts left which seem to have been dictated by a true knowledge of the state of affairs, and which, ushered in without pressure from without, are all the more worthy of record. The different feelings with which China and Japan regard the important question of the trade in rice, is one of those matters which show how very much further on the road to civilization is the smaller and more lately opened country; and how much more thoroughly Japan has learned those true principles of policy, without which no nation can attain to a prosperous condition. While China burdens the trade in rice with unwholesome dues and, in the matter of the supply to the North, nurses it with still more damaging effect, as well as diminishes the growth of the staple by shutting it out from the markets of the world; the Japanese, more wise in their generation, have learned that the best incentive to an increased production is to allow free export. Last year, from political motives and, as it seemed to them, with the result of injuring China, at that time unfriendly, they did forbid the export. That this prohibition was a mistake, even from their own point of view, the advisers of the Japanese Government will probably now themselves allow; but, such as the reasons were, they were considered to be exceptional, and not to denote any settled change of policy. The Japanese Government has, accordingly, now that matters are settling down after the apparently imminent breach with China, taken an early opportunity of removing the embargo on the staple.

Now it is worth while looking a little into the circumstances of the two countries, as regards the export of rice. Japan is a much smaller country than China, and moreover contains within its limits a smaller proportion of land suitable for growing cereals. If the system which leads to the prohibition of the export of rice, as taking away food from the people, were a wise one, we should hear some day that the people in Japan were suddenly starving for want of that very article which they had sent out of their own country into the markets of the world. China, as we said, is very large as compared with Japan, and therefore, an amount of rice which exported from the former would be inappreciable in its effect, if sent away from the latter might absorb the whole crop. Strange to say, we do not hear of this result. On the contrary, year after year, Japan comes to the assistance of China, sending over large quantities of rice, and her own people never seem to feel the want of food. In fact they grow rich, because the permission to export gives them a direct interest in growing as much rice as they possibly can—the result being that, in seasons of scarcity, there is still enough for their own consumption; and, in seasons when the yield has been good, the excess can be turned

into other commodities, more useful and tangible than so much grain stored up in public granaries. In fact, storing grain, as is attempted to be done in China, is like hiding one's money in the ground. It is of no profitable use either to the owner or any one else. We can see, on the other hand, daily, what the prohibition of free trade in rice is doing in China. So far from increasing the amount of food produced, it has directly the contrary effect; for what interest can a man have in toiling to grow two piculs of rice when, after using one, the other is only useless drug on his hands? He has no means of exchanging it for money or for other commodities, and so cannot, from time to time, change his seed and improve the produce. Again, he has learnt improvident habits, so that when a year of scarcity comes he does not know what to do or where to turn. Only the rich can afford to buy foreign imported rice. The ordinary dweller on the soil has not the means of amassing money to pay for food in such a case; he has been kept poor by the artificial restraints placed on the cultivation of those products which he could have supplied to the world, but was not allowed. This state of affairs is so very common in China, that we are almost safe in predicting its occurrence in one or other province of the empire every twelve months. The best remedy is the simplest; and five lines of a Japanese notification have done more to increase the comfort of the people, than volumes of laws and memorials.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 26th February, arrived yesterday by the M. M. steamer *Meikong*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the M. M. steamer *Peiho*.

The Shanghai-Amoy cable has been repaired, and telegraphic communication re-established.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

Reactionary educational decrees of the King of Spain have elicited protests from the professors.

The Prince of Wales has returned from a Royal Meeting at Venice, where he was entertained with splendid fêtes, and received with much cordiality and enthusiasm.

Revenue for the year—£74,500,000.

A warlike article in a Berlin Paper is causing uneasiness.

No action is taken by the British Government with reference to the murder of Mr. Margary, pending the receipt of Mr. Wade's report.

The Bishop of Breslau, having refused to resign when called upon, will be prosecuted.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bourke confirmed the exchange of notes between Belgium and Germany, which had been confidentially communicated to England, but neither party appealed to England.

The Berlin Ministerial journal produced a warlike article.

Captain Boynton, with his life apparatus, floated fifty miles across the Channel; nightfall prevented his reaching Boulogne. The result was telegraphed to the Queen.

The sixth half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the North-China Insurance Co. (1872-4) was held on Friday. The accounts showed a profit on the half year of Tls. 141,844. This is the last ordinary meeting of the Company of 1872-4, and the Directors were empowered to wind up its affairs. A special meeting will be called bye-and-bye, to pass final accounts.—The new Company (1875-7) has been started, and is working satisfactorily.

The annual meeting of the Trustees and Subscribers to the Chinese Hospital was held on Tuesday. The accounts show that the new building is clear of debt, and there were Tls. 509 at credit of general account at the close of the year. The report showed that the hospital is more and more resorted to, and by better classes of Chinese. The question of inducing the Chinese to support the institution was much discussed. A full report will be found on another page.

The annual meeting of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on Monday evening. The Reports of the outgoing Council, of the Librarian, and of the Curator were read, showing that much useful work had been accomplished during the past year.—The following officers were then elected to serve for the present year:—President, Mr. Medhurst; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Wylie and Seward; Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. G. Smith; Librarian, Mr. Cordier; Curator, Mr. Pryer; Treasurer, Mr. Reding. Messrs. Kingsmill, Little, Johnson, Taintor, Rev. J. Thomas and Dr. Macgowan, Members of Council.—Mr. Wylie then read a continuation of the notes of the Archimandrite Palladius, with reference to the travels of Marco Polo. The present portion was mainly occupied with the districts lying North-West and West of the capital. The palace of the Yuen dynasty at Shang-du; the city of Cambalu and the palace there, the paper money of the Yuens and the religion of Empire, with many more topics of interest formed the basis of the paper. Its reading was unfortunately rather prolonged, so that little time was left for discussion, or for the reading of the second paper of the evening, by Mr. Kingsmill.—Mr. Kingsmill identified the Yuèti with the Ephthalites of the later Greek writers, and the Kiangs with the Kuru tribes of Indian tradition. The latter enabled him to offer a reasonable explanation of the myth of the Emperor Shên-ming, which he felt disposed to assign to the early part of the Han dynasty, when intercourse with India was constant.

We learn from the Minutes of the French Council meeting of the 31st March, that terms of arbitration about the Yang-king-pang encroachment have been at last definitely agreed on. The English Council are not conscious of having made any encroachment, but are willing that the question whether they have done so should be included among the points to be submitted to the arbitrators. These points are, then, to be as follows:—

1.—Is the Yang-king-pang bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek?

2.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek?

3.—Have the (English) Municipal Council made encroachments on the North Bank of the Yang-king-pang? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek? and do they really prejudice the interests of property owners?

The English Council suggested the 5th April for submitting the question to the arbitrators, but the French Council protest that the excess of office work incidental to the close of the year prevents them from agreeing to that date.—The Consul-General has suggested certain modifications (which are not related) in the electoral proceedings. The Council think changes should not be made on the eve of the election, and cannot give an opinion on the merits of those proposed, without further consideration.

The Municipal Minutes which we publish below, of a meeting held on the 29th March, consist chiefly of correspondence that has been already published among the reports of the French Municipal Council, and which has, therefore, no present interest.

Mr. Medhurst has received a despatch from Mr. Wade, confirming the news of Mr. Margary's death, and stating that passports have been obtained to enable two English officers, accompanied by a Chinese official, to proceed to Yunnan to investigate the affair. Prince Kung has given a positive assurance that no one accused of participation in the outrage shall be sentenced, until the officers sent by Mr. Wade shall have had an opportunity of hearing the evidence against them.—This at least ensures that a strict enquiry will be made on the spot, by persons interested in arriving at, instead of disguising, the truth. We presume that the two officials in question will be members of the Consular or Diplomatic Service. The attack is stated to have happened near Momein, in the Chinese jurisdiction of Teng-yueh-chow. Teng-yueh-chow, or rather Teng-yueh-ting 騰越廳, is a town duly registered in the "Tsin-shen," or Chinese Civil List, as a residence of a "Ting" Magistrate, under the Prefecture of Yung-chang-foo, 永昌府 in the Province of Yunnan.

The *Rangoon Gazette* inclines to think the King of Burmah instigated the attack on Colonel Brown's party in Yunnan, and relies on the opposition shewn by the King to Major Sladen's expedition, and on the fact that a Burmese embassy was travelling a few days ahead of our own, by the same route. It is quite likely that the King may have been opposed to the Mission; he is opposed to anything that tends to encourage free-trade, and so lessen the profit he now derives from monopolising Burmese commerce in his own person. But, however much the King may be implicated, this will not lessen the responsibility of the Chinese Government for the acts of its own officers, nor will it lessen the criminality of the official by whom Margary was murdered, and who instigated the attack on Colonel Brown's party.

Reuter informs us that the British Government waits to hear from Mr. Wade, before taking action in the matter. This means, we presume, that a question has been asked in Parliament, and has received that answer; and the inference is, that the Government will be guided very much by Mr. Wade's view, at the outset. We sincerely hope, therefore, that he will counsel such prompt and vigorous measures as will make a lasting impression on the Chinese mind. In these days of telegraphy, matters can be very quickly arranged between Shanghai, Calcutta, and London.

A Naval Court of Enquiry was opened Monday at the British Consulate, under the presidency of Captain Buller, of H.M.S. *Modeste*, to investigate the circumstances attending the fatal collision between the steamers *Ocean* and *Fusing*. The proceedings occupied three entire days. The finding was to the effect that the instructions of the Board of Trade as to speed, &c., had been complied with by the master of the *Ocean*; though, considering the locality and thick fog that prevailed at the time, the Court were of opinion that the speed of the *Ocean* might have been still more moderated. The efforts of the master, officers and crew of the *Ocean* to save the drowning crew and passengers of the *Fusing*, and their care of the survivors, merited praise, and the certificates of the master and officers were returned to them. The non-entry of the occurrence in the official log was censured, and will, together with the slovenly manner in which the engineers' and ship's logs were kept, be brought pointedly to the notice of the Board of Trade. The voluminous evidence and the finding of the Court is to be transcribed and translated for the satisfaction of the Chinese authorities, who took the greatest interest in the proceedings, the Court being numerously attended during the investigation, by native officials of various grades.

We are credibly informed that one reason why the Chinese authorities took such interest in the proceedings before the recent Naval Court, was that the wives of two of the rice-mandarins drowned on board the *Fusing*, committed suicide on the receipt of the news of their husbands' deaths. They were resident at Soochow.

Dr. Williams, Secretary of the U.S. Legation, and his family have come down from Peking *en route* for America.

His Excellency T. F. Wade, C.B., British Minister at Peking, Mrs. Wade, and family have also arrived. Mrs. Wade and family proceed to England, and Mr. Wade returns to Peking.

The French men-of-war *Montcalm* and *Volta* have passed out to sea.

H.M.S. *Vigilant*, with Admiral Ryder on board, came up the river Monday morning.

The S. S. N. steamer *Chihli*, which left Shanghai on Wednesday last for Tientsin, when about 120 miles North of Shaweishan, and close to the scene of the recent disastrous collision between the steamers *Ocean* and *Fusing*, came across a mass of wreckage, evidently the remains and part of the cargo of the last-named vessel. Captain Paterson lowered his boats, searched the spot, and was successful in finding Captain Andrews' desk, floating, and containing a barometer, sextant, some books and other property. Twenty logs of timber and two boat's breakers were also salved. The *Chihli* saw no bodies. As accounting for this wreckage remaining so long close to the spot where the collision happened, it is said there is very little current or tidal way thereabouts. The *Palos* U. S. gunboat, which arrived here on Saturday, reported having seen the *Chihli* lower her boats and search the wreckage. The *Nanzing*, which had been sent out with a number of coffins, in the hope of recovering some of the bodies, has returned from her cruise, having been unsuccessful, although every part of the locality was well traversed and look-outs were kept at the mast-head and deck, from daylight to dark, for two days.

From the *Hongkong Times* of the 6th April, we extract a fuller account than has yet appeared, of the wreck of the steamer *Hongkong*.

From the *China Mail* we also give particulars of the wreck of the *Yuentzefei*.

We hear of a serious row between some opium-smugglers and *li-kin* tax collectors, in the city. Three of the former undertook to convey nine balls of opium into the city, evading the *li-kin* collectors. They were armed with stout bludgeons and an iron bar, and when, about noon, they were confronted by the *li-kin* men, a determined fight ensued. The smugglers, who were reinforced by two others of their number, had at first the best of the fight, some of the *li-kin* men getting a severe thrashing and, in two cases we are told, broken limbs. Later on, however, some thirty more of the *li-kin* collectors having turned out, the smugglers were overpowered, their opium seized, and themselves lodged in prison, where they await enquiry and punishment.

The Subscriptions for the Races this spring meeting amount, we hear, to Tls. 3,005. This sum, we believe, compares favourably with the amount subscribed last year for the comparative event. The entries for the various races closed on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock, with the following result:—*First Day:* Chu-ka-za Cup, 13; the Criterion Stakes, 17; Griffins' Plate, 42; the Jockey Cup, 15; the Visitors' Cup, 20; the German Cup, 20; the Members' Plate, 13.—*Second Day:* The Shanghai Cup, 14; the Shanghai Derby, 33; the Merchants' Cup, 26; the Engineers' Challenge Cup, 19; the Race Club Cup, 19; the Tsatlee Cup, 22; the Hurdle Race, 6.—*Third Day:* The Great Northern Handicap, 17; the Taotai's Cup, 19; the Ladies' Purse, 24; the Brokers' Cup, 19; the Consolation Cup, 45; the Champion Sweepstakes, —; the Steeplechase Cup, 14. Numbers like these should bring some good fields to the starting-post; and, judging from the animated scene presented in the neighbourhood of the Grand Stand during the morning *pows*, considerable interest centres in the forthcoming meeting which promises, under the favour of fine weather, to be a very good one.

We reprint an amusing description of Shanghai, from a letter in the *Alta California*, written apparently by a member of the "Transit of Venus" party. What the writer is particularly struck with, is the "grand style in which everything is done here." Then the establishments of the leading merchants are remarkable! "consisting as they do of several distinct stores—book stores, stationery, hardware, shipchandlering, dry goods, fancy goods and tailoring." Shanghai prices seem also to have rather astonished the writer.

Our PEKING correspondent writes that the young Empress, widow of his late Majesty, died on the 27th March. It is reported that the unhappy lady refused all food and gradually sank from exhaustion.

A special meeting of Land Renters at CHINKIANG is called for the 24th instant, to consider the question of repairing and strengthening the Bund.—Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write on the 12th April:—"During the week under review, the market for 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings and 7-lbs. T-Cloths has been rather quiet, and we can only account for this depression by the fact that our dealers, having no confidence in the stability of the late improvement in prices, are consequently refraining from purchasing."

The annual meeting of Land Renters at KIUKIANG was held on the 2nd April.—The accounts showed an income of Tls. 1,252.19 and an expenditure of Tls. 1,080.42, leaving a balance in hand of Tls. 171.77.—Messrs. Anderson, Kopsch and Shaw were re-elected as Municipal Councillors for the current year.—It was resolved to lower the rate of land-tax to Tls. 15 per lot.—A proposal to lower the rental of bund frontage was negatived.—Several matters were discussed, as reported in the minutes which we print elsewhere.

The Customs officer on duty at NINGPO, on the arrival of the steamer *Hupeh* there, on the 5th instant, in the course of his duty, in examining the baggage of the Chinese passengers, found two baskets containing about $3,000 worth of native jewellery. The man that owned them disappeared, and the Customs' authorities, in conjunction with the Police, still have the articles in their possession, in the hope of obtaining some clue. The story goes that a murder has been committed in Soochow, and that the articles found are a portion of the stolen property. We cannot however vouch in any way for the truth of the tale, which we give as it has reached us.

The FOOCHOW *Herald* says Monsieur de Segonzac, acting Director of the Arsenal, has left for Tai-wan-foo, to assist in operations against the Formosan tribes.—The same paper learns, from a credible source, that the Peking authorities have so far acknowledged the Great Northern Telegraph Company's claims, in agreeing to discuss them, and that Shên Pao-chên, Imperial Commissioner at the Arsenal, has been appointed to act on behalf of his Government, while Lieutenant Schültz—at present in Foochow—the Secretary to the Danish Legation, will act for General Raasloff.

Summaries of HONGKONG and JAPAN news will be found in the usual place.

Editorial Selections.

THE PROPOSED MISSION TO YUNNAN.

Whatever reparation may be eventually demanded for the insult and outrage lately offered to the British Mission in Yunnan, punishment of the chief actors must be a leading feature. And, as the detection of the real culprit is a chief difficulty among people who regard evasion, falsehood, and fraud as harmless and often necessary alternatives, it was eminently desirable that Foreign officials should take a leading part in the necessary investigations. This we presume to be the understanding come to with the Chinese Government. A joint Commission, in which a British officer shall take the leading part, should undoubtedly be our first demand. Even so, it may not be easy to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion; but otherwise, we may be quite sure there would be no daylight reached at all. The explanations which will be offered can be discounted beforehand—savage tribes, antipathy to foreigners, officials powerless, extreme regret, and the usual string of excuses for inaction. But we have had enough experience of the Chinese Government and its officials, to know the value of such protests; and the presence of foreigners on the spot will be a check on the tale of falsehood that would otherwise be certainly compiled.

A great deal will depend on the constitution of the Mission, and the circumstances under which it appears on the scene. We have yet no information as to the intention of the British Government in this respect; but one thing is clear: it is essential the Mission should be invested with all possible importance, in order to convince the Chinese that we intend laying that stress on the case which its gravity demands. To send two junior officers across China to Yunnan, would be to invite for them risk and contumely. Two men coming from nowhere, and with none of the attendant circumstances of power, would command no respect in a place elate with what is no doubt considered a victory over barbarian intruders. And it would be madness indeed to trust any more lives to Chinese "faith," after the experience we have had, in the cases of Mr. Cooper and Mr. Margary, of the value attaching to an Imperial passport when the whim of the officials is adverse. The British Commission should comprise a Consul (or a Secretary of Legation) with two or three interpreters on the staff, and should arrive on the scene escorted by a large and well appointed body of soldiers, both horse and foot—by the same route along which Colonel Browne's Mission travelled. A representative of the Indian Government should certainly join the Mission at Rangoon; and the whole expedition should visit the capital of Yunnan, and talk there with the Governor of the province, after the enquiry has been completed on the scene of the outrage. It is of high importance to our prospects in China that the measures taken to redress this last crime should be effective and complete, even should the perpetrator prove to be the highest official in the province. The impunity with which Mr. Cooper's imprisonment at Wei-sei was allowed to pass, was probably not without effect in encouraging this new outrage. But our prestige on the frontiers is now more gravely assailed, and a marked demonstration of strength will be necessary, to guarantee security in future for the trade routes which India is trying to open up.

Apart, however, from the punishment of the crime, and beyond the necessity to re-establish our prestige on the frontier, arises the broad question of our position and policy in China—and the opportunity should be taken to re-assert both, with a firm hand. It cannot be disguised that the influence gained by the last war has been gradually slipping from us; the respect which our victories ensured for the Foreign name has been dying out, and the traditional insolence of the Chinese Mandarin is again obnoxiously evident. It is high time to remedy this, and the present opportunity is a favorable one to teach the Chinese a new lesson. We do not want proclamations informing the *people* that foreigners are human beings and entitled to be let live in the Flowery Land; it is the officials who want teaching that their insolence is intolerable, that we see through the riots they are so fond of instigating, and that their sins will be visited upon their own heads. Let the opportunity be taken of re-establishing our prestige, of regaining the ground which has been slipping from under our feet, and of removing the official cobwebs which have been allowed to strangle our intercourse with the people and the country. The opportunity is clear. No diplomatic forms need embarrass those upon whom will fall the duty of avenging this last outrage. There was little regard shown for treaties or civilization by the men who entrapped and murdered Margary; and it will be pitiful if we allow the Chinese to embarrass, with fine-spun argument, our demands for reparation. The Peking Government cannot decline responsiblilty for an act committed on Chinese territory, within a recognised official district, nay even, so far as our present information goes, within an official Yamên. If they do plead powerlessness, in the hope of evading responsibility, our alternative is clear; Momein is very near to Rangoon, and it will be for the Government of India to take the law into its own hands. It will cost little to throw troops into Yunnan, and it will be well that China should feel the pressure of British India on the West, as she has already felt that of Russia on the North.—To conclude, however, as we began, we maintain that both policy and wisdom require us to send into Yunnan, at the outset, a Commission invested with diplomatic importance, and escorted by such a force as shall inspire respect.

THE OUTRAGE IN YUNNAN.

Until we have further particulars of the murder of Mr. Margary, it would be premature to saddle the Chinese Government with the immediate responsibility of that act,—an act which, executed in cold blood and without the excuse of political complications, really excels in brutality the murder of Schlagenweit by Wallee Khan, at Kashgar. But even if the Government can clear itself of participation in the outrage, it is not in a position to deny that its own misconduct is really at the bottom of the motives that have led to a crime with which even the rudest and most barbarous of nations would blush to have their name connected. If it had not been for Chinese conceit, backed up by Chinese exclusiveness, no such condition of affairs as we see to-day would be in existence on its Western frontier. The Chinese Government has affected to hold itself out to its neighbours, as the one civilised Power to be respected and obeyed. Instead of using the opportunity thus granted it, to some useful purpose, it has, to gain its own ends, turned it into a means of spreading a policy of isolation. It did not seek to civilise the natives of Central Asia with whom it came in contact; it did not endeavour to restrain their internal disputes and to encourage the arts of peace and industry. This, its position gave it the means to do. It did, however, assiduously cultivate one art—that of dissimulation and exclusiveness. Jealous, itself, of every nation which exhibited the living power of a civilisation gradually dying out in its own body politic, it used its influence to still further incite the naturally rude and jealous tribes of its Western frontiers, to an ignorant and almost inhuman exclusiveness. There was a time when, to the tribes of Asia, overrun with Turkish hordes, China, with reason, appeared the one bright spot on the political horizon. Europe itself was trembling in the balance of fate, and could hold out no helping hand; and the peoples of Central Asia naturally turned to China. In some measure, China did answer to the call; but, even at the time of the Mohammedan inroads into Central Asia, the innate selfishness of her rulers was too strong to induce her to take really active steps to turn aside that conquest, under which the greater part of the continent has since almost relapsed to barbarism. At intervals, Chinese influence was again revived in Central Asia, but only to result in the inculcation of the very worst features of Chinese polity on nations whose own dark and suspicious natures rendered them peculiarly

susceptible to such influences. We, therefore, even supposing that the Chinese Government can be acquitted of direct participation in the present outrage, can by no means separate that crime from our condemnation of the unjust and barbarous policy pursued by China towards those countries over whom she has exercised an influence. Morally, the crime of Mr. Margary's murder must be laid at Peking; for it is as logically the result of the policy dictated from thence, as if carried out under actual commands from head-quarters. The mere punishment of the immediately guilty parties can, in such a case, be no complete penalty for the crime. The removal of the causes which have led to its perpetration, is the only effectual offering which the Chinese Government can make in satisfaction of an outrage against all the laws of humanity. That, in the interests of China itself, such a course is advisable, we pointed out a few weeks since; we have now the additional proof that, in the interests of common humanity, the time has come to insist on a modification of the relations existing between China and ourselves along her Western frontier. Why should she be allowed to bar ingress and egress, not to her own people alone, but to the inhabitants of nearly half of Asia? Yet this is practically the position occupied by her just now. The result has been, the bloody wars in Yunnan and Turkestan, and its latest developement—the murder in cold blood of Mr. Margary.

THE CHINESE HOSPITAL.

The position of the Chinese Hospital as disclosed at the annual meeting on the 13th instant, is highly satisfactory. There are two sets of accounts—a building and a working account, and we are glad to see that both stand well. The new hospital building has cost Tls. 5,882 which has been provided for chiefly by subscription, but partly by Tls. 1,284 transferred from the general account. The receipts under the latter head have been exceptionally large, including the handsome donations of Tls. 1,000 from Mr. Hanbury, Tls. 1,977 from the Municipal Council (transferred from the Lock Hospital), and $300 from the Taotai. Altogether Tls. 3,497 have been received in donations, and Tls. 1,747 in subscriptions—the total general income having been Tls. 5,254. The expenditure, however, has been also unusually large, including the sum already named as transferred to Building account, and a considerable outlay for new furniture and other charges incidental to the occupation of the new building. The gross result is that the New Hospital building stands clear, and the Working account has Tls. 509 at credit, whereas it began the year Tls. 215 in arrear. The total receipts from all sources and on all accounts appear thus to have been about Tls. 10,000; and it is to the credit of Shanghai that so large a sum has been obtained, during a depressed season, on account of a charity devoted purely to the benefit of Chinese. We are glad to see that the natives themselves have shown appreciation of its merits—some Tls. 1,800 of the building fund having been subscribed by the Taotai, the Tea, Silk, and Piece Goods Guilds, and one or two private gentlemen.

We are indebted to Dr. Johnston's report for a description of the new hospital building:—The new hospital was built to contain 60 beds, and at present there are 53. The building is plainly and substantially constructed in the Foreign style. Its foundations are raised 2½ feet above the level of the ground. It is 122 feet long, and 42 feet wide. The lower storey is 15 feet 6 inches high, and the upper storey 14 feet 6 inches. It faces the south, and has a wide verandah in front, which opens into nearly all the wards on both floors. The wards are lofty and well ventilated. On the ground floor are the waiting room, capable of seating 160 to 180 patients, the dispensary, ophthalmoscopic room, and one large general ward, with 15 beds. On the upper floor are one large general ward, with 16 beds; an eye ward, with 8 beds; 7 private wards, with a single bed in each; a female ward, with 8 beds; and the operating room. The fittings of the hospital, bedsteads, blankets, &c., were all procured from England, and an attempt has been made to approximate the general arrangements, as nearly as possible, to what exists in the hospitals at home. The wards are remarkably cool in the summer, and during winter they can easily be warmed to a temperature of 50° to 60°. Over-crowding is carefully avoided. According to the present arrangements, at least 1,200 cubic feet of air are allowed for each bed.

The question of raising money among the Chinese towards the support of the institution was discussed at some length by the meeting, but without arriving at any very definite conclusion. There was an evident feeling that the well-to-do Chinese who avail themselves of medical advice should contribute to the funds; but there was an apprehension the Chinese servants might take advantage of any measure for collecting fees, to solicit for themselves, and a further reluctance to alter the character of the institution as a foreign charity. The matter was eventually left to the Trustees, with a recommendation to take measures to give publicity to the purpose of the institution, in Chinese newspapers, and to intimate that subscriptions towards its support would be received.

REVIEWS.

THE CHINA REVIEW—January and February, 1875. Hongkong.

The number before us contains one or two good papers, but hardly comes up to the usual standard, and has less than the usual variety. "San Kuo-Chih" is a sort of historical novel, taken from the times just previous to the division of China into the three states—Shu, Wu, and Wei, and introduces us to the early career of Liu Pei, who founded the first-named of these kingdoms. The present paper is, apparently, based on a historical romance of unknown authorship, annotated by one Chin Sheng-tan, and gives a curious picture of the weakness of Government, and the consequent lawlessness and intrigue prevailing during the latter years of the Eastern Han dynasty. The destined founder of the Shu Kingdom was earning a living by making straw shoes and matting, when he made acquaintance with two men named Chang Fei and Kuan-Yu, and concluded to join them in getting up a force to put down certain insurgents, known as Yellow Turbans. Their success brought them into notice, but they are soon eclipsed, in the paper before us, by other characters, with whom and whose career we leave our readers to make acquaintance from the pages of the magazine. We will only note here, as a piece of abstract information, before passing to the next paper, what were the three kingdoms to the formation of which the tale is supposed to lead. Every one knows of the three States by name; but some may not be aware that the kingdom of Shu comprised Szechuan and part of Shensi and Kansuh; the kingdom of Wei, the half of the Empire north of the Yangtze, from Shu eastward; and the kingdom of Wu, the half south of the Great River.

Mr Allen continues his translations of fairy tales from the "Liao Chai Chih-Yi," and they have the usual quaint interest. One called "The Country of the Sea Demons," describing the adventures of a man named Chü, who was blown out to sea and thrown among savages, is especially curious, as it is probably founded on fact, distorted to suit the Chinese idea of barbarian countries and peoples.

The most interesting and valuable paper in the volume is one by Mr Mayers, on "Chinese Explorations of the Indian Ocean during the Fifteenth Century." It is only the first of a series, which promises apparently to extend over many numbers; Mr Mayers having undertaken the task of translating a book entitled "Records of the Tribute sent to the Court of China by the Countries of the Western Ocean"—compiled by one Hwan Sing-tseng during the early part of the 16th century. "This work," to quote Mr Mayers' own words, "relates to one of the most stirring and eventful periods of modern Chinese history, when the ambitious sovereign who had usurped the throne of his weak and helpless nephew, the ill-fated Kien Wên, proceeded to extend the reputation of his power, by land and sea, to the farthest extremities of Asia. Whilst on the one hand his generals overran and subjugated Tonquin and Cochin China, and on the other his emissaries invited once more the allegiance of the Mongol tribes, and introduced the foundations of Imperial sway over the Buddhist population of Tibet, he at the same time despatched gigantic expeditions to the ports of the Indian Ocean, and obtained by this means the nominal allegiance of Kings and Sultans whose dominions extended from the shores of the China Sea to the Arabian Gulf."

A curious feature is that the Emperor seems to have always chosen eunuchs for his emissaries. It was a eunuch named Cheng Ho who conducted the mission to the Western Ocean, with which we are now interested; and we are tempted again to quote from the Ming chronicle, as to the alleged motive of the Expedition. It will be remembered that Hungwu, the founder of the Ming dynasty, was succeeded

by his son Kien-wên, who lacked all the qualities that had raised his father to power, and who was speedily overthrown by his uncle, Yunglo, who had been made Governor of the North. No traces of the young Emperor were however found, when Nanking was captured by Yunglo's soldiery, and the Chinese have still a tradition that he survived his overthrow and finished his life as a bonze. To return now to the Ming chronicle of the outset of the Western Mission.

"His Majesty, under the suspicion that the Emperor Kien Wên might have fled to countries beyond the sea, commissioned Chêng Ho, Wang King-ho, and others, to pursue his traces. Bearing vast amounts of gold and other valuables, and with a force of more than 37,000 soldiers under their command, they built great ships—sixty-two in number—and set sail from Liu Kia Kiang, in the department of Soochow, whence they proceeded by way of Fukien to Chen-ch'êng, and thence on voyages throughout the western seas. Here they made known the manifestoes of the Son of Heaven, and spread abroad the knowledge of his majesty and goodness. They bestowed gifts upon the kings and rulers, and those who refused submission they overawed by force. Every country became obedient to the Imperial commands; and when Chêng Ho turned homewards, they sent envoys in his train to offer tribute. The Emperor was highly gladdened, and after no long time commanded Ho to go once more and scatter largesse among the different States. On this, the number of those who presented themselves before the throne grew ever greater. Chêng Ho was commissioned on no less than seven embassies, and thrice he made prisoner of foreign chiefs. His exploits were such as no eunuch before him, from the days of old, had equalled. At the same time, the different peoples, attracted by the profit of Chinese merchandize, enlarged their mutual intercourse for purposes of trade, and there was uninterrupted going to and fro."

One of the sovereigns whom he made prisoner was the King of Ceylon, though for what motive we are not yet told. It is curious to note that the expedition was formed in this district, and passed out to sea by the creek still familiar to us as the Liu-ho, which was constituted the thirty-mile boundary during the time of the Taeping rebellion. Like most usurpers, Yunglo seems to have been a man of rare energy and enterprise. Among his earliest acts was deepening the Woosung river, now familiar to us as the Soochow creek. The passage which is devoted in the chronicles to the work which was executed in consequence of this order, shews that the waters of the T'ai Hu were given an outlet by means of the Liu Ho, and those of the three lesser lakes, called the San Mao Hu 三泖湖 near Sung-kiang Fu, were conducted into the Hwang-p'u, thus enlarging the port of Shanghai. There would evidently have been hope even for the Woosung Bar, in the days of the Emperor Yunglo.

There seems to have been no authentic narrative preserved of Cheng Ho's expedition, and Mr. Mayers suggests that the reports which he, as a eunuch, drew up, were reserved for the eye of his Imperial Master alone. However, contemporaneous accounts do exist, and it is upon these works that the compilation was based, of which a translation is commenced in the present number.

We have left ourselves little space to review the remaining papers. A long article on Dr. Williams' dictionary opens up a discussion on Chinese lexicography, and will be read with interest by sinologues.—A narrative of a three weeks' journey into the interior from Foochow, is pleasantly written, but calls for no special notice. With strange carelessness, the writer omits to name a city which he visits, about 60 miles from Foochow, and to which about half the present instalment of his paper applies.—Dr. Carstairs Douglas combats a paper lately written by Mr. Lister, deprecating the importance attached to "tones." He agrees, however, that the difficulty of the tones has been very much exaggerated.

Notices of a few new books, and sundry notes and queries, complete the volume. Among the latter is an account of tooth-pulling by the aid of a white powder (supposed to be corrosive sublimate), which we commend to foreign practitioners:—"The operator rubbed the powder on the gum as described, but then directed the patient to wait a little. After perhaps ten minutes' interval, he again rubbed the gum, and then introducing his thumb into the mouth pressed heavily against the tooth (which was a large molar). The man winced for a second as I heard the "click" of the separation, but almost before he could cry out, the dentist gripped the tooth with his forefinger and thumb and with very little violence pulled it out. The gum bled considerably, and I examined the tooth so as to satisfy myself that there was no deception. It had an abscess at the root of the fang, and was undoubtedly what it professed to be. When the operation was over, the patient washed his mouth out with *cold* water, paid fifteen cash and departed."

Report of the Medical Missionary Society in China for the year 1874.—Canton.

We have a report of the Medical Missionary Society in China for the year 1874. The thirty-sixth annual meeting of this society was held at Canton on the 21st January, when the usual statement of its position was read. The receipts during 1874 had been $2,163, and the expenditure $1,761, leaving in hand a balance of $402. The medical report is, as usual, a record of valuable work done. Nothing has occurred to interfere with the work of the hospital in Canton, where a great number of patients have been treated. The dispensary at Sai-nam has also continued its work without intermission. The signs were once or twice torn down, but it is thought this was done more from mischief than from actual enmity. The dispensary at Tung-kun, which has been twice destroyed by the mob, has been re-opened under better auspices. The Rev. E. Faber writes:—"Tung-kun city is the most populous of all district cities in the Canton Province. It is also surrounded by extended suburbs. The fierce character of the Tung-kun people is sufficiently known. The Chapel and Dispensary there have been twice destroyed by the mob. But the aspects are now pretty favourable, and there is less opposition in Tung-kun at present, than in many other places. The inhabitants appear to me even more interesting than in the surrounding districts. Several trips have been made in the country from Tung-kun city. Shik-lung has also been visited four times during the year. There, the former Dispensary is in ruins yet, only for want of funds and reliable assistants. The Tsang-shing, Lung-mun, Shun-tek and Heung-shan districts have also been traversed, and the principal cities and market towns visited. Preaching the Gospel did not meet with any opposition worth mentioning. Only very few Chinese are, indeed, real enemies to the foreigner; commonly from ignorance, the great mass is indifferent, others take an interest from curiosity, and a few become friends. But a very great task remains to be done yet, till long rooted prejudices are fully eradicated. That the benevolent work of the Medical Missionary Society serves to this end, there can be no doubt." Fuk-wing has been a mission station for some years, and a dispensary has been lately opened there, and has afforded much relief. The Committee pay a warm tribute to the zeal and care with which Dr. Kerr works the hospital at Canton.

Annual Report of the Presbyterian Mission Press for the year ended December 1874.—Shanghai.

We have before us the annual report of the Presbyterian Mission Press at Shanghai, for the year ended in December last. The Superintendent tells us that the year just closed has been a quiet, but prosperous one. "Having given himself "wholly and heartily to this work, not "because it is, humanly viewed, an im-"portant work; not because it is a great "work; nor yet because it is a benevolent "enterprise of a missionary society; but "because it is the Lord's work; and striv-"ing to control and direct so that every-"thing pertaining to it may be done in "accordance with the will of the Master, "and in the Master's way," he "feels "specially grateful for, and encouraged by, "the measure of success which has at-"tended his administration of the affairs "of the Press." More work has been done than in any previous year; and, partly with the help of a new cylinder machine, and partly because a larger proportion of the books printed has been Chinese—we are surprised at the omission to recognise the aid of Providence—this greater amount has been done without any increase in the staff.

A difficulty occurred at the opening of the year, through the resignation of Mr. Chang, who had for eight years held the post of general foreman. "He was a consistent Christian man, and proved himself always faithful, although not a man of very great ability." The only man who could be found to take his place was Mr. Tu, who had been his assistant. But though Mr. Tu is much more energetic and efficient, he is not a Christian. "His religion is that "of a moralist (Confucianist). He had "always been upright and honorable, but, "because of his value in other depart-"ments," Mr. Mateer "hesitated to put the "money into his hands, lest lacking "Christian principle, he should be led "astray. There was no alternative, how-"ever, and it was done." It is satisfactory—though of course surprising—to know that he has thus far discharged his duties efficiently and, so far as is known, with entire fidelity.

Another interesting fact is, that "since January 1st, 1872, when the present Superintendent, young and inexperienced, took charge, the foreman of each department has been changed, and all are now young

men. The general foreman is 37 years of age; the foreman of the press room, 28; of the foundry, 26; of the Chinese composing room, 24; and the assistant general foreman, 26." Mr. Mateer explains, however, in a foot-note, that their being young is entirely accidental. He "believes in the wisdom and calm judgment of age; at the same time, being young ourselves (? himself) it is easier for us to manage young men."

The detailed reports of the work done are of course less interesting to the general public, though having value for those under whose auspices the Press is worked. On the whole, we do not remember to have been more pleased with any report of the kind, since one issued by the Hudson Taylor Mission, which we reviewed some years ago.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

The mercantile traffic of the port is now going on as tranquilly (and it is to be hoped also pecuniarily satisfactorily), as previous to the attempt on the part of the Customs Taotai to establish a new system for the collection of the Barrier taxes. As to Sun-sze-ta himself, he continues, as before, to fill the post of acting Customs Taotai. There is a rumour to-day, however, that the Central Government have appointed in his stead an official named Jin, who was formerly Prefect here, *vice* Le Chaou-tang who was appointed last November but who has been compelled, it is said, to resign on account of ill health. Jin, is said to be at present at Paouting. I have received the Peking *Gazettes* to 31st ultimo, but no mention is made in them of the appointment of Jin as Customs Taotai here.

For some few days back, it has been the talk of the people here that the Governor-General has been moving the troops of the Southern Legion in this neighbourhood. During the last three days, knots of men have been seen crossing over the ferry at the south part of the Settlement, either dressed in long red cotton gowns, or in short red cotton jackets—who, I was told, were the men of the Southern Legion stationed at the Arsenal, which lies a couple of miles off, on the east side of the river opposite the Settlement. The men in long red gowns, I fancy, are sergeants, and those in short red jackets are rank and file. A great many of the men of the Southern Legion have also been seen going down the river in boats, or marching down the Taku road; and are said to be proceeding to the fort called Sin-chung, lying above Taku. From the brilliant color of their gowns and jackets, it is evident they are quite new; it is, therefore, to be hoped that red shirtings have, this spring, been yielding a handsome profit in the Tientsin market.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 28th ult., there is an announcement that Tsêng Kwo-tseuen has presented his thanks to the Throne for his appointment as Governor of the Yellow river.

The training of the ponies for our spring race meeting goes on regularly every morning at the new race course—a stretch of ground situated outside the Ramparts, two miles south of the British settlement, which has been rented for one year from the owners in the adjoining village. Messrs. Bismark, Cordes, Jackson, Twinem and Meadows were elected, at a meeting of the sporting members of the community on the 10th ultimo, as stewards for the current year. Thus everything, as far as we can see, is going on favorably for a successful meeting in the early part of May. We have only one drawback in racing matters, and that is a paucity of light-weight jockeys. This arises, it is imagined, chiefly from the climate and alimentary productions of Tientsin being so extremely favourable to the development of the physical frames of the human race; in consequence of which our sportsmen become rapidly placed beyond the scale-weights required by the weigher. Under these circumstances, it will be supposed then that we naturally welcomed the appearance of a light-weight, as an addition to our community, last autumn; and who, after being here only a very short time, shewed marked proclivities for donning racing colours. The gods ruling mercantile events, however, decided otherwise; and, when spring came, our friend was relegated to a Shanghai office tripod, to the extreme regret of every one here.

On the 31st ult., the Tientsin spring shooting commenced; and if we may judge from the presents of snipe which our crack Tientsin shot bestowed that evening on the community, the sport must have been remarkably successful, and deserved to be recorded in *The Field*.

Weather much warmer. Thermometer stood at daylight 45° Fahrenheit.

3rd April.

His Excellency Mr. Wade, H. M.'s Minister, and family arrived at the Consulate here, yesterday, from Peking, and will proceed to-morrow by the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Paouting*, on to Shanghai.

Everything here is quiet in regard to political affairs. The Customs troubles are at an end; and business goes on in the former unruffled manner. The permanent Customs Taotai, whoever he may be, has not yet made his appearance. No notice has yet been given to the Consulates, of the demise of the late Empress, the wife of the Emperor Tung-che; and visits can, as in ordinary times, be made to the territorial and Customs officials by the Consuls of the port.

Amongst the foreign residents, the chief topic of conversation is the murder of Mr. Margary in Yunnan. As you will, however, be better informed on that matter than we can be here, it is unnecessary for me to say anything further on the subject, beyond expressing the general regret felt at the sad event, and the sincere hope that all concerned in the murder will be punished. I am told that H. M.'s Minister has taken the necessary steps for a strict investigation into the affair, and I have no doubt he will insist upon the Central Government doing full justice in the matter, by punishing all concerned in Mr. Margary's death.

We are enjoying fine weather. Yesterday, swallows were seen here for the first time this year, which event tells of warm weather; yet this morning we had one-tenth of an inch of ice, the production of the past night.

6th April.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 6th April, the following news of interest to foreigners is found. An Edict of the 6th April announces that Li Hung-chang, Governor-General of Chihli, had addressed the Throne, requesting the Imperial Regents to issue urgent commands that the newly appointed Customs Taotai for Tientsin immediately repair to his post, &c., &c. The Imperial Regents thereupon command that the Governor-General of the Two Kwang, and the Governor of Kwangtung, order Le Chaou-tang, the said Tientsin Customs Taotai, who is at present in Kwangtung, to repair forthwith by sea to Tientsin, otherwise he will incur the heavy penalty of dismissal.

PURITAN.

9th April.

HIOGO.

The Athletic Club purpose holding their annual sports on the 24th instant, and a scratch Regatta on the 24th May.—Some Chinese gave an amateur theatrical performance on the 27th, which is said to have been successful. The only drawback was with the orchestra, which either got tired or fell under the influence of samshu before the commencement of the last piece.—With reference to a rumour which we quoted last week from a Yokohama paper, the Osaka correspondent of the *News* says:—The rumours born of the recent shooting accident at Sakai afford an apt illustration of that tendency to exaggerate of which the famous tale of the "Three black crows" is typical. The account given of the affair by one of the native papers in Yedo, a translation of which went the rounds of your Yokohama contemporaries, was that a foreigner at Osaka had accidentally shot and killed a boy at Sakai, and that, on the *Gaimusho* representing the case to the British Consul, the latter had fined the foreigner 5,000 yen! This yarn must have gone by sea, but the one which doubtless ere this has reached the Capital overland must be dreadful, seeing that before it had traversed the whole of the neighbouring province of Kishiu, a foreigner living there was assured that two or three Japanese had been killed by some foreigners and that the latter were all tied up in Sakai! Well, the truth is that the poor boy who was wounded was only slightly injured, and all that the Governor of Osaka asks for is the reimbursement to the lad's father of eleven yen, to defray the expenses which the latter has been put to.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* corrects itself with regard to the number of articles from which fiscal duties had been removed. Instead of 250 articles, the actual list comprises 1,564, "which," adds the *Mail*, "though far too long for publication, is interesting as exemplifying the extreme minuteness to which the system of taxation in this country has been carried." The edict announcing the change is signed by Sanjo Saneyoshi, and also contains an intimation to the renters of land that there will be no change in the amount payable to the Government, either in rice or money, for the rent of land.—A gale of some violence passed over this section of Japan, on the 25th ultimo, during which the sky was unclouded. The ship *Evelyn* which sailed from Yokohama bound for Kobé on the 24th, returned on the 25th, one of her crew being disabled with a broken leg. Several of her sails were split in a squall she met with outside Cape Sagami.—In view of his shortly intended departure from this country, M. Berthemy, Minister for France, was entertained at Hamagoten on the evening of the 25th ultimo, by the Prime Minister and the other members of the Cabinet.—A native newspaper states that the Loochooans have been summoned to Yedo to answer for the offence of having paid tribute to China.—According to the *Choya Shimbun* which the *Advertiser* describes as being "usually a well-informed native journal," Japan is going in for more reforms. H. I. Majesty has appointed Commissioners to investigate and report upon the present system of administration, and it is hoped that the country will benefit by the reforms which may be expected to result from their labours.—Ten persons have already announced their intention to contribute a display of Japanese specimens of porcelain, bronzes, lacquer-work, ivory, &c., of the value of $184,000, to the forthcoming centennary Exposition at Philadelphia.—A fire broke out on the 26th ult., near Tokio, and destroyed fifty houses.—The

Gazette says the case of the collision between a Japanese junk and the P.M.S.S. *Oregonian*, was resumed before the U. S. Consular-General Court with Assessors, on the 23rd ult., and was again adjourned, subject to five days' notice from either party.—The honesty of some of the Japanese lower classes appears to be becoming proverbial. Another finding case in reported in the *Gazette*, in which Mr. W. J. White, a teacher in the Eigo-Gakko, lost a pocket book, containing 140 yen and several important documents. Some three weeks afterwards, he received a notification from the British Consul, requesting his attendance at the Central Police Station. On repairing thither, he discovered that his pocket-book had been picked up by a jinriksha coolie. Mr. White found everything as he had left it, not a coin being missing. He rewarded the finder with 50 yen. As if to counteract the good impression thus created, the next paragraphs describe seven burglaries in Yokohama, between Friday the 26th ult., and Monday the 29th, besides several petty larcenies in private houses.—The *Herald* reports the following occurrence, of importance to shippers:—The German barque *Mathilde*, which arrived here on the 16th ult., with a general cargo from Hamburg, consigned to Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., brought, amongst other articles, some casks of chloride of lime. By some means or other, probably the motion of the vessel is heavy weather, the chlorine gas escaped from the casks, to the serious damage of a part of the cargo. Up to the present, about 18 bales of cloths have been landed from the vessel, the colour of which has more or less been discharged by the gas, It is expected that other goods will be found in a damaged condition from the same cause.—The telegraph line to Hakodate is now open to the public. The *Herald* bewails the closing of the Deutsche Bank at Shanghai, and understands that a similar course will be followed by the branch at Yokohama, and then goes on to say:—"The unsatisfactory state of trade in the East during the last two years, connected with declining exchanges, has undoubtedly disappointed the sanguine expectations of the directors in Berlin, who were led to believe, from the results obtained by the Banks in the East a few years ago, a more favourable business than has been actually realized. The Deutsche Bank in Yokohama as well as in Shanghai has been very carefully, and it may even be said, successfully managed, in so far as no actual loss has been sustained. If these branches could only hitherto earn a small dividend, it was no more than could be expected in the present dull times, and we regret very much that the experience of the two last years alone should have been taken solely into account at Berlin."—An attempt is being made to organize a Canoe Club. A meeting of the Committee of the Yokohama Annual Regatta was held on the 30th ultimo, when the usual routine business was transacted.—A man and woman have been sentenced to 60 and 50 days' hard labour respectively by the Shihosho, for stealing rose bushes from the garden of Mr. J. J. Jarmain. The prisoners have been in gaol since the 12th January last, but were only tried and sentenced a few days ago.—Burglaries are still the order of the night in Yokohama, and among the last places visited in the Hotel du Lonore, the billiard-room of which was seriously despoiled.—The *Gazette* says the three Lew Chew officials, whose arrival in the Capital has already been spoken of, were presented to the Mikado at the Imperial Palace on 28th ultimo.

HONGKONG.

The *Daily Press* of the 1st April contains a report of a banquet given to Mr. Mitchell on the previous evening. There was a large attendance. The chair was taken by Mr. Ryrie, with Messrs. Tonnochy and Cohen in the vice-chairs.—Regarding the loss of the *Yuen-tsze-fei*, the same paper says:—The *Yesso* reports that the steamer *Yuen-tze-fei*, bound from Amoy to Shanghai, had gone on shore on Dods Island in a thick fog on Sunday morning. The Company's steamer *Douglas* proceeded to the scene on Monday morning, to render what assistance she could, and, on returning at 5 p.m., Captain Burnie reported the *Yuen-tze-fei* a total wreck. All hands were saved, and returned in the *Douglas*. The wreck was on the top of the rock and under water. The wreck of the steamer *Yuen-tze-fei*, which was sold by auction on the 30th ultimo, brought $1,510. The cargo fetched only $10. The ship is a total wreck.—The *China Mail* learns that Mr. Kleinwachter, Commissioner of Customs at Canton, has been transferred to Amoy on promotion, and that Mr. Hannen will replace him at Canton.—The Garrison sports were concluded on the 1st.—Both papers speak warmly of Mr. Margary, and the *Mail* suggests that, if the Indian Government see fit to read the Chinese a lesson, they have before them a field in which much credit can be acquired at a minimum of danger. The Chinese of Yunnan, like their countrymen elsewhere, simply require a lesson, and this lesson might be more easily taught them than some people would imagine. It is extremely probable that a threat of foreign interference would again rouse the whole Mahomedan population against the Government, which in view of such a danger might deem it prudent to enter into negociations.—In the case of the *Ava* and *Rona*, a motion was made in the Vice Admiralty Court, on the 3rd instant, to determine which party should bear the costs of the appeal from the Report of the Registrar and Merchants. At the suggestion of the Chief Justice, the motion was adjourned *sine die* to enable the parties to come to an agreement.—The Hongkong A. D. C. gave a successful performance on the 5th inst. The piece selected was "the Ticket of Leave man." The band of H. M.'s 80th Regt. formed the orchestra.—The officers of the *Audacious* were to give a theatrical performance on the 12th, in aid of the proposed Sailors' Rest House.—The Champion Cup was to be shot for by the Rifle Association, on the 8th.

ACHEEN.

Since the capture of Longbatta, which no doubt was a very severe blow to the Achinese, the Dutch have been gradually extending the range of their fortified posts, encountering much less resistance than formerly. Yet disease has made sad havoc in the Dutch camp, and although a couple of days previous to the date of our latest advices, the mortality had considerably decreased, still the state of health continued unfavourable. It is not so much cholera, as fever and dysentery that prevail at present, more especially in the Kraton. We are informed, however, that barracks are in course of construction upon a healthy plain situated outside the Kraton, and this will no doubt have a beneficial effect upon the sanitary condition of the troops. In the majority of the various posts surrounding the Kraton, the troops enjoy good health, which is probably partly owing to the presence of good well-water.

The relations between the Dutch and the States on the North and East Coast, are gradually becoming more satisfactory, and in many of the chief places where the Dutch flag is hoisted, trade is flourishing and the inhabitants seem to reconcile themselves with the supremacy of the Netherlands. The works at Pulo Brass [where the Lighthouse is in course of erection] are progressing rapidly, and a portion of the iron pier in Acheen Roads is already constructed.—*Penang Gazette.*

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

March 18th.—(1)—A decree, expressing the Imperial regrets on receipt of intelligence of the decease of Tu-hing-·h, Military Governor of Shêngking. A trusty and devoted public servant, he distinguished himself in former years by his military achievements in the operations against the rebels in the central and North-western provinces; and having lately asked for leave of absence owing to the state of his health, it was hoped that he might be restored to strength and long continue one of the supports of the State. Posthumous distinctions are decreed in his favour, all penalties recorded against his name during life are remitted, a grant of Tls. 1,000 for his funeral expenses is ordained, and his son and grandson are to be presented to the Throne in due time.

(2)—A Decree. Let Ts'ung-shih (President of the Board of Punishments) become acting Military Governor of Shêng-King. On his arrival at Moukden, let Chih-ho hand over charge to him.

March 19th.—The whole of to-day's *Gazette* is occupied with a memorial from the Governor of Kwangtung, on the proceedings in a murder case. Three individuals of the family name of Siao had murdered six of their relatives in a most ruthless manner, in consequence of disputes about some land. The ringleader had escaped and was alleged to have committed suicide, and it was stated that his body had been devoured by wild beasts. One of the two remaining delinquents has been executed, and the second is kept in prison to serve as a witness in case the efforts made to apprehend the missing ringleader should prove successful.

March 20th. — The Governor-General of Chihli reports the issue of proceedings in a case of appeal by inhabitants of the department of Tsun-hwa, on the ground of irregularities in the exaction of feudal service. The facts of the case are as follows:—The Imperial mausolea lie within the department in question, and as two Government posting stations are included within its limits. the service requirements are of an onerous nature. The grass required (for fodder) is supplied by the population of the district, the amount being 1,364,300 catties in ordinary years, and 1,470,420 catties in intercalary years, for which payment is made at the rate of one standard *cash* per catty. The actual grass is delivered by the villages which lie within a convenient distance from the mausolea; whilst in the case of those more remotely situated, a commutation is paid in at the rate of 4 *cash* for each catty deliverable, inclusive of the one *cash* payable by Government on account of the grass. The payment for each 100 catties at the above rate is estimated as equivalent to two *tiao* (490 *cash* of local currency.) A sum of Taels 264 is, moreover, raised periodically, by assessment, among the inhabitants, to meet certain charges in connection with the examinations. The villagers are bound, in addition, to furnish 39 large carts, whenever required, for the transport of materials for the public works at the mausolea. Complaints lodged at Peking, accusing the local authorities of oppressive action in the collection of these assessments, have led to the present enquiry. The prime mover in the affair is declared guilty of misrepresentation and falsehood, and sentenced to the mitigated penalty of 100 blows and deportation for three years. At the same time, after making all allowances for the necessities of the position of the authorities, whose revenue from land-tax is extremely small, whilst their liabilities for Government service are heavy, so that the fodder

assessment is their principal resource, it is nevertheless improper that additions should be made to the amount levied. The Governor-General decided that 390 *cash* shall henceforward be struck off the amount payable per 100 catties as above mentioned, and some other slight reductions made in the public burdens.

March 21st.—The Governor-General of Chihli, Li Hung-chang, memorializes, supporting the request of the Taotai Ting Show-ch'ang for leave to return to his home, to complete his three years' period of mourning. On returning from Peking to Paouting Fu, on the 6th February, the Governor-General found an application from Ting Show-ch'ang awaiting him, in which this request was preferred, in fulfilment of the duties of filial mourning. The Governor-General states that, since the year 1862, the ex-Taotai has served under his orders, as a leader of braves, in various campaigns against the rebels; and having been appointed acting Taotai of Tientsin in 1870, just as disturbances had occurred between the people and the [Roman Catholic] converts, his action in soothing the troubled state of the public mind and in enforcing order was equally marked by firmness and benevolence. After being confirmed in the post he held, his exertions, during years of distress from inundations, earned for him grateful acknowledgments on every side. His father's death having occurred in November last, he firmly withstood the Governor-General's proposal that, after escorting the remains to his native place for interment, he should return to Chihli to hold an unattached appointment; and the Governor-General, consequently, unwilling to run counter to his filial sentiments, negatived, in due official form, the solicitation presented to him by a large body of the notables and elders of Tientsin, who petitioned for his retention there. Subsequently, however, a special decree was received, sanctioning the employment of Ting Show-ch'ang on unattached duty in Chihli, after the expiry of the 100 days' deep mourning, with the proviso that this should not be construed as a precedent in future cases of the kind; and at the Governor-General's audience of leave on the 2nd February last, their Majesties the Empresses condescended to enquire respecting the favourable reports which had reached them concerning Ting Show-ch'ang, as a public servant. The Governor-General, in reply, stated the actual facts of the case. Having now received his application for leave to retire to his native place with his father's remains, and to fulfil the three years' period of mourning, the Governor-General feels bound to lay it before the Throne.—Rescript: We have already sanctioned the application of the Board of Civil Office, requesting that he be not required to remain on duty in Chihli. (Note.—This terminates the curious contest between the desire of the Governor-General to retain by his side a trusted assistant, and the imperative rule entailing retirement from office on the death of a parent, which has given rise to a spirited contest between different members of the Censorate. See *Gazettes* of Feb. 21st and 23rd, and March 1st. Orthodoxy has satisfactorily triumphed over innovation in the present instance).

March 22nd.—(1) A Decree. Let Shao Hêng-yü be permitted, in accordance with his request, to retire from his office as Governor of Shensi, on the ground of ill health. Let Tsêng Kwoh-ts'üan 曾國荃 (brother of the late Tsêng Kwoh-fan) succeed to the vacant post.

(2)—A memorial by the Governor-General and Governor of Fuhkien recommending, for appointment to the vacant post of Prefect of Ts'üan-chow Fu, the present Prefect of Yen-p'ing Fu, named Sü Chên-yao 徐震耀, aged 39, a native of Peking, who is selected as combining all the requirements which are called for in the laborious and difficult post in question. Having the port of Amoy within his jurisdiction, with its foreign commercial relations, the Prefect's duties in the way of enforcing order and at the same time maintaining a soothing sway are especially important.—Rescript: Referred for the consideration of the Board of Civil Office.

(3) The Governor of Chehkiang memorializes, reporting the result of commissions appointed to survey the works of restoration required for the government postroad and bridges in the Province, which have fallen into dilapidation in consequence of the rebellion. Detailed particulars are given with respect to different sections of the work declared as necessary, the importance of which to the trading community is at the same time referred to. The estimates for repairs to roadways and bridges are given as in "foreign money" (an unusual feature), and the total statement amounts to Mexican dollars 66,970, beside *cash* 34,160 thousands, exclusive of cost of piles and the purchase of land for the excavation of soil for filling-in, which it is difficult to estimate in advance. There being no funds available from other sources, it is proposed that the necessary amounts be disbursed in the first instance from the *li-kin* revenue, to be made good hereafter from any surplus funds that may accrue, and it is requested that the Provincial Government may be exempted from the requirement of sending in detailed accounts for audit at Peking.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.

Public Meetings.

NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

The sixth ordinary meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 9th April. Present—Messrs. E H. Lavers, (chairman), F. H. Bell, A. G. Wood, and J. Hart, directors; Messrs. C. Thorne, Tate, Gubbay, Francis, Hanssen, Lucas, Mackintosh, Schroers, Allum, McGregor, Tucker, Forster, D. Brand, Overbeck, Seligmann, Lindsay, Maclean, A. Little, E. Cameron, J. A. Taylor, J. F. Seaman, Dalgleish, Howie, and H. S. Morris, Secretary—representing 450 votes.

The CHAIRMAN opened the business by calling upon

The SECRETARY to read the notice convening the meeting, and afterwards the minutes of the last meeting, the latter being confirmed and signed.

The CHAIRMAN then said the report of the Directors and statement of accounts which had been put before the shareholders, they had endeavoured to make as clear and explicit as possible, and he did not know that there were many explanations or remarks to be made by him with reference to them. He might say that the result of the half-year's business had been very satisfactory, although it must be borne in mind that the losses and claims during that period were very heavy, amounting to Tls. 311,058; and, so far as was known, the subsequent settlements and dependencies would require Tls. 102,000. But owing to the support given to the office during the same period, premia, interest, commissions and transfer fees, amounted to Tls. 508,616, leaving a balance to the good of Tls. 141,844. The risks outstanding amounted to about Tls. 2,000,000. They knew by telegram from London, what the risks amounted to there; and they of course knew what they were in Shanghai; the total being as he had just said about Tls. 2,000,000. He thought he must congratulate the Company on the statement of its affairs at the termination of the term 1872-1874, which he considered must be regarded as having been a most successful one throughout. In the first year, 1872, the total premia was Tls. 969,000; in 1873, Tls. 738,000; and in 1874, Tls. 857,000. As the shareholders knew, the Directors had declared very liberal dividends, and they hoped at the end of the present month to make a further payment. Before putting the report and statement of accounts to the meeting, he would be glad to reply to any questions which the shareholders might wish to make regarding them.

A general conversation ensued, but no questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN said, if there were no questions, he would put this resolution to the meeting—

That the report of the Directors and statement of accounts for the half-year ending 31st December, 1874, as printed and presented to this meeting, be passed.

Mr. F. H. BELL seconded the motion, and it was carried without dissent.

REPORT.

The Directors have now to present to the Shareholders the Sixth Half-yearly Report, shewing the position of the Company on the Thirty-first December last, at which date the business of the term 1872-74 was concluded.

From the annexed Statement of Accounts, it will be observed that the Company had then a Credit balance in hand of Tls. 559,156.49, after carrying forward the sum of Tls. 141,844.00 from the present Working Account, in addition to the Capital (Tls. 300,000), and also the amount reserved out of the profits of the years 1872 and 1873 (Tls. 221,961.37.)

With reference to the receipts of Premia during the six months under review, it is satisfactory to note a considerable increase as compared with similar periods of the two preceding years.

The payments on Account of Losses and Claims, amounting to Tls. 311,058.33, include the several heavy losses alluded to in the last report; so far as at present known, further settlements and claims in course of adjustment will absorb about Tls. 102,000.

Some salvage it is anticipated will accrue to the Company from the appeal to Privy Council in the *Rona* and *Ava* case.

The item of Tls. 12,308.60 difference in Exchange, it should be explained is only an apparent loss, and is accounted for by the fact that remittances to London have been made at lower rates than that adopted by the Directors for keeping the Company's Books.

Since the 31st December, 1874, Tls. 300 per share, the equivalent of the paid-up Capital, has been returned to the Shareholders, and the Directors are awaiting advice of the termination of the principal current risks to enable them to declare a Dividend for the year 1874.

Mr. James T. Brand resigned his seat at the Board, owing to his departure for England.

BALANCE SHEET—31ST DECEMBER, 1874.

Dr.

		Tls.
To Capital—Paid up		300,000.00
,, Reserve Fund of 1872 and 1873		221,961.37
,, Balance of Working Account at 30th June, 1874	897,312.49	
Add—Amount at Debit of Working Account, 31st Dec., 1874	141,844.00	
	1,039,156.49	
Less—		
Amount of Dividends, already declared	258,038.63	
Amount of Reserve Fund	221,961.37	
	180,000.00	
		559,156.49
,, Company 1869-71, Liability Account		7,668.84
,, Amount of Dividends, uncollected		1,937.69
		Sh. Tls. 1,090,724.39

Cr.

		Tls.
By Cash on Current and Deposit Accounts, in Local Banks		518,755.51
,, Shanghai Premia, outstanding (since collected)		12,929.36
,, London Branch, Balance in hand, as follow:—		

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
London and Westminster Bank upon Current and Deposit Account	7,549	3	8
Deposits upon Security of Bank Bills	17,000	0	0
Three per cent. Consols	27,562	10	0
Indian Government Securities	15,075	0	0
Bills Receivable, not yet matured	6,764	7	10
Premia in course of collection	1,523	2	3
Carried forward	147,474	3	9

Brought forward ..	147,474 3 9	
Furniture in Office..	631 10 0	
Interest accrued, uncollected, Policy Stamps, Petty Cash, &c.	1,242 14 4	
	149,348 8 1	
Add—Remittances to London Branch upon July to December Account, not received on 31st December, 1874	573 16 6	
	149,922 4 7	
Less—Drafts, &c. due on July to December Account not matured, 31st Dec., 1874	4,878 10 4	
	£145,043 14 34	=83,479,03

By Hongkong Branch, Balance in hand.....		29,385.93
,, Yokohama Branch, do.		12,813.51
,, Sundry Agents—Balances of Premia, not received on 31st December, 1874	27,010.86	
Less—Due to Sundries	935.57	
		26,075.29
,, Furniture in House & Office—Shanghai ..		4,474.00
,, Do. do. Hongkong..		1,863.10
,, Do. do. Yokohama		891.69
Sh. Tls.		1,090,724.39

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Net Premia, 1st July to 31st Dec., 1874..	492,963.04
,, Interest ,, ,, ,, ...	14,315.81
,, Commissions ,, ,, ,, ...	1,312.83
,, Transfer Fees ,, ,, ,, ...	25.00
Sh. Tls.....	508,616.68

Cr.		Tls.
By Agency Comms., 1st July to 31st Dec. 1874		7,430.02
,, ,, Charges,	Do.	2,458.35
,, Head Office Charges	do.	13,217.28
,, London Branch Charges,	do.	9,341.84
,, Hongkong ,,	do.	7,353.03
,, Yokohama ,,	do.	2,266.70
,, Directors and Auditors Fees,	do.	510.00
,, Losses and Claims,	do.	311,058.33
,, Depreciation of Furniture,	do.	833.53
,, Exchange Account,	do.	12,308.60
,, Balance, 31st Dec., 1874.....		141,844.00
Sh. Tls.....		508,616·68

Mr. C. THORNE said, from the manner in which the meeting had received the statement of accounts just passed, it was very clear the shareholders possessed confidence in the Directors, and he felt sure they could not do better than leave the entire management of the closing of the business of 1872-1874 in their hands. He, therefore, moved—

That the Directors be empowered to wind up the affairs of the Company for the term 1872-1874 as speedily as possible, and distribute the funds in accordance with the Deed of Settlement, without further reference to a meeting of shareholders.

Mr. J. P. TATE seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN, in submitting the motion, said with reference to it, he might mention that the Directors would call a final meeting to pass the accounts which would be rendered. He then put the resolution, which was carried *nem. diss.*

There being no other business, the meeting was breaking up, when

The CHAIRMAN said, before they dispersed, he might say that the new Company was well launched. The capital was all paid up, and business was progressing satisfactorily.

Mr. FRANCIS moved, and Mr. MACLEAN seconded, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried as the meeting broke up.

THE CHINESE HOSPITAL.

A meeting of Subscribers to the Chinese Hospital was held on the 13th April. Present, G. F. Seward Esq., U. S. Consul-General, in the chair; R. I. Fearon, Esq., Hony. Treasurer; Dr. Johnston, Revs. W. Muirhead, J. Thomas, Dr. Yates, Dr. S. Wells Williams, Messrs. Purdon, Glover, Wylie and Francis.

Dr. JOHNSTON read his report of the working of the hospital for the past year.

The new hospital was completed and ready for occupation in June, and the patients were transferred to it on the 7th of that month. The attendance of patients during the year was good; as a rule, the majority belonged to the middle and lower classes, but many of the educated classes were seen as well. Indeed, there is a noticeable improvement in the class of people who come for advice year by year; 538 patients were treated in the wards, and 12,339 new cases prescribed for in the dispensary practice during the year; 3,364 children were vaccinated in the native city, and it is satisfactory to notice that vaccination is making great progress among the Chinese generally. In Shanghai, it has to a large extent taken the place of inoculation, and constant demands are made at the hospital for supplies of lymph for distant parts of the province; 26 cases of opium poisoning were treated during the year, and sub-cutaneous injection of atropine has been found a most efficacious remedy. Judging from Dr. Johnston's experience, the loss of life from opium poisoning in China must be appalling. 500 cases of attempted suicide by this means, have come under his own notice during the last ten years. Many cases of severe accidents were treated during the year, among others 4 severe cases of burn from the Loong-hwa powder mill, 12 cases of carriage accident, 12 cases of gunshot wounds inflicted during the riot in the French Settlement, &c., &c. 340 opium smokers were prescribed for, but experience of these cases is not encouraging. Many abandon the habit for a time only, to return to it again at the first favourable opportunity. Poverty and bad health are the usual reasons given for wanting to break it off; but sometimes the moral degradation and apathy caused is also pleaded. In conclusion, the report acknowledges the assistance of Drs. Henderson and Little, the former of whom was present at nearly all the surgical operations. The native house surgeon, Chungfoo, is highly spoken of.

The CHAIRMAN asked to what Dr. Johnston attributed the improvement in the class of patients.

Dr. JOHNSTON assumed it was partly owing to the increasing prosperity of the place. During the rebellion, there was a great deal of poverty. But it was, no doubt, partly owing also to the hospital being more known and more largely availed of. The Chinese saw the advantages of Foreign treatment, they had nothing to pay, and they were glad to come. Formerly a great crowd of beggars used to come, in many cases merely to get food. Such cases were refused, unless in case of real sickness, as to receive them would be to convert the institution into a poor-house, for which it was not intended.

Mr. MUIRHEAD agreed as to the causes assigned by Dr. Johnston; he was very frequently in the waiting room, and noticed a number of respectable people pass through into the surgery to be treated.

In reply to Dr. Williams, Dr. Johnston said the Chinese did not often offer to pay; they were not fond of giving. There was one case, however; some friends of Mr. Overbeck's compradore were treated, and the latter collected and handed in a donation of $250.

Mr. FEARON said the question of asking money from the Chinese had been discussed at several previous meetings, and the feeling seemed to be adverse.

Dr. WILLIAMS suggested that they probably did not attempt to give, because they were told by the servants that they were not expected to pay.

Mr. MUIRHEAD said the case was just like that of bookselling, which had been lately commenced. The Chinese had been accustomed for a long time to have books given them, and had got to look on medical attendance in the same light. The effect of charging would no doubt be to decrease the attendance for a time.

Dr. WILLIAMS said one fear was that it would be a temptation to servants. When they knew that the managers of the hospital would be glad to have the benefits received by patients, acknowledged, they would try to get fees for themselves. A case in point had occurred at Dr. Parker's hospital at Canton. Everything was done there to encourage free access by all classes of Chinese. But six months after the hospital was opened, Dr. Parker got to know that the servants were in the habit of exacting 10 *cash* from every man, woman or child who passed the door.

The CHAIRMAN said the difficulty would be more easily met here than in Canton, with the assistance of police detectives.

Dr. JOHNSTON said it was hardly necessary yet to commence asking fees; but the question was one which would probably come up in a few years. At home, the habit of giving gratuitous advice at hospitals was found to be so much abused that the profession had to take the matter up and bring it before the Medical Council. It had now been recommended to establish dispensaries, where poor people would pay a little for medicine, which would defray expenses and give junior medical officers some salary. It was found to be a growing evil that people who could afford to pay availed themselves of gratuitous advice. In the case of this hospital, no doubt half of the Chinese prescribed for could afford to pay; the other half looked poor and probably could not afford. It was an important matter, but there was no need to make the innovation at present, unless funds proved deficient, and this method of supplementing them were adopted. Again, it must be remembered that Chinese merchants subscribed now, because it was a charity; if the patients were asked to pay, the merchants would probably withdraw.

Mr. THOMAS said the Committee were not yet able to say what the Guilds would give annually, but it would be a great pity to think of charging patients, or to take steps in that direction, till they saw what the Chinese merchants would do.

Mr. FEARON remarked that the Chinese had given handsome donations to the new building.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether it would not be possible to put forth some notice that the hospital was supported purely by charity, and was willing to receive subscriptions.

Mr. THOMAS suggested translating an abridgment of the report and publishing it in the native newspapers, with an intimation that they would be glad to receive contributions.

Dr. WILLIAMS said there was a foundation for thinking the Chinese would subscribe largely, from the idea they had that donations on such an account went to their credit with God. That was the Buddhistic idea.

Mr. THOMAS feared that would be making a profit out of their superstition.

Dr. WILLIAMS dissented.

A great deal of conversation ensued on the subject, in the course of which Mr. PURDON suggested the insertion of a permanent notice in one of the Chinese newspapers, inviting subscriptions; as well as the abridged report, which Mr. MUIRHEAD expressed himself willing to translate.

Dr. YATES said the Chinese had a way of raising subscriptions which would be very probably effective. That was to hang a large board, say 6 feet by 4 feet at the entrance to the hospital, on which they would post up the names of each subscriber. The Chinese liked to see their names in print, and when some one saw that another had given 500 *cash*, he would determine that he was as good as the donor, and would given 500 too. This would get up competion; all would do it because one man did it. That plan located the subscription; the Chinese would see it was for a hospital. If they saw reference to it in the paper, they would not know where it was, except those who had been in the hospital. Many too would put up their names for a thank-offering.

Dr. WILLIAMS remarked that this practice prevailed at the Chinese temples, but it was sometimes abused there. Certain

well-known names were put down with "not paid yet" opposite to them, whereas the man never knew his name was down.

Dr. JOHNSTON said it was to be remembered that the hospital had hitherto been a Foreign charity, and he presumed it was intended that it should remain so. If measures were taken to beg widely among natives, it would lose that character. Still, it was desirable to get subscriptions from Chinese who came for advice, and so lessen the cost of maintenance.

Mr. FEARON suggested the matter should be left to the Committee to consider and decide.

The CHAIRMAN understood that Mr. Muirhead's proposal to translate an abstract of the report was agreeable to the meeting, and also that a permanent notice should be inserted in one of the Chinese papers, mentioning the hospital and inviting subscriptions.

This appeared to be the general feeling, and after some further discussion the matter was left to the Committee.

Mr. GLOVER had only heard of the meeting yesterday, and had not been able since to see Tong King-sing, to learn how much he had collected. He had however seen his head-man, who said he believed some subscriptions had been obtained. When he (Mr. Glover) gave Tong King-sing the book, he had seemed willing and glad to do what he could.

Mr. FEARON presented the accounts, which had been audited by Mr. Miller and distributed to every subscriber.

BUILDING ACCOUNT.

	Tls.
Paid Chang Yuen Fong, contractor, for building	5,080.00
„ H. Lester Esq., architect, commission, 7% on Tls. 5,950,	416.50
„ Advertisement, acknowledging Chinese donation	1 13
„ Sung Shing Cheung, for Lodge, gates, dead house, and railing	208.00
„ Committee's order for building kitchen and wall to native doctor's house, drain &c.,	50.53
„ For carpenters' and bricklayers' work, and for guttering and down pipes	107.40
„ H. Lester, Esq. commission on payments for extra work done	14.00
„ Municipal Council, for permit to make drain	5.00
Taels	5,882.56

Provided for as follows:—

Bequest from the late Wm. Cameron, Esq.	1,500.00
Donation from His Excellency the Taotai	100.00
„ „ Anonymous Chinese friend, received through Messrs. Overbeck and Co. $250=	182.50
„ „ the Guild of Bankers	500.00
„ „ H. E. the Supt. of the Chinese Arsenal	77.40
„ „ the Tea Guild	300.00
„ „ the Piece Goods Guild	200.00
„ „ the Misses Crampton	100.00
„ „ the Misses Crampton, in memory of their late brothers, Messrs. William and James Crampton.	500.00
„ „ C. Alabaster, Esq., Her Majsty's Vice-Consul	250.00
„ „ F. B. Johnson, Esq., Danish Consul	188.25
„ „ The Silk Guild, through Mr. Choping	500.00
„ „ T. Dick, Esq.	20.00
„ „ M. Coryell, Esq.	50.00
Balance of interest	130.10
Cash transferred from General Account	899.38
Charged in General Account, the amounts per contra, Tls. 208, 50.53, 107.40, 14 and 5	384.93
Tls.	5,882.56

[The details of the General account are uninteresting and, with the subscription list, occupy too much room for our columns. The total income for 1874 was Tls. 5,254.74, and the outlay Tls. 4,745.39, leaving a balance of Tls. 509.35.]

Mr. FRANCIS asked how much of the expenditure shown was permanent, and how much might be considered special, and whether the outlay of Tls. 559 for drugs was for one year's consumption.

Mr. FEARON explained that Tls. 2,862 was expenditure connected with the new building, leaving Tls. 1,700 as the current expenditure for the year. They had sufficient drugs in hand to last till the end of the year, so the outlay on that account would be small. They might estimate the current expenses as between Tls. 1,700 and Tls. 1,800, and the current income as between Tls. 1,800 and Tls. 2,000; so there were funds enough accruing to meet current expenses. At present they had Tls. 270 in hand and had paid three months' expenses.

Mr. FRANCIS said the general result appeared to be that the new building was paid for, and that Tls. 215 of debt with which the year began, had been changed into a surplus. This was very satisfactory. He had much pleasure in proposing—

That the accounts as presented by the Hon. Treasurer be received and passed.

Seconded by Mr. PURDON and carried.

On the motion of Dr. WILLIAMS, seconded by Dr. YATES, the report of the medical officer was accepted; Mr. FEARON expressing the thanks of the subscribers to Dr. Johnston for his able conduct of the hospital, and also to Drs. Henderson and Little for their assistance.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether a number of cases did not come in from the Arsenal, and noted the absence of any subscription from it towards the amount of expenditure. He was willing to send the subscription book thither, if it were thought desirable.

Dr. JOHNSTON said a great many cases had always come from the Arsenal.

Mr. GLOVER believed that Tong King-sing had applied to the Arsenal. That was one of the sources he had suggested, when giving him the subscription book.

This concluded the business before the meeting, which broke up with the usual compliment to the Chairman.

MEETING OF LANDRENTERS AT KIUKIANG.

ANNUAL MEETING of the Lotholders of the British Concession at Kiukiang, held at the Vice-Consulate 2nd April 1875, by H. M. Vice-Consul, Walter E. King, Esq. Present:—Messrs. Portes, Hall, Anderson, Shaw, Cunningham.

The Minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The Treasurer of the Municipal Council presented the accounts of the past year, shewing a balance of Tls. 471.77.

THE LAND-RENTERS of KIUKIANG in account current with the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

1874-1875.	*Dr.*	Taels.
Apr. 1,	To Balance from Year 1873-1874	69.27
June 9,	„ 22nd call on Lots 7, 27, 28 at Tls 25 ea.	75.00
Dec. 31,	„ „ „ 5, 6, 19, 23 „ „	100.00
Mar. 1,	„ „ of Tls. 25 per Lot on Lots 1/4, 8/9, 11/15, 17/18, 20/21, 10, 25, 29/30— 19 Lots	475.00
	To wharfage Dues April 1, 1874 to March 31, 1875	532.92
	Taels.	1,252.19

1874.	*Cr.*	Taels.
Apr. 1, to Mar. 31, 1875.	By Salary of European Constable	188.80
	„ Do. Native Police	217.58
	„ Stone facing Bund	208.18
	„ Repairing Bund Road	73.06
	„ General repairing to Bund	43.77
	„ Repairing Jetties	21.43
	„ do. Gates, &c.	7.14
	„ Oil for Police Lamps	7.04
	„ Coolie hire	6.44
	„ New Jackets for Policemen	3.39
	„ Sundries	3.59
	„ Balance carried down	471.77
	Taels	1,252.19

Proposed by Mr. CUNNINGHAM, and seconded by Mr. HALL—

That the Accounts be accepted and passed.

The meeting then proceeded to elect a new Council, but an amendment was first proposed by H. M. VICE-CONSUL—

That the election should for this one time be for nine months, instead as hitherto for one year, in order to alter the time of the annual meeting to January.

Seconded by Mr. ANDERSON, and passed.

Before proceeding to the election, however, it was proposed by Mr. ANDERSON and seconded by Mr. SHAW—

That the meeting be adjourned till 4 P.M., as the report is not ready for presentation.

Adjourned meeting. Present, as before and H. Kopsch, Esq.

Report handed in by the Secretary of the Municipal Council, read and accepted.

Report of the Municipal Council of Kiukiang for the year ending 31st March, 1875.

Expenditure.—The receipts amounted to Tls. 1,252.19 including Tls. 69.29 balance from last year, of which sum Tls. 532.92 have been derived from Wharfage Dues. The Expenditure amounted to Tls. 780.42 including Tls. 208.18 paid on account of stone facing the bund, leaving a balance of Tls. 171.77, after deducting Tls. 300, yet due to the contractors of stone embankment to bund.

Bund.—During the high water of last summer, about 110 feet of the W. corner of the bund facing fell in, and as the safety of that end of the bund and the adjoining property depends upon the strength of the embankment, it was decided to substitute stone for the decayed wooden piling, and at the same time to repair the lower stone terrace at a total cost of Tls. 306, the work to be guaranteed for a year. The necessity of making a stone embankment to the West corner of the bund will be apparent to all, as were it to give way during a flood, the damage to property might be very great. The wooden pilings and stone jetty opposite H. M. Consulate having given way to the extent of 80 feet, it was deemed expedient to repair it thoroughly with stone, in lieu of patching the wood work, which is decaying, and sure to give way. The cost of the repairs is Tls. 150. The other parts of the upper and lower facing are in fair repair, and the spaces between the piles have been cemented and bricked to keep out water. The general repairs to the bund came to Tls. 43.77. The Council consider it inadvisable to expend much over repairs to the woodwork of the bund, as it is hoped the whole will be stone faced in due course. Trees have been planted where any have died or been destroyed.

Roads.—The bund roads have been re-metalled, and put into thorough repair for a sum of Tls. 73.06. The back (Concession) road has been planted with willows on either side, which were courteously presented to the Council by Père Portes and Mr. Anderson, to whom the thanks of the landrenters are due.

The Barrier at the East end of the bund appears to have been inadvertently erected on Messrs. Russell & Co.'s ground, but it has now been moved to within the Concession limits.

Wharfage Dues.—The Council have pleasure in reporting that the suggestions of the Special Committee on Taxation, whose report was read at the last meeting, have been brought into operation with satisfactory results. It was found that the most feasible means of collecting these dues from the River Steamer Companies using the bund was to charge so much per steamer on each entry, and to accept a commutation from merchants not connected with the river steamer business. This method has saved trouble to all parties, and appears to give satisfaction. The receipts under this heading are shewn in the accounts, and there is every reason to believe that they will be larger during the current year.

Police.—The Staff consists of four native and one European. The expenditure under this heading is a trifle more than last year, as the services of the Consular Constable were withdrawn, and another man was engaged as a higher rate of pay. The staff under sergeant Eagan, formerly in the employ of the Council, continues efficient, and as it is desirable to have a Foreign Constable at the head of the force, it is recommended that Mr. Eagan's services be retained.

J. H. ANDERSON, *Chairman.*
W. HY. SHAW, *Treasurer.*
H. KOPSCH, *Hon. Secy.*

The outgoing Council offered itself for re-election, and Messrs. Anderson, Kopsch, and Shaw were re-elected.

Proposed by Mr. KOPSCH, seconded by Mr. ANDERSON—

That in case H.M. Government resells the three confiscated lots, it will repay to the Municipal Council the arrears of taxes due thereon.

H. M. VICE-CONSUL stated that it was his intention, whenever the lots were re-sold, to recommend H.M. Government to repay the Municipal Council the amount of taxes due before confiscation. He could not however promise to recommend the re-payment of taxes from the time when the confiscation was made, as in the

first place H.M. Government only held the lots for future settlers—as had been expressly stated at the meeting of 3rd May, 1873—and did not exercise the right of voting for them; and secondly, because if the lots remained unsold for a number of years, the taxes might amount to more than the purchase money.

Mr. Anderson drew attention to the high rate of assessed taxes levied on the lots, to the present flourishing condition of the yearly income, and to the probability of still greater improvement, and he concluded by proposing—

That the assessment be reduced to Tls. 15 on each lot.

Seconded by Mr. Shaw. After some discussion and demur on the score that the reduction was premature, the motion was carried.

Mr. Kopsch advocated raising a loan to repair the bund as quickly as possible, instead of doing so piecemeal, to the amount of the yearly revenue.

The question was discussed and referred to a future meeting in the early autumn, when the effect of the flood had been seen.

Mr. Shaw proposed—

That the determination of the last meeting, viz., that Tls. 800 rental be charged for a frontage, be reconsidered, and the amount reduced to Tls. 500.

Seconded by Mr. Hall.

Amended by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Kopsch—

That the original decision of last year, that Tls. 800 be an upset piece for 500 feet frontage, be adhered to.

For the amendment 11—against it 14. Amendment lost.

Mr. Anderson then moved a second amendment, also seconded by Mr. Kopsch—

That this question be adjourned to a special meeting on the 3rd May, to allow time for due notice thereof to be given to all lotholders.

For the amendment 13—against it 12. Amendment carried, and the original motion thrown out.

Mr. Anderson adverted to the fact of there being a pontoon lying against the bund, and to the report that another would be introduced, and he was of opinion that no pontoons should be allowed without special permission from the Municipal Council. He proposed, therefore—

That no pontoons be placed before, or be attached to the bund without permission of the Municipal Council, and paying for the privilege.

Seconded by Mr. Kopsch.

Amended by Mr. Shaw—

That the question be adjourned to the meeting of the 3rd May.

Seconded by Mr. Portes. Amendment carried.

Proposed by Mr. Kopsch, seconded by Mr. Anderson—

That cargo boats belonging to non-payers of wharfage dues be taxed for the use of the bund when landing and shipping cargo from it.

Amendment by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Hall—

That this question be also adjourned to the 3rd May.

Amendment carried.

Proposed by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Kopsch—

That the Municipal Council be directed to notify to all lotholders the various questions to be brought forward at the meeting of the 3rd May, and to advertise them in the Shanghai papers. Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Shaw—

That all merchants be requested to communicate to the Municipal Council the amounts which they are prepared to pay in commutation of wharfage dues for the ensuing year. Carried.

Proposed by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Kopsch—

That all representatives of absentee lotholders be required to hold and produce legal authority for their votes, the same to be registered at the Vice-Consulate one week before each meeting.

Amendment by Mr. Portes—

That, while admitting the future advisability of the measure, the meeting of 3rd May be excepted from its action.

Seconded by Mr. Shaw. Amendment lost. The original motion was then carried.

The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

(Sd.) Walter Ed. King,
Vice-Consul.

Kiukiang, 2nd April, 1875.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Séance du 31 Mars, 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents—M.M. L. Ewald, H. Maignan, E. Millot; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M.M. Hennequin et Hitch, empêchés, n'ont pu assister à la séance.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France, exprimant le désir de connaître les observations que suggèrerait au Conseil une série de questions qu'il se propose de soumettre à l'assemblée générale des Electeurs, avant les prochaines élections.

Ces questions portant sur diverses modifications à introduire dans les usages électoraux suivis jusqu'a ce jour, le Conseil est d'avis que des modifications de cette nature ne doivent pas être faites pour ainsi dire à la veille des Elections, et il regrette d'être consulté si tard, car il ne peut trouver, dans la dernière séance qui clot son mandat, le temps nécessaire à l'examen des questions posées par M. le Consul-Général. Le Conseil n'est pas, toutefois, opposé en principe à l'examin de changements qui tenderaient à perfectionner la constitution de l'administration municipale tout en maintenant les bases du réglement sous l'empire duquel la Concession a grandi et prospéré, et il souhaite que toutes les modifications dont le réglement d'organisation Municipale est susceptible puissent être étudiés en commun par le Consulat et la Municipalité.

Le mandat du Conseil actuel étant expiré au 31 Mars, le Président est chargé de faire connaître à M. le Consul-Général, son desir de voir procéder sans retard aux Elections Municipales.

Le Conseil décide d'attendre l'arrivée de la prochaine malle Française, avant de considérer comme ne faisant plus partie du personnel de l'administration M. Renucoli, dont le congé est expiré le 20 Mars 1875.

Discussion et adoption du Budget pour l'exercice 1875-1876.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Municipal Council, acceptant les bases de l'arbitrage posées par la Municipalité Française relativement à la question d'empiêtement sur le Yang-king-pang:

"*Yang-king-pang Encroachment.*

"Shanghai, 29th March, 1875.

"Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, which was laid before the Board at their meeting this morning.

"The Council, while of the opinion that there are no grounds whatever for supposing that they have made an encroachment on the Creek on this side, but on the contrary they have voluntarily given up ground to widen it, as explained in my letter of 16th February last, yet, feeling as they do their position in this respect so strong, they do not object to its being made part of the question, if your Council desire it. They, therefore, agree with your Council in understanding the question to be as follows:—

"1—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek?

"2—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek?

"3—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North bank of the Yang-king-pang? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek? and do they really prejudice the interests of property owners?

"The Council suggest that Monday, the 5th April proximo, be the day appointed to submit the question to the Arbitrators, and trust that this date will be convenient to your Council."

(Sd.) "J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

L'Administration ne se trouvant pas à même de mettre les documents relatifs à cette affaire entre les mains des arbitres pour la date désignée par le Municipal Council, le Président est chargée de l'en informer par la lettre suivante:

"Monsieur,—"J'ai soumis la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 29 Mars, au Conseil, qui voit avec plaisir qui les deux Municipalités acceptent les mêmes bases de discussion pour l'arbitrage dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

"J'aurai l'honneur de vous écrire ultérieurement et de vous prévenir lorsque le mémoire de la Municipalité Française pourra être remis aux arbitres, mais, en tout cas, le surcroit de travail dans les bureaux occasionné par la clôture de l'exercice ne permet pas au Conseil d'accepter la date du 5 courant que vous proposez."

"Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée,

"Le Président du Conseil,—

A. Voisin."

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING ON 29TH MARCH, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (chairman), A. G. Wood, G. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, R. Mackenzie, E. Seligmann, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

Drill Instructor.—Letter from Sergeant J. Allen, 80th Regiment, Hongkong, asking for information about the post of Drill Instructor to the Shanghai Volunteers, read and referred to the Defence Committee.

The Cash State for the 25th March was laid on the table for inspection.

"*Sinking Fund*" *Deposit.*—It was resolved to renew the deposit of Tls. 2,000—due 31st instant, with interest accrued thereon, and to lodge a further sum of Tls. 2,000 provided for in the Budget, in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for a year at 5 per cent.

Encroachment—Yang-king-pang Creek.—The following letter from the French Municipal Council was read:—

[*Translation.*]

24th March, 1875.

Sir,—In the letter that I had the honor to write to you on 13th March, making known to you the points that the Conseil wished submitted to the arbitrators on the question of the Yang-king-pang encroachment, a regrettable omission has occurred in mentioning only one of the two new points—and that the most important.

The following are the points which the Conseil desire to submit to arbitration:—

1.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek?

2.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners on the banks of the Creek?

3.—Not forwarding the memorandum mentioned by the Municipal Council in their letter of 15th January 1873, and then, later, consenting to the order being given for an iron bridge of dimensions just sufficient to connect the two sides of the Yang-king-pang as they now exist—has it not vitiated your Council's protest and allowed this Council to consider the present line as settled?

4.—Have the Municipal Council made an encroachment on the left side of the Yang-king-pang? If so, is it an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek, and does it really prejudice the interests of property owners?

It is this last point which was unfortunately omitted in the letter signed by me.

Expressing my great regret for the omission, which gave yourself and your colleagues a wrong impression of the deliberations of the

Conseil at its meeting on 12th March, I am happy, in reply to your letter of 18th March, to inform you that the Conseil do not wish to insist, as a point for arbitration, on the conclusion to be adduced from the silence of the Municipal Council, for two years, regarding the claim which they had announced in the beginning should be insisted upon.

In order to preclude all misunderstanding I beg to be permitted to repeat once again the points that the Conseil intend submitting to the decision of the arbitrators :—

1.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek ?

2.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek ?

3.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the left side of the Yang-king-pang ? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek, and do they really prejudice the interests of property owners ?

Hoping that the two Administrations will find themselves in a position to settle once for all, by the decision of the arbitrators, all controversy relative to encroachments on the Yang-king-pang, I beg you, Sir, to accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) A. VOISIN,
Chairman.

[The French text has been already published among Minutes of Meeting of French Municipal Council].

And reply as under approved :—

29th March, 1875.

Yang-king-pang Encroachment.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, which was laid before the Board at their Meeting this morning.

The Council, while of the opinion that there are no grounds whatever for supposing that they have made an encroachment on the Creek on this side, but on the contrary, they have voluntarily given up ground to widen it, as explained in my letter of 16th February last, yet, feeling as they do their position in this respect so strong, they do not object to its being made part of the question, if your Council desire it. They, therefore, agree with your Council in understanding the question to be as follows :—

1.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek ?

2.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek ?

3.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North bank of the Yang-king-pang ? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek ? and do they really prejudice the interests of property owners ?

The Council suggest that Monday, the 5th April proximo, be the day appointed to submit the question to the arbitrators, and trust that this date will be convenient to your Council.

(Sd.) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

Bund Line—Yang-king pang.—Further correspondence is passed.

March 19th, 1875.

SIR,—Your letter of 11th inst., enclosing plan shewing where you propose making certain alterations in the Bund line of the Yang-king-pang Creek on your side between the Bridges Nos. 2 and 4, has been laid before the Council.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding, the Council have drawn up a plan on an English scale, and if, as they understand, the width of the Creek will be narrowed in at the points coloured blue on the plan from 1ft. 6in. to 2ft., and increased in width at point marked red by 11 feet, the Council desire me to state that they have no objection to your adopting such line.

I have been requested to take this opportunity of suggesting that the two Councils should arrange on a common scale for plans, say 50ft. to an inch, as it would very materially assist in a thorough understanding of the plans submitted by one Council to another.

(Sd.) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

29th March, 1857.

SIR,—As there has been an evident error made in your letter of 11th March naming the bridges Nos. 2 and 4 as the points between which it is proposed to make alterations in the line of bunding, instead of bridges Nos. 2 and 3, and the same was repeated in this Council's answer (*Works* 230) of 19th instant, I have to ask that you will correct it in your letter returned herewith for that purpose, and also return this Council's letter for same correction.

(Sd.) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

Election of Councillors for 1875-76.—Messrs. A. G. Wood and E. Seligmann expressed their willingness to act as scrutineers on the closing of the Poll on the 7th April.

Correspondence.

THE YUNNAN OUTRAGE.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—To the suggestions in your admirable article of this morning, with regard to the Yunnan outrage, I would venture to add another. You say nothing of the Chinese *personnel* of the Commission. The expedition, I would suggest, should be accompanied, by sea, to Burmah, with at least one high Chinese official, as a pledge of good faith. He could then travel overland with the other members of the expedition, and meet, on the spot, the officials sent direct from Peking.

AN OLD RESIDENT.

Shanghai, 10th April.

THE KIUKIANG LANDRENTERS' MEETING.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR, —As a cursory glance at the Minutes of the Landrenters' Meeting held at Kiukiang, and published in your paper of the 10th instant, is scarcely sufficient to enable absent landowners to gain a comprehensive idea of the state of Municipal matters at that port, a few remarks on the subject may not be uninteresting to lotholders.

The accounts show the total income derived from calls to have been Tls. 729.27 (excluding wharfage dues), and the current expenditure (including stone face to front of bund, general repairs to same, and amount yet due) to have been Tls. 529.47, thus leaving a balance of only Tls. 199.80, from the sum derived from calls. Notwithstanding this, it was proposed, and the measure carried, that the Tls. 25 calls be reduced to Tls. 15 per lot, thereby reducing the income available for general expenses to Tls. 390 or Tls. 15 on 26 lots. This measure will doubtless be gratifying to holders of vacant lots, but it must be characterised as rather short-sighted. The motion appears to have been carried in view of the fact that receipts had increased from the collection of Wharfage Dues (which were imposed with the special objects of raising fund to embank the bund with stone) ; but the landrenters seem to have overlooked the fact that the repairs for one year, extending over less than 200 feet, come to Tls. 551.95, or more than the sum derived from Wharfage Dues. At this rate it would take about nine years to complete the repairs so urgently needed.

But the reduction of the calls being a *fait accompli*, at least for a year, landrenters must now look to other sources to obtain funds to defray expenses and other outlays. They are strangely divided in opinion as to the advisability of taking down the old bunding ; that is to say, some are in favour of letting it fall away ; but there can hardly be a doubt that the latter plan would be fraught with danger if adopted, as were the rotten piling to give way as the water was rising, there would be nothing to prevent the whole promenade, which is only 15 paces wide, with its fine avenue of trees, from being swept away by the Yangtse. Such a disaster would be certain to cause a great fall in the already depreciated value of property.

It is possible that the wooden piling, rotten as it is, may stand some time longer ; but to trust to it is like trusting to a broken reed ; and with the evidence of the damage done last year, and that too when there was no flood, it seems premature to have reduced the income when every available cash is needed to put the frontage in a secure state. When that is once accomplished, reduce taxation by all means, but until then it seems impolitic to have done so. Let the stone facing to the bund be hurried on as funds admit, and when that is finished taxes and dues may be lowered ; but if that work is neglected, and the present bunding were to fall in, the land owners would probably find themselves called upon to pay a heavy call to save their property from disappearing into the river.

The next thing which strikes one as being injudicious, is the proposal to reduce the amount fixed as the upset price for use of a portion of the frontage, to Tls. 500 for as many feet. It would, in fact, be surrendering a quarter of the length of the narrow bund, for exactly a quarter of the sum obtained at Hankow for a fractional portion of the enormous frontage available at that port.

The small bund at Kiukiang is of greater value to the residents, as promenade, &c., than that of Hankow, where the space is comparatively unlimited, and where the damage would be insignificant to the solid masonry of the Hankow frontage, as compared with the wear and tear to which the decayed wooden piling would be subjected at Kiukiang, from the crowd of boats and coolies that would throng the frontage let out to any steamer company.

Unless, therefore, the upset price can be obtained, landrenters would do better not to incur the risk of serious damage being done to the very weak frontage, for a sum barely sufficient to cover expense of repairs to such a length of bund.

The proposal to call on all lotholders to register their votes, appears to be a good one ; it will induce them to take more interest in the meetings, and to see that votes are used to support measures adapted for the benefit of the municipality in general.

Yours faithfully,
LANDRENTER.

OPIUM SMUGGLING.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—In your report last week of the case of "Walker *v.* Malcolm," Mr Mowat is reported as recommending that an appeal should be made to the Chief Judge, to have these cases decided once for all. It seems to me that they could not in this way be decided once for all. This Municipality is not the creation of any one Foreign Government ; nearly all nationalities are interested, and have a voice. Whether the Chief Judge upheld Mr Mowat's decision, which is most likely—or, we will suppose, upset it, on the ground that the Council were not empowered by the Land Regulations to do so and so, and, therefore, anyone acting

under their orders was personally responsible; that would only be a decision in a case where the policeman concerned happened to be an Englishman; the next case might be of a German, or an American, whose judges might entertain very different views.

The object of these men engaged in this sort of Opium business for Chinese, is to get a decision that the Chinese are *infringing the Treaty;* and it appears as if that was Mr. Mowat's meaning—*i. e.* the Judge would decide whether the Treaty allowed Chinese to interfere with any Opium while in the Settlement; but even if the Judge could decide in that manner upon the interpretation of the Treaty, that, too, would only affect British subjects. The proper course would seem to be—either to bring a suit against the Council before the Consular Body, when the question could be ventilated, and perhaps a decision given; or a representation made to the Ministers at Peking. It is well known what Sir Fred. Bruce's opinion was.

It may be a very bad principle, and it is much to be regretted, that these runners are allowed in the Settlement. It is more to be regretted that Foreigners can be found to lend themselves to assist the Chinese in smuggling, and try to get Foreign Courts to support them; but until the Foreign representatives officially declare that the Taotai has no rights within these limits, the Council are bound to give his officers the same assistance they give to those of every other Power, and are bound to prevent disturbances in the street, which is all they do; and it is an injustice that their policemen should be harrassed for doing their duty. *If* there is any fault in the matter, it is not the policeman's, and it is surely the duty of our national representatives to point out with whom such fault lies.

Yours truly,

Order.

6th April.

Miscellaneous.

THE OUTRAGE IN YUNNAN.

(China Mail.)

The English-reading world are familiar with the celebrated saying about smashing up a railway director by way of obtaining reform in railway matters; and it seems as if the principle it involves is likely to be applied in the case of the unfortunate Mr. Margary's murder. Despatches have been received from H.B.M. Minister at Peking, requesting Vice Admiral Ryder's presence in the North to aid in exacting the complete satisfaction which it is Mr. Wade's intention to demand from the Chinese Government for the treacherous act of the Governor of Momein. Hence the Vice Admiral's departure on Sunday next, for an object which will command the sympathies of every countryman of the murdered man. Happily for the end to which Mr. Margary has sacrificed his life, he was not a missionary or an independent traveller, whose making away with could be explained in the ordinary way as a mere mistake of the local mob. He was travelling with the safe conduct of the Chinese Government in his pocket, and his unprovoked execution by the ruffian who chanced to be in power at Momein will have to be heavily atoned for. It is to be hoped that no excuses will be allowed to prevail in this respect. The time has come when the Chinese Government must be plainly told that it is impossible to recognize it as a sovereign power, if its own passports are refused recognition by the responsible officials of the inner provinces, and the form which any atonement should take must obviously be one that would make an impression throughout the Empire. It is of no use to content ourselves with the "recall" or "degradation" of the peccant official and the payment of a money indemnity. We had enough of that after the Tientsin massacre, when one of the scoundrels chiefly responsible was "degraded" at Tientsin, and within two years after promoted to a much higher position than that he had forfeited elsewhere. As a matter of justice to humanity, we must sternly insist upon the trial of the Governor of Momein in presence of properly deputed foreign officials, and if proved guilty see that he himself suffers the fate he inflicted upon an inoffensive and able man in defiance of the orders of his Government. But something more is necessary than this. Mr. Wade must with equal vigour insist upon the issue of an Imperial edict in the *Peking Gazette*, setting forth the crime and the infliction of its penalty in full detail, and furthermore take steps to satisfy himself that it is circulated throughout the Empire. We attach particular importance to this last point, the more so as, though of the utmost importance in Chinese eyes, it is the one regarding which Mr. Wade has in past years shewn himself least careful. And old residents will recollect the practical joke played upon him at the time of the signing of the Treaty, when not only were the copies *not* forwarded to the provinces as agreed upon, but an emasculated edition of the *Peking Gazette*, omitting all reference to the Treaty, was actually prepared for provincial circulation, while special copies containing all that was asked were forwarded to the Legations. We cannot afford to be again fooled in this way; and we believe that an insistance upon this point would do more to alter the temper of the people, and to ensure the safety of future travellers, than the infliction of the most terrible punishment on the perpetrator or perpetrators. We cannot of course ignore the *Lex talionis*. The outrage is too gross to be passed over as a mere accident of travel, and for once a provincial official has given us fair cause of provocation without the slightest chance, if we are firm, of evading its proper penalty.

From all we hear, we are led to believe that Mr. Wade is really in earnest this time, and has no intention of allowing an overtender consideration for Chinese weaknesses to interfere with a vigorous course of action. He may rest assured that the voice of the entire foreign public in China will be with him in any demands he may make. If we could rightfully demand the satisfaction accorded to our Consul in Venezuela, when the offender was sentenced by his own countrymen to suffer death by flogging for the infamous outrage he was guilty of, we are surely justified in demanding for a Chinese official, whose acts are sympathised with by his superiors and dependants, the less barbarous punishment of decapitation for a worse crime than that committed on Mr. Magee. We most sincerely trust that no namby-pamby sentimentalism will interfere to prevent Mr. Wade and Admiral Ryder from carrying out to the full the course which they deem advisable, not merely in the spirit of just vengeance, but as a matter of safety to future travellers and, indirectly, of benefit to the semi-savage regions in which Mr. Margary breathed his last. It may be that the sudden and cowardly act which deprived him of life may do more to "open up" China, than he could possibly have done had his life been spared. In tendering to his friends and relatives our sincere sympathy for the loss of an able man, we may express a hope that they will find some consolation in the fact that his sad fate will probably conduce to the establishment of totally new conditions as regards travel, in the vast empire which has proved his tomb.

(Rangoon Gazette.)

We were in error in stating that the expedition of Colonel Brown had started finally from Sawaddy. It appears that for various reasons, the route has been changed and the Manwyne road decided upon. The same in fact as that partially traversed by Major Sladen, by which, in 1869, he succeeded in getting as far as Momein. The course lies North-east of Bhamo, proceeding past Ponsee, at which place the last expedition was detained some time, and where Major Sladen discovered that he did not agree with Sir Samuel Baker in the pleasure felt by the latter at being in a downright difficulty. Leaving the hills of Ponsee behind, the road lies through Manwyne, Sanda, and Myne-la to Momein, the furthest point reached in 1869. Matters must have considerably changed since then, the Panthays having been exterminated. The Chinese are unlikely to make difficulties, and as the country, from all we can learn, is tranquil, there is no room to doubt but that the expedition will reach Talifoo and China in due course.—23rd Feb.

The disastrous news received by telegraph from Mandalay, of the treacherous murder of Mr. Margary, and the retreat of the expedition under Colonel Brown, has created a most painful effect. The Mission had given up the idea of proceeding by the Sawaddy roûte, as we announced a few days ago, and adopting the old roûte traversed by Major Sladen, and by which the late Mr. Margary reached Bhamo, had advanced some four marches beyond Bhamo, when some difficulty occurred at the front, which induced Mr. Margary to ride on alone to Manwyne where, on his advance, he had been received with friendly and respectful demonstrations. Here he was fallen upon and killed; and then followed an attack on the expedition, which appears to have been plundered of nearly everything and driven back, fortunately without loss of life, to a village near Bhamo. Simultaneously with this, we learn that Mr. Elias is stopped at Myne-Mow, and has no alternative but to return to Bhamo. We look in vain at present for any information as to the cause of this calamity. Poor Mr. Margary came through, not only without difficulty but with unexpected facility, meeting on all sides with every mark of friendliness and consideration—the people kowtowing to the Chinese *literatus* who accompanied him, and astounded to find that Margary was greater than he. On the return trip, the expedition is barely clear of Burmah, and presumably of the influence of its king, when fate smites the enterprise with a heavy and disastrous hand. Can the cause be found in a local *emeute?* We hardly think so. There is the contemporaneous stop put to the journey of Mr. Elias at Myne-Mow. Some signs of plan and deliberation are apparent, which do not harmonize with the theory which assigns some purely local excitement or irritation as the cause. It is an odd coincidence that the Burmese Embassy preceded our own by only a few days and by the same route, and it is more than possible to our mind that Golden Foot has had something to do with the catastrophe. We hope above all things, that a searching investigation will be made. The Court of Pekin cannot be sensible of any other feeling than that of indignant regret at the outrage, and will, we should imagine, be ready to furnish every assistance to punish its authors and abettors. Should inquiries eventually point to the King of Burmah, as having instigated this murder, it will probably go hard with that worthy. A British resident and an armed force will, we hope, deprive him of the power of future mischief, or, what would be still more desirable, improve him off the face of Burmah at all events altogether.

The untimely death in the service of his country, of Mr. Margary, under such painful circumstances, will awaken a wide and deep feeling of sympathy. Cut down in the moment of success, after having accomplished an unparellelled feat and without having had a foretaste even of the acknowledgments of his countrymen, his fate has been a sad one, and we trust that it will be amply avenged.—9th March.

Mr. Elias, we are glad to hear, has returned safely to Bhamo, and Colonel Brown, who was at a village some twelve miles from thence according to the last advices, is probably safely there also. We are looking forward with great anxiety to fuller news of the late catastrophe. It seems that Mr Margary's escort, five in number, were also all murdered, and the attacking party must have made a rich haul by looting all the treasure and presents in charge of the expedition. We believe an express boat is on its way down from Bhamo, and may arrive at any moment, and which will probably bear full despatches from Colonel Brown, conveying all information that has been obtainable as to the attack and violation of the safe conduct. It is simply inconceivable that, without supposing some considerable pressure to have been exerted, the expedition should have been driven back in the ignominious manner it has been. We trust that a searching investigation will be made—of that, presumably there is little doubt—and that an adequate measure of punishment may be meeted out to the offenders. The murder of Mr. Margary is not only a crime, but assuming it to have sprung from political motives, a blunder of the

gravest description on the part of those who instigated it. The murder of a British envoy is no light matter, and although Exeter Hall is strong, we imagine that a peace-at-any-price policy could hardly find advocates even there, by the light of such an event. Fortunately, we have an administration in power pledged to a vigorous policy, and a more fitting opportunity for its exercise could hardly be found.—12th March.

THE WRECK OF THE S. S. "HONGKONG."

By the S. S. *Fyen*, three of the passengers of the late steamer *Hongkong* arrived, from whom we gather the following particulars of the recent sad disaster. Passed Aden on Saturday morning, 20th February, at 4 o'clock, and at 5.5 a.m. of the 22nd, struck on an unknown reef, about 4 or 5 miles from Abdalkure. As soon as the vessel struck, three boats were lowered; in one boat was the first engineer and two of the crew; in the other boats the second officer and some of the crew. Pulled away from the sinking vessel. Captain Comley placed the lady passenger and two of the children in the port boat, but from its being undetached from the davits, it went down with the wreck, the Captain springing from the boat, the lady and two children being drowned; and finding the vessel going down, the third officer with one of the passengers, Mr. Sonne, jumped into the water and were picked up by one of the boats. One of the other passengers, Mr. Petersen, jumped from the deck into one of the boats where the crew were. Mr. Colding, another passenger, was standing on the deck and went down with the vessel. After having gone down three times, he caught hold of a part of the wreck, and after remaining on it for a short time was picked up by one of the boats. The other three children belonging to a lady passenger (Mrs. Walton) were down in the cabin and sunk with the wreck. The Captain was eventually picked up, and looked round to see if there were any more to be saved, but, not seeing any, pulled to some rocks and remained there a short time. Some sea-gulls were obtained, there not being any provision in the boats, and but six gallons of water for the boats. The Captain then counted who were saved, and found the Chief Officer, Fourth Engineer, Cook, Butcher, and two stewards were missing, making with Mrs. Walton and five children, 12 in all lost. The two boats then steered for Aden (the third being too small was left on the rocks). The boat in which were the 2nd and 3rd officers and Mr. Colding pulled away and kept in company with the Captain's boat until the middle of the night, but did not see the boat in which the Captain was, afterwards. The boat then pulled all the night and the next day, when the occupants sighted a Malay junk, but it was going so fast as not to be hailed. The third day, about noon, saw the smoke of a steamer, and steered for it. As soon as the steamer was close, handed a flag up and the steamer bore down for the boat. She proved to be the British steamer *Siara*, Captain Bettheik, from Bombay, bound to Singapore, who took all the hands, nineteen in number, on board; they were treated most kindly by the Captain, fed and clothed, and taken to Aden, arriving there on Thursday, 25th February. The other boat arrived at Aden on Saturday, 27th, at 2 p.m., after having landed two days previous at an Arab village, where they procured some dates, the head of a shark, and some brackish water.—*Hongkong Times.*

THE WRECK OF THE "YUEN-TZE-FEE."

(China Mail.)

The *Yuen-tze-fee* left Amoy for Shanghai on Saturday evening, the 27th March last, but anchored afterwards outside the harbour, until the fog cleared up at 2.30 a.m. when she got underweigh again. She went on all right until 10 minutes past 5 o'clock on the 28th inst., when she ran on Dodd's Island. Immediately after, the passengers and their luggage were landed, and meantime every effort was made to get the steamer off. Repeated attempts were made to extricate her until about 5 a.m. on the 29th. At that time the fire was put out by the water, which came in very fast. She gradually heeled over to the starboard side, and sank at 5.40 a.m. By this time every one had left the ship, so that no life was lost. Before this all the boats were destroyed, excepting one, which had been sent to Amoy immediately after the disaster to give information, but all hands managed to land on Dodd's Island by jumping over the bow. The steamer had been abandoned twice before she sank, all expecting her to go down every moment. When it was found that dread was premature, all hands went on board again and did their best to pump the ship out, and to try to get her off. The *Douglas* appeared on the afternoon of the 29th and took away the passengers, and from her it was learnt that H.M.S. *Growler* would come next day to render assistance. She did not, however, come, and instead of her the *Ling Feng* (Chinese revenue cruiser) appeared on the afternoon of the 30th. She did not then take the crew off the island, (having anchored in the Looloo Bay) but sent a boat off with provisions and water to those on the island. The next morning, (the 31st), she took all the crew away to *Amoy*. Captain Cocker and the officers of the *Ling Feng* treated the shipwrecked men with great kindness. A Naval Court of enquiry, presided over by Mr. Vice-Consul Phillips, assisted by Captain Cocker and Lieut. Pelly of H.M.S. *Growler*, was subsequently held, and Captain Moalle's certificate was suspended for three months for an error of judgment. His conduct subsequent to the wreck received, however, great praise from the Court. The crew were detained at Amoy awaiting a steamer, but the engineers, sailors, firemen and others, except the officers who are still in Amoy, came down in the *Douglas*, arriving here to-day. When the *Yuentzefee* struck, she seemed to have jumped on the rock, and about 30 feet of her bow became fixed on it. The engines were immediately put astern to draw her off, but to no avail. During the time she was on the rock the engines were constantly worked with a view of getting her off and for pumping her. A short time before she struck, the engines were eased. After the striking, perfect order reigned on board; there was nothing like a panic even among the Chinese passengers. As regards the ship's crew, every one was at his post. There were on board 20 Chinese passengers, 1 European first class, besides a crew of over 40 all told. The steamer was going up to Shanghai to be delivered back to her owners, the charter having just expired. The cargo was rather a valuable one and consisted chiefly of sugar, sapan wood, and a quantity of gunny bags. After she struck, the passengers and their luggage were landed, and by 12 o'clock all of them were out of the vessel. It was not necessary to use the boats, as land was so close that a plank laid from the bow sufficed to land them. During the night a north-east wind accompanied by heavy rains, sprang up and caused the ship to bump a great deal so that she heeled over on the starboard side on the morning of the 29th. Those on the island didn't suffer much from want of food or water, but they received a thorough drenching, it having rained hard during the night, and there was a strong wind. They had to shelter themselves in the best way they could.

Law Reports.

NAVAL COURT OF ENQUIRY.

Shanghai, April 12th.

Capt. A. BULLER, H.M.S. *Modeste*, President.
W. H. MEDHURST, Esq., H. B. M. Consul.
Lieut. J. P. PIPON, H.M.S. *Modeste.*
C. G. PERRINS, Esq., Master, P. & O. str. *Khiva.*
R. H. BERGMAN, Esq., Master, str. *Tunsin.*
W. C. GILLIES, Assist.-Paymaster, H. M. S. *Modeste, Clerk of the Court.*

The Court was held at the request of Captain Brown, of the British steamer *Ocean*, to enquire into the circumstances attending the collision between that vessel and the C. M. S. S. *Fusing*, Captain Andrews, which happened on the morning of the 4th instant, when the last named vessel was sunk with much loss of life.

The 'Hsien of Shanghai; Chên, Mixed Court magistrate; Mr. Campbell and Wang Yung-ho, interpreters, were specially deputed by the Taotai to watch proceedings and report to him. Several other Chinese officials were present, as were also Captain Bolton, Tong King-sing, and others connected with the C. M. S. S. Company.

In reply to a question, Captain Brown said he wished to call as witnesses, the officer who had charge of the deck of the *Fusing* at the time of the collision, as well as the engineers and quartermasters of that ship.

Mr. MEDHURST said that Mr. Tong-king-sing, the manager of the C. M. S. S. Company, was willing to give all the witnesses required, if Captain Brown would name them.

By permission of the Court,

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT appeared for Captain Brown; and Mr. DRUMMOND on behalf of the China Merchants' Company, the owners of the *Fusing*.

Captain BROWN put in the ship's log of the *Ocean*, containing his narrative of the disaster, being in precisely similar terms to those already published in *North-China Herald*, the principal incidents of which will be found described in the appended evidence.

The PRESIDENT asked why the narrative was not signed?

Captain BROWN said it was not usual to sign the ship's log, only the official log.

The PRESIDENT asked where was the official log?

Captain BROWN replied that it was on board the ship. He had not entered the occurrence in the official log.

Mr. MEDHURST said he ought to have at once entered an event of this kind in the official log.

The Court directed the official log to be sent for, as Captain Brown would be required to explain why he had not entered the particulars of the collision.

In the meantime, the Court proceeded with the investigation, and

Captain BROWN, sworn, deposed—The latitude and longitude giving the position of the ship, as given in the ship's deck log, is correct. I have not entered the latitude and longitude in my official log. I have not entered any of the circumstances affecting the collision in my official log. At about 10.40 a.m., on the 4th April, our whistle was sounded, and immediately replied to by a vessel, which I took be on our port-bow. Our helm was at once ported and the engines stopped, and reversed full-speed astern. I think in about a minute-and-a-half, or two minutes at most, when our ship's head had fallen off to S.W. by W., I saw the sails of a vessel a little on our port bow. Immediately afterwards, the collision took place; our engines were then stopped, and boats cleared away. Finding that our vessel was not in any immediate danger, our boats were sent to the assistance of the second steamer's crew. I have nothing more to say. I might add that our course previously had been S. ½W.

By Captain PERRINS—I saw the sails of the other vessel. I had no sail set.

By the PRESIDENT—The fog commenced between three and four in the morning. The fog whistle was sounded about every minute to two minutes at most. When we ported, our helm was put hard-a-port. We were going from 6½ to 7 knots. The speed is entered in the deck log. We use a patent log, which is hauled in every four hours, and the distance taken from it. I cannot say how many revolutions the engines were making. I think about two minutes had elapsed between my first hearing the whistle and the collision. The first things I saw were the *Fusing's* mainsail and foretrysail. We struck her about twenty feet abaft the stem on the starboard side, with our bow, hitting her at right-angles, as near as I could judge. I was on the bridge. The second officer was also on the bridge, in charge of the deck. I doubled the look-outs about four o'clock in the morning, when the fog came on. They were stationed, one close to the stem, and another about fifteen feet abaft him. The speed of the engines was never reduced—it was the heavy head sea which reduced the speed of the ship.

By Mr. MEDHURST—I took the *Fusing* to be on our port bow when I first heard her whistle. She was not going on a parallel line with us—she was going at right angles. I am not sure whether I sounded my whistle again, after I heard her's. I did not enter these circumstances in the official log, because I did not think it was necessary to do so for this enquiry. I thought when we got home would be time enough. The official log contains instructions to enter every remarkable incident. The whistle is about eight or ten feet from the deck of the *Ocean*.

By Lieut Pipon—I did not hear the other vessel's whistle more than once. I had no idea which way she was steering. The engines were backed astern before the collision. We got a back turn before the collision. I did not see the other vessel before we got the back turn. I think we must have been going about three knots when we struck, as far as I could judge.

By Captain Perrins—My ship goes, in calm water, from nine to nine-and-a-half knots. There was a good deal of sea on ; none of our boats were swamped. They took a good deal of water in them. There were from eleven to thirteen persons in our largest boat, including the crew. I lowered all my boats.

By Captain Bergman—I am sure it was a minute after my seeing the *Fusing*, before we came into collision. Our engines had been reversed, I think, about two minutes previously—as soon as it could be done after stopping. I never tried, but I should think the *Ocean* would require five minutes to gather stern way, after going at the speed we were proceeding at. I first heard the whistle on the port bow, and saw the *Fusing* on my port bow, but not more than half-a-point—nearly right a-head. She was not many yards' distance ; the fog was so very dense, I could not see many yards.

By the President—I think I had been on the bridge about a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes before the collision took place. I had previously been on deck some time. I first saw the sails, and then the whole length of her broadside.

By Mr. Medhurst—I remained at the spot from eleven o'clock till six ; the boats were out two hours of that time, trying to pick up the people. I picked up fifty-eight altogether, and every attention was paid to them. I brought them to Shanghai. There were five Europeans, and fifty-three Chinese. I picked up one dead body—all we saw at the time. Two died after they came on board.

By Captain Perrins—The engines were reversed as quickly as possible. When a ship has got headway, they do not as a general rule reverse quickly. I found the engines of the *Ocean* reversed as quickly as those of any other steamer I have been accustomed to. I cannot say how long it was after the order to reverse was given, that the engines moved.

[The *Ocean's* official log, and the Captain's certificate of competency, were here handed to the Court.]

By the President—I do not know how long it was before the *Fusing* sank. I did not see her go down.

By Captain Bergman—The *Fusing* was coming ahead at the time of the collision, but I cannot say how fast. I think from her appearance, she was heading about N.W., as near as I could judge. I was heading about S.W. by W. at the time of the collision.

By Mr. Medhurst—I have been a master twenty years. I was not aware it was necessary to enter the collision in the official log for this enquiry. I have had so much to do since, that it has escaped my memory that it was necessary, I suppose.

Mr. Medhurst—It might have escaped your memory, but after all those years as a master, you must have known it was necessary to enter it.

By Mr. Wainewright—If I had written up the official log, the account of the collision would not have been entered differently, or any addition made to that in the ship's log. In the eighteen hours up to noon on the 3rd, the ship had made 140 knots ; and in the four hours ending at eight o'clock on the morning of the collision, the log showed the vessel had gone 25¼ miles.

Mr. Wainewright then put in a sketch made by Captain Brown, of the position of the vessel just before and at the time of collision.

By Mr. Drummond—The wind was about S.S.W.; it appeared a fresh breeze with us, going against it. The variations during the previous twenty-four hours had been from S.E. to S.S.W. The wind was fresher when the fog came on, and was about S. then. There is no current, that I am aware of, where the collision took place. My impression, from what I have stated, is that the *Fusing* must have changed her course just prior to the collision. I do not know what course she was steering, and would not like to think what she di

By the President—I do not know what she di

By Mr. Drummond—I have said there was a good deal of sea on. It was said that one of the *Fusing's* boats carried twenty-six persons in that sea. I did not count them.

By the Court—One of the *Fusing's* boats assisted in saving life. I cannot say how many she saved, but she brought some people on board the *Ocean*.

By Mr. Drummond—The answer I have given with regard to speed, applies to the time when I first heard the whistle of the *Fusing*. I considered myself outside the track of the vessels going North.

The Court then adjourned till 1.15. Upon resuming, the Court called—

John McKeckney, who deposed—I am second officer of the steamer *Ocean*. I have a second officer's certificate. I was officer of the watch at the time of the collision. I was on the bridge then. The wind was from S.S.W. to S. I cannot say at what speed the ship was going. We did not haul the log in during my watch. I think she was going about seven knots. As officer of the watch, the precaution I took during the fog, was to keep the steam whistle going. The steam whistle was sounded at regular intervals of four or five minutes. Not two seconds elapsed between sounding our whistle and hearing the *Fusing* reply. The ship was heading S. ¾ W., by the pole compass on the bridge. Heard the *Fusing* whistle a little on the port bow, about two points. The captain ordered me to put the helm hard-a-port. He then stopped the engines, and reversed full speed. At the same time I kept the steam whistle blowing until the collision. The helm was put immediately a-port. I first saw a vessel's starboard bow and her foremast. The engines were reversed immediately after the order. In my opinion the *Ocean* was not going more than five knots when she struck the *Fusing*, but I cannot be positive. The engines were going astern at the moment of the collision. The *Ocean* struck the *Fusing* about 18 or 20 feet from the starboard bow. I do not think it could have been more than four minutes before she sank. I did not see her go down. Two hands, an A.B. and a boy, were on the look out, one right in the stem, and the other about 10 feet further aft.

By Mr. Medhurst—I was sounding the whistle at the time the collision took place. I had the string in my hand. The Captain only was on the bridge with me. Immediately the vessels struck, I heard the Captain order the boats to be manned. All our boats were out, and I saw one of the *Fusing's* boats assisting to save the sinking people. There was a nasty cross sea for the boats, on at the time. We were helping the *Fusing's* people for two hours. The ship stayed there about six or eight hours. I am sure every one was picked up that possibly could be.

By Lieut. Pipon—I only heard the *Fusing's* whistle once before we came into collision. We got clear of the *Fusing*, because we had stern way on. We kept on backing until we were clear.

By Captain Bergman—I judged by the time that we got on the water to save the people, that the *Fusing* sank in about four minutes. I do not suppose we were more than four minutes from the time the vessels struck until the first boat was lowered. I was in the first boat, and when I rowed to the spot I saw nothing of the *Fusing*, only cargo, and people clinging to the wreckage. Although I could not see the *Fusing*, I believed she was sinking, as we heard the screams of her people. The captain took charge of the deck at the time of the collision. He gave me my orders.

By the President—I cannot say whether the *Fusing* altered her course.

By Captain Perrins—Previous to stopping the ship, the engine room telegraph was at full speed ahead. I made no suggestions to the Captain as to increasing or decreasing speed.

By the President—I consider we were warranted going seven knots in such a fog. I consider it a moderate rate of speed. The sea was sufficient to check the ship's way about a mile and a half or two miles an hour.

By Captain Bergman—The fog commenced at about half past three or a quarter to four in the morning.

By Mr. Medhurst—We could just see about the ship's length at the time of the collision.

Hector M'Kinnon, deposed—I am a quartermaster of the *Ocean*. I was at the wheel at the time of the collision. The first order I received was to starboard, and then, in about two or three seconds afterwards, to hard-a-port, from the bridge. The order to starboard was given to me by the quartermaster on the deck. I could not hear what they said on the bridge. The quartermaster's name was Neil M'Neil. Previous to the collision, I was steering S. ¾-W. When I put the helm a-starboard, the ship did not move her head. She had no time. I did not let go the spokes at all, because the order to hard-a-port came so quickly upon it. The wheel is right aft. I heard the *Fusing's* whistle. The order to starboard the helm was given in a minute or so—a very short time afterwards.

By Lieut. Pipon—I had the helm hard over to port before striking, and the ship altered her course three points.

By Captain Bergman—I think the ship's head when we struck was S.W. I heard our whistle blow three minutes before the collision, and also the *Fusing's* whistle.

By Captain Perrins—I could not see from where I was standing further than a ship's length. I am sure you could not see a quarter of a mile.

By the President—The order to starboard was given after I heard the *Fusing's* whistle. The other quartermaster was not stationed on deck when he gave the order ; he merely happened to be there at the time.

Neil McNiel deposed—I am a quartermaster of the *Ocean*. I was on duty at the time of the collision, and was abaft the engine-room skylight. I heard the *Ocean's* whistle sounded—every five minutes as far as I know. My duty was passing the word from the bridge to the man at the wheel. I heard the *Fusing's* whistle. I heard it only once—before I received an order from the bridge. I received an order immediately, to put the helm a-starboard. I ordered the man at the wheel to do so. I could see the helm from where I was standing. I did not notice the man put the helm a-starboard. I cannot say if the ship's head moved to port. I next received an order from the bridge—"Port—hard-a-port." That came in less than half-a-minute—immediately after starboard, port was given. The helm was put hard-a-port—about a minute before the collision, as far as my knowledge goes. I cannot tell how many points the ship had paid off to starboard before the collision. She answered the helm immediately.

By Lieut. Pipon—I did not notice the helm being put to starboard, but did notice its being put to port. I saw it a-port. I was looking aft then, but not previously. I got such "a start" when I saw the other ship on our port bow, that I did not notice about the helm being put a-starboard. I did not actually see the ship when I got the first order. I only heard the whistle, when I gave the first order.

By the President—I cannot say who gave me the order to starboard. The second officer gave me the order to port.

By Captain Bergman—I am sure that I heard the order given to starboard. I cannot say if it came from the bridge.

By Mr. Wainewright—I did not see the *Fusing* when I gave the order to "port—hard-a-port," but I saw her immediately after. I turned to give the order to the man at the wheel, and when I turned my face round again I saw her. She could not have been very far off then, as I could hardly see the man on the look out forward, the fog was so thick.

By the President—The *Fusing's* whistle was on the port side when I heard it.

By Captain Bergman—I am quite sure I heard the second officer give the order to port, and our Captain was singing out to port. I also heard someone on board the *Fusing* sing out to port.

William Stevens deposed—I am an able seaman on board the *Ocean*. At the time of the collision I was on the lookout—as far forward as I could get. The weather was rather foggy. I could see about the length of the ship. I only heard the *Fusing's* whistle once. The sound bore somewhere about a-head. I reported a vessel's whistle ahead somewhere. I was not certain at the time. I first sighted the *Fusing* about a point-and-a-quarter on the port bow. She was about the length of the ship distant. I first saw her starboard bow. That was in less than a minute after I heard the whistle. She did not alter her bearings until she struck, that I saw.

By Mr. Medhurst—I saw her starboard

side as far aft as the bridge. She seemed to be crossing our bows. We struck her a little before the fore-rigging. I heard the order to starboard given when I reported the whistle, and then to port from both captains. That was before she struck. The orders followed each other quickly. I heard the other ship also give the order to port. I cannot say whether they were hailing us, or intended for their own people. I cannot say who gave the orders to starboard and port on our ship. They both came from the bridge.

By Captain Bergman—When I reported the whistle, the captain put up his one hand and put the other to the telegraph, so I took it that he was answering me. I reported the vessel when I saw her. I reported her on the port bow. She had headway, and was approaching us. After the vessels struck, the *Fusing* appeared to be slewing round to our broadside.

By Mr. Wainewright—The *Fusing* had her fore and main-trysail set.

By Captain Bergman—There was a pretty heavy swell on, but no broken water. Water had been coming over the bow, and I had to put my oilskins on. I went on the lookout at ten o'clock.

Thomas Rooney deposed—I am a boy on board the *Ocean*. I was on the lookout previous to the collision, for about half-an-hour. I was stationed abaft the forecastle skylight. The weather was very foggy, and there was a little swell on. (The remainder of this witness's evidence was nearly a repetition of that of the preceding witness.) He heard the *Fusing's* whistle twice before he saw her. There was scarcely a minute between. He did not hear it on the starboard bow. He did not hear any orders given in the other ship.

Charles Wylie deposed — I am fourth engineer of the *Ocean*. I was in charge of the engines on the forenoon of the 4th April. At 10 o'clock we were making 48 revolutions. In calm weather that would give 7½ to 8 knots,—the most I ever knew her to go with no canvas. Steaming full speed, the greatest number of revolutions I ever knew her to make was 52. By my calculation, at ten o'clock, I cannot exactly say what speed she was going. Previous to the collision, I received the order to "stop," from the deck, and then immediately after, "full speed astern." In about a minute the engines were going astern. The engines had been reversed about two minutes before I felt the collision. The engines were making 44 revolutions astern. The levers were moved by a Chinaman along with me.

By Mr. Medhurst—I logged the engines on a slate, and the chief engineer copied it. The engines were going astern full speed when she struck. After she struck, they were stopped by order of the Captain. I logged all this on the slate.

By Captain Bergman—The engines were stopped in three minutes after the collision. We were backing astern about four minutes altogether.

William Craig, deposed — I am chief engineer of the *Ocean*. I was not in the engine room at the time of the collision. I wrote up the engine room log produced. From the entry, the Court is to understand that the engines were stopped when the ship struck.

By Mr. Medhurst—It is my understanding that the engines were not going when the collision took place. I got that information from the fourth engineer verbally, not on the log slate. The words on the log slate I do not exactly remember. I do not think there was anything on the log slate at all. I was in my room at the time of the collision. I went to the engine room at once. The engines were then stopped. I did not look at the clock just then. I told the fourth engineer to mark the time. I asked him how long the engines had been stopped, and he said, they had just stopped. Not more than two minutes elapsed before I got into the engine room. My cabin is right aft. I heard no orders given. I do not think I could have heard the telegraph if it had been sounded. What took me down into the engine room was the shock.

By the President—When I was in my cabin, I did not know that the engines had been stopped. I was aware of no change of the engines until I got into the engine room.

By Captain Bergman—I can feel the vibration of the screw in my cabin at night when all is quiet about the decks, but on this occasion I did not notice any change.

By Lieut. Pipon—It is not requisite in our engines to take extra precautions for stopping them in foggy weather.

By Mr. Wainewright — I believe as a matter of fact that the engines were stopped before the actual collision. My grounds of belief are having been told so by the fourth engineer. My engines, at full speed in calm, make from 48 to 51 revolutions, if the vessel is deep. If she is light, 56. I do not know the draft at the time of the collision.

By the President—I have been informed the ship's greatest speed is from 8½ to 9½ knots. I do not know how long it would take to give the ship stern way when going full speed. The engines are easily reversed when going 48 revolutions. It takes less than half-a-minute to reverse them.

By Captain Bergman—I do not know wheher the swell we had at that time would decrease the revolutions,—it might, a revolution or two.

Charles Wylie, recalled, said—The chief engineer came down into the engine room in about five or six minutes after the collision. When he came, the engines were standing. I am positive that the engines were going astern at the actual period of the collision.

By Mr. Medhurst—The chief engineer told me to ease the safety valve, examine the pump, to open the fire and tube doors, and to come on deck. I made the entry on the log-slate immediately after,—when I stopped the engines. I did not tell the chief engineer anything,—only about the firemen running out of the stoke-hole. I entered on the log-slate that the engines were stopped, and then put full speed astern. (After reading the entry in the engine room log-book, he said it differed from his entry on the slate, as to the engines stopping. The engines did not stop for two minutes after the vessels struck. The entry in the book made it appear that they were stopped before the collision.) I can swear that the times in the log-book, 10.40 and 10.43 are correct. I made the two entries,—one just before and one just after the collision. I looked at the clock in the engine room to get the time. It might have been a mistake of mine entering on the slate.

By Mr. Drummond—I did not see the chief engineer copying from the slate into the log-book.

By the President—I gave him no assistance by word of mouth to write up the log.

William Craig, recalled, said—I gain my information for writing up the engine-room log from the entries on the slate—the time being marked there. I wrote it up from the slate on the 4th April.

The Court recalled to the witness that he had previously said the fourth engineer had told him verbally, and that he (the witness) had said he did not think there were any words on the slate; and he was also informed of what the fourth engineer had just stated. How did he reconcile his statement with that?

Witness said he did not reconcile it at all—he did not take it in. He spoke the truth. When he first went down into the engine room, after the collision, there was no entry on the slate. He told the fourth engineer to write it on the slate and mind the time; and he (witness) entered it up afterwards in the book from the slate.

Captain Brown, recalled, said—I gave no order to starboard the helm. I did not hear it given. I was not aware until now that anybody had given the order. I cannot account for the lookout men, quartermaster and man at the wheel, having heard the order. I am quite positive the ship never answered a starboard helm. The ship's draft was about 15ft. 8in. aft, and 15ft. 2in. forward. She loads up to 18 ft. when full, but was in light trim. I am not aware if the draft is entered in the log book. I am aware it ought to be.

By Captain Bergman— I am not sure whether the chief officer was on deck at the time of the collision, but he was in a moment or two after, as he went into one of the boats.

By Mr. Drummond—Under the circumstances of weather, &c., on the 4th April, the ship I think would travel less than half a mile before getting stern way after the engines were reversed.

McKeckney, recalled, said—When I first heard the whistle on the port-bow, there was no order given to starboard the helm. I was not aware that the quartermaster gave that order to the man at the wheel. The ship did not answer a starboard helm to my knowledge.

By Captain Perrins—As officer of the watch, if I thought the ship was going into danger, I would have had the telegraph at "stand by."

By Captain Bergman — I understood we were not in the usual track of steamers; we kept on the outside passage, as we were going to Swatow. I did not think, therefore, that going at full speed in a thick fog was running the ship into danger.

McNeil, recalled, said — I cannot tell who gave me the order to starboard the helm. I take my orders direct from the bridge, but I am not sure whether the order came from the bridge at all. I have no idea how far it was from the bridge to the after part of the engine room skylight. I would not repeat an order to the man at the helm, not knowing who gave it. I cannot tell who gave this order. I heard a voice call out. I cannot tell if it was the same voice that gave the order to port. I cannot say if it was the second officer's voice.

April 13th.

The Court resumed at two o'clock to-day.

Captain Brown, in reply to Mr. Medhurst, said that the fourth engineer had been promoted to that rank from the grade of fireman, because the former fourth engineer was discharged. It was not logged. He had been fourth engineer only this voyage.

The Court said the promotion ought to have been logged, especially in the engine room log.

The case for the *Fusing* was then proceeded with, the first witness called being

Hugh Brooke Rose, who deposed—I was second officer of the *Fusing*. My certificate of competency was lost with the ship. Its No. was 10,080, I believe. I was officer of the watch at the time of the collision. I was steering N. ¼-E. by the wheelhouse compass. The ship was going about six knots per hour. I am not aware how many revolutions the engines were making. We had only the main and foretrysail set. The weather was thick and foggy. There was little or no wind,—nearly dead calm. What little wind there was, was from the S.S.W. It was a light air, not of any use to the sails. The sails were not drawing, they were just flapping. It is customary to keep sails set in a steamer when they are not drawing, when the wind is expected to shift. What light airs there were, were gradually veering round to the S.S.W. before the accident. We expected the wind from that quarter. We do not as a rule keep fore-and-aft sails set when running before the wind or the wind is two points on the quarter. It depends on the wind we expect. If it does the sails no damage, we do so. We could see about a ship's length and a half at ten o'clock. At that time the wind was S.S.W. I had taken the precaution to have a man on the lookout with myself. The steam-whistle was kept going at intervals of two minutes, and the ship was going at a reduced rate of speed. The speed was reduced before I relieved the watch. I was aware of that by being informed so by the chief mate at eight o'clock. I am not aware at what rate the ship was going previously. I am not aware how many revolutions the engines had been reduced. The usual speed of the ship in fine weather, during the short time I have been in her, was from 8½ to 9 knots. At the time of the collision, I was standing before the forward skylight on the starboard side. The officer of the watch in the *Fusing* usually stood between the wheelhouse and the bows. There was no bridge. The wheelhouse was on the deck. At the time of the collision, there was no one near me, but immediately before it happened the captain was standing by my side. I first ascertained there was a ship near us, from two to three minutes before the collision took place. I heard her whistle, from three to four points on our starboard bow — it was over three points. We sighted her about 20 seconds before the collision took place. I first saw her port bow. When I heard the whistle, I gave the order to slow the engines. I worked the telegraph myself to dead slow. The telegraph might be about ten feet or a little more from where I was standing. I felt the vibration of the ship ease almost directly the order was given. I consider the *Fusing* had stopped when she was struck. I do not think she was going through the water. I do not consider that the *Fusing*, going at six knots, would lose her way, the engines being still at dead slow, in two

minutes. I was under the impression that she had lost her way from something else that had occurred, which I did not know at the time, but have learnt since. I was not under the belief that the engines were going dead slow at the time of the collision. They were not going dead slow. From what I heard the Captain call out, I felt they were reversing full speed. About two minutes elapsed between my striking the gong to go dead slow, and my hearing the captain call out. I gave no order to the quartermaster at the helm. One order was given to him at the time of the collision—previously none. The helm was not altered, to the best of my belief. I was in a position to see at that time,—the helm was not altered—I cannot say for certain; it all happened so quickly that there was not time to notice anything. The *Ocean* struck the *Fusing* about half-way between the fish-davit on the starboard side and the foremost swifter of the starboard rigging. The *Ocean* was heading at right angles, or nearly so, across our bows.

By Mr. Medhurst—I gave no order myself about the helm. I heard the Captain tell him to put the helm hard-a-starboard. It was immediately before the collision took place. I went aft, after the collision. There was great confusion, and the ship was sinking rapidly by the head. The *Ocean* lowered her boats, and made every exertion to save life. We tried to get our boats clear, but, with the exception of one, could not succeed. The ship went down before we had time. I believe that one boat saved twenty-six lives. Our boats were all swung inboard; the crew were nearly all in the forceastle, and were killed at the time of the collision, and only the passengers with one or two of the crew could get to the boats. I knew the crew were down below, and never appeared after the collision. In the boat saved, were the captain and chief engineer, the rest being Chinese. I was picked up by her. Five of the foreign crew were saved. The third engineer was drowned. The boat that was saved floated out from the davits. I was capsized out of another when the ship sunk. This boat was cleared by the Chinese boatswain and another man. The head of the davits capsized her. I went down with the ship. There were only two lifebuoys on board. I saw the chief officer trying to clear another of the boats. About four minutes elapsed from the time of the collision to the *Fusing* sinking. I was in the water twenty minutes to half-an-hour. I am pretty sure the ship went down in four minutes.

By Lieut. Pipon—Previous to the collision, I heard the *Ocean's* whistle more than once. The bearing of the sound seemed to alter; the sound seemed to be travelling along our beam, towards our stern. After hearing the *Ocean's* whistle, the engine room gong was not struck except by me. At the time of the collision, the engines were not at dead slow. The last order I gave was for dead slow. It is not an ordinary telegraph. It is merely a gong and bell, which do not register. We only know the order is obeyed by the alteration in the speed. I could hear the sound of the gong in the engine room, from the skylight. When we struck, the man at the wheel had not moved his position—at least just before we struck. At the time we struck, I was not standing there at all. If I had been, I should have been killed.

By Captain Perrins—The captain shouted to them to reverse full speed. The ships were in collision in thirty seconds afterwards. Up to the time of the captain giving that order, I cannot state what speed she was going. She was slowed by me, and stopped and reversed by the captain. I believe the ship had no headway when she came in collision.

By Captain Bergman—The captain gave no order in my presence to stop the engines. I only heard the order to reverse. We were on the port tack. I heard the *Ocean's* whistle twice before she struck. I do believe the ship's way could be stopped in thirty seconds by reversing the engines, after going dead slow for two minutes.

By the Court—I believe, from what I have since heard stated, that the captain stopped the engines after I had slowed them. I have every reason to believe that, as I rang the bell to slow, the captain, coming forward, gave the order to stop—it therefore happened almost simultaneously.

By Captain Bergman—Admitting that the captain stopped the engines, I consider that the ship's way could be stopped, if the engines had been thirty seconds going astern after being two minutes slowed.

By Mr. Medhurst—The vessel was well supplied with boats. There were four, but they were swung inboard, as is the usual custom.

By Mr. Wainewright—Five minutes before the collision, the lookout man was standing on the port side of the forecastle scuttle. This man lost his life. I did not see him afterwards. I was keeping a strict lookout myself, trying to hear the *Ocean's* whistle, and did not pay any attention to him. I should say I heard the first whistle of the *Ocean* about 2½ minutes before the collision. The handle of the gong was in the wheelhouse. Three men were on deck at the time of the collision—myself, the man at the wheel, and the look-out man; there were others standing round the galley. I did not see that the helm was altered after the order was given to starboard it. I did not see the vessel's head move to a starboard helm, between the whistle and the collision. It is not true that, after the collision, I told the first mate of the *Ocean* that before the collison the helm had starboarded, and that the *Fusing* had moved a point off her course, or anything to that effect. It is quite false.

By Mr. Drummond—The helm was not altered at all between the time of hearing the whistle and seeing the bow of the *Ocean*. I did not alter the course because, from the direction I heard her whistle proceed, I believed we were passing ships, and not meeting any. I do believe the *Ocean* altered her course after I heard her whistle, and answered it. I believe she ported her helm. I believed the ships would have passed each other about a quarter of a mile, if there had been no change of course by the *Ocean*. When I turned, I saw the *Ocean* after the collision; she was the backing out, so I cannot say how far she cut in. Previously to her striking, I saw a small feather of water being cast from her bow, so she was undoubtedly moving, though slowly. That was the only guide I had as to her speed. When she had backed out, I saw the whole of the *Fusing's* bows were immersed, and the water running on to the decks in small waves. She was under water as far as the wheelhouse. I should suppose the *Ocean* went in right into the midships part of the ship—about fifteen feet, I should think, but I cannot say positively.

By Captain Bergman—The captain, I presume gave the order to stop the engines as he came forward to me. Five minutes before the collision, he was walking the deck aft. Just before that, he had been right forward to me. The look-out man was a Chinaman.

By the President—The look-out man made no report to me that he heard the whistle or saw the vessel.

By Captain Bergman—The captain and I went aft as soon as we saw a collision was inevitable. From the pilot-house to the engine room skylight, would be about 100 feet, or under. The signals from the pilot-house to the engine room for slowing and stopping are made by a gong in the engine room connected by a wire to the deck:—One stroke, to slow; once again, to stop; and for going astern, slow, two gongs in quick succession. There is no speaking tube from the pilot-house to the engine room.

By Mr. Medhurst—I should say our steam whistle was over 10 feet from the deck.

Robert Morton Andrews deposed—I was captain of the *Fusing*. I have my certificate of competency (handed in). I have no official log, or engine room register. The weather was thick fog on the morning of the 4th inst., at ten a.m. The direction of the wind S.S.W. We were steering N. ¼-E. by steering compass, N. ½ E. by standard. The ship was making from five-and-a-half to six knots. We heave no log; we have a patent log. It was hauled in at 8 o'clock. She had 99 knots from 8 the previous evening. Cannot say how many revolutions the engines were making. We reduced speed at six o'clock in the morning. Do not know the number of revolutions of the engines reduced. I gave the order to reduce speed. I ordered the chief engineer to reduce speed to five-and-a-half or six knots, at six o'clock. I placed an extra hand to look-out. It was at about 20 minutes to eleven when I first knew there was a ship near us. I ascertained it by hearing a whistle on the starboard bow. I was on the port side of the quarter-deck, and cannot say how many points on the bow. It would be from 160 to 180 feet from there to the wheel-house. When I heard the whistle I immediately went forward. On going forward, I heard the gong go, and put my head down the engine room skylight, and told them to stop her. I then went forward and asked the second mate where she was. He answered, "Broad on the starboard bow." I heard another whistle nearly abeam, and thought the vessel had gone clear, but immediately after saw the bow of the ship coming stem on. I immediately sung out hard a starboard and to back astern. The ship ran into us about 20 or 30 feet abaft the cat-head. I ordered our boats to be lowered, and, seeing the ship was sinking, called out to the other ship to help us, as we were sinking. She sunk in four or five minutes; about three minutes elapsed between my first bearing the whistle and the collision. The ship was steady on her course at the time I heard the whistle. We did not feel the wind at all. We were going as fast as the wind. We had the fore and main trysails set. We carried these all the night. It is not usual to carry sail when there is no wind. There was a strong breeze during the night from the E.S.E. to S.S.E. It was dropping from twelve o'clock to five.

By Mr. Medhurst—I gave the order to hard-a-starboard and full speed astern. That was the only order given. There was not time for it it to be obeyed. The *Fusing* did not sink under the bows of the *Ocean*. She had drawn off, and was out of sight. Assistance was immediately rendered, and every effort was made to save life.

By Lieut. Pipon—At the moment of actual collision, we were going about a knot, hardly that.

By Captain Bergman—The second mate told me the wheel had not been altered, that is how I knew she was steady on her course, when the collision occurred. I had not seen the compass.

By Captain Perrins—It is the custom in our ships to have an extra look-out in foggy weather and at night. It is not the practice to carry sail in calm foggy weather. At this time they were kept set to steady the ship. It did not occur to me as being possible that sails set in fog would divert the sound of my steam-whistle.

By the President—I do not know the thickness of the ironplates of the ship. I think it was ½-inch and ⅝, as near as I can judge. The *Ocean* was nearly at right angles when she struck us. She was injured on both bows. Our fog whistle was sounded every two minutes, by the man at the wheel. It was sounded twice after the *Ocean's* whistle.

By Mr. Medhurst—There were 45 crew, and seven of compradore's staff. There were 6 European crew including myself, and 39 Chinese. I do not know how many passengers there were, I think there were about 60. It is the compradore's place to know that. We had four boats. I think they were enough for 112 people. We had two life-buoys. The boats were all on deck, in their usual places, turned inboards. One of the largest boats was saved. The smallest boat was the jolly-boat; another was a gig. There were two others of equal size. After we were on board the other ship, they behaved very kindly indeed to us. Our cargo was general,—rice chiefly.

By Captain Bergman—Our draft when we left Shanghai was 11ft. 6 in. forward, and 12ft. 10 in. aft. It was not a deep draft. We had a deck cargo,—of wood and a few baskets of oranges. The wood consisted of small rafters. I do not know how many piculs it weighed. Our hold cargo weighed from 11,000 to 12,000 piculs. We have loaded to 13-ft. 4 in. and 12-ft. 9 in. The deck cargo did not interfere with the lowering of the boats. There was none near them.

By Mr. Wainewright—When the engines of a vessel are reversed, the action of the screw tends to throw her head sometimes to port and sometimes to starboard. There was only one gong signal for slow,—none for dead slow. We had to go to the engine-room skylight for that. Two gongs were the signal for going astern. The *Fusing* was not a very strongly built ship. She had light upper works, and hurricane deck. Her plates were not unusually thin for a ship of her size.

By Mr. Drummond—The ships were passing, in my opinion. I think that what caused the

Ocean to run into us, was by porting her helm. If the *Ocean* had not changed her course, I think we should have passed each other about a quarter of a mile. After going at reduced speed for six hours, the result of the gong signal to go slow would be to go slower. The *Fusing* was passed by the local surveyors at Shanghai.

By Mr. MEDHURST — I believe she would have passed us a quarter of a mile by hearing the whistle so far to starboard. The fact would not indicate to me the course she was steering. It is quite difficult to estimate distances in a fog.

By Captain BERGMAN—Hearing another vessel on my starboard bow, it is not my duty to starboard the helm ; it is my duty to take steps to steer clear of her. I did take precautions.

By Mr. MEDHURST—I was in the track of steamers from the North. The *Ocean* was bound South.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—There was no port to which any vessel could be going near the place of collision, which would take her across my track.

April 14th.

The Court resumed at 9.45 this morning, the first witness called being

JAMES SHEARER, who deposed—I was the engineer in charge of the engines of the *Fusing* on the morning of the 4th of April. At ten o'clock the engines were going 47 or 48 revolutions. At full speed they would make 61 or 62, at the trim she was in at the time. I had the watch from 8 to 12 p.m. on the 3rd. She was making about 61 or 62 at that time. I received orders from the chief engineer to keep her going as the was, with about 55-lbs. of steam, ¾-turn back of the link, and the throttle-valve about ½-open, which would give her about 48 revolutions. After 10 o'clock, I was told from the deck to go slow. I had not time to log the slow, when the Captain called down the skylight to stop her. I marked slow and stop on the log at the same time ; the orders were within 10 seconds of each other. In a minute or so afterwards, I received the order to go full speed astern. Those were all the orders I received. She was about a minute going astern when she struck, or something struck her. I left the engine room, and the engines were still going astern. They were not going astern when the ship went down, the chief engineer went down and stopped them. When the gong sounded, the chief engineer was not in the engine-room ; I stopped in the engine-room until the engines had been going astern about half a minute. I then went on deck and had been there about three quarters of a minute when the Captain gave orders to stop her. The chief engineer was standing near the engine-room skylights, and he went down and stopped them, and I followed him. I left the engine-room when I was in charge, because she was so far down by the head that I thought it was time to get on deck. I felt justified in leaving the engine-room with no one in charge, with the engines going full speed astern, after waiting there half-a-minute, and receiving no other orders.

By Captain BERGMAN—I opened one tube door, and three furnace doors before I went on deck. I did not ease the safety-valve, the chief engineer did that. I saw him do it. It was after I went on deck, and came down again with him.

By Captain PERRINS—I left the engine-room the first time because I considered my life was in danger.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I took charge of the engines at 8 o'clock a.m. They were then going 47 or 48 revolutions.

By Captain BERGMAN—I have been an engineer taking charge of engines, about two years and two months. I had a certificate, but lost it in the ship.

JAMES FERRIER next deposed—I was chief engineer of the *Fusing*. The greatest number of revolutions the engines made on that passage was 62. We left Shanghai on the 3rd April. I was in my room at about ten o'clock. My room is opposite the engine-room door on the upper deck. I heard a gong sound, and started to come out of my room. Just as I was coming out I felt a shock. I stepped over the passage and looked down the engine-room, and then forward. I remarked to the second engineer that the ship was sinking. When I saw that, I looked to the boats, as I had heard the Captain say "Clear away the boats, the ship is sinking." I then went down into the engine room, as the Captain said to me, "You might stop her, in order to keep the ship together." After going below, I stopped the engine, and opened the safety-valve. I then came on deck, and walked across the deck, aft of the the engine room sky-light. I said to the second engineer, "Come aft to the stern, it is our only chance." After standing there for about twenty seconds, the ship went from under us head first, and left us both in the water. I was in my cabin when the collision actually took place. In about two or three minutes after I heard the gong, I felt the shock. I did not leave my cabin immediately I heard the gong, because I was partly undressed. I was last in the engine room at eight in the morning. She was then averaging 48 revolutions by my watch.

By Lieut. PIPON—The speed up to 6 o'clock that morning was full speed, afterwards 48 revolutions. The engines were going astern after the collision.

By Captain BERGMAN—When I looked down the skylight of the engine-room, the engines were going astern. I heard no more than one gong strike, nor any orders given to the engineer. The gong I heard was, to slow. If an order had been given down the engine-room skylight on the side I lived on, I might have heard it.

By the PRESIDENT—When I felt the collision, I cannot say what the engines were doing, because I did not see them until I looked down. As chief engineer, I think I could tell by the vibration in my cabin what the engines were doing, provided there was no confusion on deck. There was confusion on deck. The Captain's gig was right over my room, and there were a great many passengers trying to get into it, preventing me from hearing any noise from the engine-room. They were not trying to get into the gig until the ship struck. The movements of the passengers about the deck before the collision prevented my hearing anything. After the gong struck, in about ten seconds she stopped.

By Captain PERRINS—With a following sea, 48 revolutions would put the ship through the water about five and a half to six ; by previous experience, I think that would be the speed. In fine weather, with 62, she would go about nine knots. About twenty minutes before the collision I came on deck, and the speed was about five and a half, I should judge by the water over the side. I did not hear a steamer's whistle.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—When I gave over charge to the second engineer, at eight o'clock that morning, I told him to keep the engines as they were then, and not to let the steam get over 55 lbs. I counted the revolutions then by my watch, and they were 48. When I went down to stop the engines, nobody went with me, but I believe the second engineer was on the first platform from the upper deck. He had not preceded me there. My cabin is on the starboard side of the upper deck. When I came on deck about twenty minutes before the collision, I noticed that the fore and main-trysail, as I think they call them, were set. They did not appear to be drawing.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—When I went below to stop the engines, the fore part of the ship was under the water as far as the foremast, but I thought I should have time to stop her before she sank. The Captain gave me orders at 6 o'clock to slow down from full speed to 48 revolutions.

The QUARTERMASTER of the *Fusing*, a Cantonese, deposed (Mr. Tong-king-sing, by request of the Court, interpreted this witness's evidence.)—I was quarter master at the wheel, on the 4th April, and went there at 8 o'clock. The course was N. ¼ E. I did not change that course. I blew the whistle about every minute and a half. I heard the other ship whistle twice on our starboard side—both in the same place. I had no orders to alter the course at any time that morning. I was at the wheel when the ships actually struck. The helm was amidships. I received an order from the Captain, just before the collision, to put the helm hard-a-starboard. I obeyed the order, but there was no time for the ship to answer the helm.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT.—When I got the order to hard-a-starboard, I did not see the other vessel. When I saw her, she was striking.

By Mr. MEDHURST—The look-out man was drowned. He was on the look-out. He was one of the quarter-masters, E-Sing. When I heard the *Ocean's* whistle, she was close on the starboard bow.

By the PRESIDENT—I was at the helm alone.

The PRESIDENT said the Court thanked Mr. Tong King-sing for his services.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT asked, before the Court proceeded to deliberate, that he should be permitted to ask the first officer of the *Ocean* a few questions with respect to a statement made to him by the second officer of the *Fusing*, in the course of conversation.

The COURT having granted permission—

ALEXANDER MCFARLANE, sworn, deposed—I have had a conversation with the second officer of the *Fusing*. At ten o'clock on the morning of the 4th April I was in my room on board the *Ocean*. I left it because I heard a steam whistle on the ship's port bow. I could not say where. I sighted the other ship just as I had run forward, and had got to the fore part of our bridge. I saw two sails and a funnel,—one of the sails was a little on the port bow, the funnel a little further on the port bow, and the other sail further still on the port bow. The two ships had then collided. I did not see her until the collision took place.

By Mr. MEDHURST—As I ran forward, I did not hear any order given as to the helm. I gave no order myself.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—After the collision I had a conversation with the second officer of the *Fusing*. He told me he starboarded the helm, and that the ship had fallen a point off her course. I am quite sure of that. No one overhead the conversation. It took place in my room. He came there for tobacco.

Mr. DRUMMOND—If the Court attaches any importance to the question, I shall ask that the second officer of the *Fusing* be recalled and questioned upon it. If the Court does not attach any importance to it, I will not press it.

The COURT said the second officer of the *Fusing* had denied upon oath that any such conversation had taken place. It was only one man's statement against another, and no good would be gained by recalling the witness. The Court would attach what importance they felt the statements deserved.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—The cabin I was in at the time of the collision was below, and the ports were closed. I heard the sound of the *Fusing's* whistle through the ship's side. It struck my ear. My cabin door was shut. With the ports closed and door shut, I think it was possible to detect from what direction the sound of the whistle came.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT having addressed the Court on the chief points in the evidence, as affecting the *Ocean*,

The CLERK of the COURT read the subjoined

Finding :—

"The Court, in pursuance of an order from Alexander Buller, Esq., Captain of H.M.S. *Modeste*, Senior Naval Officer present, proceeded to investigate the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamer *Ocean* (official number 68,090) and the Chinese steamer *Fusing*, which took place on the 4th day of April, 1875 ; and having deliberated, weighed, and considered the evidence brought before it, they have to record their finding, which is as follows :—

"1.—That the instructions of the Board of Trade were complied with by the *Ocean*, in proceeding at a moderate rate of speed, keeping a good lookout, and the whistle sounded ; but that, considering the locality and the thick fog prevailing, the speed of the vessel should have been moderated to a still greater degree.

"2.—That the Master of the *Ocean* displayed proper judgment in the orders given by him, both as regards helm and engines, after hearing a whistle on the port bow ; and that in the opinion of the Court, it was quite possible that the fact of the *Fusing's* fore and aft sails being set, might have diverted the sound of her whistle, so as to mislead the other ship.

"3.—That the Master, officers, and crew of the *Ocean* merit praise for the promptitude which was displayed in lowering boats and proceeding to the rescue of the sinking crew, and also for remaining by the wreck until all that could possibly be done for the survivors had been accomplished.

"4.—That the Court, on the other hand, deem it right to reflect strongly on the fact that the official log was entirely without any entry on the subject of the collision, and that the ship and engine logs were kept in a slovenly manner ; and that it will consequently

be necessary to call the attention of the Board of Trade pointedly to this neglect.

"5.—That the certificates of the master and officers of the *Ocean* shall be returned to them.

"6.—That the costs of the Court shall be borne by the master of the *Ocean*.

"Given at the British Consulate at Shanghai, the 14th of day of April, 1875."

Mr. Drummond applied for permission to make copies of the depositions, to supply to the Chinese officials, to satisfy them as to the facts of the case.

The Court granted the application, and the proceedings terminated.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT

Shanghai, April 7th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

George Murray *v.* John Snowden.

This case had been adjourned from the 2nd instant, for the attendance of the defendant, a pilot, who was sued by the plaintiff, who is captain of the steamtug *Rocket*, to recover $99 for services rendered to the steamer *Glenfinlas*, at defendant's request, in August, 1874.

In reply to questions by his Honour, as to why he did not appear to the summons on the former occasion,

Defendant said he had a steamer to pilot down the river on the Friday morning he was to have appeared, and in consequence did not receive the summons until his return home on the ensuing Monday. He then found it on the table.

His Honour—But the Usher left the summons with your servant at your house, at five o'clock on the preceding Thursday, and gave him instructions to give it you the same evening. You went back home on that evening, did you not?

Defendant—Yes; but I did not get the summons.

The Usher—I called next morning, and your boy told me that you came home the same evening, that he gave you the summons, and you took it up to your bedroom.

Defendant still denied that he received it on the Thursday evening.

His Honour—I suppose you knew quite well that this summons was taken out against you?

Defendant—No, I did not, until my boy gave it me on the Monday.

His Honour—I did not decide the case on the previous occasion, because I was informed you had gone away before the time fixed for the hearing. I kept the case open to give you an opportunity of giving me your version of the matter. Do you deny your liability to pay the claim?

Defendant—Yes.

His Honour—Then I had better read the evidence taken on the former occasion. Having done so, his Honour directed the defendant to be sworn.

Defendant, sworn, deposed—I did not receive the summons on the Thursday evening. I found it on my table in my bedroom on the next Monday morning. I enquired of my boy who put it there, and he could not give me any explanation—at least, any that I could understand. I did not ask him when it came. I read it, and saw it cited me to appear here on the Friday. My boy speaks very bad English, hardly understandable.

His Honour asked the Usher what time he served the summons?

The Usher—At five on the Thursday afternoon, I left it at the house. The boy speaks very good English, and when I went there next morning, he told me that his master came home at seven o'clock the same evening, that he gave him the summons, that he took it up to his bedroom, and that he went out again about ten o'clock.

His Honour—When did you first go to the defendant's house?

The Usher—On Wednesday, but he was not at home.

Defendant—I returned at six on the Thursday, and the boy did not give me the summons then. I did not take it in my hand, and go upstairs with it. I left the house again before nine o'clock the same night.

His Honour — The boy appears to have spoken sufficient English to tell the Usher that you came home at six o'clock, took the summons in your hand, went to your bedroom with it, and left the house again about ten.

Defendant—I am certain I left the house again before nine o'clock.

His Honour ordered that the boy should be fetched to Court.

On his arrival, he replied to the questions put to him in English by his Honour, in perfectly intelligible pidgin, and corroborated the Usher's statement in each particular. He added that when his master returned home on the Monday morning, he did not speak to him at all about the summons.

His Honour (to defendant)—Perhaps that is the reason you could not understand him—that you did not ask him? The boy does not seem so very stupid.

During the absence of the messenger who went to fetch the boy, the case had been proceeded with, as follows:—

His Honour asked the defendant to make his statement on the matter of the *Glenfinlas*.

Defendant said—I employed the tug on the strength of what Captain Wilcox said to me on the evening before she was got off. That was on a Sunday, and I said to the Captain, if we had a towboat alongside we might get her off. He said, "Well, if there was a towboat here, I would give Tls. 50 if she did not come off, and Tls. 100 if she did." On the next day, the Captain went up to town. Captain Murray came alongside on that day, and asked me if I wanted a towboat. I told him I could not engage one, but would go ashore and telegraph to the Captain at Shanghai. We went ashore together, and telegraphed to Messrs. Gilman and Co.'s. We remained ashore till we got an answer. They telegraphed back, "Captain has left town; cannot engage tug." At the last moment, I engaged the tug.

His Honour—Where was your authority?

Defendant—From what the Captain said the night before.

His Honour—But when Captain Murray came alongside, you told him you could not engage a tug. Then you telegraphed to the Captain, and did not get any authority from him. If you had the authority of the Captain before, there was no necessity for you to telegraph, was there?

Defendant—The tugboat was then lashed alongside,—when the answer came back.

Plaintiff—Oh, no; she was at anchor on the other side of the river at that time. Mr. Snowden must be forgetting.

Defendant—The Captain did not get the telegram.

His Honour—Yes, he did; he got it as he was stepping into a houseboat, to return to the ship.

Plaintiff—We waited ashore at Woosung for an answer to our telegram, and when it came, I steamed across the river with Mr. Snowden, got on board the tug, and then went across to the *Glenfinlas*.

His Honour—Your telegram was sent at three o'clock, and you must have waited until nine before you were lashed to the steamer.

Plaintiff—Yes; Mr. Snowden is forgetting.

Defendant—We did wait; I remember now.

His Honour—Where, then, was your authority? The Captain's evidence shows that by that time 500 tons of cargo had been got out of the steamer, and that he did not want a tug, as he knew she would come off with her own steam-power.

Defendant—He did hint to me to engage a tug, and on the strength of what he said, I engaged one.

His Honour again referred to Captain Wilcox's evidence, to that portion of it in which he mentioned the instructions he had given to the defendant to carry out if he was not back at the ship by the last of the flood tide on the Monday night—viz., that he was to back the *Glenfinlas* astern, and try to get her off with her own steam-power.

Defendant—The Captain did not give me any instructions at all. I advised him to go up to town.

His Honour—What for?

Defendant—To hire lighters.

His Honour—But by that time the ship had been lightened enough; and the Captain says he went to ask about the future employment of the ship.

Plaintiff—The Captain must have gone to get lighters, because it was on that day I towed some lighters down to the ship. Before that time they had been dropped down with the tide. If the getting-off of the ship had been left to lightering, she would have remained on the mud about four days longer. The reason why I went to telegraph was to ascertain if I could get my Tls. 100, whether she came off or not—and not to ascertain if I was to be engaged. I telegraphed myself, but Snowden was with me. I would not take the Tls. 50 at first, because it was less than my charge.

Defendant—Who said it was offered?

Plaintiff—You did.

Defendant—No, I did not; I never said it was offered. I told Captain Murray what Captain Wilcox had said to me, and no more. It was about four o'clock when we received the answer, and I then told him I could not engage a tug.

His Honour—Then why did you do it afterwards? It seems to me that you should have remained in that position.

Plaintiff—It was six o'clock when I received this chit from Snowden:—

"Woosung, 23rd Aug., 1874.

"Herewith the telegram. I cannot do anything in the matter, neither can the Chief Mate. If you think it worth your while to take the offer that the Captain said to me, would be a sufficient guarantee. Yours truly,

"John Snowden.

"Captain Wilcox is not on board yet; and can't tell what time he will be on board.

"Yours, J. S."

His Honour—Now, could the steamer have come off the mud without the tug's assistance?

Defendant—Not that tide.

His Honour—You did it probably for the best, but to engage the tug was in defiance of the instructions you had received from Captain Wilcox.

Defendant—I did not receive any definite instructions; and what I did, I did in good faith from what Captain Wilcox said to me on the Sunday night.

His Honour said that the defendant was in this position. If he had engaged the tug with the authority of the Captain, as his agent, then the ship would have been liable; but if in the absence of such authority, and in opposition to the Captain's wish, he engaged the tug, then he was himself liable. The plaintiff had done the work, and must be paid by somebody for doing it. The Captain was not liable (since he had not employed the tug), and if the defendant also were not liable, then there would be services rendered for which no payment would be made. Defendant had admitted that he could not engage the tug, and went with the plaintiff to telegraph, and got a negative answer; then, after waiting for some hours, without anything else occurring in the meanwhile, he nevertheless engaged the tug. If it was, as defendant said, that the steamer could not have been got off that tide without the tug's assistance, then it was very hard for him to be obliged to pay the claim; as it appeared that the steamer must either have remained on the mud or engaged the tug. Captain Wilcox said he was positive she would have got off with her own steam-power that tide. Probably he was wrong in his idea, and defendant was right, but that could not affect the defendant's liability. Captain Wilcox did not engage the services of the tug, and the defendant did,—therefore, the defendant must be held liable to pay the claim.

Judgment for plaintiff, for full amount, with costs, $5.

Defendant said he should sue the ship.

His Honour told him if he was not satisfied with the decision he could appeal to the Chief Judge.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 3rd April.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. *v.* Charley Ketche, str. *Conquest*.

Drunk and resisting the Police.

P. C. Boysen, sworn, deposed—Last evening, the prisoner was causing a disturbance in an eating-house, in Hongkew. I told him to go on board his ship, and then put him out of the shop. Prisoner then drew a clasp knife from his pocket, and struck at me, at the same time using threatening language. I caught hold of his arm, and he bit me on my arm and wrist, while I was struggling with him. Some bystanders assisted me to take the knife from him. I did not strike the prisoner, nor did any other person. He was very drunk.

His Worship remanded the case until Monday, for the production of an European witness.

R. *v.* WILLIAM HARRIS.

Drunkenness and Assault.

Prisoner, a coloured man, is cook of the ship *Champion of the Seas*, and he was charged with committing the above offences on board, at about six p.m., on the 2nd inst. On being questioned, prisoner admitted that he was drunk, and also that he had assaulted the steward.

The Chief Officer deposed that the prisoner was very violent on the occasion, and challenged the Captain and his wife, and all the officers to fight him.

Prisoner said he did not remember offering so general a challenge.

GEORGE WHITE steward, deposed—Yesterday, at 6 p.m., I went to the galley for the tea, and found prisoner fighting there with another man. I could not get the tea in consequence, and reported the matter to the Captain. The Captain went to the galley, to see what was the matter, and I followed him. Prisoner then struck me. I went aft, but later on I had to go forward again, on that occasion, he seized hold of me, tore my coat, and threatened to murder me. The third officer and the carpenter came to my assistance and released me, and prisoner was given into custody.

Prisoner said the steward was as drunk as he was, and that he had been drunk for the last five days.

Acting Superintendent STRIPLING said the steward was sober when he came to the Police Station.

Further evidence, corroborative of the complainant's case, was given by the third officer, who also said he had never seen the steward drunk.

His WORSHIP sentenced him to one week's imprisonment for the disorderly conduct, and three weeks' hard labour for the assault—the latter being a heavier sentence than would otherwise have been imposed, but his misconduct had been aggravated by his wicked attempt in Court to damage the prosecutor's character by a malicious lie.

April 5th.

R. *v.* CHARLEY KETCHE.

Drunkenness and Assault with a Knife.

This case was remanded from Saturday for the attendance of witnesses. The defendant is a coloured man, and belongs to the steamer *Conquest*, and on Friday evening was making a disturbance at an eating-house in Hongkew, which P. C. Boysen endeavoured to quell, when the prisoner drew a clasp-knife and make a blow at him with it, at the same time using threatening language towards him. Prisoner also bit the constable on the arm and wrist, and behoved so violently that he (the constable) was obliged to call upon the by-standers to assist him. Upon the case being called on this morning,

ALEXANDER MCCAPPIN deposed—I was walking along the Broadway, on Friday night, when Boysen called me to assist him to take a knife from the prisoner. The knife was open in prisoner's hand. He was on the ground, and I put my foot on his wrist to prevent him using the knife. He tried to bite me. A Chinese policeman pulled me away, but I do not think he knew what was the matter.

Prisoner on being told that he had previously stated he had no knife, now said he did not know enough English to understand what was meant.

Deighton was accordingly called on to interpret the proceedings to the prisoner in Hindostanee. The latter still denied that he had a knife in his hand at the time in question, and said he did not see the last witness near the place at all.

Two other witnesses, speaking broken English, were also examined. Their depositions were to the effect that on the night named the prisoner was drunk and making a noise. They told him there was a policeman coming. He said he did not care for the policeman, but would go and fight him. Boysen then came, and told him to go on board. Prisoner said he did not want to go on board, then drew a knife from his pouch, and struck at the constable with it. The constable struggled with the prisoner, and the clasp-knife produced was afterwards picked up.

McCappin, recalled, said he received a clasp knife from one of the previous witnesses. It was not then open.

Boysen recalled, denied that he struck the prisoner at all. Prisoner drew the knife, and thinking he meant to stab him, he closed with him and called for help. Witness also produced the coat, through the sleeve of which, as also through a singlet sleeve, the prisoner had bitten him on the arm and wrist.

His WORSHIP directed the interpreter to inform the prisoner that he must be taught not to use a knife or his teeth in the manner described. He should sentence him to one month's hard labour.

R. (HA-KAT) *v.* ANDREW MACFIE.

Charge of Assault.

Complainant is carpenter, and defendant first mate of the steamer *Charlie Palmer*. Defendant admitted pushing the complainant, but said he did so under great provocation. He had told complainant to open some ports to give light between decks, and finding he had not done so, asked him the reason why. Complainant said he could not do it, and he (defendant) then told him there was a small side light, with only three or four nails to hold it, and that he could open that one. Complainant then put his face close to defendant's, and repeated that he could not do it. Defendant, who had taken up a small chisel and hammer, put them down and pushed the complainant, once on the breast and again on the shoulder, but did not touch his face. Complainant did not fall down.

Complainant (through Leon C. Weng, interpreter), stated that he was engaged painting a door, when the defendant called him to come and open the ports. He asked what ports he was to open, when the defendant said, "You are the carpenter, and ought to know what ports to open."

His WORSHIP asked how could the complainant know all this, if he did not understand English?

Defendant, on the question being interpreted to him, said the defendant spoke to him in the Malay language.

Defendant said he did not know Malay. A man was standing near them who could speak Malay, and perhaps complainant had spoken to him; but complainant understood English enough to know what was meant. He had always done the work before.

Complainant, on resuming his evidence, now accused the defendant of kicking him on the leg, knocking him down, and then kicking him on the chest and head.

The Malay tindal of the ship was called, but appeared to have seen very little of the affair, and seemed inclined to speak about it still less.

Defendant denied that he kicked the complainant at all. The latter had been fighting with the cook, and he was obliged to make them both fast in consequence. Complainant was bleeding from the face, and might then have received his injuries.

His WORSHIP considered the complainant had greatly exaggerated the facts of the case, and did not believe the defendant had kicked him in the way he stated.—Case dismissed, complainant to pay the cost of the summons.

April 6th.

Reg. (NIELS ABRAHAMSON (Dutchman), J. NIELSON (Dane), CHARLEY BROON, S SPARKS, J. BRICK (Italians), J. JEAN (Frenchman), A. FENECH (Norwegian), SAMUEL BRAY (Englishman), and GEORGE DEMETRI and THOMASI DEMETRI (Greeks), *v.* H. FRY.

Assaults.

Complainants are members of the crew of the British ship *Champion of the Seas*, and they summoned the defendant, the 3rd mate, for assaulting them at different times during the voyage from Cardiff to Shanghai.

The cases were investigated separately, and in several of them considerable difficulty was experienced in ascertaining the facts, owning to the complainants' ignorance of the English language. In the cases of the Italians, the services of an interpreter had to be obtained; the Frenchman's case was easily got over, the magistrate and the defendant both speaking the language; but in the others, a mixture of broken English and pantomime had to suffice, the facts however, coming out pretty clearly at the end. More than two hours were consumed in the hearing, but the circumstances of each case were so similar that repetition is needless, the defendant admitting that he did strike the complainants, but under great provocation of insolence, disobedience of orders, and neglect of duty. Disgusting language was alleged to have been used on both sides in some of the cases, and in one or two the blows were said to have been returned. From the tenor of the evidence, however, it was clear that the defendant had been too free with his fists.

Captain WILLSON said that the cook of the vessel, Harris, who was now in gaol, was the ringleader of all the disturbances. He had been to this port two or three times before, and put the complainants up to coming to Court, otherwise nothing would have been heard of the matter. Some of the complainants, in their own country ships, were accustomed to talk to their officers as to the men, and, when they came on board the *Champion of the Seas*, they began to teach both him and his officers their duty and position in the ship. He was sorry to say that such bad language as had been complained of, was quite common on board, although he had tried all in his power to check it. The men had, as he had been informed, behaved with great insolence to the third mate, and on some of them complaining to him that the third mate had struck them, he (the Captain) had told them he hoped if they ever again gave similar cause that they would get it worse. In one day, two belaying pins had been thrown at the boatswain, from the forecastle door, and since then they had treated that officer more like a boy than an officer. In most large ships, the third mate was really a youth,—a sort of loblolly boy among the crew, and they usually treated him as one—but the defendant was an officer who knew his work and would have it done, and the men did not like to have a third officer looking after them so sharply. That was about the secret of it all.

His WORSHIP asked the Captain if he wished to keep the complainants on board, after all this?

Captain WILLSON replied that he had no wish to discharge them. He believed they would not have thought of coming to Court at all, if it had not been for the man in prison.

His WORSHIP reminded the Captain that the complainant Nielson had said he had put down the date of the assault upon him; and also that the defendant, in the course of the hearing, admitted that Nielson had told him twenty times that he would summon him when he got to Shanghai. His Worship said it was most unfortunate that the Captain should have shipped so many foreigners, and asked how many men composed the crew?

Captain WILLSON said there were 20 able seamen in the forecastle, all told; the complainants were all the foreigners on board, the remainder being Englishmen. As to shipping so many foreigners, he could not help himself. He was unable to obtain men in Cardiff, and sent to Liverpool for some, the foreigners were sent to him, and he was obliged to take them.

His WORSHIP, addressing the defendant said—After making every allowance for you, and the position in which you are placed, and also remembering the bad language you say was sometimes used to you by these men, I am not at all clear that you did not lead to the bad language by using it yourself, and so provoking the men to retort upon you. It must be borne in mind that these men are foreigners, who are very touchy and passionate, and prone to violence, if they conceive they are being ill-used. And, taken altogether, there was such an amount of rough usage of them on your part, that I feel I must inflict what you will perhaps consider a severe punishment upon you. There are ten summonses taken out against you, and scarcely one in which the complainant was not justified in taking it out. The only case I have any feeling of uncertainty about is that of Abrahamson, but without expressing any particular view upon any one of them, I shall fine you $10, with costs $15; making $25 in all. In inflicting upon you what is but a light punishment, I am influenced by your conduct in Court. You have assisted me very materially in investigating the cases, and I am pleased with your conduct in that respect. You have spoken out plainly and told the truth, which is always the best plan to adopt in anything; but you should have borne in mind, these

foreigners do not understand your language, and when they receive an order they might be puzzled at first to understand it, and while they are thinking over it, you treat them in this rough way. You are no doubt a very able officer, but in these instances you have allowed your hands to come into play a little too soon. But I shall exercise the power I possess in inflicting a comparatively light penalty, for the reasons I have stated. The penalty and costs are, as I have said, $25.

R. (John Johnson and Anthony Fenech) *v.* J. Tooze.

Complainants are seamen of the same ship, defendant being first mate. The assaults complained of were committed during the voyage from Cardiff to this port, and consisted, as alleged, of striking and kicking.

Defendant said he called Johnson, who did not answer. He found him on the forecastlehead, and told him he must have been asleep, not to answer, to which Johnson retorted "You're a liar," and he (defendant) then struck him. Complainant struck back "like a man, for which he did not blame him, and there was a free fight."

His Worship told the defendant that, in his position, he ought to be ashamed of himself to speak in that way.

Fenech's case was that the mate on one occasion threw a belaying-pin at him, and on another occasion kicked him.

Defendant said this complainant was of no use in the ship, only as something for the men to play with.

His Worship—Well, I shall fine you $5 and costs for the first assault; and $1 and costs for the second.

R. (S. Sparks) *v.* C. Vardery and C. Scott.

All the parties to this case belonged to the same ship, and the charges were for assault.

Complainant said the defendants beat him both on board and shore on Monday. On being further questioned through the interpreter, complainant said it was Vardery only who beat him ashore, and the other man on board.

Scott said he spoke to the complainant about not handling the meat for dinner with dirty hands, and just touched him on the side, when he flew into a rage, and challenged any Englishman ashore to fight. He then ran on to the wharf, when Vardery followed him and they began to struggle. He (Scott) saw an open knife in complainant's hands, and ran and separated the combatants.

Vardery, on being asked by his Worship why he went ashore, replied, because Sparks challenged any Englishman to fight, and he went to try what he could do.

His Worship considered the charges were of a trivial nature, and dismissed the summonses.

April 8th.

R. (Captain Willson, ship *Champion of the Seas*) *v.* John Johnson, Niel Abrahamson, John Langmead, George Demetri, Thomasi Demetri, and Anthony Fenech, seamen of the same ship.

Refusal of Duty.

The first three defendants refused to work since Tuesday, and the last three since Wednesday.

Captain Willson deposed—I am master of the *Champion of the Seas*. The six defendants are A.B.'s belonging to her. The two Demetris and Fenech returned to the ship on Tuesday, from the Court, and in the evening asked for their discharge. I at once refused to give it them, and ordered them back to their duty. They refused to work, and said they would rather go to prison. Since then, they have done no work on board, and have been ashore most of the time. The other defendants came aft yesterday morning about 8.30, with the rest of the men who were then on board, and asked for money and leave. I told them the ship was going out into the stream, so that they must work and get her ready for sea, and afterwards I would give them twenty-four hours' leave and $5 a-piece. Longmead said, "What's $5, I had $15 the last time I was here." They muttered amongst themselves, and went forward. The mate afterwards reported that defendants would not turn-to, and I came ashore and got summonses for them.

His Worship called upon the defendants severally for an explanation of their conduct.

Abrahamson said he was afraid to go in the ship, and on Wednesday morning asked for his discharge, which the captain refused to give him.

Langmead said he refused duty on Wednesday morning. They asked the Captain for money and liberty,—and he said he would give both, when the ship was cleared up, got out into the stream, and sails bent. It was a bad ship altogether, and no one on board liked her. He refused duty for that reason.

His Worship told him that what he had said was no answer to the charge. It was not likely they would find what they would like all round.

Johnson nearly repeated Langmead's story, adding that he should be afraid to go in the ship.

His Worship—Why? Because you could not get the money? Do you intend to go back to the ship?

Defendant—Yes, if I get the money.

Abrahamson, recalled, said he did not ask for money or liberty, he asked for his discharge.

Fenech and the two Demetris were next questioned through the interpreter. The first-named said he refused to work because every officer in the ship was bad, and he was afraid to sail with them. He worked all Tuesday afternoon, and at 7.30 that evening asked for his discharge, which the Captain refused.

Thomasi Demetri said he refused to work any more because he did not feel inclined to. On being pressed for a more explicit answer, he said he wanted his discharge, and would not work any more. He had never been struck by an officer before, and so wanted to leave the ship.

Captain Willson said this man was made quartermaster on the voyage out. The striking he spoke about occurred in the early part of the voyage, as defendant had himself said on a former occasion. Nothing of the kind had occurred since, for he (the Captain) would not allow it. Defendant was a very good man and knew his work, only he did not know English thoroughly.

Defendant admitted that he had not been ill-treated since the early part of the voyage.

His Worship said he could not understand why the Captain wished to keep men who did not understand English, and wanted to leave the ship.

Captain Willson said it was a very hard matter now to get an English crew for a ship. A great many more foreigners than Englishmen sailed out of England now in English ships.

George Demetri gave exactly the same reasons as his brother, adding they were afraid they would be thrown overboard, and therefore asked to be discharged.

His Worship asked if the defendant knew he could not get his discharge unless both he and the Captain were agreed about it?

Defendant said he did not know that.

Thomas Demetri—If the Captain does not discharge us, we can discharge ourselves.

His Worship—If the Captain did not wish to ship you, could you ship yourselves?

No reply was given.

Captain Willson, in reply to a question, said there were five men out of his crew of twenty, on board and at work. They were Englishmen, and made no complaint.

His Worship—I shall order Langmead and Johnson back to the ship. The others, after what they have said, and after the cases they had preferred agains tthe officers, he could not think of ordering back, and he thought the Captain had better discharge them. There were ten distinct charges made against the third mate, all of which were, by his own admission, founded on fact, and in each of which more or less violence had been used. The two men he had named must go back to the ship and return to their duty, but the others he certainly could not order to do so.

Both Johnson and Langmead said they would not go back to the ship.

His Worship—I do not think I ought to send any of the ten men who brought charges against the officers, if they say they are afraid to go. It is is a very serious responsibility to take,

Captain Willson—Johnson was one them, and he says he also is afraid.

His Worship—He said he refused because he could not get the money. If that is true, it is no reason why he should not go back to the ship. Is the ship ready for sea?

Captain Willson replied that the ship was in the stream, waiting for her crew to bend sails and get away.

His Worship—Well, I shall send both Langmead and Johnson to prison for ten days' hard labour, and to be put on board at the expiration of the sentence, or earlier, if the ship sails.

Captain Willson—I was obliged to employ 25 Chinamen to take the ship out into the stream, because these men would not work.

His Worship—They must pay these expenses, and I shall make an order against them, that the expenses so incurred shall be deducted from their wages. But the recommendation I have given the Captain to discharge the men will probably be the best to take.

Captain Willson said he did not want the men to sail with him against their will, neither did he want to put the ship to any unnecessary expense. He had the interests of the owners to consider in the matter. He must avoid any unnecessary expense.

His Worship—If you can help it. You have come to me, and asked me to punish these men, and send them back to their duty. I cannot do that, and must refuse it. That will exonerate you.

Captain Willson ultimately said he would accept the advice and discharge the men.

Langmead and Johnson still refused to return to duty, and were taken to prison.

April 9th.

R. (Captain Willson, *Champion of the Seas*) *v.* John Osborn, John Todd, Charles Vardery, Henry Palmer, John Nielson, Samuel Bray, George Standley, and Jacques Jean, seamen.

Refusal of Duty.

The defendants were a portion of the crew of the ship named, and were summoned for refusal of duty. Three of them, Nielson, Jean, and Bray, had previously summoned the third mate for assaulting them, for which he was fined. Their excuse for refusing to do duty was that they were afraid to remain on board the ship because of the violence shown towards them, Bray adding that the third mate had threatened what he would do to him when the ship went out of this port. He (Bray) was afraid he would not have any life left in him.

Captain Willson said he had reason to believe that Bray had sailed in the same ship with the third mate on a previous occasion, and that there was something unpleasant between them.

His Worship asked if that were so?

Bray said he had sailed with the third mate for fifteen months in another ship, when he was a seaman before the mast, and was not worth much; but he had now got promoted, and thought he could do as he liked with the men.

The other five defendants gave various reasons for not doing duty, complaining of the water given them to drink and that they were sworn at by the officers. Vardery was very voluble in his complaints against the ship, and said she was not fit for decent men to be in.

Captain Willson said Vardery, who came aft for his discharge and was refused, said—if any man laid hands on him on board, he would cut his guts out.

Vardery admitted this, and said the Captain told him he was a terrible man, when he replied that there were other men as terrible as the Captain.

His Worship—But you appear to have been more terrible — the Captain did not use such language towards you.

Vardery went on to say that he wished to leave the ship, because he was sworn at by both the first and second mates.

Jean, the Frenchman, intimated that he was afraid to go another voyage in the ship, because of the bad treatment he had received. On Wednesday night he said he jumped into the river, and swam ashore.

Captain Willson (to whom his Worship interpreted this) said the man took his chest of clothes with him when he left the ship, and he must be a strong swimmer to swim ashore with a chest of clothes in such a strong current, from where the ship was moored. However he got ashore, the man was on board again the next night.

His WORSHIP asked Jean if that were true? Jean said it was true; he was hungry and went on board to get something to eat.

His WORSHIP hoped the men would be more sensible, and return to their duty. The ship, the Captain said, was a very good one, there was plenty of food allowed, and that they had all had their watch below.

Vardery said she was not a good ship, and was not fit for decent men to go in. He and others had been sent aloft, and also ordered to work at the pumps when there was no necessity for either, and at times when the petty officers were allowed to lie in their bunks and do nothing. The Captain was not a gentleman, and cared no more for a seaman than he would for a dog.

His WORSHIP.—There, that will do. I am very much pleased with the Captain's conduct here, and he seems to have done all that was necessary for you. The fact is, a feeling of dissatisfaction arose and spread among you. It is a pity he did not take my advice, and discharge those men who summoned the third mate. The three men—Bray, Nielson, and Jean, I cannot send to prison, for the reasons I have before stated; the other five will go to prison for ten days' hard labour each, to be put on board at the expiration of that time, or earlier if the ship sails.

Vardery—It is no use putting me on board; I do not mean to work any more.

His WORSHIP—We will see about that by-and-by.

April 10th.

R. *v.* F. BRICK, G. S. SPARKS and C. BROON.

Absent without Leave.

The three defendants are Italians, and seamen of the *Champion of the Seas*, and were charged with the above offence.

Police-Sergeant SKINNER stated that the three men gave themselves up at the Hongkew Police Station, at 10.30 on Friday night.

Louis Bertrand, a Chilian, who has acted as interpreter throughout the cases in which the *Champion of the Seas* was concerned, said—I was sitting in my room, when Brick came to me, dressed in Chinese clothing. He said he did not know what to do. I asked him where the other two men were. He went and fetched them. I asked them where they had been, and they said they had been for two days in a sampan on the river.

His WORSHIP—All three of them?

Bertrand—Yes, all three. Brick said the sampan-man gave him the Chinese clothes, and had also given them rice to eat. They had no money, but he (Bertrand) told the sampan-man to come to him on Monday, and he would pay him $3. The sampan-man made that charge.

His WORSHIP asked if the defendants were among those who had summoned the third mate, and was answered in the affirmative.

Bertrand informed the Court that the defendants went back to work on Tuesday, after they left Court, and in the evening went to the Captain and asked him for their discharge. The Captain refused it, and offered them three months' gaol. They came on shore that night, and he (Bertrand) went with them to see Mr. Wainewright, as Brick said he wanted legal advice. They could not see Mr. Wainewright, and went again next morning at seven o'clock. At twelve, the same day, that gentleman told them he could not undertake their case, and said the best thing they could do would be to go back to their ship. They were too frightened to go back, and thought they would be drowned if they were to do so—that they would get thrown overboard.

His HONOUR asked what were the men's wages?

Brick and Sparks said their wages were £3 per month. They had been on board the ship for five months, and had drawn about £6, besides tobacco and slops.

Sergeant SKINNER stated that when Bertrand and the defendants came to the Police Station, Bertrand did not inform him the men had been in a sampan on the river. He asked Bertrand where they had been since Tuesday, and he said he did not know. He had heard that Bertrand was harbouring them in his house.

Bertrand denied this, and said they had only called at his house, as they knew he was interpreting for them. The Sergeant did not ask him where the men had been. When they did come to his house, he (Bertrand) told them the best thing they could do was to give themselves up, and they had done so.

His WORSHIP—Tell them, I do not intend to send them back to their ship. The best thing they can do now is to go to the Sailors' Home, and see if Mr. Bowen will take them in.

The men then left the Court.

April 12th.

Reg. *v.* LUKE KOWKAND, ANTONIS THOMPSON, and EMANUEL ARACK, A.B.'s of the British ship *Sir Lancelot.*

The above named were charged with being drunk and fighting in Tien Dong Road at 6.30 p.m on the 11th inst. Prisoners admitted the charge.

His Worship said that they should have had better sense than to create a disturbance and get drunk on Sunday, and fined them $3 each.

Larceny.

ALFRED ROSE, GEORGE WHITE, RICHARD MOORE, and JOHN ROBINSON, A.B.'s, residing at the Sailors' Home, were charged with the larceny of two pairs of trousers and a shirt, the property of Lee-van-hee, tailor, No. 561, Broadway, Hongkew, on Saturday the 10th instant.

All the prisoners had been before his Worship lately for various offences—the two former having been sentenced to 14 days each for being drunk and assaulting the police, the two latter to three months' each for desertion.

With regard to the present charge, all denied having been implicated.

Sergeant SKINNER, sworn, deposed—On Sunday morning, the proprietor of No. 561, Broadway, tailor's shop, came to the station, and made a statement that he had been robbed by some Europeans on Saturday evening, of some clothes. He said that at about 9 p.m. twelve men came into the shop and looked at a number of articles, but did not purchase anything; they went away, and shortly afterwards he missed one pair of cloth trousers, one pair of dungaree trousers and a shirt. On Sunday morning, Rose, who was one of those who visited the shop on Saturday evening, came and asked if they had missed anything. On being told "yes," he said that if they would give him $2 he would get back the things that had been taken. He (Rose) then went away, and shortly after returned with another man (White) with the two pair of trousers concealed under their coats, and, on his trying to take possession of the articles, the two men left the shop. When witness arrived at the shop, he found Rose and White there and the other men. I took Rose and White into custody. I searched them, but found no property on them.

Lee-Van-Hee stated—On Saturday night, about 12 men came into the shop and looked at a number of articles, and then went away. I then missed two pair of trousers and a shirt. All the prisoners were there, except Moore. On Sunday morning, Rose came and said that he would get back the trousers, if I would give him $2. I said "very well." He went away and then returned with White, and wanted the money. I said, first give me the clothes. He then lifted his coat and I saw a pair of cloth-trousers concealed there; they were mine. The other man had the other pair concealed in a similar manner. I tried to seize them, but they got away. I sent for the Police. They came back again in a little while, and whilst talking the police came and took them into custody.

Rose.—Did not the master tailor give me 20 cents on Sunday morning?

Witness—No.

Rose—Your Worship, on Saturday three men at the Home received an order from Mr. Bowen for $3 each for clothes. I took them to this man's shop, and he gave me 20 cents on Sunday morning for so doing. I never left the shop after I entered it on Sunday morning until we were take into custody.

White denied being in the shop on Saturday, but was on Sunday morning, with Rose. They were called in by the master, and never left until taken into custody.

Two other men were called, named Holmes and Churchly, but their evidence threw no light upon the case.

George Bailey, constable of the Home, stated that, on Saturday night, he heard Robinson say some one has stolen "my new pants," to which he replied—"Well, don't make a noise, and perhaps you will get them back." Moore then said, "I have got your pants under my bed." Previous to this, I had been told that a Chinaman had lost some things. I looked under some of the beds in the room where ten men slept, and under Robinson's bed I saw a shirt, the same now in Court.

Cheng-Ah-Chen stated—I am an assistant in the shop. Four men came on Sunday morning and wanted $2. I was sent for the Police.

His WORSHIP questioned the first Chinese witness several times, as to how many men came and how many times, but the answers were so at variance that his Worship dismissed the case, at the same time time remarking that grave suspicion rested upon Rose and Robinson.

Reg. (Master of the *Charlie Palmer*) *v.* AH KAI, carpenter.

Refusal of duty.

Captain A. E. MACKINTOSH stated that the prisoner had refused duty on Thursday last, and left the ship on Friday without leave. He expected to get away from this port in about 10 days.

His WORSHIP ordered that the prisoner be kept in custody for 10 days, and then to be put on board, or sooner if the ship sailed.

April 13th.

R. (Master of the *Champion of the Seas*) *v.* JOHN OSBORN, JOHN LANGMEAD, CHARLES VARDERY, GEORGE STANDLEY, HENRY PALMER, HENRY GEORGE, JOHN JOHNSON, seamen of the said ship.

Continued Refusal of Duty.

Prisoners were put on board the ship this morning by the Police, and one and all refused to do any work.

His WORSHIP (to Standley)—What is your objection to go to your work?

STANDLEY—I am afraid to go in the ship, sir. I am afraid of all the officers.

The other prisoners all said the same—that they were afraid to go in the ship.

His WORSHIP—I think you are all behaving very badly, and it is nothing more than pure obstinacy on your part. You have been some four months in your ship, and from all I have heard, not one of you, with the exception of Johnson, has had a finger raised against him; but I suppose all I can say to you will not make any impression. Do you still determine not to work?

All—Yes, sir.

His WORSHIP—I cannot imagine how you can be so foolish. You know perfectly well that I have no alternative but to send you to prison. The Captain will not take men to sea with him that will not work. I shall send you all to prison for six weeks' hard labour each, except Johnson, who may have had some little ground of complaint, whom I shall sentence to two weeks' hard labour. You will all have to pay the cost of your maintenance in gaol, out of your wages, which will be paid into court. I am sorry to have to deal with you like this, but if you will persist in being so foolish I can't help it.

Henry George—The fact is, sir, we have kept quiet hitherto, thinking that we would be able to get our discharge. I have been fifteen years at sea, in all sorts of ships, and I was never yet called out of name.

His WORSHIP—Then you have been lucky.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

April 13, 1875.

Before O. B. BRADFORD, Esq.

Charge of Desertion.

WILLIAM HAMILTON and CHARLES KRUSE, two seamen lately belonging to the barque *James S. Stone*, were arrested on the charge of desertion. They had refused duty before the vessel cleared, and were arrested and committed to jail, pending her departure. Two days before clearing, they asked to be released; and they each engaged to return to their duty, and give no more trouble. To this Captain Hallet consented, and the men were sent on board. During the evening, they put out the light in the forecastle, and while the watch was aft, went over the bows, taking their clothes with them. They were traced towards Sikawei and Woosung, but were not found until to-day. They both plead guilty to the charge of desertion, and were sentenced to sixty days imprisonment each.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 6th April.

Before the Chinese Magistrate Chen and Dr. Yates, U. S. Assessor.

Robbing a Relation.

A native of Soochow was charged with stealing money and property, together worth $350, from his cousin, with whom he had resided in the above-named city. The robbery was committed several days ago, and the thief absconded to Shanghai. The cousin also arrived here, but gave no information of the occurrence to the police, although he wandered about the Settlement in search of the runaway. The latter was, however, observed by a native Municipal Constable on the 4th instant going into a lodging house, and although he had not heard of the robbery, the man's manner and appearance excited his suspicion, and he at once interviewed him. This being unsatisfactory, a search followed, the result being the discovery that he had $52 and several valuable articles of jewellery concealed on his person. Further enquiry led to information of the robbery, and that the prisoner was the thief.

Chên sentenced him to 300 blows with the bamboo, which were at once administered with more than usual severity, and the miserable wretch was afterwards sent into the city to be further dealt with by the Cheh-sien.

Wilful Damage to Trees.

Six men and boys were charged with wilfully breaking off branches of trees in different parts of the Settlement, and were sentenced to a day's imprisonment each.

Clippings.

Petty house robberies among the Chinese seem again becoming frequent in the Settlement. On Saturday afternoon, about two o'clock, 3,000 *cash*, two beds, and some wearing apparel were stolen from the lodge of a Godown-keeper, at No. 4, Yang-king-pang, and about twelve yesterday morning, a pistol, worth $5, was stolen from a house in the Honan-road.

On Saturday morning, from an early hour until after nine o'clock, frequent discharges of heavy artillery were heard from the direction of the Kiangnan Arsenal. We are informed that the Chinese gunners were being put through their numbers in accordance with Western drill and practice. The men are stated to have performed their duty with exactness.

We understand that the action which Mr. Edward Norton, of Norton, Lyall and Co., Hongkong, came home seventeen months since to institute against the owner of the s.s. *Parana* for breaches of charter-party on a voyage from China to Australia and back has, after a trial before Mr. Arthur Wilson, the arbitrator, appointed by the Court of Exchequer, lasting twenty-one days, resulted in an award in the plaintiff's favour. The damages are referred to the arbitrator for assessment. It will be remembered that, in June, 1873, the captain and agents of the *Parana* sued Messrs. Norton, Lyall and Co. for seven months' charter money, and obtained a verdict, it being the last cause tried before the late Mr. Justice Ball, and immediately preceded the memorial resulting in that gentleman's resignation. The owner (Mr. Malcomson) being resident in Ireland, refused to appear to Messrs. Norton, Lyall and Co.'s cross action, taking advantage of a certain clause of the Common Law Procedure Act regarding Irish and Scotch defendants, which had been inadvertently imported bodily into the Hongkong Ordinance. This question of absent defendants was raised in the Hongkong Legislative Council by the Hon. Richard Rowett, and it has, we believe, since been rectified by the new code recently introduced into the colony.—*Daily Press.*

The steamer *Olympia*, Captain Paulsen, left Hamburg Feb. 2nd, and arrived at Gibraltar on the 9th. Left again same day, and arrived at Port Said on the 19th. Left Suez on the 22nd, and arrived at Aden on March 2nd, leaving the same day. Arrived at Penang on the 18th and left on the 19th. Arrived at Singapore on the 21st and left on the 24th. Arrived at Hongkong on the 4th instant, left on the 5th, and arrived at Shanghai on the 11th, and went alongside the Wharf at 7.30 a.m. on the 12th inst. Had strong N.E. gales and heavy sea from Hongkong to Shanghai.

The following passage is taken from a letter in the *Alta California* of the 6th March, signed O. Shaw :—

AT SHANGHAI

We spent some ten days again at an Astor House, viewing the sights and working up our observations. We could not fail to be struck with the grand style in which everything is done here. The clerks receive large salaries, but their expenses are in proportion large. The large establishments of the leading merchants are remarkable, consisting as they do of several distinct stores — book store, stationery, hardware, ship chandlering, dry goods, fancy goods, and tailoring. I cannot help mentioning a few of the prices we paid. I have a little pamphlet guide-book of some sixty pages which cost a dollar and a half. Our worthy chief, deeming his locks too long, had them taken off, and paid a dollar without a murmur—but as it was at the "Toilet Club," the evident respectability of the place should have satisfied him. I would like also to give a free advertisement to the man who sold me a pack of cigarettes for fifty cents.

A few lines above I believe I said something about "clerks." I apologize. In these Englishfied settlements there are no such things. For some reason, to me unknown, they seem to be ashamed of their calling, and style themselves

MERCANTILE ASSISTANTS.

They tell stories of the clubs here (which, by the way, are magnificent affairs), that no man in trade is allowed to enter. But his "mercantile assistants," whom he employs at so much a month, are readily welcomed, the taint of trade not affecting them.

The steamer *Amoy*, Captain Drewes, left Hongkong at noon on the 5th instant. Had light winds and hazy weather for the first twelve hours. On the morning of the 6th encountered a heavy gale from the N.E. with rightful sea. Passed the steamer *Swatow* bound in to port, and another steamer at anchor under Namoa Island. Arrived at Swatow on the 6th, still blowing hard. Left on the 7th at 3 p.m., and had moderate N.E. wind with heavy sea until noon of the 9th. Engines going half speed during night of the 8th. Passed the steamer *China*, and was in company with the steamer *Olympia*, bound for Shanghai, on the 10th. Arrived at Shanghai at 3 p.m. on the 11th.

The British ship *Sir Lancelot*, Capt. Felgate, left Gravesend, Dec. 20th, 1874, and had a favorable run down channel ; then had light winds and moderate weather to the Equator, which was crossed on Jan. 12th in Long. 24°.50 W. Had very light S.E. trades. Passed the meridian of Greenwich on Feb. 2nd in Lat. 41° S. From thence to the Eastern Passage, light Westerly winds throughout. Made Alles Straits on the 11th March. Off the Island of O. B. Major, spoke the barque *Eleanor*, London to Hongkong, 121 days out. Cleared the Islands on the 20th March, and from thence to the Saddle Islands, had variable winds, the latter part strong breeze and heavy head sea. Arrived at Shanghai on the 8th instant, having made the passage from pilot to pilot in 107 days.

The German barque *Tek-li*, Captain E. C. Petersen, left Hamburg on the 18th October. On the 20th, experienced a heavy gale from the N.W. On the 23rd put back to Cuxhaven, through stress of weather. Sailed again on the 29th with Easterly wind and fine weather. On November 2nd, during thick weather, took the ground under the South Foreland ; got a tug and was towed into Dover roadstead the same day. Left again on Nov. 5th, and beat down channel with Westerly winds ; then had Easterly winds and fine weather. Nov. 19th, passed St. Antonio (Cape Verd Islands.) Same day, spoke German barque *Anna*, from Cardiff, for Singapore, 13 days out. Crossed the Equator on Dec. 9th, in Long. 26° 56' W. 34 days out. Experienced light and variable winds, and no decided trade winds, either north or south of the Equator. Passed the meridan of Greenwich on the 29th, in Lat. 35° South, 54 days out. Had four to five days calm off the Cape. Jan. 9th, spoke English ship *Rajmahal*, from Liverpool to Calcutta, 64 days out. In Lat. 36° South, and 5°44 E. Long., on Jan. 16th, British barque *Othello*, Liverpool to Bombay, 74 days out. In 39° South, and 21° 34' E., on the 17th, spoke British barque *Meridian*, Liverpool to Rangoon, 71 days out. In 38° South and Long. 25° 17' E.; on Feb. 1st, passed St. Paul's Island. From thence to the Sandalwood Islands, had moderate weather and variable winds. In the Gilolo Pass, spoke the English barque *Burton Stather*, from Madura, to Amoy, 26 days out ; on the 7th March, the English barque *Grasmere*, from Cardiff to Shanghai, 130 days out. Had light and variable winds and weather from the north end of Formosa until arrival. Made the Saddle Islands on the 3rd, and arrived at Shanghai on the 8th inst. Passage made in 151 days. General cargo, and 4,000 barrels of gunpowder and ammunition.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Additional per str. *Golden Age*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. W. G. Herdman, H. Jousberry and S. J. Yeo ; 15 Chinese. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Walsh, Messrs. A. L. Encarnação and H. Rattan. For Yokohama—General and Mrs. Allen, Mrs. C. S. Coy, Dr. Nesson, Messrs. C. V. Housman, R. M. Gray and S. Walker ; 10 Chinese. Additional per P. & O. str. *Pera*, for Hongkong—Mrs. Baxter, Maria Consigli, Messrs. Thomas White and J. M. Taylor. Per str. *Shinking*, for Tientsin—Capt. Hoskair, Messrs. Laen, Muller, Forster, Batt, Davidson ; two Mandarins. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. J. H. Mooney, Capt. Harrington. For Yokohama—Mrs. Brooke, Messrs. H. Finke and T. Kumashiro. Per P.M. str. *Nevada*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Kassburg, Messrs. E. Mitchell and J. Prentice. For Hiogo—Miss Winn, Messrs. R. W. Brown, W. Cance, G. R. Corner, E. P. Hague and J. A. Hawes. For Yokohama—Mrs. Geo. Harrison, Misses Cargill, Mr. and Mrs. Ede, Messrs. M. O. Fitzgerald, J. W. Lambuth, J. Clancey, G. Slade, N. P. Kingdon, J. F. Twombly and Capt. E. D. Shafts. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. Houston and two children, Mrs. J. W. Lambuth and two children.

Arrived.—Per str. *Haining*—Mrs. Baxter ; 80 Chinese. Treasure—Tls. 80,000. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Tokio Maru*—Mrs. W. H. Smith, infant and servt., Mrs. J. H. Brooke, Mrs. Bessie O'Connor, Messrs. P. V. Graut, E. Dupuy de Lome, H. Finke, Genda, G. H. Bright and Fung Su Lam. Steerage—6 Chinese ; 4 Japanese ; 2 Europeans. Treasure —$11,900. Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang —Messrs. Gibson, Wolff and Morgan. Per str. *Shingking*—Dr. W. Williams. Per str. *Appin*—Mr. Newbury. Arrived.—Per str. *Paouting*, from Tientsin—H.E. T. F. Wade, C.B., Mrs. Wade and family. From Chefoo —Mrs. and Mrs. Cooper. Per str. *Amoy*— One European ; 71 Chinese. Per str. *Gordon Castle*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and family, and Mr. Quinton. Per str. *Taku*—One European ; 15 Chinese. Treasure —Tls. 46,160. Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Ede, and Mr. McLean. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Rose. From Kiukiang—Mr Claney. From Chinkiang—Mr. Goldspink, H.I.M. Customs. Per M.M. str. *Meiko* from Marseilles—Mrs. Allan and infant, Mr. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Jerdein and infant, Messrs. Mackellar, Stokes, Falconer, Carcey, Loureiro and Martinot. From Galle—Messrs. Eschoff, Colborne Baber. From Hongkong— Messrs. C. W. Siegfried, H. Hoppius, Groetz y Peil, Chevalier de Shaffer, H. Worms, C. W. Haskell, J. C. Caldwell and Nusen.

Leaving.—Per M.M. str. *Peiho*, for Hongkong—Messrs. W. L. Hunter, Symons, M Tickio-Choy and servant. For Port Said—Dr. L. Wells Williams, Mrs. and Miss Williams. For Marseilles—Mrs. Wade, five children and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Symons, Messrs. J. Newbury and E. Seligmann.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 14TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From London, the *Sir Lancelot* and steamship *Gordon Castle;* from Hamburg, the *Tek-li* and steamship *Olympia;* and from Marseilles, with the London mails of 27th February last, the M. M. steamer *Meikong.*

TELEGRAMS.—London, 10th April.—*Cotton* market "firm;" *Mid. Orl.*, 8⅛d. per lb.; Manchester market "strong;" 8¼-lb. *Eagle Shirtings*, 10s. Export of *Plain Cottons*, during March, to Shanghai, 20,250,000 yards. *Iron*, £10, and W.B. *Lead*, £22 per ton.

PIECE GOODS.—Beyond the clearance of former settlements, there has been little done in PIECE GOODS between the foreigner and native since this day week; but the deliveries—for the North particularly—have been heavy, and there are considerable shipments still to be made ere the dealers can give much of their attention to further purchases. The cargoes of the steamers that have gone to the North since the arrangement of "the difficulty" have not yet been published by the Customs. The native advices from TIENTSIN are not unfavourable, and the market is not likely to be much affected by the large supplies lately sent thither. Low counts of 6 and 7-lbs., and Ordinary Mexicans 7-lbs. *T-Cloths*, were scarce and wanted, and so were good *Jeans*. Consequently, these articles have been in constant request here, but the week's receipts have been light, and are held for figures which are a little beyond the present ideas of buyers. As it is, dealers are offering higher rates than were current last Wednesday. Moreover, they have faith in the future, and are willing to buy of the desired qualities—to arrive—at present currencies. They have bought a fair Ordinary 8-lb. *T-Cloth*—afloat—at Tls. 1.70 per piece, and have offered Tls. 1.82 for Dewhurst's M. T. without success. They have also settled Common 7-lb., for arrival—at Tls. 1.29 per piece, and Mendel's *Pillar* in godown at Tls. 1.33 per piece, while Tls. 1.40 per piece has been refused for a Mexican, which, on 29th ultimo, was worth only Tls. 1.37 per piece. The finest descriptions are not in favour, and are to be had on easier terms than those quoted on this day fortnight.

Grey Shirtings.—The Shirting market is either not so strong as it was, or the dealers are doing all they can to lower it. They are in want of low medium makes of 8¼-lbs. goods, but expect to get them at a decline of 4 *a* 5 cands. per piece on the quotations of 31st ult., and aver that that is the established fall by recent retail sales. Holders as a rule disbelieve the statement, and although a few of them are inclined to allow a couple of candareens, the majority are against any reduction. At the Public Auction, last Thursday, the rate for C.P.H. *Peacock* 8¼-lbs. was dropped to Tls. 1.64¼ per piece, as against Tls. 1.67½ per piece at the previous sale; but, considering the absence of enquiry, and the determination of the northern men to abstain from business until the settlement of their differences, the decline was not surprising. Common 6 and 7-lbs. have been wanted, but their scarcity curtails business. Rates for these are very steady, with a slight upward tendency. The *Heavy Shirting* market has been less active. Still, stocks—which are light—and those parcels brought by late arrivals, which were not previously sold, command full rates, and buyers for early delivery are easily found.

White Shirtings.—A fair enquiry has prevailed for 60, 64, 66 and 72 Reeds, but the quantity sold has been small, the offers made being rather too low to induce business on a large scale. Former rates have been maintained.

Drills.—Quietness has ruled throughout, but stocks are getting into limited compass, and the supplies afloat are not heavy—so sellers are in no way anxious, and firmly decline the reduced offers of buyers.

Sheetings.—Business in these has taken place at previous quotations, which are Tls. 2.90 *a* 3.00 per piece for *English*, and Tls. 3.75 for *American*. The sales "to arrive" and "on the spot" of both kinds aggregate nearly 8,000 pieces.

Jeans.—The demand has been rather fitful and has not resulted in much, principally because there are few of the finer qualities in stock, and the holders of the commoner descriptions refuse to sell at the low prices tendered. Frequent enquiries have been made by the dealers for chops of which they know well enough there are none here, and none on the way, and they know also that they are perfectly safe in offering fancy prices for them. This gives the market an imaginary sort of a character, and may prove dangerous if owners are over-credulous.

Fancy Cottons.—Only a few *Chintzes*,—blue and assorted,—*Handkerchiefs*, *White Spots*, damaged *Turkey Red Shirtings*, and 18-inch *Velveteens* have been reported this week. Quotations will be found below.

Woollens.—There is but little new to notice in this department. Some C. P. H. *Long Ells*, assorted colours,—without scarlet—have been quitted at Tls. 6.70, and *Spanish Stripes* have realised full values, but *Camlets*, *Lastings*, *Crapes* and *Figured Orleans* are still most difficult to move, and prices continue irregular and low. The business of the week comprises 500 pieces *Long Ells* as above; 600 pieces *Spanish Stripes* at Tls. 0.55 *a* 0.58 per yard; 100 pieces Orange *Camlets* at Tls. 13.00, and 500 pieces assorted at Tls. 13.25 *a* 13.40 per piece; 500 pieces *Crape Lastings* No. 2 quality at Tls. 4.15 per piece; 3,500 pieces *Figured Orleans* at Tls. 3.05 *a* 3.20 per piece; 200 pieces *Dutch Camlets* Dark Blue at Tls. 19.00 per piece, and 90 pieces fine *Medium Cloths* at Tls. 1.17½ per yard.

From the outports there is nothing worthy of note. Matters were working smoothly at TIENTSIN. Business was going on at CHEFOO, but prices showed a loss on those ruling here. Quietness prevailed at CHINKIANG; the spring races formed an excuse for the limited trade at HANKOW; and the commerce of JAPAN by last advices was just as bad as ever.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.1.0	14.3.0	14.1.0	12.7.0	13.3.0	...	...	12.2.5	12.8.0	...
Long Ells, ... Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.0.5	7.0.0	6.5.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.2.0	6.4.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.1½	0.5.6	0.5.8½	0.6.1	0.6.2	0.6.2	0.5.7	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.5.5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 8TH APRIL, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
G.G.M. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	13.35	13.32½	13.32½/13.35	12.65	13.35	...	.....	.....	12.57½	..
S.S.G. ,, p. pce ,,	13.25/13.32½	13.22½/13.30	13.27½/13.30	12.57½/12.60	13.32½	...	.....	.....	12.55	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.61¼	0.57/ 0.57¼	0.57¼/ 0.57½	0.62¼/0.62½	.....	0.67	0.58	0.60½	0.56½	0.58

SALES.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.27½ per piece; S.S.G., 400 pcs. av. Tls. 13.22 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 378 pcs. av. Tls. 0.59¼ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock chop, 2,000 pcs., at Tls. 1.64 *a* 1.64¼ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...₱ pc.	1.4.3 to	1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.4 ,,	2.0.0
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.7.0 ,,	2.8.5
Tun Sin .... ,,	3.0.5 ,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₱ pc.	1.6.0 ,,	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...3.3.5 ,,		3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....2.3.2 ,,		2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...2.6.5 ,,		2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....2.2.9 ,,		2.3.8
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...2.1.0 ,,		2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs....1.8.5 ,,		2.0.0
American ,, ,, ,, ...2.7.5 ,,		.....
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....3.7.0 ,,		3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....2.7.5 ,,		2.9.5
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.8 ,,	1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.8 ,,	1.3.3
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.5 ,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Fine 28in. ₱ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₱ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.6.5
BROCADES—White, 40 yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS..... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.0

SILK.—The last public telegrams from London report the tone of the silk market unchanged with slight demand, and quote Ku-kee's "Chin-jan" 16s. 6d., and common No. 5 Tsatlees 12s. 3d. per lb.

Total settlements for the past week are estimated at about 700 bales, fully two-thirds of which consist of re-reels. A few bales of Tso-ping's "Chick" chop are reported taken at Tls. 387½ per picul for No. 3, and about 100 bales China throwns, and some long reel Taysaams go forward by this steamer.

For the American mail which left this morning, nearly 500 bales were purchased, prices paid being Tls. 310 *a* 395 for common and chop re-reeled Hainings, and Tls. 290 *a* 320 for common and market re-reeled Tsatlees.

Arrivals have almost ceased, and the unsold stock does not exceed 500 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 12th April, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 75 @ 80, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	32,249	13,150	5,250	27,020	7,350	...	...	1,400	...	1,000	1,600	...	100	4,750
T-Cloths .... ,,	18,089	6,820	4,540	11,720	7,050	...	...	2,925	...	...	...	...	250	6,430
White Shirtings .... ,,	1,800	650	660	4,050	1,049	...	...	110	...	...	...	...	...	1,880
Drills .... ,,	180	405	...	2,210	...	520	...	90	45	...	...	...	180	360
Jeans .... ,,	406	...	...	320	1,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Sheetings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	50	...	...	...	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Spots, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	..	...	50	250	400	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	84	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes .... ,,	388	360	300	346	60	...	...	...	240	...	1,098	...	...	640
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	100	50	50	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Velvets .... ,,	30	54	54	114	330	...	...	30	...	120	...	...	...	84
Velveteens .... ,,	...	92	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	400	1,400	950	1,000	...	...	...	...	775	...	...	...	...	2,400
Muslins ....Pcs.	396	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities .... ,,	100	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	...	110	78	114	204	...	...	24	6	...	...	...	...	192
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	24	88	...	242	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Camlets .... ,,	170	220	80	670	210	...	...	70	12	...	50	...	...	130
Long Ells .... ,,	60	160	20	580	140	...	...	40	...	...	120	...	...	40
Lastings .... ,,	140	40	60	400	90	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings .... ,,	30	20	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Figured .... ,,	120	490	160	1,408	1,023	...	...	...	160	160	400	...	...	320
,, Crape .... ,,	...	100	...	300	135	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ....Pcls.	665	2,461	...	605	1,660	...	...	...	...	294	420	...	...	...
Pig Lead .... ,,	184	245	1,045	921	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 16/4/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	93,869	1,049,890	185,820	1,165,433	1,338,500	815,000
T-Cloths .... ,,	57,824	618,119	119,533	431,778	419,200	1,005,000
White Shirtings .... ,,	10,129	164,039	38,870	228,673	160,500	41,600
Drills .... ,,	3,990	111,470	4,000	85,509	218,000	424,000
Jeans .... ,,	2,456	71,713	19,819	111,326	68,200	54,500
Sheetings .... ,,	60	8,460	2,640	16,740	10,000	45,500
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	700	11,096	2,655	21,103	12,900	.....
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	149	493	1,971	2,300	2,390
,, Dyed .... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	370
Brocades, White .... ,,	800	5,171	.....	5,783	2,800	... ...
,, Dyed .... ,,	850	12,936	399	13,181	29,500	23,300
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	284	3,599	.....	6,000	9,500	5,800
Chintzes .... ,,	3,432	44,958	1,676	27,862	71,600	97,500
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	500	23,455	5,429	36,296	39,700	19,000
Velvets .... ,,	816	11,820	1,590	17,039	12,900	19,200
Velveteens .... ,,	176	2,853	776	4,186	2,600	7,800
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	6,925	52,529	75	27,402	47,700	94,200
Muslins ....Pcs.	696	8,484	549	3,662	6,300	24,500
Dimities .... ,,	500	5,740	200	2,130	11,100	10,900
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	728	12,204	1,116	13,336	11,900	29,100
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	516	5,769	572	6,268	10,900	19,900
Camlets .... ,,	1,612	22,192	3,000	22,233	22,700	17,500
Long Ells .... ,,	1,160	18,140	5,700	20,480	11,400	12,700
Lastings .... ,,	800	9,478	1,400	9,120	12,100	5,750
Crape Lastings .... ,,	130	2,530	600	3,219	9,900	2,800
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	.....	4,820	1,500	5,700	4,900	.....
,, Figured .... ,,	4,241	37,073	1,858	20,831	112,300	119,200
,, Crape .... ,,	535	6,495	500	3,300	17,900	6,300
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	2,395	29,628	... ..	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	6,105	38,959	5,043	56,255	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Titan, Peiho, Pera, Conquest, Sir Loncelot, Meikong, Gordon Castle, Tek-li, Olympia,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,, 1.5.0	BLUE DENIMS	,,	0.0.5	,,0.0.6½	LONG ELLS—			
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0	,, 1.3.5	DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0	,, 1.4.0	Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom.	₩ pc.	7.0.5	,, ...
Scarlet	,,	1.3.5	,, 1.4.5	41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5	,, 1.5.5	,, C P H	,, ,,	7.0.5	,, ...
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds.		...2.0.0	,, ...	MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,, 0.9.5	Assorted, H H	,, ,,	6.8.0	,, ...
50/52	,,	...3.7.0	,, 4.9.0	CAMLETS, English, S S	,, ,,	13.1.0	,,14.0.0	,, C P H	,, ,,	6.9.0	,, ...
T. REDS, 24 yds. 2½ a 3 lbs. 32 in.	,,	1.7.0	,, 2.1.0	G G	,, ,,	13.3.0	,, ...	,, G G	,, ,,	6.7.5	,, ...
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5	S S G	,, ,,	13.2.0	,, ...	LASTINGS, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,,12.6.0
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.6½	,,0.1.9½	MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	₩ yd.	0.7.5	,, 1.6.5	CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,, 8.5.0
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.4	,,0.1.4½	SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.5.6	,, 0.5.8	CRAPE LUSTRES	,,	3.4.0	,, 3.9.0
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,, 0.2.1	,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.9¼	,, ...	PLAIN—Do. Black.....	,,	3.7.5	,, 3.9.0
				,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,, ...	ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,, 3.6.0
								Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail-Rod Iron.*—No further transactions are reported, and quotations are unchanged. *Lead.*—The market continues depressed, and prices have again receded. To-day's quotations are nominal. *Tin.*—*Fong Hing* has been in a little request, and has been sold at 2 mace per picul advance on the rates of last week. There has been scarcely any enquiry for the commoner brands. *Copper.*—Best *Slab* finds buyers at quotations, but the qualities saleable at one time are small. *Quicksilver* has experienced a further decline of Tls. 10, and is to be bought at the reduced prices.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.	
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	115.0.0 *a*	120.0.0	COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a*	8.4.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....	per Box	6.1.0 *a*	6.2.0	,, Medium	,,	9.0.0 *a*	9.4.0
Small ,, ...	,,	.....	.....	,, Best.....	,,	9.8.0 *a*	10.4.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a*	6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a*	6.4.0
18 ...	no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a*	.....	,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a*	5.8.0
19/23	,,	7.7.5 *a*	8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a*	5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	,,	19.6.0 *a*	.....	Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a*	5.4.0
Fok Chok .....nom....	,,	19.0.0 *a*	.....	,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a*	4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a*	.....	,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a*	4.6.0
STEEL .....per Tub		3.3.0 *a*	3.4.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.		4.4.0 *a*	4.5.0	Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a*	2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a*	.....	,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.0.0 *a*	18.5.0	,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a*	2.6.0
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	..... *a*	.....	PEPPER—Black	,,	8.8.0 *a*	9.0.0
HOOP IRON	,,	3.2.0 *a*	3.3.0	—White	,,	15.0.0 *a*	18.0.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton		30.0.0 *a*	.....	RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a*	3.6.0
NAILROD IRON—				—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a*	4.0.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.		3.1.5 *a*	3.2.0	—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a*	4.4.0
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,		2.5.5 *a*	2.6.0	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a*	3.0.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,		2.7.5 *a*	2.8.0	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a*	2.4.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,		2.9.0 *a*	3.0.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0 *a*	3.7.0
Round ..... ,,		3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a*	10.0.0
				Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a*	18.0.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,		6.0.0 *a*	.....	MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a*	1.3.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,		... .. *a*	.....	FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.8 *a*	0.5.5

COTTON.—A slight concession in price has led to a small business in best staple, but the commoner descriptions have received no notice. Supplies from the country are still carefully regulated by the hongs, and as soon as enquiry improves, they will demand higher rates.

EXCHANGE.—Bank paper has ruled steadily at 5s. 9d. per Tael for this mail, and a fair amount of business has again been done in it at that, Credits being saleable, as previously, at 5s. 9½d. to Banks, and 5s. 9¼d. to private buyers. Documentary Bills have remained stationery at 5s. 9⅜d. per Tael; and Rupee quotations shew little change on those current at the close of last mail, being Rs. 306 on Calcutta, and 305½ on Bombay. Neither has the rate on Hongkong altered, and a moderate amount of demand Bank bills has been settled at 27⅛ per cent. discount. The following were the quotations at noon to-day.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7½d.		₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 9d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9½d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅝d.		,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight ..... Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.33¾		,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, ...Rs. 306	₩ 100 Tls.	
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 305½	₩ 100 ,,	
ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27½ per cent. disc.		
INTEREST.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.		

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.025 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.03 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 172.20 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,580 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—During the past week, very little has been done in Green Teas, but the purchases previously made—added to those given below—have been sufficient to fill one more ship for America. To England, shipments have been of a trifling nature, and as our stocks are reduced to a very small compass, the season may be considered almost at an and.

The settlements since last week have been—

Fychow, Moyune, &c.	2,600	½-chests.	Stock— 490	½-chests.
Pingsueys	2,600	,,	2,000	,,
Shanghai-packed.....	700	,,	1,300	,,
Total.....	5,900	,,	Total... 3,790	,,

No change in prices are quoted. Export figures, in the absence of departures, exhibit no change from those last given.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

April 15, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not mentioned above.)—April 10th, Brit. schooner *Annie Mabel*, from Sydney; 14th, Brit. ship *Cuttg Sark*, from Sydney.

Departure.—April 8th, American schooner *Almatia*, for Singapore.

The French mail steamer *Peiho* takes 500 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅝d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.33¾. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 305, noml. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 306, noml. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅜. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.00 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.40 per 100. Copper cash, 1,580 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report:—

H. & S. Bank.—A limited business has been done at 16 *a* 16½ % *dis.*, Exch. 72¼ cash, at 16 % *dis.* and Exch. 72¼ for 31st July, and at 18 % *dis.*, and current Exch. for 31st Aug. The market closes with sellers.

S. S. N. Co.—A small business has been done at Tls. 77 and Tls. 76 for cash, the market closing with a few sellers at Tls. 76.

Fire Insurance.—There are sellers of *Hongkongs* at $480, of *Victorias* at $126, and of *Chinas* at $133.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* have been placed at Tls. 585, and *China & Japan* shares at Tls. 78. Shares are still obtainable at same rates.

Wharf Co.—A few shares have been placed at Tls. 96 for 30th instant.

The Weather continues changeable, as the wind varies between North and South pending the final setting in of the Southerly monsoon. Friday was cold, and Sunday and Monday were fine and warm. Tuesday was wet; yesterday again was bright and warm, but with a very depressing temperature. The thermometer has fluctuated between 43 and 69.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	16½ % dis. ex. 72¼ cash 18 % dis. Aug.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	76
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal.
China Coast S. N Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 68
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	88
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 141
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 585
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 78 cash
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	480
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	125
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	1 p. c.	96
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£99 ex. 5/7
Exchange Bank Sight rate on Hongkong			72¼

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.30 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.30 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Hours of Rain during 24 hours.
Apr	″	°	°	°	°	°			
1	29.950	50.0	64.0	40.0	52.5	49.0	6	S. S. W.	..
2	29.752	55.0	76.0	49.5	60.0	53.5	3	,,	..
3	30.000	60.5	68.0	58.5	60.0	56.0	7	S. S. E.	..
4	29.900	63.5	77.5	57.5	68.0	64.0	7	S. S. W.	08
5	29.952	56.5	57.0	51.0	52.0	51.5	2	N. E.	..
6	30.250	49.0	50.0	44.0	47.0	41.0	7	,,	..
7	30.200	47.0	52.5	40.0	47.0	42.0	5	E. S. E.	..
8	30.103	47.5	51.0	47.0	45.5	43.5	4	N. E.	..
9	30.054	50.0	57.5	44.0	49.0	46.0	0	Z.	
10	30.000	53.5	57.5	46.0	54.0	51.0	6	W. N. W.	..
11	30.150	54.0	65.0	42.0	55.0	48.5	3	S. E.	..
12	30.100	54.0	72.0	45.0	56.0	52.5	3	S. S. W.	..
13	30.000	60.5	65.5	54.5	60.5	55.0	0	Z.	..
14	29.800	63.0	70.5	63.0	63.0	62.5	6	W. S. W.	2.50

Explanation.

Ozonometer from 1 to 10—Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

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NOTICE.

By order of the Board of Directors, the Discount allowed on risks East of Singapore is reduced to 40 %.

VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.,
Agents, Swiss Lloyd.

16ap 3007 Shanghai, 9th April, 1875.

SWISS LLOYD.

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The undersigned Agents for the above Company are prepared to issue policies at current rates.

SHAW BROTHERS & Co.

31ma 76 2863 Shanghai, 31st Mar., 1875.

The Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited.)

CAPITAL—1,500,000 DOLLARS, in 1,500 SHARES of 1,000 DOLLARS EACH.

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In addition to the usual brokerage, Sixty-six and two-thirds per cent. (66⅔%) of the profits of the Company will be distributed annually (taking effect from 1st January, 1872), as a Bonus among all Contributors, proportionately to the amount of premia paid by them.

OLYPHANT & Co.,
Agents.

tf 2892 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 415. SHANGHAI, APRIL 24, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℘ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Feb. 26	Hankow,	Apr. 21
San Francisco,	Mar. 13	Yokohama,	„ 15
Hongkong,	Apr. 19	Nagasaki,	„ 20
Tientsin,	„ 14	Foochow,	„ 13

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Jan. 21 } Received 1st March.
Shanghai, ... „ 15 }

BIRTH.

At Pootung, on the 21st instant. the wife of W. C. LAW, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 18th instant, the wife of Mr. R. S. RAPHAEL, aged 24 years.

At Jessfield, on the afternoon of the 19th inst., FREDERICK FARR, a native of Gravesend, England, aged 53.

At his residence, Bubbling Well Road, on Tuesday, the 20th inst., JAMES DOW, aged 48 years and 10 days.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. D. McALLISTER in our firm ceases from this date.

G. A. MONRO & Co.
o 63 Shanghai, 24th April, 1875.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.
tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

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VISITORS will find every comfort in this OLD-ESTABLISHED HOTEL, universally acknowledged the best in Egypt.

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This is now the best point to commence travel in Egypt, and very suitable for Passengers waiting Canal Steamers.

GEORGE WESTCOTT, *Manager.*
o-a-f 24ju 37

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.0 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.0 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
Apr	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
15	30.050	51.0	56.0	50.0	53.5	51.0	6	N. E.	..
16	30 050	52.0	61.5	43.0	51.0	46.0	3	N. N. E.	..
17	30 0 2	55.0	71.0	46.5	75.0	51.0	2	W. S. W.	..
18	30.002	59.0	73.5	49.0	61.0	54.0	5	S. S. W.	..
19	30.052	61.0	78.0	53.0	64.0	61.0	0	Z.	..
20	29.951	65.0	67 5	61 5	62.5	61.5	0	Z.	05
21	30.004	57.0	69.5	49 0	55.0	49.5	3	N. E.	05
22	29 854	53.5	74.5	46.5	60 5	57 0	6	S. S. W.	..
23	29.750	64.5	85.0	58.0	69.0	63.5	5	„	

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; [illegible] Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1875

ACCORDING to usually accepted ideas, the Chinese are a nation of great and undoubted antiquity, who, centuries before the traditional epoch of the Flood had advanced to a state at least bordering on civilisation. The more rigid believers in the usually received chronology of Archbishop Usher are, however, content to believe that some twenty-two or twenty-three centuries before the Christian era, three great emperors — Yao, Shun, and Yü, in some wonderful and unexplained manner, dug out the Yangtsze and the Yellow River, and so "reduced the land to order." The great Bunsen did not hesitate to state that Yü was as much a king as Charlemagne, and was content to swallow the Yü Kung, and even the tablet of Mount Hang, with all their crudities and absurdities; and because Bunsen did this, with the very limited knowledge of Chinese or China to which he could lay claim, hundreds are willing, in order to save themselves the inconvenience of reasoning on their own account, to accept the dictum as true. What we do know of the early history of China, is of a very different nature. It, however, strengthens the claim of the Chinese to a very respectable antiquity; and, had Chinese historians and their foreign followers confined themselves to what facts they had before them, they would have rendered a greater service to historical research in general, and have saved chronology many of the pitfalls into which it has fallen. The Chinese tell us that the Three Emperors—or rather gods, for "Ti" is the word used indiscriminately for either—were succeeded by a race of sovereigns, gradually deteriorating till the time of Kieh, and that he was so bad that Heaven took away the appointment, and conferred it on T'ang. Again we have the same story. T'ang's successors were much as Yü's, till at last we get to Chow, the exact counterpart of Kieh, who was superseded by

Wu-wang, in a contest the details of which correspond minutely with that of his supposed predecessor of some 650 years. The successors of Wu-wang get on well enough for a time, and appear as kings exercising an imperial sway; till at last, in the books of the Confucian epoch, we come across contemporary history, and find, instead of a vast and settled empire, there exist a number of disorganised and generally hostile states, acknowledging a common ancestry, like those of Greece, and looking up with a sort of ill-defined allegiance to the elder branch—that of Chow, but in little or nothing permitting the interference of the elder state with their own internal or external affairs. This exhibits a state of affairs so unlike the traditional China of antiquity, that we are well justified in asking what are the authorities, if any, for the so-called dynasties of prior antiquity. Investigation shows us absolutely none. Not one authentic scrap of writing; not one inscription or hieroglyph; not one work of art in any shape or form, which, upon the least exacting canon of traditional criticism, we could class as anterior to the time of the Chows, is in existence. It is in fact the blackness of darkness itself. Now, we have said that the Chinese can lay claim to a very respectable antiquity. Their authentic history goes back to the eighth century B.C., or some two hundred years earlier than that of Greece; and even beyond this, by the dim light of tradition, we can trace them some centuries earlier. Still, tradition is to be taken as by no means a safe guide, and is always liable to be upset by the discovery of some more authentic guide. Tradition does go back for some time further, and the pages of Mencius especially seem to hand down some which have at least the plausible appearance of truth. We may, by these means, trace a tribe coming from the far North-west, and finally entering China itself. Here it seems to have met other people of kindred origin, who had settled previously amongst the aborigines, but whose numbers were small, and whose purity of blood had probably degenerated. The nearest approach to an epic poem amongst the Chinese describes the conquest and subsequent amalgamation of these tribes. We may probably accept the usually received dates for these events, the twelfth century B. C., as approximating to the truth, and we at once begin to see the possibility of some connection between these events and those which forced down into India the civilising influences of the Aryan colonists. Such a connection affords us a standpoint to comprehend whence arose the long string of fables and repetitions which make up the so-called ancient history of China. They are, in fact, part of the old mythology common to the races which inhabited Central Asia prior to the dawn of history. The unimaginative mind of the Chinese tried to convert them into the record of fact, as if we should endeavour to euemerize the story of "Jack and the Beanstalk." With the historians we have little fault to find. Had they not preserved the stories in this form, they would have been lost to humanity ages ago. We do, however, blame the want of judgment and critical acumen which has allowed them to be accepted as sober facts by men whose training should have prevented them from falling into so palpable a trap. A Niebuhr is sadly wanted in the realm of Sinology.

Summary of News.

We have had no mail since our last issue. The P. & O. str. *Gwalior* left Singapore on the 10th, but has apparently broken down, and we have no news of her arrival at Hongkong.

A Mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. steamer *Meikong*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have come to hand :—

Prospects of a termination of the South Wales Lock-out are reported.

The political uneasiness is subsiding. In the House of Commons, Mr. Disraeli stated that the Belgium incident was concluded, but if the independence or neutrality of Belgium was threatened, the Government would know its duty, and not fear to meet Parliament.

Baron Rothschild has issued a Russian loan of Fifteen Millions.

Revenue .....£75,685,000.
Expenditure .....£75,268,000.
Surplus.....£ 417,000.

The Budget proposes the readjustment of brewers licenses and stamp taxes reducing the Surplus £357.000

The *Devonshire* has returned to Aden with broken shaft.

The Crown Prince of Germany, will visit Italy incognito.

The suspension of Messrs. Fearon & Co., is announced.

Germany has sent another note to Belgium in which she disclaims interference with the Press.

The Prussian Parliament votes the abrogation of the privileges of Catholics.

At a special meeting of the S. Y. C., held Friday night, it was resolved that yachts competing for the Challenge Cup should continue to set one China sail only; and that, in future Corinthian Races, three members of the Club should be empowered to elect a member, if necessary, at the time of the race, to ensure the completion of a crew.

At the Municipal Council meeting of the 12th April, several topics of interest were discussed. A proposal to make the Municipal year co-terminal with the calendar year will be brought up at the next meeting of Ratepayers.—It was decided to place an appropriation of Tls. 1,500 for the Shanghai General Hospital, on the budget for the nine months ending on the 31st December next. The proposed sum is ¾ of the usual grant of Tls. 2,000; —the alteration of course having reference to the proposed change in the financial year. An invitation from the Trustees of the General Hospital, to the Chairman of the Municipal Council to become ex-officio member of their Board, was accepted.—It appears that some firms importing goods in the C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamers object to pay wharfage dues, on the ground that their goods are covered by the Taotai's commutation. The Taotai's commutation payment, however, was calculated before the C. M. S. N. Co. was instituted; and the Council very rightly purpose addressing the Consular Body on the subject.—In view of the expression of opinion in Mr. Seward's judgment on the "Municipal Council *v.* Fogg" case, it was resolved to postpone further steps for recovering the tax due, pending reference to the Ratepayers at the forthcoming meeting.—The Taotai has consented to the lowering of the Hongkew Creek bridge 2 feet.—Lieut. Mylne having resigned his commission in No. 3 Rifle Co., Major Hart was requested to take the usual steps for the election of a successor.

The minutes of the meeting of Treaty Consuls held on the 16th instant, have unusual interest. Certain Harbour regulations were first discussed, and three new rules were resolved on: 1°,—that no vessels except men-of-war are to use swinging booms, and that these shall be rigged in between sunset and sunrise. 2°, that buoys must be lighted between sunset and sunrise. 3°, that vessels having explosive or inflammable materials on board shall anchor at least a mile below the lower limit, and fly a red flag. The first two rules, it will be remembered, have reference to a letter from the Taotai representing that accidents have occurred to native boats through neglect of such precautions.—It was decided to make no change in the existing pilotage system. This question, it will also be remembered, had been brought up by a letter from a number of pilots, suggesting that the standard number should be reduced.—Messrs. Annecke, Medhurst and Seward have been elected to form the Court of Consuls for the current year.—An agreement has been made with certain engineers at Yokohama, to survey the Woosung Bar for Tls. 2,500. The Taotai will provide Tls. 1,000; the remainder will be forthcoming from the various local steamer companies and from the community. We print, below, the correspondence which passed between Messrs. Medhurst and Seward and the Taotai, on the subject. This will show that the duty of the Chinese Government to provide the necessary outlay was strongly urged upon the Taotai. It was with difficulty, however, and only after reference to Li, that Tls. 1,000 was forthcoming, "as a matter of

favour." The sum has been received under protest that the whole expense ought rightly to be borne by the territorial authorities.—Consultation has been had with the Committee appointed by the Ratepayers to revise the Land Regulations, and certain amendments are recommended, which are too concisely stated in the Report to bear further condensation. We refer our readersto it.—The amendment passed at the last Ratepayers' meeting in regard to proxy voting, is thought to want more precise definition. This is a question of detail, and can be settled at the meeting next month.

At a meeting of No. 3 Company, S.V.C., Captain Tucker announced the resignation of Lieutenant Mylne, and said he had received instructions from Major Hart to proceed to the election of an officer to supply the vacancy. He added that the Council desired, through him, to tender the thanks of the community to Lieutenant Mylne for his services and for the interest he had taken in the Corps. He proposed Sergeant Yeo, who, he said, felt great interest in the welfare of the Corps. —Private Fonseca seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

The annual meeting of Ratepayers is called for the 11th May.

The French Municipal elections have resulted in the election of Messrs. Seaman (172), Maignan (160), Scott (121), and Leroy (107). 172 electors voted, out of 204 registered.

The crew selected from the Shanghai Rowing Club to row the challenge race at the Nagasaki Regatta, are Messrs. Wyatt, bow; Johnston, 2; Mackenzie, 3; and Glass, stroke; with Cory, coxswain. Kobé will also send a crew; but we hear that Yokohama cannot, owing to various obstacles. The date fixed is the 6th of May, and the distance a mile-and-a-half. Both Nagasaki and Kobé will, it is said, send exceptionally strong crews, and considerable interest is manifested in each of the Settlements, as to the result of the race. There are also to be double and single sculling matches pulled between the rival crews. Could Nagasaki and Kobé be induced to send crews to our ensuing Spring Regatta?

The new prizes to encourage Rifle Shooting among beginners, have produced a fair number of entries,—11 for the Recruits' Cup (for men who have never competed before) and 14 for the Sweepstakes for men who have never won a prize. These numbers are fair, and represent all companies of the corps. It is expected that the entries for the general competition will number about 30, so that in all perhaps 50 volunteers will take part in this Prize Meeting. The weather is very favourable for practice, but the shooting is scarcely up to the average of the last two meetings—apparently from the deterioration in the ammunition.

We have the Customs Report on the trade of Shanghai for the first quarter of 1875. It shows a considerable increase in the quantity of shipping, both as regards number and tonnage, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1874. The import of Grey Shirtings was considerably less—1,276,000 against 1,615,000 pieces; the figures for other qualities vary; the total import of Shirtings of all kinds being some 350,000 pieces less than in 1874. A great decrease is shown under several other headings—notably Chintzes, Velvets, and Lawns and Muslins. In other cases, however, there is a marked increase. White Shirtings figure for 213,000 against 136,000 pieces, T-cloths for 389,000 against 216,000, Turkey Reds 39,000 against 11,000. A more or less considerable increase is shown in the import of all kinds of Woollens except Lustres which figure only for 37,000 pieces against 67,000. The increase is chiefly notable in Long Ells, which figure for 21,900 pieces, a larger import than in the corresponding quarter of either of the three previous years.—Opium shows a slight increase; Foreign Coal a decrease of one-third; while Native Coal figures for 60,000 against 26,000 piculs. 1,256 Transit Passes were issued, against 737 in 1874. The most notable increase seems to have been in the quantity of Nail Rod iron so covered—10,092 piculs against 5,710; the quantity of lead on the other hand having decreased by more than half. Kerosine oil again, of which 2,000 gallons were sent inland under transit pass in the first quarter of 1873, and 4,000 in 1874, figures only for 10 gallons in 1875. The Revenue shows a large and steady increase—Tls. 763,460 against Tls. 656,482 in 1874, and Tls. 649,910 in 1873.

We are able to publish a copy which has reached us from London, of Mr. Hart's famous memorandum on the Woosung bar, in which he predicts the closure of Shanghai, its supercession by Chinkeang, decadence of foreign interests, and an early display of Chinese flags in the docks of Liverpool and London. The memorandum was known to be existence, but was veiled, with the secrecy peculiar to Peking, from the eyes of those most interested in its contents. We are glad to be able to lift the veil, and to show what enormous nonsense can emanate even from Peking. The whole superstructure of prophecy seems built on the huge misconception that a channel exists round the north end of Tsung-ming—the channel which actually does exist to the south of Tsung-ming, between it and Bush Island, having apparently become misplaced in Mr. Hart's imagination.

We hear that Colonel Browne is expected here very shortly, from India, to consult with Mr. Wade on the measures to be taken for punishing the attack on the Expedition of which he was chief.

The Calcutta *Englishman* of the 12th March gives a few further particulars of the attack on Colonel Browne's party:—"The Chinese attacked the party with great fury, but were frightened at the rapid firing of the Sikhs with the Sniders, and took to the jungle. Fighting lasted eight hours, after which a Kachen Tsaubwa fired the jungle to enable the party to retire. The Burmese escort also fought well. The greater part of the baggage was lost.—Captain Cooke has returned to Bhamo from Minemow, whence he left Mr. Elias, the Chinese General having refused to allow them to proceed further.—Mr. Elias has since been recalled."—The belief in Calcutta was that the troops had been sent by the Governor of Momein. It was said that Mr. Forsyth, the late head of the Yarkand Mission, was to be sent to Mandalay, to talk to the King about various pending matters. Probably the question what share His Majesty may have had in conniving at the late outrage, will be made matter of serious enquiry.

We hear that Major Hart has asked the Trustees of the Recreation Fund to level the interior of the Race Course, in order to make it more suitable for Volunteer drill. It is not supposed that they wil have funds to level the whole area at once, but the outlay of a few hundred taels would improve a large space, and the work could be continued as means permit. That something should be done to utilise the large space now lying waste, has been often urged; and we hope that the Trustees will see their way to undertake the work.

Judgment was delivered yesterday at the U. S. Consulate-General, in a cause Henry Savage *v.* A. F. Tyree, which involves a rather curious point. The plaintiff sued to recover on a time bargain in lead. Defendant alleges that never made the contract. There were two brokers concerned—Mr. Gore-Booth who sold to Mr. Savage, and Mr. Limby who says he sold through Mr. Gore-Booth on behalf of the Defendant; both the brokers' contract notes were handed in. But they differ in date and in price, and Mr. Limby's note mentions—not a specific quantity of lead sold to plaintiff, but a lump quantity of 200 tons sold to "Sundry Foreign Merchants." The Court decided against plaintiff, holding that one broker cannot employ another to do business entrusted to him, without authority from his principal, and that the act of Mr. Gore-Booth cannot therefore bind the defendant.

Chinese law, like our own, prescribes that cases shall be tried in open Court. We are told that this practice is constantly departed from in the city; whether because the Hsien dislikes having cases reported in the Chinese newspapers, and tries to defeat reporters—we are not aware. One thing is certain, that secresy does not tend to give confidence in the purity of Courts, and is especially objectionable in the case of a man so prone to torture as the present magistrate. A correspondent suggests that the Foreign Consuls might have something to say in this matter; that if arrests are to be allowed in the foreign Settlement, we might at least insist on those arrested having what chance a public trial can give them. Our correspondent forgets that the Settlement is Chinese territory, and that it has been ruled from Peking that the Chinese can do what they like with their own subjects residing in it. It would of course be a righteous thing to object to Magisterial wrong-doing, but any such attempt would be certainly snubbed. We doubt even whether, if the Chehsien elected to torture a man on the Bund, Peking would not rule that the Foreign police ought to form a ring, and prevent interference.

At this time of the year, great crowds of people from all around the country go to the Loong-hwa temple to worship, and the creek is crowded from end to end with boats. It is rather notable to see small

steamers, plying between the Arsenal and the Powder-works, running several times a day through this crush. If Foreigners suggest small steamers on inland waters, injury to vested interests, danger of collisions, and fifty valid reasons for refusal are at hand. When the mandarins want to run steamers themselves, the objections melt; just as Arsenal chimneys appear not to interfere with Feng-shuy, while telegraph poles are fatal to that—myth.

The Cricket Ground was opened for play on Monday.

The Mih-ho-loong Challenge Cup was shot for on Monday, and won by Sergeant Dunman.

We hear that the *Modeste* is likely to leave for Hankow towards the end of the week.

The Chinese had a rumour yesterday that one of the old Empresses had died; they even went so far as to fix the 28th day of the 2nd moon (4th April) as the date of the occurrence. But this very precision seems enough to upset the report; for we have seven days later news from Peking and no mention of such an incident. We put it down therefore as a *canard*.

The *China Mail* understands that Sir Brooke Robertson is not likely to leave Canton for the ensuing year. Mr. Oxenham will, on arrival, proceed to Taiwan; Mr. Brenan leaves Hankow for Peking, where he will be Assistant Chinese Secretary; Mr. Hillier has gone to Chefoo, Mr. Watters to Swatow, and Mr Frater has been appointed to Amoy.

We understand that an arrangement has been effected between Mr. Seward and the P. M. S. S. Company, under which articles intended for exhibition at Philadelphia will be forwarded to New York *viâ* Panama, at 4½ cents a pound, which is about half the usual rate. First-class and steerage passengers, commissioned by the Chinese Government to attend the Exhibition, will be taken to New York at $250 and $90, instead of $410 and $160.

Information has been received at the United States Consulate-General, from the Superintendent of Foreign Mails in Japan, that the steamers of the Mitsu Bishi Company are now practically mail steamers, under the postal convention between the United States and Japan, as contemplated by Article V. of the new Treaty. The mails will be made up in the ordinary way, and passed through the U. S. Consulate-General. It is also notified that the officers of the steamers are no longer permitted to take cognizance of loose letters.

The March number of the *Wan Kwo Kung Pau* contains an article on a very important matter, which we have not seen noticed elsewhere. According to the writer, Li Hung-chang has memorialised the Throne, asking that Foreign learning and the sciences may be placed on a par with the standard subjects in the literary examinations of the Empire; and a correspondent writes us that he has reason to believe the memorial will receive the sanction of Government. The importance of such an innovation is great, and if it be really carried out, good results will certainly follow.

Most of our readers will remember the lecture delivered some years ago by Mr. Lang, under the title of "Shanghai considered socially." It was afterwards printed in a pamphlet, and had a considerable sale among the community. The demand continued after the first edition was exhausted, and we are told that Mr. Lang was about reprinting it when he died. The intention has now been carried out, and we have before us a copy of the second edition. It is printed in good clear type, and covers 64 pages. Its contents will be fresh in the memory of old residents. To later arrivals who wish to acquaint themselves with the local and social history of the place, we strongly recommend it. They will learn from it out of what a swamp the present well-ordered settlement has been created; how it has grown in population, and through what adventures it has passed.

We have received a volume (No. 8) of Medical Reports by the Surgeons to the Customs to the treaty ports, for the half year ended 30th September last. We hope to review the book shortly.

The steamer *Europe*, Captain Beckett, reports having been in collision with the steamer *Hochung* in the Peiho river, at 9 a.m. on the 13th inst. The *Europe* received considerable damage, the *Hochung* having made a clean sweep of boats, davits, awning stanchions &c., starting the bridge house, on the starboard side, and damaging the rail nearly the whole length of the ship. It is not known what damage was done to the *Hochung*. The *Europe's* troubles did not end there; for on coming up the river, when nearly abreast of the Naval Yard, she again came into collision at 2 a.m. yesterday with a large junk that was proceeding down the river with a fair wind. The *Europe's* starboard bow was stove in, the iron plates having been broken short off, with little or no bend in them. We are told that a Quarter-master, who was sleeping in his bunk at the time of the collision, was thrown out of his berth with the force of the blow. What was the cause of these disasters, we cannot of course judge, and pending the usual enquiry merely state the facts as reported to us. We hear that the junk, too, is badly damaged and had to anchor.

Our Tientsin correspondent protests energetically against the appointment of Sung Paou-hwa to the Yunnan Commission; and, if he is right in his premisses, we agree with him that nothing can be said too strongly in condemnation of the appointment. An attempt by the Peking Government to degrade the importance of the mission would not be a new feature in Chinese policy, and we emphatically endorse his protest. But it occurs to us that there is a possibility he may be mistaken as to the exact position Sung Paou-hwa is to occupy. We do not understand that Sung is to take any share in the enquiry. He is simply to act as escort to the two Foreign officials. Even for this position he is utterly unfit, but the appointment has not, from this point of view, the same insolent meaning it would have were he made a member of the Commission. Even as it is, however, Mr. Wade will be wrong to accept such a nomination. The expedition should be accompanied by an official of at least the rank of Taotai, and one accredited from the Tsung-li yamên, not from the Viceroy of Chihli.

Li Hung-chang is said to be massing troops all around Tientsin. He has brought in a number of regiments of the so-called Southern Legion, and has even brought in soldiers from Shantung. New forts are also being constructed.

The hulk (late *Esberne Snare*) at Kiukiang, belonging to the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company was totally destroyed by fire in the night of the 13th inst. The hulk was full of cargo, and it is said that the fire originated in the main hold through the coolies smoking below. We are informed that the fire was first discovered at about 9 p.m., and that nothing was saved from the vessel as the flames spread with great rapidity and she burnt until she sank at her moorings.—We hear that Mr. W. E. King, Vice-Consul at Kiukiang, will shortly go home on leave, and will be succeeded by Mr. W. G. Stronach.—The eclipse was well observed, and some photographs of the different stages were taken.—A correspondent writes:—Two firms have opened this year, and I expect a good many tea-tasters will visit this market in the season. The water is falling, after a great rise during March.—The forts at Hukow will soon be commenced, and appliances in the shape of foreign pile-drivers have already arrived by the river steamers. It is stated that a grant of about half-a-million taels was sanctioned when the trouble with Japan arose, but now, although the Futai is aware that there is no longer urgent need for these costly defences, he does not like to state that the appropriation is no longer required, so he is bound to spend the money. Doubtless many of the petty officials will grow rich in disbursing this sum. The Krupp guns have been ordered, and wood for piles, &c., is being purchased at Hankow.

The eclipse of the sun was well observed at Peking.—The Peking Gazette of the 27th March contains an edict announcing the death of the young Empress, widow of the Emperor Tungche, and extolling her virtues.—Another edict, in the Gazette of the 29th, adopts the recommendation of the officials deputed to select a site for the mausoleum of the late Emperor. A spot near the Eastern Hills is selected.

A Chinese newspaper published at Foochow reports a fight at Hangchow between the Tartar and Chinese soldiery! We fancy this news will be startling—to Hangchow.

Summaries of News Japan, Hongkong, and the Southern Ports will be found under the usual heading.

A Yokohama correspondent writes:—"Political affairs here are in a critical condition, which may result in an overthrow of the present Ministry. Shimadzu Saburo holds the power, and is supposed to be on the eve of taking some decisive action."

Editorial Selections.

THE YUNNAN OUTRAGE.

THERE seems to be a strong impression in India and in Rangoon, that the attack on Colonel Browne's party was pre-arranged between the Chinese and Burman authorities, and a very clear resolve that the guilty parties, whoever they may be, shall be fitly punished. That there was pre-arrangement seems beyond doubt. The only difficulty will be to place the responsibility on the right shoulders; and if a share in it can be brought home to the King of Burmah, we fancy his tenure of power will become precarious. The circumstantial evidence seems strong. The King was known to be hostile to Major Sladen's expedition, and is accused of having conspired to cause its failure if not its destruction. It is said in Rangoon that one of the frontier chiefs avows having received orders—which he disobeyed—that it should not return. The news of Mr. Margary's successful journey to Bhamo is said to have been received with evident annoyance at Mandalay; and a Burmese Mission preceded Colonel Browne's party along the route on which the latter was attacked—Colonel Browne having previously been hindered in the selection of another route. The evidence, so far, is purely circumstantial, but we repeat that, if the facts are as stated, they look bad; and the report that Mr. Forsyth is being sent on a special mission to Mandalay, looks as though importance were attached to them, at Calcutta. The King's behaviour has long been such as to alienate the sympathy of the Indian Government. He has impeded commerce by arrogating a monopoly of all the chief articles of trade; he has misgoverned the country, and has caused so much dissatisfaction among his people that it is believed a change to English rule would be viewed with satisfaction. The population of British Burmah is steadily increasing at the expense of the Native State, and this immigration is in itself a proof of the comparative estimation in which the two Governments are held. Under the one, exactions are heavy, property is insecure, and industry is hampered; under the other, the reverse conditions are assured. There can be no doubt that England would be conferring a boon on the people, by incorporating Burmah Proper with the seaboard territory over which she already rules. That she has not yet done so, is a proof of remarkable political honesty; but if complicity in this last outrage can be brought home to the King's Government, it is likely a much stronger position will be taken up at Mandalay than we have been hitherto content to hold.

The political advantage of occupying Burmese territory would not be confined to India. The contiguity of the British Indian frontier with that of Yunnan would mean a pressure on China that could hardly fail to be felt at Peking, as much as that of Russia upon Chinese Tartary in the North. And there seems every likelihood that, before long, China will incur the neighborhood of a third European power to increase her discomfort. There can be little doubt that the proceedings of the French in Tonquin will eventuate in annexation. We hear a rumour that arrangements have been made by the Government of Cochin China to pay off a loan of $300,000 contracted by the Tonquin Government from Manila, on the understanding that France shall exercise a protectorate over Tonquin, which will of course mean a real sovereignty and the presence of French troops upon the Southern frontier of Yunnan. If, therefore, England annex Burmah—and we imagine it is at most a question of time—China will have neighbors in the South and West, very much less amenable than the tributary barbarians to whom she has been hitherto able to dictate.

The steps that will be taken to punish the Chinese share in the Yunnan outrage, must of course depend on the result of the approaching investigation; but Lord Derby and Lord Salisbury, upon whom the conduct of the affair devolves, are men of character and decision, and unlikely to let it pass. The facts that the attack occurred in a Chinese prefecture, and that Margary was murdered in a Chinese town, are sufficient to make the Peking Government legally responsible. But the more interesting question is, to whom the practical guilt of ordering the attack will be brought home. Indian papers accuse the Governor of Momein; but if the report is true that news of the intended opposition to Colonel Browne's party had reached the French Missionaries in Hankow, the evidence of premeditation would be absolute, and we should have to carry the responsibility far higher. All these matters will of course become subject of investigation. We can only hope that the truth will be somehow elicited, from the cloud of falsehood and prevarication with which the real culprits will of course try to shroud it.

MR. HART'S MEMO. ON THE YANGTSZE.

WE have often protested against the secrecy which is observed at Peking, in regard to the most trivial as well as the most important matters; and there has seldom happened a better illustration of the wrong than Mr. Hart's memo. on the Woosung Bar. Here is a document, false in premiss and in conclusion, yet affecting very gravely the interests of the port because sufficiently plausible to mislead,—treated as official at Peking, and sent home by Foreign Ministers to their Governments, without an opportunity being given to those most interested, of exposing the blunder and repelling the inferences. That such documents do sometimes leak out, and find their way after many adventures into the columns of a newspaper, is not a reply. We contend that such a document ought to be at once communicated to the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and comment by the Chamber invited. There is no mistaking its drift, nor the effect it would have on Chinese action, if let pass unquestioned. It is true that Mr. Hart allows us another twenty years of existence, and concludes that even this respite makes dredging the bar worth while; but though that reflection might influence Chinese action, it would more likely convince Peking that the outlay would be waste. Nor does the importance of the document lie altogether in its bearing on the Woosung bar; the error of its general statements would tend to throw on a false scent officials who could have no opportunity, in Europe, of testing their [illegible] the community have, from every point of view, cause of complaint that the paper was not submitted to the Chamber of Commerce for report, directly it reached the hands of the Foreign Ministers. The mischief done by such papers is not to be measured by their worth. The present memorandum for instance is a tissue of mis-statement and nonsense; but it is sufficiently plausible—coming from a gentleman who has a certain reputation for ability—to gravely mislead persons having no intimate personal knowledge of the subjects dealt with. What official in Europe or America, for instance nay, what new-comer even at Peking, would suspect Mr. Hart of gravely mapping out a non-existent channel, and erecting thereon such a superstructure of false prophecy as he has been led to pen? The possibility of a man in his position making such a blunder could never suggest itself, and the whole document would be allowed solid weight in considering what steps should be taken to persuade the Chinese to conserve their harbours and water-courses.

But it is time we addressed ourselves more particularly to the enormous blunder which Mr. Hart has perpetrated. Reference to a map of the lower Yangtze will show, lying opposite the Hwangpoo, and stretching nearly equidistantly on either hand, the large island of Tsung-ming. Between this and the mainland again, and nearly opposite Woosung, is the islet known as Bush island. The main channel of the Yangtze runs between Tsung-ming and the South bank, and thence seaward, still to the south of the various banks and islets lying below and South-east of Tsung-ming. Mr. Hart sets out by declaring that this channel is narrowing and shallowing, and that a channel to the North and East of Tsung-ming has "of late been used occasionally, and is spoken of with growing approval." And he concludes that "it may be regarded as

certain that the southern channel will have less and less water on it, and that at some future day—it may be five years hence or it may be fifty—the only navigable channel to enter the Yangtze by, will be that from Shaweishan round the North end of Tsung-ming."

Could it be conceived that the channel to the North and East of Tsung-ming, which Mr. Hart describes as "spoken of with growing approval," has no existence? that the danger of the present channel closing, exists only in Mr. Hart's imagination? or that he would go on to predict physical changes in the estuary of the Yangtze, that are very shortly to destroy our port, upon so extravagant a misconception? Yet this is what he has done. There is no channel north of Tsung-ming used by anything larger than native craft, and no foreign sailing vessel or steamer has ever been, as Mr. Hart says, not spoken of ten years ago, but it is equally unknown to-day. The fact is that he has mistaken a channel which exists round the north of Bush Island and thence round the south of Tsung-ming; to be on the north of Tsung-ming, and the fact is notable as showing how much attention the needs of our river meet with at Peking. This channel was surveyed by the *Monocacy* in 1871, and is occasionally used by steamers plying between Shanghai and the North. We have no evidence to show that it is enlarging; nor that the channel which has been always used hitherto by steamers approaching Shanghai, is closing; but even if these changes were to happen, the only inconvenience would be to make vessels bound for Shanghai run between Bush Island and Tsung-ming, and then turn back three or four miles, to Woosung. The Hwangpoo might be trusted to make its way for that distance, in such a manner as to afford all necessary facilities for navigation. Mr. Hart's idea of the gradual closure of the Southern channel, and the gradual erosion instead of one to the North of Tsung-ming, has then no foundation whatever in fact, and his inferences are equally false. The origin of his blunder appears to be two-fold, as is the blunder itself. 1°.—He has mistaken the channel to the north of Bush island for one to the north of Tsung-ming; 2°.—He has mistaken a greater draught of water in steamers frequenting the port, for a gradual rising of the river bed. We have an experience of the southern channel extending over thirty years, and though the shoals on the north, and the banks on the south have become more marked, our oldest pilots see no diminution in the downward flow of the Yangtze through it. Whether the water is really less, or whether the changes are calculated only to define the channel more clearly, they cannot say. They only know that the decrease, if decrease there be, is imperceptible. The mistatement is the more dangerous because the case would be really serious if Mr. Hart's assumption were correct. If the channel between Woosung and the sea, to the south of Tsung-ming, silted up, vessels could only gain access to Shanghai by rounding the north end of that island and coming back to Woosung. And not only so, but the chances are that the upper part of the present channel would silt as well as the lower, if the process once began; and that access to Shanghai would be blocked altogether, to vessels of large [illegible] the Hwangpoo could clear for itself a long backward course "through the dead or checked waters of the Yang-tsze" and rapidly accumulating silt, till it joined the new channel off the north of Tsung-ming.—Yet we have seen how utterly groundless is the assumption that any such change threatens. We are assured on the contrary that, if change there is, the Kintoan flats are rather deepening than shallowing.

Having shown the gross misconception with which Mr. Hart sets out, it is almost needless to follow him through his enquiry into the future of the Shanghai River, and the consequent future of Shanghai, except to emphasise his fatuity; for his predictions are based on his original blunder. We need hardly stay to ask what would happen to the Hwangpoo if tides were to disappear; because there is no earthly likelihood of their disappearing. Very certainly vessels drawing twenty feet could not get over the bar without tides, because the depth of water on the bar is only ten feet when tides are out; but then we have tides, we are likely to continue to have them, and the bar only wants dredging out a few feet to admit the largest vessels that are likely to come to Shanghai. Equally certainly, if the Southern Channel of the Yangtsze closed, if the Hwangpoo were choked in its exit seaward, and ships couldn't get to Shanghai, the commercial future of the port would look extremely bad; but neither of these conditions is in the least likely to happen, so we have only to deal with things as they are. That the Hwangpoo is a sluggish stream, and requires conservation, we have always urged. Draining a large extent of country, it brings down a considerable body of water; but its course lies through land so level that it has little force of current, and has difficulty in overcoming obstacles whether wilful or adventitious. It needs that obstructions should not be run out along its banks, and that dredges should be employed to keep clear its channel from the mud banks that will always have a tendency to form; but there is no indication that, with this care, it will not serve as an outlet to the commerce of Shanghai for centuries to come.

THE BLOCKADE OF HONGKONG.

It is well that the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has taken up with more zeal than before, the question of the blockade of Hongkong harbour by the Chinese Government cruisers. The position of Great Britain in this matter is, to say the least of it, undignified. It almost provokes a smile to see a number of little gunboats prowling round the entrance to a British harbour, and seizing what prey they can, while British men-of-war and British troops are stopping idly within, and not taking a step to put an end to a system of exaction which is seriously hurting the trade of the colony. The Chinese residents are coming to look upon British protection as a thing of the past; and are losing confidence in the future of the colony, now that it lets itself be overridden in matters so nearly affecting its own interest, by the Government of Kwantung; and, as a natural consequence, trade of every description is falling off, and the colony is gradually losing its position as a commercial centre. That we are not exaggerating the position of affairs, we have Captain Thomsett's report for 1874 to prove. A falling off in arrivals and departures of 10,000 vessels and of 654,000 tons cannot be accounted for by the natural fluctuation of trade. It is no salve to the wounded interests of the place, that this falling off was mainly in native craft; for the native trade of Hongkong is really the back-bone of the colony—in itself but a bare rock. Nor indeed do the statistics look much more wholesome for the foreign shipping. The decrease in the tonnage of the latter is over one-third; and when we remember that a large proportion of foreign vessels entering Hongkong, merely do so *en route* to the northern ports, we shall see that this reduction of tonnage entered really means far more loss to the local trade than one-third. The hindrance to the trade in native craft should, were trade able to be carried on at all, have resulted in an increased traffic in foreign bottoms with the Treaty ports. That this has not taken place, but the reverse, shows that the sources of trade are interfered with, and not only the channels by which it is carried on.

Hongkong has the same tale to tell as all the rest of China—the forcible repression, by exactions so heavy as to be prohibitory, of traffic of whatever nature. In the rest of China, we have allowed rights gained by treaty to be given up without even a word of protest. In Hongkong we have gone further. Not content with being smitten on one cheek, we have held out the other, and have permitted our own waters and our own trade to be obstructed by all sorts of irregular cruisers. During his tenure of office, Sir Richard MacDonnell incurred the suspicion of having more or less submitted to this infraction of the rights of the Colony. But it is satisfactory

to learn that so capable an administrator did not fail to perceive the very great damage being inflicted on Colonial interests. A Government which was, however, willing to submit to every infliction, overruled Sir Richard MacDonnell's protests, and the Chinese were given to understand that no notice would be taken of any obstructive steps it pleased them to adopt. It did not need much prescience to foretel the result. The hint was not thrown away, and a similar system of repression to that adopted at Hongkong, was made use of to hinder foreign trade all along the coast. Hongkong is not singular in its complaints; the returns of trade at all the Treaty ports tell the same tale—decreasing trade and increasing exactions. It is a notorious fact that the spur given to trade by the stipulations of the Treaty of Tientsin greatly helped the Chinese Government to struggle successfully through the Taiping Rebellion. It is equally notorious that, now the country is at peace, it cannot make both ends meet. It is, moreover, a fact that this impecuniosity has occurred concurrently with increased interferences with Foreign trade and increased exactions of every kind on Native trade. The inference is so plain that even Chinese themselves cannot shut their eyes to the cause. But, beyond the prosperity of the Empire, there is still a settled policy which the Peking Government struggles to uphold. That policy we succeeded for a time in 1860 in overturning, but our own carelessness and supineness has allowed it again to become rampant. Followed to its legitimate conclusion, it would mean the expulsion of every Foreigner from China—if no severer measures were adopted—and the locking up of the country as effectually as Japan was closed for more than two centuries. It is evident we must halt somewhere before arriving at this extreme; yet, for all the signs we have as yet perceived, European Governments seem as averse as ever from placing their hands upon the reins. As action must be taken somewhere, experience proves that it is better to take it early. No reasonable man can doubt that, in 1870, when the question of the revision of the Treaty came up for discussion, a determined word on our part would have been sufficient to have obtained a settlement satisfactory to ourselves and the Chinese. That word, however, was not spoken, and persistent encroachments have since been the result. Now, five words will not suffice, where one was then sufficient. Are we to go on at this pace, and renew the experience of 1836 and 1857? We counsel no injustice, we seek to inculcate no harsh measures; but, in the interests of both countries, we maintain that a firm and consistent policy is necessary.

A MARRIAGE ORDINANCE FOR HONGKONG.

The Hongkong Legislative Council seems to have been much exercised, lately, about a marriage ordinance. We have not the text before us, but we gather that it is intended to compel civil registry, on the principle which is finding general favour in Europe. But Hongkong is a very mixed colony, comprising probably as diverse a collection of nationalities and religions as any place in the world; and the Council are in the dilemma either of passing a very partial measure or of devising a bill so marvellously ingenious as to fit all conflicting interests. The former course seems to have been chosen; as we find Mr. Cecil Clementi Smith, who appears to have the bill in charge, stating in the Assembly that it was not intended to apply it to others than Christians. Even here, however, it is met by opposition. Bishop Raimondi protests on principle against the very basis of the scheme. Marriage, he affirms, is a sacrament, whose administration is purely and solely within the power of the priest. The priest must be free to administer the sacrament of marriage to whomsoever, whenever and wherever he judges necessary; no lay authority can limit such power, any more than it can exercise the duties of the confessional which is another sacrament. We presume that Bishop Raimondi was bound to express his principles, much as the Pope is bound to say *non possumus* when asked to recognise his loss of temporal power. But the result is the same in both cases. The temporal power has disappeared, and the Hongkong marriage ordinance has been passed. It will be a satisfaction to Bishop Raimondi to know that his co-religionists in Hongkong will be no worse off, under it, than they are in the most Catholic countries of Europe, where civil registration as a prelude to marriage is insisted on by the Civil power.

The Chief Justice appears to dislike the bill from another cause, as being too limited in its scope. He instanced the burning question of the deceased wife's sister; and brought out, in conversation, the amusing fact that the Duke of Buckingham had once laid down that Colonial officials must not vote against any measure ordered by the Home Government. Now the present measure, though drawn up in the Colony, had been sent to England, and remitted to Hongkong by the Secretary of State, with instructions that it should be passed. The Chief Judge, therefore, declined to make any motion or amendment on it. Mr. Smith protested against the assumption that members of the Council were prohibited from discussing the ordinance; and the acting Governor ruled that discussion might be had,—only, if any material change were made, the bill would have to be sent home again. The Chief Justice however declined to be persuaded. He had, he said, once received notice that he had been wrong in voting against a certain bill. And, after such an intimation, and the ruling of the acting Governor that any amendment would have to be sent home for approval, we are not surprised at his reticence. Is it not rather reducing legislation to a farce, when the Council is so constituted that the official members are always in a majority, and are officially instructed to vote all one way? So the deceased wife's sister dropped, and Hongkong has lost the chance of setting England an example of intelligent legislation. As *Punch* says in his last Essence of Parliament, among the remarkably sensible things that often find place there: "The time is not yet. But as the prohibition has no sufficient grounds in nature or revelation, and as the ill effects of maintaining it are certain in many cases, while those of relaxing it are conjectural, the chances are that the change will come." There remained, however, enough points of difficulty. When the last clause was reached, defining the application of the ordinance [illegible] Christian religion," the Council pointed out that this alone would open up a very great question; for how was the profession to be indicated? "This was the question raised in the famous case of Yelverton. The whole question in that distressing case rested on whether Yelverton was a professed Catholic or not. Further, what would they do with Jews, Chinamen and other Asiatics? And Chinamen had more than one wife! Had this Ordinance not come from home, he would have proposed an alteration. As it was, he was not free to do so." A conversation followed about the Chinese marriage law, of which the Acting Governor and Mr. Cecil Clementi Smith showed themselves ignorant, and the Chief Justice well-informed. The two former insisted on the difficulty of including Chinese in the ordinance, because they often had two or three wives, whereas Sir John Smale informed them that Chinese law does not recognise the second as a wife at all, though her children are declared to be legitimate. There would be no difficulty, therefore, on this score, about registering Chinese marriages; though it is by no means clear whether the rule would work well otherwise, or whether it would be possible to enforce it in practice. Still, as a matter of fact, the registration of marriages is not a religious but a legal precaution, and is quite as much needed in the case of people professing other religions as of those professing Christianity. We quite admit the difficulty of going farther, in the case of Hongkong. Still the present ordinance does seem to be a very partial measure, and it may be questioned whether it had not better been left alone, or more thoroughly considered.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

Since the end of the last moon, we have been having extremely boisterous weather here, no matter from what quarter the wind

might come. After blowing a gale from the South, from daylight to nearly 4 p.m. on the 7th instant, the wind suddenly changed to the North ; afterwards we had a dense dust storm for an hour. It indeed became so dark, a few minutes after 4 p.m., that it was necessary to light the lamps to see to write and read. To-day, it is blowing a strong gale from the South. The thermometer has gone down these last few nights below the freezing point. This morning, it stood at 29°. About 2 a.m. on the 7th instant, a very large meteor was seen. It made its appearance in the North-West part of the sky, and travelled towards the South-east, where it apparently exploded.

A Rescript in the Peking *Gazette* of the 6th April, announces that Li Hung-chang had, in a memorial to the Throne, requested the Regents that orders be given to the functionary appointed to the office of Customs Taotai at Tientsin, urging him to repair immediately to his new post. Le Chaou-tang, the official in question, being at present at Kwangtung, the Regents command the Governor-General of the Two Kwang provinces and the Governor of Kwangtung province, to order the said official to lose not a moment in proceeding by sea to Tientsin, where his presence is required to attend to [illegible].

About five o'clock, Thomas Featherstone, the Constable of H.B.M.'s Consulate at this port, died very suddenly. He came to this country as a private in the 67th Regiment, in 1860, fifteen years ago ; and being a steady, well conducted, trustworthy man, when a constable was required, on the Consulate being established at this port in 1861, Thomas Featherstone was recommended as a suitable man for the post. The funeral took place this morning at nine o'clock, and the coffin was followed to the cemetery by almost every member of the community, showing that the deceased had gained the respect of the Foreign residents here by his good conduct. He has left a widow and two children ; and although both he and his wife were careful people, still the pay of a constable is not such that with a family they could possibly save but a small sum of money. Her Majesty's Government, in my opinion, would, under the circumstances, be justified in bestowing on the widow a sum of money sufficient to pay for her own and her children's passages home to England ; and to leave in the pocket of the widow a few pounds to enable her to commence the world in England.

April 9th.

In regard to the Chinese official who will form part of the Commission for the purpose of making investigations into the assassination of Mr. Margary, in a yamên of a Chinese territorial mandarin in the province of Yunnan, and into the subsequent brutalities committed—I am now able to report to you with accuracy. His Excellency Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General of this province and the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs has appointed a man called Sung Paou-hwa (宋寶華) as the officer deputed, on the part of the Chinese Government, to proceed to Yunnan for the above-mentioned purpose. Sung Paou-hwa will leave here in the S. S. N. Co's steamer *Chihli*, to-morrow, for Shanghai.

Sung Paou-hwa is a native of the Ningpo district, and was formerly in the employment of the Ningpo merchant Tae-kee (Yang-kee-tang), in his mercantile establishments of Shanghai and Ningpo ; and can speak the jargon known as "pidgin" English. When Li Hung-chang was [illegible] engaged in fighting against the Taeping rebels, and Tae-kee was likewise engaged in some fashion in aiding to put down the rebellion, his employé, Sung Paou-hwa, became known to Li Hung-chang. Soon after Li Hung-chang came to Tientsin in his position of Governor-General of this province of Chihli, Sung Paou-hwa made his appearance here as an attaché on his staff; and since then has been employed by Li Hung-chang in various subordinate capacities. He has latterly—for four or five months— been stationed at the village of Ko-ku, situated on this river half-way from Taku, in overseeing some Custom house or other such like business. His name will not be found in the list of mandarins published in the Red Book, as he does not hold any territorial position. He has no literary rank, and does not belong to the official lawyer class. As to the button which a Chinese may wear in his hat, such, now-a-days, does not indicate his position as an officer in the Government service. I can only [illegible] Paou-hwa for the last four years at Tientsin as an attaché on the staff of the Governor-General of Chihli, without any territorial rank. In the *North-China Daily News* of 8th inst., we read the following :—

"It is understood, however, that he (Mr. Wade, H. B. M.'s Minister) has "taken the case strongly up, threatening "even to haul down his flag unless a "[illegible] of British and Chinese officers is forthwith delegated to "look into the whole case and punish the "perpetrators."

I know not if the appointment of such a subordinate official as Sung Paou-hwa will be deemed by the British Government as an ample share, on the side of the Central Chinese Government, in forming "a powerful Commission." I may ask the question, however, what influence is it likely that Sung Paou-hwa will have over the Chinese territorial authorities in the province of Yunnan, when they become aware of the subordinate position which he fills at Tientsin—in carrying out a strict investigation into such a crime as Mr. Margary's assassination ? I will presume to give a reply, and that is that he will not be able, from his known subordinate position in the Government service, or rather the service of the Governor-General of Chihli, to effect what the British Envoy desires to know—namely, what share the Chinese functionaries in Yunnan had in committing the murder, in order that all those connected with the perpetration of it shall be punished. When we, for a single instant, reflect over the dastardly and cruel act committed on Mr. Margary, an officer in H.B.M.'s service, and a gentleman of education, who could speak the Peking mandarin language, the bearer of a duly sealed passport, and of despatches to the territorial functionaries on the route—in the yamên of a territorial authority ; and after that, for only a single instant, reflect on the invaluable aid Mr Wade, H.B.M.'s Envoy, lately rendered to the Chinese Central Government in their Formosa difficulty—will the British people consider the appointment of such a subordinate officer as Sung Paou-hwa, to proceed to Yunnan to investigate the case, and take steps that the perpetrators of the murder be arrested and brought to condign punishment—a proper one? I have no hesitation in saying on my part, that, taking the gravity of the case and all the circumstances in connection with it into mind, I consider the appointment of a subordinate officer of the position of Sung Paou-hwa as a gross insult to the British nation. My objection, I must state, is not against Sung Paou-hwa individually, but only against a Chinese officer of his position being appointed on the Yunnan Commission. I object to the officer, but not to [illegible], whom I know very well.

13th April.

In my letter of the 13th instant, I briefly and hurriedly informed you that I had heard H. E. Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General of Chihli, had appointed Sung Paou-hwa, a local mandarin, to the joint British and Chinese Commission, on the part of the Chinese Government, to go to the province of Yunnan to investigate the assassination of Mr. Margary in the yamên of the Chinese territorial authority of the town. I further mentioned that the mandarin in question was a man of a very subordinate position on the staff of the Governor-General, and who had latterly, for four months, been stationed at the village of Koku, in the customs (Chinese) service there—in charge, I am now told, of the mooring of the junks in that anchorage.

To shew how little the foreign community here, who all know Sung Paou-hwa well, expected the appointment of a man [illegible] to go on the important commission to Yunnan, I mention the following circumstance :—

On Sung Paou-wha, on the 13th instant, going to the office of the S. S. N. Company in this settlement, to take his passage in the steamer *Shingking* to Shanghai ; and on his mentioning he was going to Yunnan, the agent—never for a moment thinking that Sung Paou-hwa himself had been selected by the Chinese Government as the officer in the joint British and Chinese Commission, but thinking, from his being able to speak pidgin English, that he was going as interpreter to some high official—naturally asked him "What mandarin has been appointed as the officer of the Commission to go to Yunnan ?"—and was not a little astounded to get the reply—"I am the officer appointed." He well might be astonished, for the same Sung Paou-wha had only lately, on Ying Han the Governor-General of the Two Kwang intending to leave here for Shanghai, in the steamer *Shingking*, been engaged in haggling with the shipping clerk in the same office, about paying the regular passage money, which he had been told the Governor-General and his suite would have to disburse. This, then, is the high official whom the Governor-General has considered fit for the important duty, in concert with certain British officers, of making strict investigations into the assassination of Mr Margary—a British officer, carrying a passport bearing the official seals of Great Britain and China! There is something decidedly "rotten in the state of Denmark," if Sung Paou-hwa's nomination be accepted.

15th April.

The S. S. N. Company's str. *Shingking* leaves here to-morrow morning for Shanghai ; and she carries away, as a passenger, Sung Paou-hwa, the officer appointed by Li Hung-chang to go in the joint British and Chinese Commission, to the province of Yunnan.

As I consider it the duty of every Englishman in China—for the signal of Nelson ever flies aloft that "England expects every man to do his duty"—to proclaim his protest against the appointment of a man of the subordinate position of Sung Paou-hwa for the important international duty of investigating such a grave affair as the assassination of a British officer in the yamên of a territorial functionary of China,—in order that, on our part, every moral aid possible may be given to Mr. Wade in demanding strict and stern justice at the hands of the Central Government,—I trust that your readers will again allow me to bring forward the circumstance.

Sung Paou-hwa is well known to all here, as to his abilities and position ; and the Chinese people even, with whom I have lately conversed, and who see clearly the gravity of the Yunnan affair, have not hesitated to speak of the appointment with disgust. Putting even altogether aside his subordinate position as a Chinese officer, by his stinted education and his limited experience of official business—he has no literary degree, and he does not belong to

the lawyer class of China—he is totally unfit to fill the position of a colleague of the British officers whom Her Majesty's Minister deputes to Yunnan.

The mandarin whom the Central Government should have appointed, should have been of the rank of a Provincial governor, or a junior member of the Tsung-le-yamên. He would have been an official whom, from his rank, the territorial functionaries of Yunnan would have feared and respected. When he said—I want to question so and so, no matter how high their position, so and so would have been immediately produced. What influence can such a subordinate officer as Sung Paou-hwa possibly have over the authorities of Yunnan? In the opinion of even the educated Chinese here, to say nothing of the foreigners who know him well, none whatever, even over the most petty official in Yunnan. Consequently, Sung-Paou-hwa will not be of the smallest assistance to the British officers; but, I fear, rather a detriment and obstacle to them in obtaining accurate information.

I wish it to be distinctly understood that I do not write this from any ill-will to Sung Paou-hwa; for if he was to-morrow gazetted as a prefect (Chafoo) to an inland prefecture, I should be glad to learn the news for his sake; and I should leave it to the Chinese literati, and the aspirants for office generally, to criticize his qualifications for the post. I, however, protest, as I hope every Englishman in China will protest, against his being appointed on the Yunnan Commission; for I know him to be quite unfit to perform the duties demanded from him for the occasion.

There is, my countrymen must bear in mind, at this moment a great political principle at stake. Shall a passport, bearing the seals of Great Britain and China, in future possess the power to protect a British subject, while in the interior of China, from political assassination?

I must now mention another circumstance which will influence the investigations of the joint Yunnan Commission. Pwan Ting-sing, the Fantai or Commissioner of Finances in Yunnan—the next territorial authority to the Governor of Yunnan province—is a protégé of Li Hung-chang. I know Pwan Ting-sing personally, and I also know him to be an able man. As he will naturally stand up for his provincial subordinates, it is the more incumbent on the British side that every care be taken on the part of Her Majesty's Minister, that a High official—one not likely to be biassed by local officials—*be appointed by the Central Government of Peking for the Yunnan investigations.* Sung Paou-hwa came to the S. S. N. Co.'s office and engaged the passage of Pwan Ting-sing, when he left here for Yunnan. In fact they would be often in the habit of seeing each other while both were on the staff of Li Hung-chang at Tientsin. Pwan Ting-sing was here in 1872 and 1873, connected with Li Hung-chang's Southern Legion, in a civil position; and I understood that Li placed great confidence in him. During the winter of 1873 and spring of 1874, when the Peruvian Legation were in Peking, Pwan Ting-sing was residing in Peking, in a public building not far from the Legations, attending to Li Hung-chang's business in the capital and also his own. I was then informed by a petty officer, employed in carrying despatches to Pwan Ting-sing, that he, (Pwan Ting-sing,) had given a high lady in the metropolis presents to the value of Tls. 160,000, to use her influence to get him the post of Fantai; and, as we later learnt from the Peking *Gazette* that he had been appointed Fantai of Yunnan, we took it for granted that it was the post he had desired to get. Pwan Ting-sing, as Fantai of Yunnan, and as a Chinese mandarin views matters, is naturally not inclined to support British advances into Yunnan.

I came to know him first, personally, in this manner. A mandarin (not a territorial one) had called on me three times, and, thinking it time after his last visit to return his calls, I wrote to say I would call on him on the following day at 2 p.m., but if that hour did not suit to fix another hour. He replied he would be ready to see me at 2 p.m. On arriving at his door, he came out and led me into his reception rooms. I found there a tall, well-dressed, gentlemanly looking Chinese, who rose and bowed. After being seated, I directed my conversation to my host, paying no attention to the guest. After the host and myself had spoken together for five minutes, the guest, however, joined in the conversation. I soon perceived from the deference paid to the latter that he was some man of [illegible] that Pwan Ting-sing lived in that neighbourhood, I came somehow to the conclusion that I had that mandarin before me. I sat over an hour, during which we talked on various subjects, Chinese and foreign; in discussing which the guest showed himself to be a man of good sense and considerable knowledge. I did not ask his name, as Chinese are in the habit of doing, although I could see [illegible] there to speak to me; and, when leaving the room, I merely bowed to him, the host following me to the sedan. On reaching home, my servant told me that the Chinese guest was Pwan Ting-sing.

PURITAN.

17th April.

CHINKIANG.

We hear of another change of officials in charge at the British Consulate, making the third since the beginning of the year, without counting the interregnums when we have been left to the tender mercies of the constable—a very worthy man in his own sphere, but hardly suited to impress the Chinese with a sense of the dignity of the official he represented.

A gentleman who has seen long service as Acting Vice-Consul has been appointed to the port, but we hear is disinclined to come, as the accommodation is so bad. We can, however, assure him that the community will do anything in their power to make him comfortable, they are so anxious to obtain the boon of a real Vice-Consul—at last granted by Mr. Wade,—in place of the assistants-in-charge whom the Chinese officials have only condescended to notice in order to snub.

18th April.

Messrs. Spencer & Wolff write from Chinkiang on the 21st April:—"Since the date of our last circular, extreme dullness has pervaded our market in Imports. Prices have shewn a drooping tendency throughout, and the business reported is of so trivial a nature that it is extremely difficult to give reliable quotations. The value of 7-lbs. T-Cloths has been fairly maintained; but Shirtings show a decline of 1 to 4 cands. per picul."

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* hears of another fight in Formosa, near Tai-wan-foo, between the Aborigines and Chinese—in which the latter came off only second best. —A large fire broke out in the Southern suburb of the city, at about midnight on the 4th-5th inst. More than 100 houses were burnt, and several lives lost.—The eclipse was as great a failure in Foochow as in Hongkong and Shanghai, owing to the cloudiness of the sky.—A [illegible] sailing boats came off at Pagoda Anchorage on the 2nd April. Six boats started. Capt. Bisbee's *Bay State* won, Dr. Somerville's *May* second.—The line of couriers between Foochow and Amoy will be re-established on the 1st proximo. The couriers will start from both ends at noon—daily; and complete the journey in 45 hours (3 hours less than last year). The service is so arranged that there will be an interval of 3 hours between the daily arrival and departure of the couriers. The subscription is fixed at $15 per month. The enterprise is a private one, and unconnected with the Great Northern Telegraph Company.

AMOY.

The late interruption in the cable was caused by the steamer *Yesso* catching the double cable and breaking it about 5 miles from Amoy, stopping the communication on both sides at once (Hongkong and Chinese have the idea of military execution for cowardice! On the 7th instant, at Taiwan, was beheaded Lee Chang Shing 李長興, late second in command of 500 soldiers, of whom Wang Kai Chaan 王開俊,—an official slaughtered with some ninety soldiers by savages in February last,—was chief commander. He was decapitated for showing cowardice in withdrawing assistance to Wang, during his fight with the savages.

CANTON.

A disastrous fire took place in Ta Toong Street, Canton, on the night of the 7th instant. The fire is said to have originated in a piece-goods shop, and spread to the next house, occupied by a stationer. The different brigades turned out with alacrity, but in the absence of any organization, the firemen began to fight, and one man was wounded with a knife. Another account states that the fight took place between the firemen and some yamên runners, the latter refusing to allow the former to draw water from the yamên. The fire was caused by the careless handling of joss paper.—The Prefect of Canton has issued a proclamation against indulgence in the Wai Sing lottery, and threatening offenders with condign punishment.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

The *City of Hankow* brings a quantity of Hongkong papers, but they contain no very interesting news. The *Daily Press* learns that the National Bank of India intends shortly to open a branch at Shanghai, of which Mr. James Campbell, formerly manager of the branch in Hongkong, will take charge.—Further attacks have been made on the wreck of the *Dunmail*, but to no purpose. An ordinary 9-in. shell, exploded under the main hatch, had no good effect, and the proprietors have determined to abandon proceedings. —The C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Aden* has returned from her putative search for the remains of the late P. M. S. S. *Japan*, her three months' charter having expired. Her engagement can hardly have been a profitable one to the charterers, as the *Scotland* found the wreck at once. —The *China Mail* says a number of gentlemen have decided on running a steam launch, morning and evening, to Kowloong, if a sufficient number of monthly tickets are taken by the public. The idea is to do away with individual tickets and charge a sum of $10, or under (if found sufficient) for a pass entitling all members of the holder's family to use the steam launch for the month. This sum is too high, but if slightly lowered the [illegible] this month, has again fallen to Hongkong. The fortunate individual is an assistant in a Hongkong mercantile house.

NAGASAKI.

As the *Ashuelot* was steaming out of the harbour for Shanghai, the top of her cylinder blew up, which will necessitate her detention for the next six weeks.—The Paymaster of that ship had a narrow escape from being drowned by the upsetting of a sampan. He contrived to extricate himself, and was saved by a boat from the *Curlew*.—Mr. Olarovsky is leaving Nagasaki for a short time, and Mr. Iwerssen will act as Russian Consul during his absence. —A public meeting was held on the 8th instant, to organise arrangements for the forthcoming regatta. Captain Furber, Messrs. Gribble, Ringer and Tileston were elected a Committee for the purpose. The Chairman (Mr. Gribble) stated that unusual interest would attach to the forthcoming Regatta, from the fact that Shanghai and [illegible] send a four-oared boat and crew to compete with the Nagasaki Rowing Club in one of the races. A similar invitation had also been addressed to Yokohama, but unfortunately that port could not send a crew for this year's regatta. With the additional attraction thus promised, he felt assured that the community would assist as much as possible by the liberality of their subscription towards making the "Nagasaki Spring Regatta of 1875" evidently felt in the approaching event, and the *Nagasaki Shipping List* (from whose report we quote) concludes "we will do our best to give a good reception to our contesting friends."—The programme of the regatta will be found in another column.—The *Rising Sun* notes the completion of the new church:—In consequence of the damage done to the English Church on Oura Hill last August, by the typhoon, it was deemed necessary to pull the edifice down and then reconstruct it. For this purpose a subscription list was sent round the foreign community, who subscribed most liberally. The old building was taken down and the work of reconstruction commenced as quickly as possible, and Divine Service was held in the Church last Sunday for the first time. The new building is a *fac simile* of the old, and is seated for about 150 persons.—The 15th April was the Grand Annual Kite Flying Festival day, and like last year it was celebrated on the top of Kompua. Many thousands of persons visited the spot during the day, and the sport was carried on with unabated zeal. The road as usual was lined with beggars, singing women, &c.

HIOGO.

Baron Holleben—who, pending the arrival of Mr. Von Eisendecher, will hold the post of German Minister Resident at Yedo—passed through Hiogo on the 4th instant, on his way to the capital.—Speaking of the approaching regatta at Nagasaki, the *Hiogo News* says the Boat Clubs of Kobe and Yokohama have been invited to take part in it, as well as Shanghai. Shanghai, we hear, has accepted, and so has Kobe. Yokohama has declined, but an effort will be made to induce her members to reverse this decision. It is proposed that the principal race shall be pulled in Canton fours, without sliding seats.—The eclipse was invisible in Hiogo also, owing to cloudy weather. However, an earthquake happened in the forenoon; and, as the *News* remarks, they could hardly expect two phenomena in the same day.—The Finance Department has issued a curious Notification, regulating the expenses of Shinto priests when travelling:—

"Travelling expenses are to be allowed to Shinto priests who have their quarters in Tokio, when they are appointed to distant situations or when they are removed from one place to another. Their expenses are also allowed when they retire from the priesthood and return to their native place. The money is first to be paid by the Department of Religion, and it will afterwards be refunded by the Finance Department."—The Osaka correspondent of the *News* says:—Intending visitors will do well to wait until the end of the month, not only on account of the weather, which has been particularly disagreeable, cold, and wet; but because the Exhibition itself is not at its best yet. Among the novel exhibits are dairy produce, milk (condensed) and butter. They are "great on boots" this year, too; specimens of the handiwork of St. Crispin's votaries being brought together from various parts of Japan. The *News* adds:—"The Kioto hotel-keepers are likely to do a good trade this season; in fact they must be doing one already, as every steamer which arrives brings fresh visitors for the ancient metropolis. The Shanghai people especially are [illegible] fares now prevailing. We would advise intending visitors to secure the return tickets, to Hiogo and back for $20, good for three months, as there is no knowing how soon the competing steamship companies may declare a truce, and although we hope and believe that we shall never see the fares at their old exorbitant figures, yet even double the present rates will [illegible] difference."—In view of the forthcoming boat race at Nagasaki, the managers of the K. R. and A. C. are busily occupied in selecting a crew from those who are both able and willing to take part in the contest. Of course it is not always that the most suitable men are to be found amongst those who can spare the time, and in this respect the Nagasakians have an undoubted advantage.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* publishes a translation of a paragraph from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* to the effect that a man, father of a samurai, being a believer in Christianity, on his death-bed requested his son to bury him with Christian rites, but there being no shrines or temples where those rites are known, the son performed the funeral ceremony himself, for which he has been sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment. Upon this, the *Mail* asks—"Are the Japanese about to endanger and even to ruin their new-made reputation for liberality, by persecuting the native Christians again? and concludes some appropriate remarks by saying that Christian nations "will regard the granting of freedom to the Press as a very poor, if not a hypocritical thing by the side of a persecution of the native Christian converts."—Robberies, burglaries, and attempts at incendiarism, says the same paper, have constituted the chief local events of the week, and happy are they who have not missed valuables of some kind. Particulars of some of these incidents are given in the various papers, but none of them appear to have been of any magnitude.—The Rowing Club has ceased to exist for want of subscriptions. A small balance in hand, $77.73, was, at the annual meeting, held on the 2nd instant, resolved to be given as a prize for a four-oared race, to be rowed on the Queen's birth-day.—Another earthquake shock, of short duration but moderate intensity, occurred at half-past six on the morning of the 2nd instant. No great damage was done, but pictures and ornaments were thrown down, and in some instances in Tokio, the walls were cracked. The *Herald* describes it as the most severe shock which has been experienced for several years.—The telegraph between Tokio and Hakodate [illegible] during the week ending the 3rd instant.—A proclamation notifies that the Government reserves to itself the right to employ such steamvessels as have been acquired by Okmasho (*New York, Behar*, and others), in the conveyance of its mails to China and the outports.—A writer in the *Choya Shimbun*, says the *Advertiser*, draws attention to the increasing use of beef, which, he says, a few years since would have been spurned by all but the few Japanese versed in European customs. Butchers' shops are now commonly found not only in the cities, but far in the interior; and the question of future supply is already being agitated, which, the paper quoted is assured, the diminishing herds of Japan are quite inadequate to furnish.—H.B.M.'s Provincial Court was occupied all one day in hearing the case of "Miss Lucy Young *v.* G. T. M. Purvis." It was a claim for $460, deposited by plaintiff with defendant for safe keeping whilst he was manager of the Occidental Hotel. Plaintiff also claimed $100 damages, which she said she had incurred in hotel expenses, through being obliged to stay in Yokohama on account of defendant not returning the money. Defendant pleaded non-indebtedness, alleging that he, as a servant of the proprietors of the hotel, took the money and paid it into the bank to the hotel's account, and that the hotel was thus liable. His Honor gave a verdict for $460 and costs for plaintiff, at the same time disallowing the claim of $100 damages. —A second ship-load (the first having foundered at sea) of Austrian agricultural implements and seeds, has, says the *Advertiser*, been dispatched for Japan. The Japanese commissioners in 1873 were very much impressed with what they saw of Austrian agriculture in and around Vienna, and showed themselves particularly anxious to secure the objects in question for their own country.—*L'Echo du Japon* reports that a samurai living at Tokio, was, during the night of the 31st ultimo, murdered by his own son. The mother of the parricide, after having denounced her son to the law, committed *hara kiri*. The son has been condemned to death by the tribunal at Tokio.—The Kobe *Minato Shinbun* says the construction of the railway line between Osaka and Saikio (Kioto) is rapidly progressing. The section between the latter place and Fushimi is to be completed by next July, and the entire line during this year.—The *Japan Gazette* says the new buildings of the British Legation in Tokio have at length been completed, and H. M.'s representative has transferred the seat of his official residence to the Capital. The premises hitherto occupied by Sir Harry Parkes on the Bluff have been formally handed over to the Japanese Government.—A severe shock of earthquake was experienced on the morning of 2nd instant. Fortunately it was of short duration, and did little or no damage.—New teas will be in the market before the despatch of another mail, and this staple, at least, continues to exibit signs of vitality. Silk is not particularly lively, and the outlook for silk-worm egg producers during next season is anything but satisfactory.—The *Mail* says the eclipse was observed at intervals. The sky was overclouded during a great part of the time. "An interval of about ten minutes occurred during which it could be seen extremely well, the figure of the moon obscuring full half of the sun's surface. That peculiar light, observable during solar eclipses, which seems to change the complexion of nature, was very observable between five and six o'clock. When the sun, still eclipsed, was about fifteen degrees above the horizon, a heavy bank of clouds entirely obscured it, and amid these clouds it set."—A Canoe Club has been formed; one of the rules is that a man must own a canoe and be able to swim. —Messieurs Sewaki and Morowaka, both officials attached to the Foreign Department, have been appointed to visit China upon a special mission.—The Mikado took

a pleasure excursion upon the Sumida river on the 4th. The Empress paid a visit to the Prince of Hosokawa at his residence on the river. When shall we hear of the Emperor of China and his wife doing anything as rational?

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

March 23rd.—The Governor-General Tso Tsung-t'ang memorializes, reporting the facts elicited on an enquiry held into the conduct of the late acting Magistrate of the Yü-mên district, who was accused of levying a surreptitious tax on the opium poppy 私收烟稅. Although the Magistrate himself contended that all he had done was to issue a proclamation warning the people that he would impose a fine on any future cultivation of the poppy, having discovered on his accession to office that the cultivators had gathered in their crop for the year, and being fearful lest they should plant for another harvest,—it is evident that he is merely seeking to escape under cover of a misrepresentation of the actual facts; and the Governor-General asks that he be stripped of his rank in order that he may be regularly brought to trial.—Granted by rescript.

March 24th.—The Governor-General Tso Tsung-t'ang memorializes, denouncing an officer of the rank of Taotai, named Ho Yüan-tsin, whom, after he had been degraded for improper conduct in 1868, at the instance of the Governor-General of Hu Kwang, he took under his orders on the recommendation of that high functionary. A military command was given him, and after a time the restoration of his original rank was solicited of His Majesty. Having been appointed acting Taotai of the An-Suh Intendantship, with the special function of providing for the military requirements of General Sû Chan-piao's force, when operating against Suh chow, Ho Yüan-tsin not only altogether neglected this duty, but actually threw every possible difficulty in the way of the commander he was required to support. The Governor General confesses, with a feeling of mortification, that he has been mistaken in his estimate of the delinquent's capacity, as an officer suited for frontier service, and requests that be stripped of his rank and office, as also that he himself be adjudged a penalty for employing an improper person. (For rescript see *Gazette* of 11th inst.)

March 25th.—No documents of importance.

March 26th.—The Governor of Shensi, Shao Hêng-yü, memorializes reporting the penalties allotted to certain petty officials for their participation in a gambling party, the result of which was the suicide of one of their number, as previously recounted last year.

March 27th.—(1) A Decree. Her Majesty the Empress Kia Shun, from the time when in the 11th year of the reign T'ung Che (1872) she became consort to His Majesty now departed, to be the mistress of the Imperial halls, shewed herself a pattern of virtuous demeanour in the purity and diligence, the gentleness and affability, by which she was distinguished. She waited upon their Majesties the two Empresses Dowager with deference and a willing mind, rejoicing in the manifestation of a filial devotion which was never interrupted. When called upon, in the twelfth moon of last year, to lament the departure upon the Dragon of His Majesty the late Emperor to be a guest on high, Her grief was so excessive that it took the proportions of a fatal illness. This day, to our most profound distress, at the hour of four a.m., She has departed this life. Let She-toh, Prince of Li, Wang Ts'ing-li, the President of the Board of Ceremonies, Kw'eiling, Comptroller of the Household, and Kwei-ts'ing, Vice-President of the Board of Works, arrange with reverence the funereal rites. Let the proper departments attend according to precedent to all other ceremonies befitting the occasion.

(2) A Decree in the name of the two Empresses, expressing their profound sorrow at the calamity which has occurred so unexpectedly, in the decease of Her Majesty the Empress Kia Shun, before even the hundred days of mourning for her late Imperial consort have expired. Her Majesty's remains are to be temporarily deposited in the Show K'ang Kung (a building within the palace), until a time be fixed for their removal to the Yung En Tien (in the park where the remains of the late Emperor are temporarily reposing.) The Prince of Kung is directed to join the commission appointed for the arrangement of the funereal rites.

(3) A Decree, expressing the imperial sorrow on receipt of intelligence of the decease of the Governor-General of the Yellow River, K'iao Sung-nien.

(4).—A Decree appointing Tsêng Kwoh-[illegible] 曾國荃 to the vacant post of Governor-General of the Yellow River. The vacancy as Governor of Shen-si is to be filled by the promotion of the provincial Commissioner of Finance, T'an Chung-lin, 譚鍾麟.

March 28th.—(Court Circular). The Prince of Ch'un and his colleagues paid their respects on their return from the Western Mausolea.

(1).—Liu Kw'ên-yih, Governor of Kiangsi and acting Governor-General of the two Kiang, memorializes acknowledging with humble thanks his appointment to act in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Li Tsung-hi. In a strain of profuse self-depreciation, the newly appointed dignitary declares his unfitness for the post he is called upon to occupy, immediately after he has himself asked leave to retire for a time from public employ for the [illegible] of his health. He proposes proceeding to his new post at Nanking by steamer, leaving Kiukiang on the 23rd February.

(2) The same functionary memorializes—on a date previous to that of the above—requesting leave to retire from the service on the ground of continued ill-health. He is not yet fifty years of age, and has still a right to look forward to a long life, during which he trusts, so soon as his health is restored, to be able to discharge anew his duty to the State.

March 29th.—(1) A Decree, appointing Wên-che 文治 (Superintendent of the Imperial Manufactory at Hangchow), to the post of Taotai of Yen-p'ing circuit in Shansi.

(2) A decree of the two Empresses, adopting the recommendation of the Prince of Kung and his colleagues in favour of a site for the Mausoleum of his late Majesty. The only suitable spot discovered is a piece of ground near the Eastern Hills, which is accordingly to be adopted, with the designation Hwei Ling 惠陵. (N.B.—In selecting the Eastern Hills as the site for the interment of his late Majesty, the usage in force since the foundation of the present dynasty is interrupted. Each deceased sovereign has hitherto been interred at either the Eastern or the Western Hills, situated at a distance of about 100 miles from Peking on either side, in alternate order. The late Emperor, in accordance with this system, should have been interred at the Western Hills; but it is reported that on his Majesty's state visit thither last year, he expressed a strong dislike to the neighbourhood).

(3) The Governor-General of Chihli memorializes denouncing the authorities responsible in the case of an escape of seven prisoners from the jail of the Wei district, of whom three were under sentence of death for homicide, and four others awaiting trial. According to the statement of the jailers, they contrived to wrench off their fetters, and break out of their cages while the jailers were sleeping. The sub-assistant Magistrate or jailwarden has been stripped of his office by rescript, and ordered to be placed on trial.

(4) Liu Kw'ên-yih, Governor of Kiangsu, reports in a postscript Memorial, that toward the close of last year he sent up a memorial beseeching leave to retire from the service on the ground of continued infirmities, which, with a number of other memorials on provincial business, was handed over to one of his couriers named [illegible] addressed to the Memorial Presentation Office, for transmission to Peking. The courier has now returned, and made report to the effect that as he rode post-haste to Peking he encountered heavy storms of rain and snow, which completely drenched his effects. As he proceeded day and night, he did not pay proper attention to the circumstances, and when he reached Peking, although the box containing the [illegible] protected by its many folds of oiled paper from suffering injury, he discovered that the covering despatch had got soaked and had been reduced to a state of pulp by the motion on horseback. He consequently handed over the box of memorials to the Kiangsi Courier Office for safe keeping, and hastened back to the province to make report. The Governor states that the messenger has been flogged for his carelessness, and is sent back with all speed with a duplicate of the despatch. Owing to this miscarriage of his application for leave to retire, the Governor, although his rheumatic affection of the muscles still causes him great suffering, feels bound to obey the commands received in the interim and to proceed to take up his post, ill as he is, as acting Governor-General at Nanking.

March 30th.—(1) The Censor Wang Chao-lan memorializes, stating that, when taking his turn of duty last month as visitor of the Board of Punishments, he found that no less than ten of the inmates died during that single period; and that, on holding his inquest (or inspection) on the remains, he invariably found the bodies to present the most lamentable appearances of emaciation, being in fact simply skeletons. The explanation given by the jailers was that the deceased had been long confined in the prison. The Censor was informed that no small number of the prisoners were ill, and the state of affairs he witnessed caused him great distress. He would observe that the "Yih-King" contains a text enjoining on the virtuous ruler "wise precaution in the infliction of penal discipline." This should be the unalterable rule for those to whose charge prisoners are entrusted; and it is on these grounds that stringent rules exist, limiting the time within which judicial cases must be disposed of. The rules are not, however, strictly observed, owing to an increase in recent years in the number of cases before the tribunal, and the consequence is a perpetually increasing number of prisoners. The effects of starvation and cold, superadded to the torture undergone judicially, cause the inmates of the prison to fall ready victims to any epidemic that may break out; and the result is that, while on the one hand criminals of the deepest guilt escape, by death, the public infliction of the penalty of the law, others, whose offences are not of a capital nature, succumb to the same fate in the midst of their [illegible] The Censor would entreat that injunctions be laid upon the authorities of the Board of Punishments to use greater despatch in disposing of the cases before them, and at

the same time to exercise a vigilant care in the issue of rations and clothing, and in preventing malversation in this respect. The jailers and others should be stringently prohibited from the practice of cruelty or extortion toward the prisoners. (For rescript see *Gazette* of 17th instant.)

(1) The Governor of Kiangsu memorializes, reporting the despatch of the first detachment of the grain-junks for Tientsin. The measures adopted for the shipment by sea of the entire contingent of first and second quality rice 漕白二粮 due on account of the 1874 collection, from the prefectures of Soochow, Sung-kiang, Ch'ang-chow, Chên-kiang, and T'ai-ts'ang, including the rice purchased from the amount collected in money in the two districts of Tan-yang and Kin-t'an in Chên-kiang Fu, have already been reported. requisite number of junks have been chartered by the transportion office, and the grain, as forwarded to Shanghai, has at once been loaded on board. The operation has been completed as regards the first detachment of junks, numbering 180 sail, which have received a total lading of 333,594 piculs of rice, with an extra surplusage allowance of 28,127 piculs. All inspections having been held, the squadron left Shanghai, dropping down to Ts'ung-ming, there to await a favourable wind. In addition to the above-named amount, 100,000 piculs of rice, with 8,000 piculs extra waste allowance, have been handed over to the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company for transmission. A steam gunboat from the Shanghai Arsenal has been detailed to convoy the junk squadron and expedite its movements.

(3) The Governor of Kiangsu further memorializes, presenting the solicitation of P'an Wei, Financial Commissioner of Fuhkien, on leave at his home, to retire from the service on the ground of ill-health. (Granted by rescript).

March 1st.—(Court Circular). The Board of Astronomers presented a copy of the Tables of Calculations for the Eclipse. (N.B.—The "Jih Shih T'u" 日食圖 is a pamphlet drawn up in Chinese and Manchu, setting forth the calculations for the eclipse of April 6th for Peking, each of the provincial capitals of the Empire, and the capitals of Anam and Corea. Each of these occupies a separate page, together with a diagram shewing the extent of obscuration of the solar disk, accompanied by a scale of measurement. The calculations are avowedly based on the "Su Li Tsing Yün" or Imperial cyclopædia of Mathematics and Astromony, published at the beginning of the 18th century).

(1) A decree ordaining that the great Council of State do deliberate with reference to the posthumous title to be conferred on her Majesty, the empress Kia Shun.

(2) The Governor of Yünnan memorializes reporting the amount of contributions by the people of the Province during the years of rebellion, upon which a request for increase in the number of examination degrees is based. Between the years 1856 and 1873, both inclusive, the total to be credited to popular contributions for the expenses of trainbands and local irregulars, amounts to Taels 8,023,442.2.4. In addition to this an amount under the head of *li-kuh* 厘谷 has been contributed in rice to the extent of 2,726,474 piculs, the official value of which is rated at one Tael per picul. The actual total to be credited to the province under the head of money contributions is therefore Taels 10,749,623.2.4. According to the rule established in 1853, for every Tls. 10,000 contributed in any province, an addition was to be allowed of one civil and one military degree at a triennial examination, and for every Taels 30,000 thus contributed the addition was to be made perpetual. Similar advantages were conceded to departments and districts for their respective contributions. In conformity with the tenor of successive regulations, it is now requested that an addition in perpetuity of ten degrees, both civil and military, be made to the limit assigned for the provincial examinations, and of from 110 to 115 similar degrees to the various district examinations.—(Referred by rescript for decision by the proper Board.)

(3) The Prince of Kung and his colleagues of the Grand Council memorialize, reporting the appointment of Fêng-kwang-yün 馮光勛 a titular Secretary of the Board of Punishments and supernumerary Secretary of the Grand Council, to fill a vacancy as Secretary on the establishment, caused by the retirement of Shao Wên-hü, who goes into mourning.

Official Papers.

MEMO. ON THE WOOSUNG BAR.

1st.—The question may be viewed in two ways, (A) as it affects and is affected by the natural and artificial agencies that are working at the mouth of the Yangtsze; and (B) as a mere dredging operation.

2nd.—Viewed as affecting and affected by other agencies, the question calls for a consideration of (A) the action of Nature at the mouth of the Yangtsze; (B) the action of Nature in the Shanghai river, (C) the results of the combined action, and the future of the river, and (D) the future of trade.

3rd.—*The mouth of the Yangtsze.*—The flood tide is felt as far up as Chinkiang. After passing Chinkiang, the down current of the Yangtsze meets a stronger and stronger flood tide as it approaches the [illegible] checked by the flood tide, the current began to deposit silt, and as the deep channel leaves the convex right bank to cross the river and hug the concave left bank of the Yangtsze below "Kiang Yin," the natural tendency to form a bar there marks that as the point from which, seawards, the formation of shoals, middle-grounds, &c., will be most noticeable, until the sea is reached, and the estuary is studded with growing islets.

The silting up in the estuary began long ago, and to-day we have the Yangtsze flowing out to the sea by two channels (1° 1° 1° and 2° 2° 2°) on either side of the island Tsung-ming.

All round Tsung-ming, islets and banks and shoals are forming, but more especially on its seaward side. The tendency is to form a triangular piece of ground—the apex being the upper end of Tsung-ming, and the base extending from Shaweishan, *viâ* the Ariadne and Amherst, to the Yangtsze Cape (3° 3° 3°). Ten years ago, the channel to the north and east of Tsung-ming (2° 2° 2°) was never mentioned, but of late it has been used occasionally, and is spoken of with growing approval. On the other hand, the channel on the west side of Tsung-ming, from Gutzlaff to Woosung (1° 1° 1°) has been narrowing and shallowing, and is likely to present various impediments to navigation in the future. At one point especially (A A A), known as the Beacon Flats, the silting-up is covering so extensive a superficies that the deep channel may either disappear there or become impracticable.

It would be an [illegible] waste of money, and useless fight with Nature, to attempt to keep a channel through the Beacon Flats open by dredging; and it may be regarded as certain that the channel (1° 1° 1°) will have less and less water on it; and that at some future day*—it may be five years hence, or it may be fifty—the only navigable channel to enter the Yangtsze by will be that marked 2°2°2°, from Shaweishan round the north end of Tsung-ming. Moreover, in proportion as that day comes nearer, the part of the channel between Woosung and the north end of Tsung-ming will become less navigable. Whether the down-flow of the Shanghai river will thereon work its way through the dead or checked waters of the Yangtsze, and join the seaward rush of the Yangtsze at the north end of Tsung-ming, or continue to find a way out to sea past Kintoan and the Yangtsze Cape, time will shew.

4th.—*The Shanghai river.*—The dotted line (.....) in the map on the first page is the deep channel of the Shanghai river. It will be seen that this channel hugs the concave sides of the river, and that at X, it leaves the right bank, which becomes convex, to seek the left bank, which grows concave. When a river's deep channel thus crosses from one bank to another, a bar begins to form.

The silt-laden waters of the Yangtsze were forced up the Shanghai river by the *flood tide* from the sea; and after passing Woosung they debouched from a comparatively narrow channel, and found a wide basin where the force of the expanded flood-tide slightly abated, and the down-flow of the Shanghai river (coming round a bend) made itself felt: deposit began, and now there is a large formation known as the Middle Ground or Gough's Island.

At this part of the river (M×M) there are two forces at work—the tendency to form a bar connected with the cross-river channel and the deposit of silt on the flood-tide.

These forces result—the latter in the narrowing of the navigable superficies, and the former in the derangement of the depth of water in the deep channel; (to these two forces may be added any other agencies set in motion, whether by natural causes, such as the down-flow of the Shanghai river, or artificial, such as steamer movements and harbour changes).

5th.—*The results of combined action in the estuary and in the river, and the future of the Shanghai river.*—Supposing that the natural navigable capacity of the Shanghai river be taken to be its depth of water when the tide is out, would not the port be closed to large vessels, were tides to disappear?

Were tides to disappear, the water superficies would certainly narrow,—would the channel deepen? or would it remain as it is? or would it become more shallow? It is on the answer to this trifling query that speculation as to the future of the Shanghai river depends, for it may be taken for granted that the formation of banks, and then dry land, from Shawieshan to the Yangtsze Cape, or even the further silting up of the Kintoan Flats, will result in less and less flood-tide waters in the Shanghai river.

(Indeed it may be quite possible that the want of water on the Woosung Bar during the last two or three years is really more attributable to the action of the uprising Kintoan Flats on the flood-tide, than to the elevation of the bottom of the river at the Bar. Soundings rather support this conjecture.)

In addition to the consideration of a diminishing and disappearing flood-tide, it must also be borne in mind that, from Woosung to the north end of Tsung-ming, the channel (1°1°1°) will gradually grow shallow and be blocked up, and that the

* "As we vaticinated last night, the P. & O. steamer *Orissa* did not succeed in reaching "the steam tender *Dragon* last night, "having been detained below the Beacon "Flats till the morning tide. The mails "arrived in 19 hours from Gutzlaff."—*Shanghai Evening Courier*, 25th Feb., 1874.—Received at Peking, 10th March.

probability is that Shanghai river will bend north after passing Woosung, and join the Yangtsze waters in a not very powerful stream above Tsung-ming, to flow seawards with the Yangtsze waters past Shaweishan. These considerations—the effects of natural agencies—speak badly for the future of the Shanghai river. What of another class of considerations—e.g., commercial?

6th.—*The future of trade.*—The trade consequent on opening the Yangtsze river has so far been diverted into a false channel by the vested rights or the money spent in Shanghai. This agency is in turn being counteracted by the opening of the Suez Canal, through which steamers have begun to pass, making London and Hankow their termini.

The tendency of the S. S. N. Company's steamers' operations is to bring teas to Shanghai; the competition of Holt's line does not altogether oppose this tendency; but Holt's line, a combination of river and sea-going steamers, is being followed by other lines, and this competition will tend to give foreign trade more and more to the steamers which do not call at Shanghai. Even the P. & O. preference for Shanghai will have to move on, and keener competition will weaken the influence of Shanghai's priority and vested rights. Add to all, the competition coming from the Chinese side, which, in ten or twenty years time, will have swept the foreign flag from the coasting trade of China, and displayed the Chinese colours in the London and Liverpool docks. The highway of trade for Central and Northern China will be the Yangtsze. Teas will be shipped at Hankow and Kiukiang, and Shanghai silks and Ningpo teas, at Chinkiang. They will be the return cargoes of the steamers which carry what China may continue to demand from Europe. In twenty years time, Chinkiang will have taken the place of Shanghai as a semi-terminus and trans-shipment port, but its foreign community will naturally be be a smaller one, (political) possibilities aside.*

7th.—Thus looked at, as it affects and is affected by natural and artificial agencies now at work at the mouth of the Yangtsze, the question of the Woosung Bar is seen to mean that dredging there may possibly be nothing more than a means of making the last days of Shanghai a little more comfortable than they would otherwise be; it will not prolong the life or avert the commercial death of the place, but it will make a show of vitality during its declining years more possible.

8th.—*The Woosung Bar, as a mere dredging question*—Can the Woosung Bar be dredged? Of course it can. Can the Channel be kept deep enough for such vessels as navigate the remainder of the river? Certainly; that can be done, but it will be useful to do so only so long as the flood-tide is not more apparently and more decidedly affected by the growth of the Kintoan Flats and the extension of Tsung-ming. When is the flood tide likely to be so affected? That question cannot be answered categorically; but once the silting-up in the estuary has reached a certain point, and the point is being neared with increasing rapidity, the effect of a diminished flood-tide will at once be felt in the Shanghai river to such an extent as to be as bad for the navigation of the river by vessels drawing say 18 or 20 feet, as if the flood tide had disappeared completely. Given the natural and commercial agencies at work, it may be taken for granted that—certainly for 10, perhaps for 20 or 30 years to come, the commercial status and Foreign Community of Shanghai will be such as to make it worth while to prevent the river from becoming blocked up at any one point—for instance by the Woosung Bar. Dredging can do this and no more, and then only for a time; it cannot secure for Shanghai either a navigable channel or a continuance of commercial prosperity.

9th.—*Supposing dredging to be decided on*—operations could not be begun on the spot for from a year to 18 months from the date of authorizing the works to be taken in hand. The first cost would be for a dredger delivered at Shanghai, say Tls. 60,000, and for the first year's work say, Tls. 40,000. Steady work for one year ought to suffice for the cutting of the Channel now required. But supposing the operation to occupy a year-and-a-half, three years [illegible] authorization to the date of declaring the Channel as navigable as it is desired to be. The three years' expenditure would be say Tls 120,000.

Subsequently, work would have to be done every year, to keep the channel in proper order, costing say Tls. 20,000 a-year. Lower estimates would not be safe; even these may prove to be low; still the expenditure of the first [illegible] suffice to shew whether the experiment ought to be persevered in.

The circumstances of Shanghai, its present position as a commercial centre, the interests of its community, and the revenue its yields China, are in themselves sufficient reasons why the demand for dredging ought to be assented to, but it must be borne in mind that no one can say how soon commerce may cease to ask for access to Shanghai, or natural forces acting elsewhere make dredging operations at Woosung useless.

(Signed) ROBERT HART.

Peking, 5th March 1874.

* The Taotai told me that it had been decided to send three of the war vessels built at Foochow, to Europe. Letter from Mr. Glover, Shanghai, 21st February, 1874.—Received 7th March.

Public Meetings.

[illegible] Y. C.

A special general meeting of members of the Shanghai Yacht Club was held on Friday night, present—Messrs. A. J. Little, Commodore, in the chair; G. B. Hill, Vice-Commodore; J. Wilson, J. C. Ashley, J. P. Croal, J. J. Tucker, A. G. Lambert, Committee; Messrs. Dillon, E. H. Oliver, J. H. Vail, W. Gubbins, H. Amoore, W. White, W. H. Rickard, J. Brown, J. Tregaskiss, H. Batten, J. B. Dudfield, and W. H. Hewett, hon. secretary.

The COMMODORE congratulated the meeting on so good an attendance, and hoped it betokened a reviving interest in the sport of yachting. He intimated that the business before them was the consideration of Rule 13, with a view to its alteration. The committee proposed that the rule should read thus—

In addition to the ordinary mode of election by ballot, it shall be lawful for candidates to be proposed and seconded at the general meetings and at the Committee meetings of the Club, without previous notice having been given, and be there and then elected as members by the meeting assembled; and, further, at any time within 48 hours, and up to the time of a race, any gentleman proposed by one member and seconded by another, accompanied by compradore order for his subscription, shall be accepted by the secretary of the club or president of the match, and enjoy all the privileges; provided always that a ballot can be demanded by two members, and should the so-proposed member be blackballed, it shall not disqualify the boat.

After some discussion,

Mr. J. W[illegible] moved as an amendment and Mr. W. HEWETT seconded—

That any gentleman proposed and seconded by a member of the Club, and approved by three members of the Committee, at any time prior to a Corinthian Race, be admitted to the full privileges of the Club, as if he had been duly balloted for.

The amendment was carried by a large majority.

The COMMODORE next said the Committee proposed that No. 20 of the Sailing Regulations should read thus—

There shall be no restriction as to sails, number of crew, amount of ballast, shifting ballast, and number of friends, with the exception only of Corinthian races, when only members of the Club are allowed on board.

Mr. J. WILSON moved as an amendment, and Mr. RICKARD seconded—

That the Committee shall have power to arrange (except for the Challenge Cup, which shall be sailed under one China sail), number of sails, number of crew, and number of friends, that shall be allowed in each race [illegible] conditions of the race.

Carried unanimously.

Messrs. Gundry and Balfour were elected honorary members.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, terminated the meeting

The Committee afterwards sat to make arrangements for the Spring Regatta, and it was decided that the Challenge Cup value Tls. 250, should be sailed for on Thursday, the [illegible] Cup value $50, on Saturday, the 24th; and another Corinthian Cup, value $75, on Thursday, the 29th instant.

MEETING OF TREATY CONSULS.

MINUTES of a Meeting of Consuls held at Shanghai, on the 16th day of April 1875.

Present:—The Consular Representatives for Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Sweden and Norway, and the United States.

Letters from the Consul-General for France, and the Consul for Portugal, stating their inability to attend the Meeting, were read.

The Senior Consul's letter to the Harbor Master in terms of the Minutes of the [illegible] to the Taotai's request that the buoys placed in the Harbor be lighted, and the swinging booms of men-of-war be rigged in at night, in order to avoid accidents to boats such as have occurred sometimes resulting in loss of life, and the Harbor Master's responses to same, were laid before the Meeting. Also the Senior Consul's letter, as above, to the Harbor Master in regard to inflammable and explosive articles on board ship in harbor. After discussion, the following rules were adopted:—

"No vessels except men-of-war may use swinging booms. The swinging booms of men-of-war shall be rigged in from sunset until sunrise."

"No buoy may be laid down without the sanction of the Harbor Master. Unoccupied buoys must be lighted from sun[illegible]

"Vessels arriving with gunpowder, kerosine oil, dynamite, acids, or other explosive or inflammable materials on board beyond the customary stores, must anchor at least one mile below the lower limit, and fly a red flag (No. 5 Marryat's or *B* Commercial Code) at the fore during the day, and all such vessels shall abide by the instructions received from the Customs concerning the discharge of the same."

The Senior Consul then submitted a memorandum which had been prepared by the Harbor Master, with lists,—

1st.—Of the licensed Pilots for the Port of Shanghai.

2nd.—Of the supernumerary pilots.

3rd.—Of the pilots [illegible]

4th.—Of apprentices who have served their apprenticeship, and are waiting for examination.

In this connection a discussion ensued whether pilots should not be allowed to compete for business, making the charges, not to exceed a maximum rate, agreed upon between them and Commanders of vessels; whether the number of pilots might not be still further limited, or whether any limitation is desirable; whether the Harbor Master should be authorised to control the taking of apprentices by pilots; and whether any relief can be extended to the apprentices who are now waiting for examinations. It was determined to make no change in the existing system.

The letter of the Senior Consul, in terms of the Minutes of the Meeting of February, to Messrs. Davenport, Haas, and Yates asking for reports upon the Mixed Court, and reports by Messrs. Alabaster, Haas, and Yates were placed before the Meeting. It was agreed that these should be printed and circulated for the more perfect examination of the several members of the Consular Body.

The Senior Consul reported that the several Consuls had sent to him, as agreed upon at the last Meeting, the names of the Officers preferred by them for the Court of Consuls for 1875, and that the choice had fallen upon Messrs. Medhurst, Annecke, Messrs. Medhurst and Seward, a Committee of the Consuls appointed at their last meeting to deal with the Taotai and the Dutch Engineers, in regard to a survey of the Woosung Bar, presented a report. It was agreed that an offer of Taels 2,500 to cover all expenses of such survey should be submitted to the Engineers in question.

Report of the Committee appointed to deal with the Taotai and the Dutch Engineers in regard to a proposed survey of the Woosung Bar:—

Your Committee have secured from the Taotai a grant of Taels 1,000, and are assured that another like sum will be given by the Steam Companies and general public. Upon this understanding they have communicated with Mr. Korthals at Yokohama, and hope to be able to report soon that the Engineers will undertake the survey for the sum thus provided, with perhaps some allowances for expenses.

Your Committee append the letters which have passed between them and the Taotai. Also copies of telegrams to Japan and Mr. Korthal's answer to the first one.

Shanghai, April 15th, 1875.

Since the foregoing report was prepared, a further letter has been received from Mr. Korthals, saying that the Engineers will accept an offer of Tls. 2,500, this to cover their pay and travelling expenses.

W. H. Medhurst.
George F. Seward.

Shanghai, April 16th, 1875.

A letter from the Danish Consul in regard to the protection of submarine telegraph cables was presented. This subject was referred to a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Keswick, Seward and Haas.

Messrs. Annecke, Medhurst and Seward, a Committee of the Consuls, appointed at their Meeting of the 30th of June, 1874, to consult with the Ratepayers' Committee for the revision of the Land Regulations, submitted a report with a copy of the amended Code agreed upon by the two Committees in conference. It was agreed that the proposed Code should be circulated for examination by the Consuls.

Report of the Committee appointed to meet the Ratepayers' Committee appointed at a special meeting in May last, to prepare a [illegible] Land Regulations:—

Your Committee have met the Ratepayers' Committee, and with them agreed upon a proposed set of Amended Regulations which are presented herewith.

The features of the proposed Code which seem most worthy of notice are as follows:—

1st.—All unnecessary verbiage has been avoided, and the simplest, most brief, and direct language used. This should prove of great advantage in the practical application of the Code, and in translating it into Chinese.

2nd.—The qualifications of Electors and Councilors have been cut down somewhat, to meet changes in the social and business conditions of the community.

3rd.—The powers of the Electors and the Council are defined with greater precision.

4th.—A limitation of the power to borrow money, and partial limitations of powers to impose taxation are provided. These limitations appear desirable in view of the shifting character of the foreign population, the absence of many land renters, and the importance of the Chinese element.

5th.—It is made incumbent upon the Council to give the Consular Body notice of [illegible] information and that of the Chinese authorities, and to take other steps for the public safety.

6th.—An article for the expropriation of lands has been provided. But your Committee have some doubts whether this article can be practically worked.

7th.—Power to make Bye-Laws under the Regulations is given to the Electors, subject to the approval of the Consuls and Intendant [illegible] in other words all minor matters are left for local action. This provision is thought to be very necessary, and likely to avoid complicated references and vexatious delays.

8th.—Powers are given for the taxation of residents on outside roads, and for their admission to Municipal Elections and Meetings, and for the control of such roads, and other outside properties.

9th.—No change is proposed in regard to the tenure of land, but appropriate references are made to the existing system, and to the proprietorship or control of lands surrendered to the public use.

Your Committee invite your scrutiny of these proposed Regulations, and your instructions thereupon.

W. Annecke,
W. H. Medhurst,
George F. Seward.

Shanghai, April 15th, 1875

The two Resolutions in regard to Proxy Voting passed at the Ratepayers' Meeting of June 8th, 1874, the first expressing dissent from the opinion of the Consuls on this subject given in 1871, and the second proposing an Amendment of Article XIX of the Land Regulations, were considered. It was agreed that it is not necessary for the Consuls to re-consider their opinion of 1871, and that so far as the proposed Amendment is concerned, the Consuls, while desiring to forward the wishes of the Ratepayers as expressed in it, ought to point out that the amendment is not explicit and may work some hardship. The amendment reads,—"Provided always that no proxies shall be admitted at such Meetings of Ratepayers actually present in Shanghai." The question may arise under this wording whether the Ratepayer who is immediately outside of the Municipal limits may give a proxy, or whether he must be absent from the port or the Consular district. In either case, the port or the Consular district should be defined. Again, the amendment may be considered faulty in that it does not point out how the question of absence is to be tried. And hardship may happen under the amendment by the exclusion—contrary to the spirit of the Regulations, and of the amendment itself, of the proxies of persons who are ill. The Senior Consul was requested to write in this sense to the Chairman of the Municipal Council.

Sundry current correspondence was placed upon the table, as follows:—In regard to the Annual Election of Councilors for the Municipal Council; the Annual Municipal Meeting, and a Special Meeting; the Taotai's Commutation of wharfage dues, and the prohibition of the sale of game, and also letters in regard to the lowering of the Hongkew Creek Bridge; and a Proclamation of the Paoshan Hsiêu in regard to the Woosung Road.

J. Haas,
Acting Austro-Hungarian Consul.
E. Morel,
Consul for Belgium.
W. Keswick,
Acting-Consul for Denmark.
E. Godeaux,
Consul-General for France.
W. Annecke,
Consul for Germany.
W. H. Medhurst,
Consul for Great Britain.
L. Vignale,
Consul-General for Italy.
E. Shinagawa,
Consul for Japan.
A. Goetz,
Acting Consul for the Netherlands.
A. H. de Carvalho,
Consul in charge for Portugal.
J. E. Reding,
Vice-Consul for Russia.
A. de Garay,
Consul for Spain.
W. Scott Fitz,
Act. Consul-General for Sweden & Norway.
George F. Seward.
Consul-General for United States.

The following are copies of letters which have passed between Messrs. Seward and Medhurst and the Taotai, in regard to the Survey of the Woosung Bar:—

Messrs. Seward and Melhurst to the Taotai.

Sir,—You were good enough to favor us with an interview on the 16th instant, in order to afford us an opportunity of submitting for your consideration a proposition in respect to the Woosung Bar; namely that you should make an appropriation of Taels 2,000 for the purpose of engaging the services of two Dutch professional men, now in the employ of the Japanese Government, to survey and report upon the Bar. This proposition in no way contemplated interference with the general question now under submission to the Peking Government, its object being simply to embrace an opportunity happily offered for satisfying the Chinese and foreign local authorities, at a trifling cost, as to the actual nature and cause of the obstruction, and as to the most practical method of removing it. We were prepared to urge the proposal more warmly in view of the fact that the stay in Japan of the Engineers in question is very uncertain, and that consequently the opportunity to secure their services may be lost, if steps are not promptly taken.

Your first effort on learning our purposes was to represent the inutility of any attempt to improve the present condition of the river entrance, basing your arguments upon certain theories as to the action of the current upon the banks and channels of the river; but it was urged in reply that merely empirical theories can be of no service in elucidating the question, but that what is needed is professional knowledge; and an opportunity being now afforded for securing such knowledge, it should by all means be taken advantage of in the interest of all parties.

You thereupon fell back upon your official responsibilities, pleading firstly, that inasmuch as the matter had been made a subject of reference to Peking, it would be presumption on your part to forestall the result by independent action. Secondly, that if you did sanction the survey, and the result proved favorable to the claims of the Consuls, you would be committing your Government to a course of action which it might not be convenient for them to pursue. And, thirdly, that in any event you could not as Taotai expend public moneys for administrative purposes without previous reference to the higher authorities. We met these objections by representing that a mere survey could not have the effect of anticipating the decision of the supreme authorities, whilst it might be

of service to them in their consideration of the matter; that even if favorable to our views, it need not necessarily commit the Government to act upon the information gained, and that as regards funds we felt assured that a functionary charged with comprehensive administrative and fiscal authority such as yours, must find little difficulty in appropriating a small sum like Taels 2,000 to the furtherance of interests unquestionably public in their character. In support of this last consideration indeed, we had your own acknowledgement that you possessed the ability to make appropriations in certain directions without any reference to the higher authorities at all.

The discussion was protracted through two hours without effect, although we reduced our proposition to an appropriation of Taels 1,000, undertaking to induce the mercantile community to raise the other moiety by contributions amongst themselves, and eventually we took our leave grievously disappointed at the result of the interview.

The above is a summary of what passed upon the occasion, and we desire to place it on record in order to show our Consular colleagues and the foreign community generally, that no effort has been spared on our part to claim from you this very reasonable concession. It will no doubt appear to them as inexplicable as it seems to us, that, after several years persistent representation on our part of an evil which threatens to check the normal developement of this great port, you, as the local representative of the Government, should still be without instructions as to what attitude you should take up in respect thereto, and should prove unable or unwilling to go so far into the matter, as to take a step calculated only to gain for your Government information of a valuable character at an inconsiderable expense.

It is right to add that you were good enough to offer to make a representation forthwith to the higher authorities of this province, in the sense of our modified proposition, namely, to make the appropriation of Taels 1,000; but this we were compelled to discourage, because we felt that the entire cost should in propriety be disbursed by the Government, and because we could not but conclude, judging from the objections which you were so ready to raise, that there was little hope of our receiving a more favorable consideration at the hands of your provincial superiors.

We have &c.,

Shanghai, February 27th, 1875.

TAOTAI TO MESSRS. SEWARD AND MEDHURST.

Shanghai, March 1st, 1875.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your joint dispatch of February 27th, putting on record the substance of the conversation that took place at our recent interview regarding the Woosung Bar. Directly after that interview, I reported the facts to H.E. Li, the Superintendent of Foreign Trade, and I have now had the honor to receive a reply from him in which he says that the reason why no steps have hitherto been taken towards dredging the Woosung Bar, notwithstanding the repeated proposals that have been made, is that the undertaking presents numerous obstacles. But the sum of Taels 1,000 which the Consuls now ask for to assist in defraying the expense of employing Dutch [Engineers] to make a survey, may be given as a matter of favour.

I accordingly beg to hand you the Taels 1,000 for this purpose. Please acknowledge receipt and accept the assurance.

&c., &c., &c.

Translated by
G. JAMIESON.

MESSRS. MEDHURST AND SEWARD TO THE TAOTAI.

Shanghai, March 3rd, 1875.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, inclosing an order for Taels 1,000 to be applied towards the expense of a survey of the Bar by certain Dutch Engineers, &c.

We will communicate in this matter with our Colleagues and the Chamber of Commerce, and thereafter advise you further.

We take this occasion to repeat our declaration that the whole expense of the survey should be borne by the territorial authorities, and that we do not feel satisfied with an appropriation of only one half of the required sum.

We have, &c.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING ON 12TH APRIL, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (chairman), A. G. Wood, G. J. W. Cowie, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting was taken as read.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

Shanghai Volunteer Corps.—Read letter from Major Hart, handing Lieut. Mylne's resignation and requesting [illegible] hold an Election for the purpose of filling up the vacancy.

It was moved, seconded and resolved—

That the resignation of Lieut. Mylne, No. 3 Company, S. V. C., be accepted with much regret, and that the thanks of the Community be conveyed to him for his past services.

The Secretary was directed to request Major Hart to take the usual steps for the election of a [illegible] fill the vacancy.

The Cash State for the 10th April, was handed round for inspection.

Shanghai General Hospital.—It was decided to place an appropriation of Tls. 1,500 for this Institution in the Budget, for the nine months ending 31st December, 1875.

Dues on Merchandize.—Firms refusing to pay re-export dues on goods imported by Chinese in the China Merchants' S. N. Company's steamers, and landed within the limits of the Settlement, on the ground that the import dues on such goods had been paid under the Taotai's commutation.

Decided to address the Consular Body as to whether the China Merchants' S. N. Co. should not be placed on the same footing, regarding liability for Municipal Dues, as the other Steamer Companies, and requesting that the Taotai be urged to increase the amount of [illegible]

Land Tax—re W. H. Fogg.—In view of the hope expressed in Mr. Seward's Judgment, "that the Council will find it convenient to compromise with the defendant upon some equitable basis, as many preceding Councils have done, or to bring the question before the Ratepayers for instructions,"—it was determined that further steps for the recovery of the amount for which judgment was given in the United States Consular Court, in favor of the Municipality, be postponed pending reference to the Ratepayers at the forthcoming meeting.

New Road—Keangsi to Honan Road.—Draft Bond to be executed by Mr. E. M. Smith and the Real Property Association, drawn up by the Council's Legal Adviser, was read and approved.

Lowering Hongkew Creek Bridge.—Read letter from U. S. Vice-Consul-General, covering copy of dispatch from H. E. the Taotai, agreeing to the bridge being lowered two feet.

A member, who asked for plans and specifications, was informed that it was proposed simply to lower the whole of the bridge.

The Secretary was directed to write to Mr. Seward, U. S. Consul-General, thanking him for the trouble he had taken in the matter.

Wheelbarrows.—Decided not to recommend any reduction in the number of licensed wheelbarrows, nor to increase the fee of 200 *cash* per month each, so long as the barrow traffic can be kept under [illegible]

Date of Ratepayers' Meeting.—Decided to suggest to the Foreign Treaty Consuls Tuesday, the 11th May, for the annual general meeting of Ratepayers.

Alteration of Municipal Year.—Resolved to request the Foreign Treaty Consuls to convene a special meeting of Ratepayers to be held immediately after the annual general meeting, to consider and decide on certain alterations being made in the Land Regulations, so as to make the Municipal year co-terminal with the calendar year, and for any other business, of which notice may be given 10 days prior to the meeting.

Shanghai General Hospital.—An invitation from the Chairman of the Trustees of the General Hospital, to the Chairman of the Council to become ex-officio a member of their Board, was accepted.

Reports from Heads of Departments were read and considered.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were approved and passed for publication.

AMUSEMENTS.

S. Y. C. REGATTA.

Judge.....Captain BULLER, R.N.
Starter .....ZEPH. BARTON, Esq.

The CHALLENGE CUP. Subscribed by the Shanghai Community. Value say Tls. 250. [illegible] of any one Race, and when the winner is finally won, second Yacht in contest to receive the $50 Cup. Entrance fee $10.—To be sailed over a course from Moorings off the Recreation Ground, round a stake boat at upper end of Seven mile Reach, and back to Police hulk. To be won at two consecutive Spring Regattas by a yacht, the *bonâ fide* property of the same owner; open to all yachts of the Shanghai Yacht Club. One China sail. Time allowance one minute per foot.—To be sailed under the laws of the Shanghai Yacht Club.

The above were the terms; and the entries for this, the first and principal race of the season, comprised the

		Ft.	in.
Nimrod	G. B. Hill	40	11
Lillie	J. Wilson	38	03½
Phantom	G. P. Chalhen	34	04
Wave	[illegible]		
Charm	C. J. Ashley	35	00

The appointed time for the start was 12 o'clock, and with unerring punctuality the gun fired at that time. All got off on the starboard tack, according to order, the wind being due south, blowing fresh, and the tide just turning flood. The positions drawn, were *Wave* 1, *Nimrod* 2, *Charm* 3, *Phantom* 4, and *Lillie* 5. Position 1 signifies nearest to the Recreation Ground. The *Charm*, after letting go her buoy, fouled that of the *Nimrod*, and a few minutes were lost in getting clear of it. *Nimrod*, *Wave*, *Phantom* and *Lillie* tacked simultaneously off Pootung Point. The *Charm* about this time just cleared from her difficulties. Short tacks were now made by all, hugging the Pootung shore to secure the benefit of the flood, which [illegible] making strong.

The four leading yachts being in such close proximity, it proved difficult to comply with the technical rules laid down for traverse sailing, and in endeavouring to carry out the law as laid down in the book of rules, the *Lillie* and *Nimrod* fouled slightly, opposite to the P. & O. Godowns. In beating through the junks, the respective positions were—*Nimrod*, *Wave*, *Phantom*, *Lillie* and *Charm*, the two former gradually going to the front, the *Lillie* and *Phantom* together, and the *Charm* bringing up the rear. Tunkadoo Dock was passed about 0.40 p.m. without any change in places, but on nearing the Arsenal, the *Charm* took third place, while the *Nimrod* went still further to the front. At Loong-wha, the [illegible] ahead, their followers being an [illegible] mile. On entering the seven mile reach, the *Wave* sprung her mast, and consequently showed signs of distress, first by taking in

a single reef, and shortly afterwards a double reef, and finally by the mast going by the board.

This mishap placed the *Wave* out of the race, and left the *Nimrod* a winner, bar accidents. The *Phantom* took second place, and the *Charm* last. The upper Stakeboat was rounded thus—

	h.	m.
Nimrod	2	49
Phantom	2	58
Lillie	3	02
Charm	3	03

The flood tide still running strong, the shore was closely hugged, and but little doubt existed as to the result; but however, as will be seen by the finish, the *Nimrod* won, and the time allowance barely saved. The winning post was passed thus—

	h.	m.	s.
Nimrod	5	03	28
Phantom	5	11	02
Lillie	5	18	05
Charm	5	21	36

The P. & O. tender *Dragon* attended the race, and a steam-launch from H. M. S. *Modeste* also. The latter rendered valuable assistance to the *Wave*, whilst under difficulties.

Never was there a more exciting race in Shanghai waters, and never was there such good competition. This being the first time the *Nimrod* has come to the front in the Challenge Cup, it still remains an open question as to who will be the final winner.

Our aquatic friends promise us more sport to-morrow, when we are credibly informed that the same field will put in an appearance to compete for a Corinthian cup.

MIH-HO-LOONG CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION.

The shooting for the Mih-ho-loong Challenge Cup, value £50, took place yesterday morning, at the usual range, when, out of a total strength of about 60 members, only [illegible] turned out. The cause of such paucity of numbers is said to be the multiplicity of other sports prevailing in the Settlement, —cricket, pony racing, yachting, and boat racing, to say nothing of racquets—all of which have a tendency to lead away from that amount of practice with the rifle which is essential to success in target competition; and hence so few are found ready to join in the prize-shooting of the Volunteer Corps generally. We throw out the hint for what it is worth, at the same time expressing a hope that the forthcoming recruits' competition will ultimately result in a more numerous attendance at the range on prize-days.

The morning yesterday broke calm and clear, and at 6.30, the time the squad mustered, was in every respect suitable for the work to be done. The ranges were 200, [illegible] yards—five shots at each; but before the second and third stages could be got through, a slight haze obscured the target to some extent, and seemed to promise that the long range would be one of more than usual difficulty; but, fortunately, the mist cleared away just in time, and the final stage was shot in almost as clear weather as the first.

It will be seen from the appended scores that Serjeant Dunman was the winner, the Cup becoming his property, he having now won it twice in succession, the winner on the first occasion having been Private Glass. Five of the competitors received five points each from Sergeant Dunman and Privates Glass and Wyatt; and by a coincidence the [illegible] which, however, both the handicapped men made duck's eggs. Lieutenant R. Mackenzie was officer in charge, and although without previous practice, he consented to shoot, in consequence of the smallness of the squad. The following were the scores:—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	600 yds.	800 yds.	Total.	Handi-caps.	G. Total.
First.							
Sergt. Dunman	3 4 3 4 2	16 r 4 4 3	14 3 0 3 2 2	10 4 3 2 0	49	0	49*
Priv. Hwtrey	2 2 3 2 3	12 0 2 3 3	11 4 4 r 3 4	15 0 3 r 3 0	44	5	49*
,, Watt	3 2 3 2 4	14 4 4 4 3	19 r 3 2 0 3	8 r 0 0 2 0	43	0	43†
,, Adrew	2 3 3 3 3	14 3 3 4 r	17 0 3 2 0 2	7 r 0 0 0 r	38	5	43†
,, Giss	3 0 3 3 3	12 3 3 r 2	12 2 3 4 r 4	13 0 0 3 0 3	40	0	40
,, Burows	3 0 2 0	5 0 3 0 2	8 3 r 3 3 3	12 2 3 2 r 2	34	5	39
,, Dibn	3 2 3 0	10 r 2 2 0	6 0 0 0 r	0 2 3 0 0 0	21	5	26
Lieut. Mckenzie.	2 4 3 r 2	11 0 0 0 0	3 0 0 0 2	2 0 0 3 0	19	5	24

Second.	
Wyatt	4
Andrew	0

Ties.	
Dunman	3
Hawtey	0

We are again requested to mention the fact that the cartridges served out were of very deteriorated quality, rendering the shooting uncertain, and of course unsatisfactory. It is said they have been in store for three years, and it is suggested that, in this climate, a longer storage than one year has a tendency to cause the powder to cake and thus lessen its explosive power.

HANKOW RACES.

First Day, 7th April, 1875.

Dull weather and Course holding, with rain on and off all day.

1.—Spa Pao Cup.

Mr. Monetary's *The Slug* 1
,, Braham's *Windmill* 2
,, Fitz-Arthur's *Surprise* 3

Won by four lengths, a length between second and third. Distance—Once round. Time 2m. 3½s.

2.—Hack Plate.

Mr. Haslam's *King Koffee* 1
,, Minor's *Bosh* 2
,, Cambist's *Catamaran* 3

Won hands down, rest nowhere. Distance—½ Mile. Time—1m. 3s.

3.—Maiden Stakes.

Mr. Monetary's *Rocket* 1
,, Mitchell's *Goloobchick* 2
,, Fitz-Arthur's *Eclipse* 3

Won by a length and a half, half a length between second and third. Distance—¾ mile. Time—1m. 39½s.

4.—Lottery Cup.

Mr. Monetary's *The Slug* 1
,, Mitchell's *Mongol* 2
,, Mitchell's *Cornet* 3

Won by two lengths, a length between second and third. Distance—1½ miles. Time—3m. 41s.

5.—Scurry Plate.

Mr. Thaw's *Monsieur* 1
,, Cherry's *Ting How Jigger* 2
,, Mitchell's *Goloobchick* 3

Won rather easily by half a length. Distance—¾ mile. Time—1m. 43s.

6.—Chaa Shan Cup.

Mr. Fitz-Arthur's *Eclipse* ... } Dead Heat.
,, Mitchell's *Mongol* ..... }
[illegible] 3

Mr. Monetary's *Scud* came in first, but a claim of a foul was lodged against his rider, and allowed. Division for the Dead Heat. Distance—Once round. Time—2m. 14s.

7.—Yang-tsze Cup.

Mr. Monetary's *Rocket* 1
,, Mitchell's *Cornet* 2
,, Basil's *Komar* 3

Won easily. Distance—1¼ miles. Time—3m. 10½s.

Second Day, 8th April, 1875.

Cloudy, course heavy, no rain.

1.—Flyaway Stakes.

Mr. Cherry's *Ting How Jigger* 1
,, Monetary's *Scud* 2
,, Cambist's *Gridiron* 3

Won by a length, same between second and third. Distance—½ mile. Time—1m. 5s.

2.—Taotai's Cup.

Mr. Basil's *Chervonetz* 1
,, Fitz-Arthur's *Echo* 2
,, Michell's *Mongal* 3

Won in a canter. *The Slug* fell shortly after starting, but fortunately the rider was not hurt. Distance—Once round. Time—2m. 9½s.

3.—Visitors' Cup.

Mr. Fitz-Arthur's *Eclipse* 1
,, Thaw's *Shiogoon* 2
,, Monetary's *Rocket* 3

Won easily by two lengths, half a length between second and third. Two Ponies (*Komar* and *Goloobchick*) fell at the same place as *The Slug* did in the previous race, luckily nobody hurt. This accident caused the ponies behind to pull out, thus losing all chance of winning the Race. Distance—1 mile. Time—2m. 18s.

4.—Hupeh Cup.

Mr. Monetary's *The Slug* 1
,, Fitz-Arthur's *Surprise* 2
,, Michell's *Cornet* 3

Won easily by 6 lengths. Distance—2 miles. Time—4m. 51s.

5.—Russian Cup.

Mr. Cherry's *Ting How Jigger* 1
,, Cambist's *Gridiron* 2
,, Thaw's *Shiogoon* 3

Won by ¾ of a length, a length and a half between second and third. Distance—¼ mile. Time—1m. 41½s.

6.—Consolation Stakes.

Mr. Basil's *Roosak* 1
,, Cambist's *Gridiron* 2
,, Braham's *Windmill* 3

Won by half a length, same between second and third. Distance—Once round. Time—2m. 4½s.

7.—Champion Sweepstakes.

Mr. Monetary's *The Slug* 1
,, Fitz-Arthur's *Eclipse* 2
,, Thaw's *Shiogoon* 3

Won by nearly a neck, 3 lengths between second and third. Distance—1 mile. Time—2m. 18s.

Correspondence.

THE CHANNEL OF THE YANGTSZE.

To the Editor of the

North-China Daily News.

Sir,—You have failed to notice the remarkable coincidences between Mr. Hart's memorandum, now so famous, on the mouth of Yangtsze, and two articles which appeared in the *North-China Herald* of the 6th February, 1873. It is however unfortunate that Mr. Hart, in so largely availing himself of the sources in question, should not only have failed to perceive their drift, but have been led into many and grave inaccuracies in speaking of the channels there described. Any claim which Mr. Hart may, therefore, set up for orginality in his description of the changes present and to come, may now be considered as disposed of; but he will find it difficult to account for the evident tendency displayed to limit the facts there presented to him to suit the prejudices of the Chinese Government.

The articles in question described the tendency of the Yangtsze to form a single channel, and spoke of the main stream setting out between Tsung-ming and Bush Island, and thence passing by Drinkwater point to the bar near Shaweishan. They mentioned particularly the closure of the old channel, marked in the charts as lying North of Tsung-ming—the particular channel which Mr. Hart would have people at a distance believe is now opening out, at such a distance from Shanghai as effectually to have sounded the death knell of the port. The articles spoke of the changes going forward at Beacon Spit, and of the causes which have led to the formation and growth of the Middle Ground and Woosung Bar. All these points have been taken up in Mr. Hart's memorandum, in a manner presenting so many coincidences that there can be little doubt whence the facts were derived. It is, however, unfortunate for Mr. Hart's case that, either through insufficient acquaintance with the localities, or with the object of making his remarks more pleasant to the Chinese, he should have permitted the inaccuracies noticed in your leader of this morning, to appear in a document pretending to be official.

The channel North of Tsung-ming exists now only in Mr. Hart's imagination; the channel South of that island, which Mr. Hart confounds with it, is described in one of the articles I have referred to, in the following terms:—

"A strong and deep current sets out between Bush Island and Tsung-ming, past Drinkwater point, towards Shaweishan, within a few miles of which it is obstructed by a bar with scarcely three fathoms of water at low tide. This bar makes the real mouth of the River."

It is unnecessary to point out how very different is this statement of the case from that put forward in Mr. Hart's memorandum.

Mr. Hart speaks of the *certainty* of the Beacon Flats closing up. The article in question remarked:

"Blockhouse Shoal and the Beacon Spit have encroached on one another, narrowing considerably the channel. A few years ago, the lead was a safe guide on entering; but, as at the Langshan crossing, the banks have assumed a steeper edge, so that greater care has to be exercised. The wash through the narrower channel has had the effect of partially deepening it, but in view of the decreasing area of the channel where the Red buoy is, it is more than doubtful how far this increase of depth can for the future be depended on." If the channel by the Red Buoy were to silt up, it was remarked that of course this would have the result of prolonging the channel of the Hwangpoo; but, is added, "It is not that any serious danger exists of the silting up of the river. The area drained by the Hwangpoo is too great to admit of this; but a continuance of the changes which have been in progress for some time back, might readily result in the closure of the small channel between the Red Buoy and Bush Island, while the growth of the shoals off Blockhouse Island prevents direct access to what is now the main channel of the Yangtsze." Every engineer knows that, at the mouth of a river like the Yangtsze, changes of the sort are constantly taking place. That changes will occur is inevitable, but this is no reason that they should be neglected. There is an old proverb that "a stitch in time saves nine," and in no respect is this truer than in guarding fluvial deposits. Except that no further appreciable decrease has taken place in the channel between the Red Buoy and Bush Island, the changes noted as going on in 1873 seem to have progressed much as anticipated. The worst danger to be dreaded for Shanghai was that a large detour would be necessary to enter from the Yangtsze. The river Hwangpoo and its tributaries drain about 9,000 square miles. There is, therefore, no fear that a sufficient amount of water will not be found to keep its channel open. What is to be feared is that neglect may lead it to seek other means of egress, or to extend its waters over a wide and shallow bed, instead of through a deep and comparatively narrow one. The articles in question, on which Mr. Hart has founded his memorandum, were the result of a good deal of personal observation, coupled with information derived from those who were in the habit of making use of the main channels. It is a pity that, in making use of these, Mr. Hart was not more careful to ascertain their exact drift.

Yours faithfully,
THOS. W. KINGSMILL.

Miscellaneous.

A SWIMMING BATH FOR SHANGHAI.

Anything that tends to add either to the prosperity or comfort and convenience of the foreign residents in a place like Shanghai, is worthy of notice; and a subject coming under [illegible] usefulness and comfort, has within the last few days been brought to our notice, consequent doubtless upon our publication of a paragraph describing the introduction of large public swimming baths on the Thames at London. The provision of such places within easy reach of the masses of the population is felt, for sanitary reasons, to be a desideratum at home; and though the same reason does not exist here—every foreigner having bath appliances in his own house, the want of a swimming bath for purposes of recreation has been constantly urged, and more than one scheme for creating one has been mooted. They have however all fallen through, and it has been reserved for individual enterprise to carry out the project.

For the past year and a half Mr. Silverthorne has been occupied with the excavation of a large swimming bath, just at the bend in the river at the present termination of the Yangtsze-poo road, and the water has now been let into it. Its dimensions are 266 feet in length by 99 feet in width; with a graduated depth, from about 3½ft. to 12ft. Soon after the excavation was begun, hard blue clay, much like the famous London clay in colour and texture, was found quite unexpectedly, and thus the bath is naturally almost impervious to percolation either from the inside or outside. Its waters will be constantly fresh, the mode of supply being through what is termed a settling-pond, an excavation of 90 feet by 50, into which the water runs direct from the river at high tide, and where it is allowed to remain for a time sufficient to settle and become clear. It is then conducted by means of iron pipes into the bath proper, the surplus water in which is discharged at the same time from the lower end into the river again. Thus constant purity is obtained, and the water now in the bath is so clear that in the shallower parts the bottom can be seen. The bath is hardly ready for use yet, but is rapidly approaching completion. It is surrounded by a closely-planted hedge of willows, now just bursting into leaf, and, outside these, evergreens have been set, and beyond these again flowering shrubs and plants are to come. The soil excavated has also been utilized to fill up the intervening space between the bath-hedges and the road, along the margin of which more willows are growing, which will prevent overlooking from the road or elsewhere, and render the whole place a quiet retreat. The space between the bath and the road is being sown with grass-seed, and will as soon as possible be converted into a croquet and lawn-billiards ground. Space is also reserved for a smaller bath for ladies, distinct from the larger one in every particular, and enclosed by a triple hedge of the same kind as above described. Bathing boxes are to be erected, facing the river, and each one will be separate; in fact the greatest care has been taken to ensure complete privacy. For the further accommodation of visitors, a convenient chalêt has been built, including tiffin-rooms, bar, and billiard-rooms, ladies' and children's room, &c., and altogether the place seems likely to become one of passing excellence of its kind. Not one of its least recommendations is the unobtrusive manner in which the work has been projected and so nearly carried to completion. It is not at all times either pleasant or safe to bathe openly in river or creek, and therefore, if for no other reason, Mr. Silverthorne's undertaking is to be the more welcomed.

NEWCHWANG TO PEKING OVERLAND.

As I am unacquainted with the inns of the South, I know not whether our Northern inns would compare favourably with them. On account of the enormous [illegible] to the north of Newchwang, large inns occur every few [illegible], separated by much greater distances on the way to Peking, but their construction is the same in Manchuria and Chihli.

Every house in the country has its own compound wall, composed of a mixture of straw and mud, and from four to seven feet high. The inn compound is ordinarily larger than that of the largest private house, and is easily recognised, for it throws open its large gate at dawn, closing it only with night. This mud wall is greatly reduced by our heavy summer rain, and requires periodical patching to prevent its being washed away. Inside the wall is a compound of some roods in extent.

Towards evening, carts are ranged in this compound in long rows from side to side, the first arrived taking [illegible] most convenient for the early morning start. The horses, mules and donkeys are also ranged in similar rows, each team having its own trough. There is not the slightest attempt to shield these animals from even the bitterest cold. The clear, bright, blue sky is overhead and the bare flinty earth underneath them. They are fed on the chopped straw of the "small" millet, over which water and bran are poured. Their desert consists of a liberal allowance of the common millet, which very much resembles barley in taste. The Chinese driver feeds his animals well, and is rarely guilty of cruelty.

The inn proper is a long line, or two parallel lines of houses, running East and West and facing South. The walls are made of brick, the outer half burnt, the inner sun-dried. They are fully 10ft. high, and, except in the cities, have flat roofs, the centre of the roof being one foot higher than the eaves. The beams support rafters; these, millet stalks; and millet stalks, mud, which has to be renewed every spring and autumn. In the centre of the long building is a door leading into the culinary department, and opposite, another opening to the North. To the East and West of this kitchen is built the "kang," running alongside of each wall to each end of the building. In the better inns, one half is divided into compartments, each with its own door and bar, and its own fire-place, and capable of accommodating four people. The other half, and in the smaller inns the whole, is completely open, and here carters lie huddled together.

The kang is 6ft. wide, by 2½ft. high. It is built with a facing of brick, five or six flues, or channels for smoke running along the whole length, communicating with the large hole, which forms the fire-place, and with the chimney at the other

end of the kang. Across these flues is laid a row of burnt brick, air-tight, to prevent the smoke escaping. Over this row of bricks is placed a straw-mat; above the straw mat, the usual small table one foot high. Chairs and tables exist, but are rarely used, the kang being sitting room, dining room and bedroom. The traveller throws his rug over the mat, his body over that, another rug over all, and sleeps most soundly, after a day's journey in the open air, beginning at 2 a.m. The fire is always of the never failing millet stalk, thrust into the fire-place; the smoke of this fire is retained in the large flues and the kang is soon heated. Thermometer, about zero, speedily reconciles one to the heat.

We daily fell in with droves of black swine, from fifty to a thousand in a drove. [illegible] travelled towards the capital at the rate of thirty *li* per day. The driver leaves the "Bien-wai" with a lot of pigs, small and lean, and no cash in his pocket. There are inns in nearly all the villages for the special accommodation of these slow travellers, where they are so sumptuously fed that they grow to a great size, and make as much fat as they can carry. When the driver wants money, he sells a pig, so that [illegible] easy to understand how it is that pork, like millet, becomes dearer as we approach the capital.

We saw great numbers of labourers from Chihli and the provinces to the South and South-west, who had finished their spring and autumn service in the Chinese settlements in Eastern Mongolia and Northern Manchuria, the region which supplies the droves we have just mentioned. They carried their wages (or, I should say, their wages carried them) in the form of small mules and donkeys. When hard up, these men followed the example of the swine-herd—live animals of all kinds being cheap in "Bien-wai," and growing in value the further they go.

When returning, the rivers were frozen over. What seemed to me a remarkable [illegible] over every stream (and their name is legion) there was a bridge made for use in winter, to accommodate the considerable traffic passing through the Fakua-mun to the West. These bridges were composed of millet stalks, thrown across beams of wood resting on posts from one to three feet high. The bridge was constructed at a trifling cost by a few of the neighbours, who demanded exorbitant rates from all carts. Carts from the same districts generally travel together, as well for companionship as mutual protection. On coming up to a bridge, the man who leads has to haggle for reasonable terms for his company. That party gone, the next leader follows suit, and thus a great deal of time is wasted. Mandarins alone take the right of the strongest; the ordinary carter, though followed by a hundred carts and opposed to a single bridge-keeper, never attempts to force his way. Many carts hoist the yellow flag of the Imperial household, as if carrying goods for the Emperor, in order to get rid of these vexatious pontages. Whether or not the device was at first successful, it does not now deceive. At one place, North of Jinchow, my cart came up late in the afternoon to a bridge, on the other side of which was a double row of carts, as far as my eye could see. One of them was on the bridge. Two hours was the shortest time in which it was said they could all cross. They were at the mercy of the bridge-man. It was impossible my cart could cross unless I descended, compelled the man on the bridge to let that first cart pass, and stand before the next to prevent his moving. This I had to do once, but I was loth to use the power which, as a foreigner, I had in my hands. In answer to a query, the toll-man eagerly cried out there was no possibility of crossing the ice above or below the bridge. Going forward to examine for myself, I found a small artificial bank of earth and millet stalks made at each side of the stream, which was almost level with the plain. The earth had been saturated with water in order to freeze and render it impossible for laden carts to cross. The object was evident, for thus the bridge was the only thoroughfare. In spite of the expostulations of the toll-man, I urged my driver to cross this embankment, and he did, as the cart was light. This bridge business is one of the cleverest devices for extorting money I have seen.

As soon as streams and pools are frozen over, hundreds of natives dig open a small well, 2 to 5 feet deep. These wells occur, sometimes a solitary one, sometimes many together, every 3, 6, to 10 *li*. Beside these wells are watertight troughs made of wicker work, out of which the thirsty draught animals drink as often as 6 times a day, for though our thermometer shows great cold, our atmosphere is so dry that draught animals are always hot. The charge at those wells is one cash per head. To the carter the well is extremely useful, while to the well-keeper, it seems more profitable than the ridiculously small charge would lead one to infer.

Small farmers are frequently met with who come to the road-side with bundles of their own straw or bags of their own grain, which they sell to the carter at a somewhat less figure than is charged at the inn. When the weather becomes very cold, they throw up a shield of millet stalks to protect them from the North and North-east winds. Sometimes they make three sides to their "shed," and in the more advanced stage, four sides and a roof with a mud coating. Occasionally, this substitute for the emigrant "shanty" is made the home of the petty trader.

Thousands of natives find a winter's occupation in following the carts, and the eagerness with which they strive with and jostle each other for the precious manure is amusing. The lean, hungry dogs attempt [illegible] the crow, he is nowhere to be seen, knowing well he has no chance.

As to the robber system—it is a scarcely legitimate inference that they are in possession of the country. They infest only the barren and sparsely populated districts, not daring to approach the cities and well populated road-side, except when they spring upon a village to hold it at ransom. The system is certainly chronic. The soldier has no pleasure in facing his more brave brother plunderer, and it is only after some great outrages at the beginning of the autumn and winter campaign, that an earnest attack is made, and from the small number of killed and wounded, compared with the numbers supposed to be ho'ly fighting, we infer that no attack is ever very serious. It is supposed that soldiers have good reasons for acting prudentially—the people believe it is "thief catch thief," and the catching in such a case depends on circumstances. I know not if there be any good grounds for supposing the small Mandarins capable of winking at a good deal of disorder, "for a con-si-der-a-tion." The father of the Mahommedan butcher who met me at Tien-jwang-tai, when starting for Peking, was sometime ago apprehended on the charge of complicity with the robbers. Several robbers were taken and decapitated at the time, but no charge was found proven against the aged prisoner. He would be set free on payment of Tls. 140. He offered Tls. 20 less; but less would not suffice, and for lack of the money he lay in prison. During his imprisonment, he has had 2,800 blows of the bamboo. To-day there were four robbers beheaded, three of the same surname as the prisoner. He heard of it, and some time after was found dead, fear having killed him. This was as respectable a man as was in Tien-jwang-tai. How much prizes of this sort help to keep the robber gangs from extinction cannot of course be ascertained. I believe a few military posts, well selected, would put an end to the nuisance. Shortly after my return from Peking, the route over which I had travelled was cleared, and the way to Moukden has been free all winter.

Some few days ago 800 soldiers were despatched to Fung-whang-chung, on the Corean border, to relieve that town, which was said to be besieged by several hundred robbers from the East and North-east—the "Bien-wai," neither Chinese nor Corean territory, though the robbers are all Chinese, and, as usual, principally Mahommedans.

I have heard it several times stated among the natives that if a man once casts in his lot with these robbers, he is entangled for life. They are sworn to defend each other, and they take care to revenge an attack upon one of their number—hence the natives are not eager to accuse or injure a robber. On the same principle of self-defence, a deserter is regarded as an enemy. Such desertion is supposed sure to lead to the divulging of names of some of his old associates; and like despotism of all kinds—whether monarchical, oligarchical, or anarchical, this robber fraternity thinks a quiet stab in the dark is the surest secrecy. Hence a reformed robber is never met.

There are believed to be many robbers in this town. But Manchurian robbers imitate the fox, so largely worshipped here, and never steal from the roosts of their neighbours. These go to a distance, while strangers come here.

Russia has not left her Baltic home to improve the barren solitudes of Siberia, nor does she regard the mouth of the Amoor as the finest port in the North of China. If she could raise this robber system into a petty rebellion, it would by-and-bye give an excellent opportunity for interference in the affairs of a province which could not manage its own business. A few thousand men sent across the Amoor would serve her purpose; and she could without very great difficulty gain an extensive kingdom, wealthy in all mineral resources, and a teeming population ready to work them. Her railways are not yet completed, but the future will develop greater improbabilities.

I am &c.,

John Ross.

Newchwang, 25th March.

THE CRAWL OF THE SILK WORM.

Under the above heading we gave, in 1868, in tabular form, the stocks, imports deliveries and prices of Silk, for the previous 27 years, as set forth in the tables of Messrs. Frederick Huth & Co. We now continue the tables to the close of 1874, availing ourselves of a circular of Messrs. Durant & Co.

Year.	Stock. Bales.	Imports. Bales.	Deliveries. Bales.
1830	20,672	22,741	25,303
1831	18,106	22,364	20,501
1832	19,505	21,565	21,797
1833	19,214	19,779	23,698
1834	15,321	22,822	27,840
1835	10,243	25,263	27,309
1836	8,230	32,113	27,698
1837	11,839	32,658	29,283
1838	15,524	23,064	26,297
1839	12,611	23,621	25,716
1840	10,766	23,509	22,746
1841	11,701	22,204	23,208
1842	10,572	23,333	22,075
1843	12,046	21,908	22,820
1844	11,160	27,789	25,446
1845	13,331	31,361	28,830
1846	15,720	37,006	32,162
1847	18,015	35,464	37,030
1848	16,766	38,883	37,228
1849	18,491	39,589	39,886
1850	18,447	41,613	39,615
1851	20,821	39,263	40,456

Year.	Stock. Bales.	Imports. Bales.	Deliveries. Bales.
1852	19,277	47,640	44,691
1853	22,234	55,643	54,623
1854	23,248	75,802	68,896
1855	29,883	65,093	72,005
1856	23,571	77,175	82,539
1857	18,113	114,416	73,779
1858	58,154	62,433	93,505
1859	27,082	93,154	95,261
1860	25,112	88,325	82,993
1861	30,572	79,972	75,650
1862	34,791	90,779	90,995
1863	34,535	80,862	76,943
1864	38,260	49,745	67,616
1865	20,563	63,679	57,946
1866	26,596	44,424	46,605
1867	24,415	50,099	46,791
1868	27,633	61,933	54,750
1869	34,816	46,839	51,724
1870	29,931	60,820	52,754
1871	37,997	72,062	63,711
1872	46,348	63,832	59,128
1873	51,052	53,359	56,044
1874	48,367	52,881	55,115
1875	46,133		

PRICES 1ST JANUARY.

Year.	Tsatlee.		Taysaam.		Bengal.		Japans.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1830	140	a150	123	a129	100	a160		
1831	160	170	130	136	126	180		
1832	140	150	130	136	100	150		
1833	130	146	123	126	100	160		
1834	190	200	170	176	146	200		
1835	190	210	166	169	120	200		
1836	220	250	206	210	146	230		
1837	190	250	160		130	220		
1838	170	230	160	170	136	200		
1839	180	250	206		140	220		
1840	210	256	None.		130	210		
1841	190	236	do.		120	190		
1842	180	216	do.		96	190		
1843	170	210	do.		90	180		
1844	190	236	do.		96	180		
1845	180	230	do.		86	190		
1846	150	190	140	150	90	180		
1847	130	180	100	116	80	170		
1848	106	160	100	106	70	140		
1849	126	170	110	126	80	140		
1850	140	190	120	136	60	150		
1851	170	220	140	166	66	190		
1852	160	200	130	166	66	166		
1853	160	196	146	176	80	176		
1854	160	200	146	180	100	196		
1855	140	186	110	140	76	180		
1856	150	196	110	156	70	190		
1857	230	260	190	236	140	310		
1858	150	186	106	150	110	230		
1859	196	230	156	196	100	230		
1860	210	266	186	216	110	266		
1861	206	250	140	206	120	250	150	300
1862	160	220	120	170	76	200	120	250
1863	190	256	150	200	86	236	160	276
1864	186	240	176	210	100	210	170	260
1865	230	270	200	246	140	250	220	286
1866	270	330	210	280	150	316	246	360
1867	260	340	196	296	150	310	240	360
1868	210	310	180	250	130	290	190	356
1869	200	310	180	240	130	316	200	350
1870	216	320	190	250	130	290	210	320
1871	236	310	190	260	130	256	210	290
1872	236	310	180	270	100	246	196	286
1873	216	310	186	270	100	266	190	300
1874	150	250	120	196	90	226	140	256
1875	120	216	100	160	80	170	140	210

FOREIGN *versus* CHINESE STEAMERS.

The following is a translation of a letter published a few days ago in the *Shunpao*, regarding the status of foreign and native steamers.

"I read with much interest your two able and straightforward articles on the transport of Government grain, and the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.

A native, myself, of the Central Provinces, I have resided many years as merchant in Shanghai. Having in this capacity been a large shipper to the Yangtze and Northern ports, I have acquired some insight into the position of the carrying trade, and venture to lay before you a few facts which will probably prove of interest to your readers.

The quantity of Rice to be shipped this year to the North by our Government is 1,270,000 "Shih"—equal to about 1,800,000 piculs; of this 448,000 "Shih"—*i.e.* about 627,000 piculs are to be conveyed by the China Merchants', the balance having to go forward, as heretofore, by junks *viâ* the Grand Canal or by sea route. Before reading the two articles in question, I had already heard it stated amongst my friends that the Foreign Companies had made a tender to the Tsung-li Yamên for the conveyance of Government Rice, but the terms were mentioned in a general way only as one-half of the present rate allowed to the China Merchants'; which varies materially from the statement put forward by your journal. At the same time, our Government would still be able to save about Tls. 100,000 per annum if the proposal were accepted—a matter of no small consideration.

As far as my memory tells me, this is not the first occasion of Foreigners directing their attention to the profits obtainable on the Rice transport; for I remember that in former years a certain firm offered, I think it was at 2 mace per picul, to convey the grain by steamer. The reasons then advanced by the Government for preferring to pay a higher price to the junks, was that a large population was engaged in this branch of trade, and that, if transferred to Foreigners, those depending on it for a livelihood would be reduced to destitution. But the Government, in at present entrusting the transit to to the China Merchants', is deserting the interests of junk-owners without deriving any pecuniary advantage—a policy which would certainly appear irreconcilable with principles of justice.

The arguments advanced by the China Merchants' are that the Government, in entrusting them with the grain transport, desires to throw in their way the means of making a handsome profit; in order that, in their trade along the coast and up the rivers, they may be able to cut under Foreign vessels in cheapness of freights, and thus compel them to transfer their field of operation to other waters. But being myself a merchant, and consequently interested in the future of the carrying trade, I would beg to put forward a few plain-spoken remarks, which will be found to be not without significance.

Cheap freights and attention to the convenience and interests of the shipper are the two great desiderata looked for by the trader. Now, the China Merchants' Co., it will be found, is entirely under the charge of Cantonese—no other Province man being in the management. And, although there are many able and honorable men amongst them, as my acquaintance with them proves, it is to be feared that they are not very experienced in the conduct of foreign steamer shipping trade; otherwise, whence the necessity for employing foreign captains, mates and engineers? On the other hand, Foreigners have all their years been engaged in the business, and cannot but be thoroughly skilled in its various branches. Let us take, for instance, the foreign Steam Navigation Companies of Shanghai. Their vessels are all of superior build and strongly equipped, their wharves and godowns are roomy and convenient, and in their rivalry with each other, speed of vessel and facility to the shipper form their great aim. In the trans-shipment of cargo and advances made on shipments, the interests of the merchants are all abundantly attended to, and it may said in fine that in no country in the world are greater facilities held out to the shipper than in China. Therefore, when the Cantonese appeal to us to ship all our cargo by their steamers, I reply and ask why should we, the merchants of other provinces, do this?

That all the Steam Companies should vie with each other is undoubtedly to the interest of merchants. Supposing, now, that the China Merchants', depending on their rice conveyance profits, were really able to run off Foreign vessels? I would then ask, what would be the result to us, merchants of the Central Provinces? We should see but one Steam Navigation Company in the country, the China Merchants' managed by Cantonese and controlled by the mandarins; and, while freights would be raised to a high level, there would be no guarantee that the interest of the shipper would any longer be attended to. In fact, the entire position of things would probably be reversed, and the owners of the goods have to solicit the Steamer Company as a favor, to convey their cargo. For this is but what the monopoly by one Company points to.

But this is not all. If the officials felt inclined to increase duties, the road to do so would be simplified, and they might even go further and heavily tax the Company. The end would then be heavy duties and high freights to the merchants—a burdensome tax and decrease in the shipping trade to the Company. The latter might find it difficult to make both ends meet; and inefficiency in the equipment of their boats would naturally follow, and conveyance by vessel would be fraught with danger. When matters had arrived at this stage, where then, I would ask, would be the merchants' interests?

The trade between the open ports has hitherto owed its steady development to the advantages held out by foreign vessels and to the adherence to a fixed tariff of duties. By now abandoning foreign vessels, should we Chinese merchants be paying regard to our own welfare?

While referring to your two articles, the above remarks have at the same time been elicited by a statement which appeared in the *Wui-pau*, stimulating Chinese merchants to ship all their cargo by the China Merchants' steamers. My ideas are perhaps crude, but they may yet be considered worthy of being placed before your readers; and I hope you will give them publicity.

AN EXPERIENCED MERCHANT.

THE OUTRAGE IN YUNNAN.

(Rangoon Gazette.)

It is not to be supposed that the King of Burma should be suspected of complicity in the check which Colonel Browne's Embassy has received, and in the murder of Mr. Margary. While we are perfectly willing to wait, before giving our verdict, for the fuller information, which, we trust, will not be long in coming, we cannot but feel it right to place before our readers those considerations which induce all who know Mandalay and its King to believe in the *mala fides* of that monarch.

It is well-known that Major Sladen's expedition, though outwardly patronized by the King of Burma, was secretly and effectually opposed by him, and that whatever success it attained, was achieved by the skill and conduct of its leader, in spite of the strenuous opposition of the Burmese Government. It is now also well-known, that a full account of all this was printed in Major Sladen's first report, which was suppressed by order of the Government of India. When the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner visited Bhamo in 1870, a Saubwah or Chieftain made his appearance on board the steamer, and openly boasted, as he had often done before, that he had received the royal orders not to allow Sladen's party to return, and that he had disobeyed those orders. That same Saubwah is now in Mandalay, petted for the present, and silenced by the King.

It is well-known that the most hateful English name that can be mentioned to the King is that of Sladen, who had the audacity to return in safety against the royal wishes.

It is fair to ask those who would be the apologists of his Burmese Majesty, why it was that the King positively and persistently refused his consent to Colonel Browne's party proceeding from Mandalay along the Thainee Route? Why did he shut the party up to the one route through which his own embassy was to pass in advance of them? Why did not that embassy take another route, or go with or after the English party? Why was the King so sulky and displeased when he heard of Mr. Margary's success?

It will greatly confirm our suspicions if we find that between Margary's first visit to Manwyne, where he was so well received, and his second when he was treacherously murdered, the Burmese embassy had passed through that town. Public opinion in Europe and India will demand a rigid investigation into this matter, and England surely is strong enough to punish the wrongdoer, whether he be a wild robber chief or the so-called Golden-footed Lord of the White Elephant. His Majesty, if innocent, will of before the world. And though we cannot but distrust him now,—none more than ourselves would rejoice to find our suspicions groundless.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, April 13th.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge.*

Henry Everall, William H. Short, *and* Henry Dyer *(trading together as* Hall and Holtz,*)* *v.* John West.

Application for an Injunction.

Mr. Wainewright for the plaintiffs.
Mr. Hannen for the defendant.

Petition.

1.—The plaintiffs are Ship Chandlers and General Storekeepers, carrying on business in partnership at Shanghai, and the defendant is a Tailor, carrying on business at Shanghai.

2.—By an Agreement, dated the 27th of November 1871, made between Henry Knight, since deceased, and other part, the defendant, for himself, his executors and Administrators, agreed with the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, and the survivors or survivor of them, amongst other things that he, the defendant, would, during the space of three years, to commence from the day he should arrive in Shanghai, serve as Foreman, Cutter and Manager of the Tailoring and Outfitting Department of the business of them, the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, and would not at any time thereafter correspond with any person or persons corresponding with the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, nor use or have any traffic or dealing in the way of the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, either for himself or for any other person or persons other than the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, or some or one of them, first had and obtained for that purpose; and that he, the defendant, would not at any time thereafter enter into the service of any other person or persons, nor set up in business for himself at Shanghai, without the written consent of the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, or the survivors or survivor of them. In consideration of all which said services to be done, observed and performed by the defendant, they, the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, did promise and agree to and with the defendant, his executors and administrators, that they, the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, would at their own costs and charges find and provide a passage for the defendant to Shanghai; and also would pay unto him the sum of £300 by way of salary for the first year of the said term of 3 years, and the sum of £350 by way of salary for the 2nd year of the afore said term and the like sum of £350 by way of salary for the third and last year of the aforesaid term; and would during all the said term find and provide for the defendant sufficient board, meat, drink and lodging, and by the said agreement it was also provided that, if the defendant should continue in the service of the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, or the survivors or survivor of them, until the expiration of the said term of 3 years, they, the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs, or the [illegible] expense (provided the defendant should, immediately after the expiration of his service require it, but not otherwise) find and provide for him a passage home to England, as from the said Agreement, when produced to the Court, will more fully appear.

3.—In pursuance of the said Agreement, the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs paid the defendant's passage to Shanghai, where he arrived on or about the 20th of January 1872, and he thereupon entered into the service of the said Henry Knight and the plaintiffs as Foreman, Cutter and Manager of the Tailoring and Outfitting Department of their said business, and continued in such service for the full term of three years, and was provided with board, meat, drink and lodging, and was paid his salary according to the terms of the said Agreement.

4.—The said Henry Knight died on or about the 6th of July, 1872, and since his death the said business referred to in the said Agreement, has been carried on by the plaintiffs alone

5.—In the month of September, 1874, the plaintiffs gave the defendant notice that they should not require his services after the expiration of the said term of three years, and that at the expiration of the said term they should be prepared to secure for him a passage to Europe.

6.—The defendant never applied to the plaintiffs to provide him with a passage to Europe, although the plaintiffs have always been ready and willing to provide him with one, but he left the plaintiffs' premises on the 3rd of January, 1875, and shortly afterwards he entered into the service of or into partnership with Messrs. Silverthorne and Co., who are carrying on the business of Tailors and Outfitters in Shanghai. The exact nature of the arrangements between the defendant and the said Messrs. Silverthorne and Co. is unknown to the plaintiffs, but the defendant is advertised as manager of the said business.

7.—In the month of February last, the plaintiffs caused to be written and sent to the defendant a letter drawing his attention to the fact that he had by the said agreement, hereinbefore set forth, bound himself not to enter into the service of any other person or persons, and not to set up in business for himself at Shanghai, without the written consent of the plaintiffs, and giving him notice that, unless he withdrew from all connection with the said Messrs. Silverthorne and Co., they, the plaintiffs, should take legal proceedings against him. To this letter the defendant has given no reply, and he still continues in, or in the employ of, the said firm of Silverthorne and Co.

8.—The acts and conduct of the defendant set forth in the 6th and 7th paragraphs of this petition are calculated and likely to inflict substantial damage and injury upon the plaintiffs.

1.—That an Injunction may issue to restrain the defendant from continuing to carry on business in Shanghai in connection with the said firm of Silverthorne & Co., either as a partner or as a shop or salesman, traveller, clerk, manager, cutter, assistant, or in any other capacity; and also to restrain him from exercising or carrying on in Shanghai the trade or business of Draper, Tailor or Outfitter, or either or any of them, or any other trade or business carried on or to be carried on by the plaintiffs or other, the partner or partners for the time being of the said firm of Hall and Holtz, in Shanghai, or from engaging with any person or persons, firm or Company, carrying on the said trades or businesses, or any of them, at Shanghai, as shop, or salesman, traveller, clerk, manager, cutter, assistant, or in any other capacity whatsoever.

2.—That the plaintiffs may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

The Answer.

Of the above-named John West, the defendant to the petition of the above-named plaintiffs, shows as follows:

1.—The defendant admits the allegations contained in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th paragraphs of the petition.

2.—As to the allegations contained in the 6th paragraph of the said petition, he admits that he has entered the service of Messrs Silverthorne and Co., but denies that he is a partner in the said firm.

3.—As to the 8th paragraph of the said petition, the defendant denies that his acts and conduct are calculated or likely to inflict substantial or any damage and injury upon the plaintiffs.

4.—And the defendant further says that the plaintiffs, on or about the 10th day of September last, in writing [illegible] upon his accepting another situation in Shanghai, and consented to his so doing.

5.—Moreover, the defendant contends that the agreement set out in the 2nd paragraph of the said petition is unreasonable, and such as a Court of Equity will not enforce.

6.—And the defendant further says that the plaintiffs led him to believe that they would consent to his entering into the service of any person or persons carrying on business in Shanghai, and thereby induced the defendant to forego his right to a passage home upon the expiry of his agreement; and by false reports as to the ability and sobriety of the defendant, endeavoured to prevent, and for a time did prevent, his obtaining employment, and are now, that he has succeeded in finding such employment, endeavouring inequitably and contrary to the representations formerly made to him, by which he was induced to forego his right to a passage home, to prevent his continuing in such employment; and also endeavouring, after having induced him to give up the means of leaving this place, by false reports and by the present inequitable proceedings, to prevent his obtaining his livelihood in Shanghai, by himself, or in the service of any person in any capacity whatsoever

And the defendant therefore prays that the petition of the plaintiffs may be dismissed with costs.

Mr. Wainewright, in opening, said this was an application, on behalf of Messrs. Hall and Holtz, to restrain the defendant from carrying on business in Shanghai, either on his own account or as an employé of any other person. The case rested upon an agreement which the defendant entered into with the plaintiffs and a late partner of theirs, by which he bound himself to serve for three years, and at any time thereafter not to correspond with any person with a view to entering into business in the same way as the plaintiffs, without the written consent of the plaintiffs; also further, as was shown in the agreement, not at any time thereafter to set up in business for himself without their consent. The allegations of the petition were admitted, with the exception of those in paragraphs 6 and 8; therefore he (Mr. Wainewright) would not be called upon to prove the agreement, or the fact that the plaintiffs had performed their part of it. It was not denied that the agreement was for three years, and that it was one of the terms of the agreement that, at the termination of the defendant's engagement, he should be provided with a passage home. Part of the defendant's answer was taken up with some passages relating to that, and which he (Mr. Wainewright) hoped to be able to disprove. In paragraph 2, the defendant said he entered the service of Messrs. Silverthorne & Co., but he also said he was not a partner. As to the passage home, it said the plaintiffs, on or about the 10th of September last, withdrew the restriction in writing. Defendant further said the plaintiffs had, by detrimental reports, sought to injure him. The plaintiffs would be called, and would state what had passed between the defendant and them as to the passage home and his engagement in business in Shanghai. Some letters had passed between them, and one, dated September 10th, was that alluded to by the defendant in paragraph 4 of his answer. The reply of the defendant to that letter had been lost, but notice had been given to defendant to produce a copy. If that could not be done, he should be able to prove the answer generally. It was sent on the 12th of October following, and was to the effect that the defendant was unable to obtain another engagement, and asking for full pay until his arrival in England. This was declined by the plaintiffs, but they offered to give him half his passage. Defendant to that replied that he would remain in plaintiffs' employ until the expiration of his agreement, on the 25th of January. The plaintiffs then wrote to the defendant as to the clause in the agreement respecting his passage home, and said they were prepared to carry that out, sending him by the next mail steamer. To that letter the defendant made no reply. With reference to the construction the defendant sought to put on the letter of the 10th September, he (Mr. Wainewright) thought his Lordship would say there was not a general withdrawal of the agreement. They gave the defendant permission to join some "already established business." Those words were underlined in the letter. Defendant had, however, joined another individual here to establish another business in opposition to the plaintiffs. They particularly drew defendant's attention to their meaning that he was not to go into a new business, which might certainly have taken something from them. The concession contained in the letter was only a partial one, and the plaintiffs would further state to the Court what their intention was. He (Mr. Wainewright) did not know that he need say anything more about the matter, but there were some complaints by the defendant that the plaintiffs had made allegations as to his want of sobriety and steadiness; but the gist of the case lay on the 5th paragraph of the defendant's answer. Perhaps it was not the correct time to refer his Lordship to authorities on the case, but it was well-known that an agreement in restraint of trade was good if it was entered into for a good consideration, and if it was reasonable. The consideration in this case was good. The plaintiffs were to pay the defendant a good salary and provide him with board and lodging in addition,—and so on.

Mr. Hannen—Why do you say "and so on?" It is in the agreement that defendant is to pay for his boy and also for his medicines.

Mr. Wainewright went on to say that the plaintiffs were to provide the defendant with a passage home at the end of his engagement. The case of "Hitchcock *v.* Coker" (6 A. and E., 438), had been referred to over and over again in cases of contract, and so far as the point he had already mentioned went, it settled the question—that was, as to the restraint of trade. Then, the next question was—was it reasonable as regarded space? Upon that point, there were a great number of cases, but the law was summed up in that of "Ward *v.* Byrne" (5 M. & W., and 9. L. J., Ex. 14), in which Baron Parke held that any restraint in limit of space was good. In fact, all the cases cited turned on the question of space to which limit was given. But he had no wish to trouble the Court with English cases as to limit of space, because they did not apply to Shanghai. If they did apply at all, they would support the view that total exclusion from Shanghai was perfectly reasonable, for if that view were held to be incorrect, an agreement of the kind in question would be no good at all, and it would be dangerous to bring an assistant out to Shanghai. He, therefore, contended that accepting the full extent of Shanghai was reasonable as regarded space, particularly as defendant's passage was to be paid home again, or to any other place. As regarded time, he would refer his Lordship again to the case of "Hitchcock *v.* Coker," in which Lord Chief Justice Tindal, when that case was before him in error, held it not to be unreasonable in some circumstances to make the time co-extensive with the servant's life. Those were the chief authorities relied upon as to the limit of time and space in cases of this kind of contract. Of course, he was not aware what argument his friend on the other side intended to raise on the question of reasonableness. He might urge that the contract was unreasonable because it prevented defendant from setting up in a business of any kind. But if those words were taken literally, there was something to be said for the peculiarity of business in Shanghai. The plaintiffs carried on almost every business it was possible to; it was almost impossible to say what business they did not carry on. It was, therefore, impossible to say that the defendant might not trench on some portion of them and so injure the plaintiffs. He submitted the agreement must be taken as a whole, and all he asked the Court to do was to confirm the agreement so far as the businesses carried on by the plaintiffs were concerned. In their petition, the plaintiffs merely asked that the defendant might be restrained from taking part in the trade of a tailor, draper, and outfitter; but what they asked for did not affect the law of the case. He referred the Court to the cases of "Mallam *v.* May" (12, L.J., Ex. 377), "Green *v.* Price" (14, L.J., Ex. 105), and "Nicholls *v.* Stretton (10, Q.B., 346.) On

those cases, he contended, with regard to the clause in question, that if it was to be taken literally, it was not an unreasonable restriction in the defendant's case, and that it ought to be looked at in conjunction with the rest of the agreement. The businesses carried on by the plaintiffs must also be taken into consideration; and if it was held that that argument could not be supported, then the cases he had quoted could be applied, and the Court would enforce the clause, though it might be too wide in its wording. Even if he could not succeed in his argument on that clause, he contended he could succeed on the earlier clause. It was clearly a case in which the defendant was having traffic and dealing in the way of the plaintiffs, and the obvious construction to be placed upon it was that the defendant's course was a breach of agreement. It was a case of very considerable importance to all persons in business in Shanghai. If this kind of agreement could not be supported, it would create a great difficulty in the way of carrying on business in the Settlement. He might say that it almost amounted to a fraud for an assistant to come out here under an agreement, and then turn round and say the agreement he had himself signed was bad in law, and to take shelter under that. However, he need not prolong the argument, but would at once call his clients to prove the facts of the case. He then called—

HENRY EVERALL, who deposed—Our business is very general, and embraces almost every branch of trade. We sometimes take up new branches. I wrote the letter of the 10th September. By the words "established business," I meant a business already established. Defendant came to me and asked if I had any objection to his going into business with Mr. Silverthorne. I said, I certainly had. He then said somebody from Sayle's or Watson's would get the engagement. That was the first time I had heard of Mr. Silverthorne setting up in this business. When defendant came to me, it was about the time of his agreement terminating. I should not have objected to his going into any old established business, nor should I now. I never did anything to induce him to forfeit his passage home. All that I did, appears on paper. I wrote to him to remind him of his passage home.

By Mr. HANNEN—I did not know that all the old businesses were already filled. I knew there was a vacancy then at Lane, Crawford & Co.'s, and thought it might answer their purpose to take him on until their new cutter came out, and that it might also answer his purpose to accept it. I wrote the letter on the 10th September, but I did not know that the vacancy at Lane, Crawford & Co.'s was filled up on that day. I know Mr. Silverthorne, but I do not know that he has been engaged in several kinds of businesses. He had something to do with water from the Lakes, at one time, and is now at the Little Astor House. I have not told Mr. Wilson anything about the defendant's sobriety and ability. He is not an able man, and if you want me to swear that he is a sober man, I cannot do so. I have not said so to different people. I did not tell Mr. Silverthorne that he was not a sober man. I might have said he was a man not to be depended on. Mr. Silverthorne might have misconstrued the meaning.

Re-examined—I should not have objected to his going into an old established business, already in opposition to us. It might have done us good. I knew there was a vacancy at Lane, Crawford & Co.'s at that time.

W. H. SHORT—I am a partner in the firm of Messrs. Hall & Holtz. Whenever the defendant spoke about his engagement, I always referred him to Mr. Everall. I have done nothing either to prevent him getting other employ in Shanghai, or to induce him to forego his passage home. I have said nothing as to his character to people outside.

By Mr. HANNEN—I never spoke publicly as to his sobriety. I might have said he was of no use to us. That might have meant that we had no use for him. The tailoring department did not pay towards the end of the defendant's engagement. He said it was through sufficient publicity not being given to it. We had several complaints from customers. I do not know Messrs. Buckmaster, tailors, of London. It might pay a large firm to keep an incompetent cutter for five years. The character we had with the defendant was good. I am not a practical tailor.

H. DYER, another of the partners in the plaintiffs' firm, having given similar testimony,

Mr. HANNEN said he would reserve what he had to say until after he had examined the defendant.

JOHN WEST, deposed—I am the defendant in this case. I have been a cutter for 20 years. I have had four engagements in London during that time—two as chief cutter. I left three of them of my own accord, the other in consequence of the employer's son, whom I had trained, coming in. When I came out to Messrs. Hall and Holtz, I found that my predecessors had let the business down very much—$2,000 in the last three months of 1872. I found that the tailoring department was not made sufficiently known, while the outfitting department was. I advised them of that, but they did not condescend to take any notice of it. The tailoring department was profitable in my time. I found that they had spoken against my character, accusing me of insobriety. I thought it better to try to remain in Shanghai, to live it down. That was my motive for wishing to stay here. I applied to Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. for an engagement, but found their vacancy was filled up. I went to other firms to endeavour to induce them to open a tailoring branch, but failed. If it had not been for that letter of the 10th September, I should have done nothing to break my agreement. If I had been guilty of insobriety or was incompetent, they could have discharged me and sent me home at a moment's notice. They knew that in London, and I did not wish to go home with a tarnished reputation, as that would have been.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I know the business was profitable from the fact of my keeping the order books. I never saw a profit and loss account. I judge only from the amount of trade done in the department. I understood by the underlined words in the letter of September 10th, that I might join or go in with any one in business—that I might have gone to Mr. Polite, and asked him to start a tailoring and outfitting business; or if Messrs. Buckmaster had had an agent here, I should have thought he might have engaged me. I did not think it necessary to ask Messrs. Hall and Holtz for an explanation of the underlined words. I had a conversation with them about my passage home, and they never refused me a passage. I am a married man and have a family. I only recollect one complaint being made to me. That was connected with the business, and I never heard of any others.

Mr. HANNEN then addressed the Court in support of the defendant's case. He might say at once that the defendant knew of the way in which the plaintiffs had spoken of him, and of the reports that had arisen, and he was in hopes that they would have withdrawn them. The defendant desired an opportunity of denying those reports upon oath. This he had now done, and what was it he now wished to be permitted to do? He wished to remain here, and to live down the imputations which had been cast upon his character, either on previous occasions or to-day in the witness box. On his behalf, he (Mr. Hannen) had to ask, first, that the injunction, at any rate as applied for, should not be granted. He asked the Court to take into consideration the way in which the plaintiffs' prayer was framed (which he then read.) They prayed that he should be prevented engaging with Mr. Silverthorne in any way whatever, or with anyone else as a cutter. This amounted to a prayer for an absolute injunction against his getting his livelihood in Shanghai. He (Mr. Hannen) contended that such an injunction, being in restraint of trade, and the clause in the agreement upon which it was founded being too general, it would be against public policy to enforce it. In none of the reported cases had it entered into anyone's head to restrain a person from entering into any occupation whatever, and on that ground he should ask his Lordship to refuse the injunction. The next point to which he should turn his attention was, whether the letter of the 10th September was not a permission to the defendant to do what he had done, and he should contend that it was an absolute withdrawal of all restrictions: and that the plaintiffs could not go back from it;—that the letter really gave defendant permission which he had taken advantage of, to enter into any business. Mr. Everall admitted that by the word "business" used in that letter, he meant a business like his own, and that his own was a general one. He (Mr. Hannen) would submit that under these circumstances, and from the use made of the term "old-established business" by the plaintiffs, the defendant was entitled to engage with Messrs. Silverthorne. What the plaintiff wanted was that the defendant should not set up in business on his own account, so they put in the term "old-established business." That prevented him setting up in his own name, and that, he contended, was the sole restriction intended to be presumed by the letter. If the Court upheld this view, the injunction must be refused. If the Court was against him on this point, then would come the question of the reasonableness of the agreement. He had already said the agreement was in restraint of trade, and he contended it was not divisable. If any part of it was void, it was void altogether. The case of "Mallan *v.* May" was the only one cited to show that the contract was divisable, and he would draw his Lordship's attention to the latter part of the judgment in that case—from which it would appear that no reasons were given by the Court. It had been argued as lately as the case of the "Leather Cloth Company *v.* Lorsont" (9, L. R. Equity Series, page 345), that a contract of this kind was not divisable, and the judgment there proceeded on the ground that a trade secret had been sold. The cases cited by his friend did not bear out his position, because, in them, all restraints on trade were admitted to be *prima facie* bad and in restraint of public policy, and, therefore, void, when beyond what was necessary the protection of the covenantee. The restraint, it is admitted, must not be greater than necessary for the protection of the covenantee, and in this case he contended it was far greater than necessary. In every one of the cases Mr. Wainewright had quoted, the conditions were widely different from those of the present case, in which the plaintiffs sought to restrain the defendant from serving "any person in any capacity whatsoever" in Shanghai. If that was the true construction, the contract was void altogether, as being too general, there not being a single case in the books of the enforcement of terms so harsh. He should, therefore, have to contend that in the present case, the conditions of the contract were not reasonable and therefore not valid in law; and, if even valid in law, too harsh to be ordered to be specifically performed by a Court. He would now refer his Lordship to cases that were instances in which terms of restraint were held reasonable, but they were much less harsh. There were "Proctor *v.* Sargent" (7, M. and G. 31), "Gale *v.* Reed," (8, East, 79), "Benwell *v.* Inns" (26, L. J., Ch. 663). In the latter case, especially, there was an allegation of actual damage and of specific acts of interference; moreover, the prohibition was confined to a small area, two miles in circumference, and to one single trade, that of a milkman.

His LORDSHIP called Mr. Hannen's attention to the circular issued by Mr. Silverthorne, in which it was said that the defendant "would continue to give his services as before," &c.

Mr. HANNEN said it was a circular sent round to everybody, not to plaintiffs' customers only and not traced by evidonce to the defendant. In another case, "Leighton *v.* Wales," about a coach, a particular road was restrained. In all those cases, there was a narrow limit expressed, but in the present case the application was very wide, and he maintained that it was therefore unreasonable. In the present case also, there was a penalty named, £500, for the infringement of the agreement, and under those circumstances there ought not to be an injunction, for the plaintiffs' should have sued under the penalty clause, and upon that point he quoted "Carnes *v.* Nisbett" (31, L. J., Ex., 273).

His LORDSHIP said he thought Mr. Hannen would find the penalty in that case was specially with reference to the clause in restraint of trade.

Mr. HANNEN went on to say that, although the judges seemed to refuse the injunction, on the ground that the plaintiffs could not claim both, they did not expressly determine that he *could* get an injunction, even though he offered to undertake to give up the claim for damages. would not grant an injunction, but that they would give damages. He should much prefer that course to be taken in the present case. The only further point he would urge upon his Lordship was with reference to this. If his Lordship determined that a breach of

agreement had occurred, then the penalty or damages could be recovered. Would not his Lordship, sitting as a Court of Equity, say that some portion of the penalty should be paid, rather than grant an injunction which would stop this man getting a livelihood, and cause him to be sent home as a distressed British subject?

His Lordship intimated that he would not trouble Mr. Wainewright to reply, but would give Mr. Hannen leave to move on a single point—viz., whether the existence of the clause in the agreement for damages, prevented the plaintiff getting an injunction.

Mr. Wainewright said Mr. Hannen had said the plaintiffs were striving to deprive the defendant of all chance of getting his livelihood in any way whatever, whereas they merely wanted to sever his connection with Silverthorne, and to prevent him from engaging in a similar business to their own.

His Lordship in giving his decision said—I consider the plaintiffs are clearly entitled to the injunction for which they ask, although I shall not exactly give it in the terms in which they pray for it. I must, however, observe, with reference to the alleged imputations by the plaintiffs against the character of the defendant, that not a tittle of evidence has been brought forward in support of the statements to this effect, made in the answer to the plaintiffs' petition and relied on as an [illegible] A man has no right to come into Court and resist an application of this kind, on the ground that he wants to stay in a place to live down imputations thrown out against him, and not produce any evidence that such imputations were made. If any imputations were made,—and I am not going to assume that any were made,—the Court should have been told under what circumstances they were made, because it might well be that what was said, the plaintiffs were, perhaps, under a moral obligation to say, and ought to say, in which case they would be privileged. All, however, I have before me, is an assertion by the defendant that the plaintiffs had spread reports about the Settlement reflecting upon his abilities and moral character; but not a single individual is called to prove that such was the fact. With regard to the law of the case, I have carefully looked through the chief leading cases with reference to agreements on restraint of trade, and I do not find that this agreement at all falls within what in those cases are called illegal agreements, because against the policy of the law. The defendant for a good and sufficient consideration undertook not to set up in business, or take employment with any one else in any similar business to that carried on by the plaintiffs, in Shanghai, after the expiration of his agreement with them, and he has done so. It is absurd to say that, in so doing, he has not committed a gross breach of his contract. He is not to carry on, or assist any one in carrying on the business of a tailor or outfitter in Shanghai, and he enters the service of Mr. Silverthorne, who sets up a tailoring business, which he has not hitherto carried on, and issues a circular to the community, which the defendant must be held to have known and acquiesced in, "that he has secured the services of Mr. West, late in the employment of Hall and Holtz, as cutter, &c., who will *continue* to give his attention," &c., &c. Nothing can be worse than this, for it constitutes a flagrant breach of the terms of the agreement which he made with his eyes open, and upon the faith of which Messrs. Hall & Holtz brought him out from England, and for three years paid him a very sufficient salary. Neither is the restraint imposed by the agreement more than sufficient for the protection of the plaintiffs; for if the defendant is allowed to remain in the service of Mr. Silverthorne, he may be able to seriously injure his late employers by drawing their customers in the tailoring department away from them. The injunction I intend to give will effectually protect the plaintiffs, by preventing the defendant from continuing in the service of Mr. Silverthorne, or from carrying on the business or trade of the employment in any capacity of any one who carries on such a trade. It appears to me that not only are such agreements as the present fair and reasonable, but I cannot conceive, if they were not upheld, how people carrying on such business as Hall & Holtz, Lane, Crawford & Co., Watson & Co., could safely carry them on, unless they protected themselves and were assisted by this Court in so doing.

Mr. Wainewright—Does your Lordship intend that he might carry on the business of a general storekeeper?

His Lordship—He is not to carry on any business in which the plaintiffs are concerned, or in which drapery, tailoring, and outfitting are included.

Mr. Hannen—Then your Lordship strikes out the words, "or any other business to be carried on by the plaintiffs."

His Lordship—I am not prepared to go further than their present business.

Mr. Hannen—But for those words, we should perhaps have withdrawn.

His Lordship—But you come here to defend your client's character, which has never been assailed, so far as I see. Without agreements of this kind, I cannot see how trade can be carried on in a place like Shanghai. Assistants are engaged and paid liberally, and their passage home is provided for them. They suffer no harm, and there is no hardship to them. They enter into contracts of this kind with their eyes open, and for a good and sufficient consideration. I think the defendant has been guilty of a gross breach of his contract, and ought to be restrained from doing what he is doing.

Mr. Hannen asked that the decision should be without any order as to costs.

His Lordship declined to accede to this, and ordered the costs to be borne by the defendant.

April 20th.

Ching Chong *v.* J. Hume.

Plaintiff, a native storekeeper in Hongkew, sued the defendant, a pilot, to recover $164.80 for goods sold and delivered.

Defendant denied his liability, saying, in an informal answer he had addressed to the Judge, that he had paid all the plaintiff's claims upon him, and held receipts for the same.

Plaintiff now stated that the money had been owing for two or three years, that the defendant had in the meantime gone home to England, and on his return to Shanghai on being applied to for payment, said he had paid the money and held receipts for it, whereas he had not paid anything of the sum sued for.

N. de Grew, plaintiff's clerk and collector, deposed that the accounts produced were copied by him from the plaintiff's books. It was a running account, commencing in 1869, and the witness read over sundry items of payments made by the defendant, but the dates were so obscure that, in the absence of the plaintiff's books, to show the exact time of the transactions and how the accounts had been kept, it was impossible to understand them correctly.

Defendant produced several receipts for cash paid on account, and said that since the date of the last of them he had had no dealings with the plaintiff.

His Lordship pointed out that in the account rendered, a large number of things had been debited to the defendant since the date of the last receipt produced by him. Did defendant mean to say he had not had them, and that the items had been invented by the plaintiff?

Defendant said the whole of the goods were supplied prior to the date of the last receipt he had handed in. He had taken the compradoreship of three pilot boats from the plaintiff, and had also told his wife not to deal any more with him, as he thought he was not dealing fairly, and had not dealt with him since.

Plaintiff explained that the defendant went home in September, 1873, and came back in May, 1874, when he asked for payment of the balance due to him. Defendant was then badly off, and, being an old customer, he (plaintiff) did not press him for payment. Two or three months afterwards he again applied for payment, and defendant then denied his indebtedness and had [illegible] since.

Defendant said if the payments he had made on account were added up, they would be found to amount to more than the plaintiff's bill.

His Lordship—But there are a whole lot of things charged as supplied to you. Will you swear you have had none of them?

Defendant—Yes.

His Lordship—Then will you tell me why you paid him $80 since the date of the last receipt held by you?

Defendant—I suppose my wife paid it.

His Lordship—Why should she have paid, if you had not gone on dealing with him?

Defendant—She was a very careless woman in money matters, my Lord. When plaintiff rendered his account, I told my wife to pay him off and have no more to do with him.

His Lordship—Then, according to your account, these are things he must have invented as having supplied to you. Who did you deal with after 1871?

Defendant gave the names of several foreign storekeepers and tradesmen he had dealt with since that date.

His Lordship ultimately adjourned the case for the production of the plaintiff's books, saying it was clear some mistake had been made. The plaintiff could not have invented all the items charged against the defendant, and he had given credit for all the receipts held by the latter as payments on account.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, April 19th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

Rosina Elman *v.* J. M. Walker.

Complainant sued to recover $26.50, for goods sold and delivered. Mr. H. Brougham Miller again appeared for the defendant, who denied the alleged debt altogether.

Plaintiff stated that the amount was made up by $12 for a bedstead and mattress, $4.50 for a dozen of claret, $7.50 for curry powder, salt, and other small stores. She had not charged him for a lot of preserves he had had. She had received a chair from him, which was worth $3.25, and was willing for that sum to be deducted from the amount due; and with reference to the bedstead and mattress, was willing to take them back if defendant was not satisfied with the price, although he had agreed to pay it. He was very poor at that time, and she told him if he did not not like it, he could use it until he could get another, and then return it. He had neither returned it, nor paid her anything for it. Some of the claret he had carried away himself, and his Indian servant had fetched the remainder, seven or eight bottles. If he thought the price for the chair was not sufficient, he could have it back again. She had sent in a bill three times to the defendant, and had also asked him for payment.

By Mr. Miller—I sent in a bill for $8 only at first, because I did not wish to press him for the whole of the money, as he was still poor. I do not know what he paid for the chair.

Defendant, sworn, deposed—I do not owe this money. When I went to her house first, it was a drinking saloon, and I paid for some of the liquor for which she has now summoned me. I was teaching her, for six months, at $6 per month, one hour per day, and she has not paid me any of that money. I admit having the bedstead, but she made me a present of it, which I can prove by my servant. I took a chair to her house the other day, for which I had paid $7. She told me she had the loan of one from a lady in Hongkew, and would be much obliged to me to buy one for her, and I did so. As to the claret, I never had it, as I can prove by my servant, in the way she has said. I had three bottles only. I received one bill for $7.30, about five days ago, and the present bill has been made out since. It was a bill for drinks that I received. I never had any conversation with her about these money matters, and the bedstead was not included in the bill she sent to me.

Plaintiff repeated that she did not include the bedstead because defendant was poor. He told her his income would soon be some hundreds of taels per month, and she allowed it to remain unpaid for.

Defendant, in reply to his Honour, said he [illegible] $7.30 and no more, while she owed him $36.

Plaintiff said she wished to learn to read and write English, and defendant came to teach her. He used to come to the house tipsy, and every time asked for brandy; so she found the teaching was becoming too expensive, and that the liquor would cost more than she paid for learning—he used to

finish a bottle of Hennessy in two days. He came eight days, and she then told him not to come any more. He was all for drinking, and never gave her any teaching.

His Honour (to defendant)—What about the bedstead?

Defendant—I do not want it, and will send it back to her, although she gave it to me. I made her a present at the same time.

Plaintiff—I never receive presents. I am willing to receive the bedstead back.

Defendant—And I must have my chair back.

Plaintiff—I have not used the chair. It was broken, and cost me 35 cents for repairs.

Defendant (to his Honour)—I know nothing about the curry powder and preserves; I admit owing $7.50 for drinks, and for three bottles of claret, at $2.50 per dozen,

His Honour—But she has charged $4.50 per dozen.

Defendant—I do not admit that price.

Plaintiff again said that her bill was a correct one. Defendant had been with the priests, but had left them. He had got no money, and wanted her to pay for some boards to make seats to open a school.

His Honour said he should order the defendant to pay $7.50, and to return the bedstead and mattress, the plaintiff to return the chair. If defendant wished to be paid for his services as a tutor, he must sue her before her own authorities. But before he could do that, he would have to pay into this Court the $7.50 debt and $3 costs, the $7.50 to remain in Court until after the decision in the other Court. That action must be brought within a week, but if the defendant would take his advice he would not bring it at all.

The parties then withdrew.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, April 15th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. (G. A. Samuelson) *v.* R. M. Roger Tillstone.

Assault.

Complainant, a seaman of the *Sir Lancelot* charged the second officer with assaulting him, about a month after the ship left London, and again on Friday last. In answer to his Worship, defendant denied the charge, and said that on Friday last, complainant, who had been in the lock-up all night, came on board with another man named Carlston, and both went into the forecastle. He went forward to turn them to, and found complainant in his bunk. He called him and told him that he would give him five minutes to get on deck, and that if he was not out in that time he should haul him out. He distinctly denied having laid hands on him.

John Carlston, who had also been in the lock-up the previous night, stated that he came on board on Friday last at 11 o'clock with Samuelson, and went into the forcastle. The second mate came down and seized Samuelson by the throat. (In answer to his Worship.)—I am not sure whether he was in his bunk or on his chest at the time.

His Worship dismissed the summons and ordered complainant to pay the costs.

R. (John Carlston) *v.* Master of the *Sir Lancelot.*

Assault.

Complainant said, that on the 28th January he was at the wheel. The Captain struck him on the face, making his nose bleed, and then turned him away.

Defendant admitted having boxed the man's ears for not steering properly. The men were at work unbending the mizen top-gallant sail and royal. He remonstrated repeatedly with the complainant for bad steering, and at last he turned him away from the wheel and took it himself, after having boxed his ears. He is a very indifferent sailor.

His Worship—That is perhaps the reason you struck him, but that kind of treatment does not make indifferent sailors better ones. I shall order you to pay the cost of the summons.

April 19th.

R. (— Felgate, master of *Sir Lancelot*) *v.* R. Williams.

Absent without leave.

Defendant, who was brought up by Sergeant Skinner, is an ordinary seaman of the above-named vessel, and came ashore on Thursday night. He was apprehended on Saturday morning, and had since been in prison. He now said he came on shore to obtain a summons against the chief mate. He had been beaten with a hawser and kicked, and was afraid to go back. He admitted that he did not say so when he applied for the summons on Friday.

His Worship said if defendant had said, when he applied for the summons, that he was afraid to return to the ship, he would have been kept on shore until the case was settled. Instead of making any such complaint, however, he remained ashore without leave until he was apprehended.

Captain Felgate, in reply to his Worship, said he wished the defendant to be punished, as since the ship had been in Shanghai there was a growing feeling of discontent among the crew, without any reason for it. He had brought two of the crew on shore for his Worship to question them, if he wished to do so.

His Worship asked if the men were here of their own accord?

Captain Felgate replied in the negative, adding that he had brought them ashore for the purpose he had stated.

His Worship did not question the men. He ordered Williams to forfeit six days' pay to the ship, and to pay costs.

R. (R. Williams) *v.* Andrew Hepburn.

Charge of Assault.

Complainant is an ordinary seaman of the ship *Sir Lancelot*, and was defendant in the former case. He charged Hepburn, who is first mate, with assaulting him.

Complainant deposed—As we were leaving the buoy on Wednesday forenoon, defendant ordered me to pass the hawser to the quarter. He did not say which quarter, and I was passing it to the port side, when he struck me three times on the thigh with the end of it. I felt the effects of the blows all that day. I did not look to see if there were any marks made. The defendant had never ill-used me before.

By Defendant—It was the hawser that we were towed up with that you struck me with.

Defendant denied this, and said it was only a small line that [illegible]. It caught round his legs, and he could not swing it to hit the complainant heavily. The end might have struck him once or twice, but very lightly. It was not the hawser complainant was passing. He pointed to the place he wished the complainant to pass the hawser to.

Complainant said it was the same hawser, and was in thickness as much as he could grasp with his hands.

Two witnesses, seamen of the ship, were called for the defence, and deposed that the line was 3½ or 4 inches round, and was not the hawser that was being passed. The witnesses both agreed that if the complainant was struck at all it was very lightly indeed, and he did not cry out.

His Worship said he could not see that it was a case in which a summons should have been applied for. It was a very trifling affair, and complainant himself admitted that he had not been previously ill-treated.

Defendant said since the ship's arrival in Shanghai, the defendant and several others of the crew had done all they could to make themselves disagreeable both to himself and the second officer, with a view of getting their own discharge.

His Worship dismissed the case, and told the complainant to go back to the ship.

Drunkenness.

Andrew McLuckie, a quartermaster of the the steamship *Ocean*, was charged with being drunk and incapable in a native store in Hongkew, on Sunday. Defendant offered no excuse, and was fined $2.

R. (Rosina Elman) *v.* J. M. Walker.

Charge of Assault.

Mr. H. Brougham-Miller appeared for the defendant.

Complainant, who said she was an Austrian subject, deposed—I formerly kept a store on the Rue du Consulat, and live there now, at No. 45. Defendant came to my house on Thursday night last, and asked for a chair. I was speaking to a gentleman in German, and defendant said something about not knowing he was in Jews' society. Defendant afterwards became very excited, and felt his pockets as if for a pistol. He then took up a glass from the table, and seemed as if he intended to throw it at me. He afterwards went away, but on Friday morning, he came again, and I told him, in consequence of his behaviour the previous night, to go away and not come any more to my house. He then held up his fist, began to swear at me, and said he would put a ball through me. I told my boy to fetch a policeman, when defendant ran outside, and when the policeman came, he was gone.

By Mr. Miller.—It was about ten o'clock on the Friday morning, when he came. He was alone. He brought nothing with him. He owes me some money, and had previously brought me a chair, the price of which I meant to set off against his account. He owes me for salt, curry-powder, and such small stores. He brought a policeman to take the chair away, and I told him he should not have it until he had paid me what he owed. I am married, but my husband has gone to Europe. He went home because he was sick.

His Worship told the defendant that he could not be sworn, but if he chose to give his version of the affair he could do so.

Defendant then stated that he had been in the habit of going to the complainant's house for some months, as her teacher, for which she was to have paid him $6 per month.

His Worship—I thought you were a merchant, and dealt in opium?

Defendant—I am a merchant, and teach as well. When I went to the house on the Thursday night, I found that man (pointing to a person in Court) there. After I had been there a short time I went away. I did not act as the complainant has described.

Complainant—There was an old man, 67 years of age, in the house, when defendant came on the Friday morning, who would have come here to-day, but he had to make arrangements for the funeral of a lady.

His Worship told the defendant he should bind him over to keep the peace towards the complainant.

Mr. Miller said as there had been witnesses mentioned, they ought to be called. At present there was only one statement against another.

His Worship consenting,

Adolphe Lustig, a Dutchman, deposed that he was at complainant's house on Thursday night, with another man. The defendant came in, and witness and his companion began to speak German. Defendant said, "I did not think I was in the company of Jews," and afterwards became very violent, and behaved as the complainant described.

The other witness, whose name did not transpire, but who described himself as a hairdresser's assistant from San Francisco, now employed in Shanghai, gave similar testimony. He and his friend were sitting on a sofa, and the complainant on the table, when the defendant came in. He got excited, used very bad language, and began to feel behind his coat, as if for a revolver—that being where they are usually carried. He did not produce one, but took [illegible] complainant, but did not do so. He then left the house.

His Worship said he should bind the defendant over in his own recognizances of $50, and two sureties of $25 each, to keep the peace against the complainant for six months, and to pay the cost of the summons. He ought to have known better than to conduct himself in so threatening a manner towards a woman, and had no right to go to her house and behave in the way he had.

Defendant said he could find two sureties, and was perfectly satisfied with the decision, as he did not intend to go to the house any more.

April 20th.

Reg. *v.* William Hannan, a seaman of the *Assault and wilfully damaging a Jin-rik-sha.*

Wing Ah-sing stated—I was taking two foreigners in my carriage over Hongkew bridge yesterday at noon. Defendant came and pushed behind, and then took hold of the wheel and pulled it from off the

axle. The Jin-rik-sha capsized, and the wheel was broken. I called "Police," and then took hold of the defendant. He then struck me several times in the face.

Sergeant Skinner corroborated this—as, when the coolie came to the station he was bleeding from the mouth.

Defendant denied having taken hold of the wheel of the Jin-rik-sha, but admitted that he was pushing behind.

A seaman came forward and said that he engaged the 'rik-sha to take himself and a shipmate from the Consular compound gate to the Sailors' Home; they came to a bridge and William (defendant) pushed behind. He did not remember anything very clearly after that, as the carriage was upset and the wheel broken, and they were thrown out. He was quite certain that defendant did not take hold of the wheel.

Mr. Bonne, the owner of the vehicle, stated that the amount of damage done would cost three dollars to repair, the spokes and nave of the wheel being all broken.

In answer to his Worship, defendant denied having assaulted the complainant, but said that the coolie took hold of him by the coat collar, and hung on to him. At the Police Station, the complainant was willing to receive $1 for the damage done.

His Worship ordered defendant to pay $3 for the damage, and $3 fine for the assault, $1 of which would be paid to the complainant. Several men, speaking together from the body of the Court, which was crowded, said that defendant was innocent of the charge of the assault, and that he had only struck the coolie in self defence.

His Worship remarked that the coolie was perfectly justified in taking hold of and detaining the defendant, until he could be assured that he would be paid; and under these circumstances the defendant had no right to strike the complainant. Besides, he was a big, powerful man, in comparison with the coolie, and the violence he used was unnecessary.

Defendant—I would rather go to prison than pay $6.00.

His Worship endeavoured to point out the stupidity of defendant's choice of one week's imprisonment, as he would have to pay for his maintenance, which would probably amount to more than the fine.

Defendant however allowed his visit until his Worship left the Court, when he thought better of it, and said that he would pay the fine.

April 21st.

Reg. *v.* Andrew McLuckie (quarter-master of the steamer *Ocean.*)

Drunk and Incapable.

His Worship observed that defendant had been charged with the same offence on Monday last.

Defendant admitted the fact, and begged his Worship to let him off, and he would promise not to get drunk again.

His Worship said that it appeared he could not be trusted, as he made a similar promise before. He should have to lock him up for a week.

Defendant—But, sir, I am to be paid off from my ship to-day.

His Worship—That is the more reason for keeping you out of harm's way.

Defendant begged hard to be let off, but His Worship considered that would not be the kindest course to pursue, and ordered him to prison for one week.

Reg. *v.* John Myles, A. B. of the British barque *Grasmere.*

Drunk and Assaulting the Police.

Defendant was charged by P.-C. No. 36, Thos. Piper, with being drunk and fighting in Hongkew at 11.20 p.m. on the 20th inst., and assaulting him in the execution of his duty.

P.-C. Piper stated that, at 11.20 p.m. on Tuesday, the prisoner was fighting with another man in Broadway, Hongkew. He [illegible] the act of striking the other man with a slung shot. Prisoner then turned upon him and made three attempts to strike him with the shot, but did not, as he was too close. Prisoner was violently drunk.

Prisoner said, in answer to His Worship. I don't remember anything about it. I must have got the slung shot after I came on shore, but I cannot say from whom, or where from. I did not know that I struck the constable at all. I am very sorry, but after a man has been cooped up for nearly six months on board ship, a few glasses of this whiskey that you get here makes one mad drunk.

His Worship—What countryman are you?

Prisoner—An Irishman.

His Worship—Well, that is a most improper weapon for you to carry, wherever you got it. I shall have to lock you up for some time.

Prisoner—Will you take a fine, sir?

His Worship—What are your wages?

Prisoner—£3. 7s. 6d. per month, and we have been nearly six months coming out.

His Worship—I always prefer inflicting a fine instead of sending a man to prison, but in this case I must communicate with your Captain, so that you will not be allowed to come on shore again while your vessel is in port. I shall fine you $6.

Prisoner—I am satisfied with that, sir.

His Worship—It is very lucky for you that you did not succeed in striking the constable, or I should not have taken a fine. The Court constable will see you on board your ship, and mention what I have said about your not being allowed on shore again.

April 22nd.

Reg. *v.* Archibald Murray, a seaman on board the British ship *Sir Lancelot.*

Drunk and Incapable.

His Worship, after exacting a promise from the defendant that he would not get drunk again, allowed him to go on board his ship.

NAVAL COURT OF ENQUIRY.

Amoy, 5th April, 1875.

Before Francis Raymond Pelly, *Lieutenant, H.B.M.S. Growler.—President.*

Geo. Phillips, *H.B.M. Consular Assist.,*

Thos. E. Cocker, *Master, British Mercantile Marine.*

re loss of s.s. *Yuen-tze-fei.*

On the 5th instant, a Naval Court was held at Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Office at [illegible] Walter Stewart, of H.B.M.'s ship *Growler,* and senior Naval officer present in port, dated the 2nd instant, for the purpose of investigating the circumstances attending the loss of the British steamer *Yuen tze-fei,* on Dodd's Island, on the 28th March, when the following order was made:—

This Court having deliberately weighed and considered the statement made by Captain Nicholas Moalle, as well as the evidence (upon oath) given by the several witnesses called,—is of opinion that the aforesaid Mr. Nicholas Moalle, late master of the *Yuen-tze-fei,* lost that vessel by an error in judgment:—

Firstly, in such thick weather not keeping further off the coast; and not first sounding to ascertain his position, before altering course to the north, (by striking 19 fathoms bottom.)

We are also of opinion that, with the exception of the above error, he shewed every attention to his vessel from the time of leaving Amoy to the time of leaving the wreck. He displayed skill and courage in remaining by his vessel, and conducted everything in a seaman-like manner after his ship struck.

Taking everything into consideration, we only deem it necessary to suspend his certificate of competency as Master (Colonial No. 500) for a period of three calendar months from this date.

With reference to the conduct of Mr. James M. Johnson, 2nd officer on this occasion, we are of opinion that he did not keep a good look-out, either himself, or by allowing the "look-out man" to leave his post in such thick weather; and he is hereby censured.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, April 19th.

Before O. B. Bradford, Esq.

Henry Dennis, a seaman, was charged with desertion from the *James S. Stone.* He pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to sixty days' imprisonment.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, April 20th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate, Chen, and Dr. Yates, U. S. Assessor.

A Suspected Murderer.

A native of Soochow was apprehended in this Settlement on Saturday evening, by a yamên runner from the city, on suspicion of being concerned in a murder and robbery committed some weeks ago in the above-named city. It was suspected that the persons implicated would come to Shanghai, and a watch was kept, resulting in the apprehension of the prisoner, on whom were found $28, a number of pawn-tickets, and some articles of jewellery. The man at first declined to say how he became possessed of the property; but, by direction of Chên, a few smart blows with the cheek-strap made him confess that he had robbed his cousin; but he denied being implicated in committing murder. The culprit was sent into the city to be dealt with by the Chehsien.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	27 ½ dis.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	73 cash 74½ June
Union Steam Navigation Company	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy	100		7 nominal.
China Coast S. N Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 65
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co	,, 100	5 p. c.	88
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co.	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 139
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China [illegible]	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 575
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80 cash
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 187
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	480
Victoria Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	129
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133½ 30th inst.
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.350	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	1 p. c.	96
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 @ 5/1	first year	[illegible]

Exchange

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 23RD, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From London, the steamship *Glenfalloch;* from Antwerp, the steamship *Fiyen;* and from New York, the *Messenger*.

TELEGRAMS.—London, 20th inst.—*Cotton* and *Cotton Goods* as quoted last week; markets dull. Export to Shanghai for the fortnight 8½ million yards. *Iron*, £10, and *Lead*, £22, 10s.

PIECE GOODS.—Nine days have elapsed since the issue of our last report, and the sales, chronicled and commented upon below, are those published during that interval. For the earlier half of the period under review, the tone of the market continued much the same as last advised. Business in all plain Cotton fabrics,—*T-Cloths* excepted—languished, and sellers were beginning to shows signs of weakness; but latterly, enquiry has improved and firmness is again the rule.

Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs.—Early this week, C.P.H. *Peacock* chop was sold at Tls. 1.63½, free of brokerage; and yesterday, at Auction, it realised Tls. 1.65½ per piece. That chop and others of kindred quality have been wanted by the Northern men, who apparently see their way to buy on more liberal terms than they were disposed to offer some ten days ago. Butterworth's *Green Globe* has been re-sold at Tls. 1.68, and Cloths that were valued at Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.68 last mail, have changed hands—on re-sale—at Tls. 1.67 *a* 1.70 per piece. Medium descriptions have not yet shared in the improvement, and for the finest, although in fair demand, buyers hesitate to advance on last quotations. Holders, however, are exceedingly firm, and Tls. 2 per piece is named by some of them as their lowest figure for Dewhurst's unlettered and best lettered *Eagle*; and they are not unlikely to get it, as there are only a few here, and not many on the way from home. The settlements of 8¼-lbs. from first hands, so far, have been light, but greater activity now prevails, and the probability is that considerable purchases will be made in the course of the ensuing week. 6-lbs. Between 7,000 and 10,000 pieces of these have found a market—portion of them being for arrival—at Tls. 1.34 *a* 1.37 per piece, which transactions indicate weakness, rather, on the part of importers, and a declining tendency in prices. 7-lbs. have not been so easily worked off. They have, however, been, and still are saleable, and by reason of their scarcity the lower counts are unchanged in value. Sales—9,000 pieces at Tls. 1.43 *a* 1.49 per piece. Business in *heavy Shirtings* goes on as before—quietly but steadily, and goods afloat, in steamers shortly expected, still find merchants at former currencies. But, for distant arrival, buyers are now cautious, refusing to deal, excepting when the chances are all in their favor. Thus, a fine Cloth—in stock—has been sold for Tls. 2.82½, and a good medium—in Hongkong—has realized Tls. 2.70; while for a very fair make—only recently shipped at home—only Tls. 2.58 has been paid. Sales—estimated at 13,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—Quietness has ruled. Enquiry has confined itself almost exclusively to special chops, and consequently the sales form no criterion as to the state of the general market. Dewhurst's best 56 Reed has been placed at Tls. 1.87½ per piece, and other good chops of 64 *a* 66 Reeds have brought from Tls. 2 *a* Tls. 2.25 per piece. Fine qualities have been wanted, and small sales of them have transpired.

T-Cloths.—Common 6-lbs., as well as 14 *a* 16 square, and ordinary Mexican 7-lbs. have been in continuous request, and there is no stock here,—of the latter weight more especially—to satisfy the demand. The *Glenfalloch* landed a few thousand pieces of the lower counts, which were immediately taken up at Tls. 1.12 *a* 1.17 for the 6-lbs., and Tls. 1.33 *a* 1.35 for the 7-lbs. The latter figure shows a marked improvement on the rates of last mail. On the other hand, a parcel of Dewhurst's T.—7-lbs.—four weeks distant—has been booked by a *Ma-Loo* shopkeeper, at Tls. 1.31½ per piece. But the ordinary Mexican has been run after the most, and a great portion of the Shanghai supplies supposed to be between Singapore and this place, have recently changed ownership, the ruling rates being Tls. 1.40 *a* 1.44 per piece. As an evidence of the present strong state of the market, I may mention that Mendel's *Hand* and *Branch* chop—Mildewed—realised Tls. 1.46¼ per piece at Auction. There has not been much done in 8-lbs., but the stock is light, and holders are patiently waiting for a renewal of demand. Dewhurst's M.T. is worth by sales Tls. 1.82½ per piece. *Tai-Wo* Y.X. and X.M. are in special favor. Estimated sales of all weights—65,000 *a* 70,000 pieces.

Drills.—A forced resale of some 14-lbs. *Pillar*, at Tls. 2.34, cash, was reported last Saturday, but its effect on holders was only momentary. Immediately the parcel was gone, the dealers set up enquiry, and endeavoured to lower the market to the above level. They have been unsuccessful.

Jeans.—The finest kinds only have been asked for, and the demand for them has been unsteady, resulting in scarcely any sales.

Sheetings.—Business in English *Sheetings*, at an advance on last quotations, has taken place, and the market closes with an upward tendency. Sales to arrive are still practicable.

Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—In regard to these there is but little to report. Dulness in every department has prevailed, and dealers have not bought beyond what has been necessary for current requirements. At the public Auction yesterday, a rise of about one mace per piece in the value of *Camlets* was established, but this was more owing to the small lot exposed for sale, than to any unusual buoyancy in the demand. On the other hand, the usual complement of *Spanish Stripes* had a depressing effect, and rates were a trifle easier. The sales of *Fancies* and *Woollens* (auction sales excepted) reported since 14th instant, are thus summed up:—6,000 dozen *Handkerchiefs* at Tls. 0.53 *a* 0.67 per dozen; 420 pieces *Damasks* at Tls. 4.27½ *a* 4.40 per piece; 1,295 pieces *Chintzes* at Tls. 1.32½ *a* 1.35 per piece; a few 48-yards *Turkey Red T-Cloths* at Tls. 6.20 per piece; 1,500 pieces 3 *a* 3¼-lbs. *Turkey Red Cambrics* at Tls. 1.97 *a* 2.25 per piece; 500 pieces *Camlets* at Tls. 12.25 for Black, and Tls. 13.40 for Assortment; 1,000 pieces U.U. Scarlet *Long Ells* at Tls. 7.00 per piece; 300 pieces *Crape Lastings* at Tls. 8.20 per piece; 200 pieces best *Lastings*—Gentian, at Tls. 12.60 per piece; 1,700 pieces *Figured Orleans* at Tls. 3.00 *a* 3.20 per piece; 312 pieces *Spanish Stripes* at Tls. 0.55 *a* 0.57 per yard; and 100 pieces *Medium Cloths* at Tls. 0.80 per yard.

Outports.—From the Outports, the last received foreign advices contain nothing of interest. According to them, the markets everywhere were stagnant. But the natives have fairly good accounts; and at Tientsin more particularly, the recent receipts were going off speedily at prices contrasting favourably with cost.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.2.0	14.3.0	14.2.5	13.0.0	13.5.0	...	...	12.5.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ... Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.0.5	7.0.0	6.3.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.0.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.0½	0.5.6½	0.5.8	0.6.1	0.6.2	0.6.2	0.5.7	0.5.8	0.5.6	0.5 6

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 15TH APRIL, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
S.S.G. Camlets p. pce. Tls.	13.42½	13.20	13.32½/13.35	12.65	13.30	...	15.10	12.10	12.57½	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.60/0.60½	0.57	0.56½/ 0.56¾	0.62¼	...	0.66	0.57¼	0.59½	0.56¼	0.57¼

SALES.—*Camlets*, 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.32 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, 378 pcs., av. Tls. 0.58½ per piece.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H., Peacock chop, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.63¾ *a* 1.64 per piece.

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 22ND APRIL, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.	Mauve.
S.S.G. Camlets, p. pce. Tls.	13.57½/13.60	13.27½/13.35	13.50/13.52½	12.82½/12.90	13.30	...	14.62½/14.75	12.30	12.80	...	12.70
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.60¼	0.57¼/ 0.57½	0.57/ 0.57¾	0.63¼	...	0.65	0.57½	0.60	0.57½	0.57½	...

Sales.—*Camlets*, S.S.G., 400 pcs., av. Tls. 13.45 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs. av. Tls. 0.59 per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H. Peacock chop, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.65¼ *a* 1.65½ per piece.

	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—		
38½ yds. 39 in. 7lbs. ...℘ pc.	1.4.3 to	1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.5 ,,	2.0.0
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.7.0 ,,	2.8.5
Tun Sin ..... ,,	3.0.5 ,,	nom.
G. E. White Shirtings—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...℘ pc.	1.6.0 ..	1.7.0
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed ..... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.5
Best..... ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
Drills, Am. 40 yds 30in 15lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....	2.3.5 ,,	2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.0
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb...	2.1.0	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 6 to 8½lbs...	1.8.5 ,,	2.0.0
American ,, ,, ,, ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
Sheetings—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....	3.7.0 ,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....	2.7.5 ,,	2.9.5
T-Cloths—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.1 ,,	1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.2.9 ,,	1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.8 ,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs. ,..... ,,	1.6.5 ,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in. ℘ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White ℘ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.6.5
Brocades—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed..... ,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings..... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted ..... ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.2.0 ,,	1.6.0
Scarlet ..... ,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds. ...	2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.9.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in... ℘ yd.	0.1.6½ ,,	0.1.9½
Velveteens—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.4 ,,	0.1.4¼
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.1
Blue Denims ..... ,,	0.0.5 ,,	0.0.6¼
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....℘ pc.	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
41 in. ... ,,	1.4.5 ,,	1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.8.0 ,,	0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S ,, ,,	13.2.0 ,,	14.0.0
G G ,, ,,	13.5.0 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.4.5 ,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths ℘ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	0.5.6 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,	0.5.9 ,,	.....
,, H.H. ..... ,,	0.6.1 ,,	.....
Long Ells—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H nom. ℘ pc.	7.0.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	7.0.5 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ..... ,, ,,	6.7.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ..... ,, ,,	6.8.0 ,,	.....
,, G G ..... ,, ,,	6.6.5 ,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds ..... ,,	10.0.0 ,,	12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres ..... ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black..... ,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail-Rod Iron.*—Easier prices have induced a fair amount of business during the past week—sales aggregating about 18,000 bundles. Transactions have been chiefly in common Belgian, bought at a decline of 2 m. 5 c. per picul, and the large stocks of this class of Iron, combined with a general desire to sell, point to lower currencies. Supplies of best qualities being small, holders are firm at the under-noted quotations. *Lead.*—The late telegrams from home, private and public, noting an active market, and a rise of 10s. per ton, the business in Hongkong, and sales in Amoy at high rates as compared with those ruling here, have influenced this market. Buyers appear anxious to have the article now, but cannot get supplied at their offers—viz., Tls. 5.95 *a* 6.00 per picul cash, for L.B. *Tin.*—A growing demand has been experienced, and *Foong Hing* shows a further improvement; nor can *Fok-chok* or the commoner brands any longer be bought at the old quotations. At the close, prices are against buyers. *Copper.*—The most of the recent imports have been re-exported. Our own market is dull.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

	Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER ..... per Pcl.	115.0.0 *a* 120.0.0
TIN PLATES, 14 ,, 10..... per Box	6.1.0 *a* 6.2.0
Small ,, ... ,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... } nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ... } nominal ,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19,23 } no demand. ,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing ..... ,,	19.7.0 *a* 20.0.0
Fok Chok .....nom.... ,,	19.0.0 *a* 19.2.0
Common Chops... ,, ... ,,	13.7.0 *a* .....
STEEL .....per Tub	3.3.0 *a* 3.4.0
Bamboo .....per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ... ,, ... ,,	18.0.0 *a* 18.5.0
Ore ..... ,, ... ,,	..... *a* .....
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0
PIG IRON .....per Ton	30.0.0 *a* .....
NAILROD IRON—	
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.1.0 *a* 3.1.5
Belgian..... ,, ... ,,	2.5.5 *a* 2.6.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.9.0 *a* 3.0.0
Round ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.0.0 *a* .....
Japanese & Common ... ,, ... ,,	..... *a* .....

	Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New .....per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a* 8.4.0
,, Medium ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 9.4.0
,, Best..... ,,	9.8.0 *a* 10.4.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	8.4.0 *a* 8.5.0
—White ..... ,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine ..... ,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best..... ,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK ..... ,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.8 *a* 0.5.5

COTTON.—The tone of the market has not altered since the date of last report. Only a limited business has been done, and supplies having been kept just sufficient for the requirements, prices have been sustained.

EXCHANGE.—In sterling, business, both in Bank and Private, has been small. Rates continued steady during the week at last quotations. On India, the demand for remittances has been trifling, and at the close, rates are weak at Rs. 306 on Calcutta, and Rs. 305 Bombay. Hongkong, steady at quotations.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5s. 7½d.		℘ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5s. 9d.		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5s. 9½d.		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5s. 9⅝d.		,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.22½		,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.31¼		,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.33¾		,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand, ...Rs. 306	℘ 100 Tls.	
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 305	℘ 100 ,,	
On Hongkong,— Bank Bills, demand, 27½ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27½ per cent. disc.		

Interest.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—72.85 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.00 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 172.50 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,590 per Tael.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, from 13th to 21st April, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 81 @ 88, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	14,499	5,750	7,720	36,400	7,250	29,250	10,500	100	...	250	1,758	...	...	6,300
T-Cloths ..... ,,	10,535	4,760	7,050	10,745	7,230	20,750	9,000	2,600	...	...	225	...	...	7,300
White Shirtings ..... ,,	1,050	150	580	2,250	950	9,093	...	...	...	...	1,030	...	...	3,000
Drills ..... ,,	120	405	...	4,230	355	5,590	9,645	...	120	...	...	6,900	...	800
Jeans ..... ,,	220	40	...	3,490	1,560	6,810	1,190	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	420	1,150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	250	400	50	...	...	...	100	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	643	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	50	...	100	100	750	100	200	50	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	40	204	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	170	579	180	596	220	2,020	...	60	286	...	649	...	...	1,200
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	150	500	...	450	190	1,650	100	80	...	...	50	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	30	...	102	132	60	60	30	30	...	150	366	...	...	120
Velveteens..... ,,	...	48	...	208	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	600	200	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200
Muslins .....Pcs.	250	...	...	501	...	510	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Dimities ..... ,,	100	...	190	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	48	120	48	594	60	246	6	18	...	6	...	...	...	162
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	16	54	...	346	10	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Camlets ..... ,,	240	190	270	940	60	240	10	210	20	...	20	...	...	120
Long Ells ..... ,,	40	40	180	1,640	60	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	120
Lastings..... ,,	...	40	80	220	60	130	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	70	...	60	210	60	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
,, Figured ..... ,,	328	330	320	830	2,170	640	100	60	120	...	...	...	...	360
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	50	...	200	150	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	1,286	445	...	610	...	...	...	...	...	441	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	252	149	1,058	1,059	...	...	...	500	...	...	363	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 23/4/74.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	113,777	1,109,007	14,400	1,176,160	1,220,492	966,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	80,195	698,314	5,863	437,641	344,887	904,400
White Shirtings..... ,,	18,103	182,142	2,530	231,203	144,885	69,300
Drills ..... ,,	28,165	189,635	.....	85,509	189,824	441,800
Jeans ..... ,,	13,440	85,153	.....	111,326	54,733	62,200
Sheetings..... ,,	1,610	10,070	.....	16,740	8,350	46,200
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	800	11,896	.....	21,103	12,057	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	1,971	2,322	3,400
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	290
Brocades, White ..... ,,	643	5,814	.....	5,783	2,195	.....
,, Dyed ..... ,,	1,350	14,286	.....	13,181	28,145	24,100
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	684	4,283	.....	6,000	8,807	5,900
Chintzes ..... ,,	5,960	50,918	110	27,972	65,728	98,400
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	3,270	26,725	.....	36,296	36,387	19,100
Velvets..... ,,	1,080	12,900	300	17,339	12,137	20,000
Velveteens ..... ,,	348	3,201	.....	4,186	2,215	8,420
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	2,600	55,129	370	27,772	45,423	89,000
Muslins .....Pcs.	2,162	10,646	450	4,112	4,566	22,800
Dimities ..... ,,	590	6,330	200	2,330	10,720	10,800
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,068	13,272	.....	13,336	10,818	28,900
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	582	6,351	11	6,279	10,368	18,400
Camlets ..... ,,	2,320	24,512	80	22,313	20,431	19,300
Long Ells..... ,,	2,100	20,240	20	20,500	9,270	13,600
Lastings ..... ,,	650	10,128	20	9,140	11,422	4,600
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	500	2,020	.....	2,219	9,359	2,980
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	50	4,870	.....	5,709	4,889	13,500
,, Figured ..... ,,	5,258	42,331	80	20,911	107,109	120,000
,, Crape ..... ,,	650	7,145	.....	3,300	17,275	9,800
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	3,381	33,009	.....	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,782	41,741	2,871	59,126	.....	.....

* **Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Titan, Peiho, Pera, Conquest, Sir Lancelot, Meikong, Gordon Castle, Fi-yen, Glenfalloch, Olympia, Messenger,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.**

EXPORTS.

SILK.—The following is the report of the London silk market by latest public telegrams:—"Some business at lower prices. Koo-fong-sing's chop No. 3, 20s. Blue Elephant, 16s., and fair No. 5 Tsatlee, 12s. 6d. @ 13s. per lb."

The P. & O. s.s. *Khiva* left on the 18th instant with 176 bales, (of which 136 were shipped for London, 33 for the Continent, and 7 for America), and the business for the past week is limited to 300 bales, chiefly market Tsatlees at Tls. 260 @ Tls. 295 per picul—making total estimated settlements to date, 71,400 bales against 56,900 at same date last year.

Small lots of silk continue to arrive from the country and river ports, and the unsold stock on the market is about 300 @ 400 bales.

TEA.—During the past week, a few small settlements have been made of Green Tea, at about former prices, say—

Fychow & Moyune,	294	½-chests.	Stock—	220 ½-chests.
Pingsueys	850	,,		2,000 ,,
Shanghai-packed	300	,,		1,000 ,,
Total	1,444	,,	Total	3,220 ,,

Total Export to Great Britain to date—

Black	65,092,732 lbs.
Green	12,350,476 ,,
Total	77,443,208 lbs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

April 24, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—April 15th, Brit. steamer *Fire Queen*, from Sydney. 16th, Brit. steamer *Eleanor Batters*, from Swansea. 18th, Brit. barque *Grasmere*, from Cardiff. 22nd, Brit. brig *Lunan*, from Newcastle, N.S.W.

Departure.—April 20th, Brit. barque *Charlie Palmer*, for Singapore.

The French mail steamer *Meikong* takes 412 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8⅞d. *a* 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.33¾. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 305 *a* 306. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 305 *a* 306. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27½. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.80. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 72.85 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,580 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, April 24th :—

H. & S. Bank.—Shares were unsaleable till 20th instant, when a limited business was done at 25 % *dis.* and Exch. 72½, and the rate subsequently fell to 27 % dis. and Exch. 72⅞, at which the market closes with buyers.

S. S. N. Co.—Pressure to sell—in the absence of all demand—but brought quotations down to Tls. 73 cash, and Tls. 74½ for 30th June, at which there are sellers.

Fire Insurance.—A small business has been done in *Hongkongs* at $480, and in *Chinas* at $133½ for 30th instant. A considerable business was done in *Victorias*, on 16th and 17th instant, at $125 and Exch. 72⅜, chiefly for Hongkong, and the rate has since advanced to $129.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* have fallen to Tls. 575, and *China & Japan* shares have advanced to Tls. 80. *Chinese Insurance* shares have been placed at $187.

Shanghai Gas Shares have fallen to Tls. 139.

Chinese Imperial Loan.—Business has been done at £99, 10s., at which there are buyers.

Weather.—Some rain fell on Tuesday; but the weather has been generally fine and warm. The thermometer has ranged from 45 to 82. To-day, the wind has worked round to the North, and is colder.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per P. & O. str. *Khiva*, for Southampton—Mrs. Drummond and four children, Miss Macpherson, The Rev. Mr. Gretton, Mrs. Gretton. For Venice—Messrs. F. Nevill May and A. N. Brown. Per str. *Dragon*, for Foochow—Messrs. M. Riaskoff, A. Rodosenoff, N. Lebedeff, N. Kolmogonofi, Maligan and F. E. Heyden. Per P.M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Chapman. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Coryell, Messrs. J. J. Heemskerk, W. Goetze, J. F. Goodfellow, C. T. Macvicar, H. Noetzli, F. M. Lemarchand, J. I. Miller, A. Milsom, and Dr. E. Henderson. For Yokohama—Mrs. Birtwhistle, Mrs. L. B. Hooff, Mrs. W. Bryan, Mrs. F. A. Goddard, Messrs. D. V. King, Bowitt, Arnold, G. W. Hardman, C. Petrey, D. Fitzhenry and W. White. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Niigata Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. W. A. Burr, G. W. Haden, Louis Montagne. Steerage—Three Japanese; six Chinese. For Hiogo—One Chinese. For Yokohama—One Chinese; one Japanese.

Arrived.—Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Niigata Maru*—Messrs. D. Ross, J. Hardy, W. Harker; one Chinese. Steerage—Mr. J. White; five Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—80 Chinese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Lemaire, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Messrs. Yuill, Shepherd, Smith and Schultz; 57 Chinese. Per str. *Hankow*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Duff, and Mr. Stronach. Per P.M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Yokohama—Mrs. S. M. Bryan, Mrs. L. B. Hooff, Messrs. N. J. Silas, H. Magniac and servant. From Kobe—Col. Bassel, Messrs. De-Witt Arnold, H. Lamb, J. F. Sutton and servant. From Nagasaki—Messrs. A. Burman, A. C. Gibson; three Europeans, 27 Chinese in steerage. Per str. *Glenfalloch*, from London—Mr. Law. Per str. *Fire Queen*, from Hankow—Mr. J. H. Anderson. Per str. *Fyen*, from Aden—Messrs. Sonne and Colding. Per str. *Foochow*—140 Chinese. Per str. *Chihli*—Mr. and Mrs. Pirkis. Per str. *Fychow*—Mr. N. A. Nefidieff. Per str. *Hankow*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Huffam, Pinckvoss, Bradley Keller, Satorius, and Capt. Moalle. Per str. *Chinkiang*—Mr. Buchheister; 120 Chinese. Per Am. ship *Messenger*—Messrs. R. Chase and E. H. Nicoll. Per P.M. str. *Oregonian*, from Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Holdsworth, Mrs. C. R. Harris, Messrs. Boyce, R. H. Percival and servant, H. Hartinau and servant, C. A. Gibon and J. M. Smith. From Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Walter infant and servant; one Chinese in steerage. From Nagasaki—Messrs. W. G. Herdman and servant, G. J. Wood, H. Magniac, four Japanese officers; nine Chinese and four Japanese in steerage. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Takasago Maru*—Mrs. and Miss Ekstraud, infant and servant, Mrs. Mooney, Miss Marshall, Miss Deville, Miss Drulin, Messrs. C. W. Lawrence, Wigton, Hjousbery, Schoffer, Mugard; one European and 12 Chinese in steerage.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Meikong*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Pirkis, Messrs. H. Magniac and C. C. Blakeslee. For Naples—Colonel Cooke. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Benke, daughter and servant, Capt. Richard Gibbon, Capt. Toms, Messrs. O. Sichel, P. Sichel, Leo Juvet, W. E. King and J. E. Cardwell.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1825.

THE undersigned begs to notify that the Board of Directors at this place have power to pass proposals for Assurance, on the Lives of Persons residing at any Port of China or Japan.

ED. HOLDSWORTH,
Agent & Secretary to the Local Board.
2080 Z Shanghai, 6th Oct., 1874.
n o-a-f (c.a.) 31de-75.

Yangtsze Insurance Association of Shanghai.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS—Tls. 800,000.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the world, at current rates.

This Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15 per cent. to Shareholders on Capital, and thereafter distribute among Policy-holders, annually, in Cash, ALL the profits of the Underwriting Business *pro rata*, to amount of premium contributed.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Z 2079 *Secretaries.*
31de-75 Shanghai, 7th July, 1873.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 416. SHANGHAI, MAY 1, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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England,	Mar. 12	Hankow,	Apr. 27
San Francisco,	„ 20	Yokohama,	„ 22
Hongkong,	Apr. 23	Nagasaki,	„ 26
Tientsin,	„ 22	Foochow,	„ 23

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Jan. 28
Shanghai, ... „ 22
} Received 8th March.

BIRTH.

At Copenhagen, on the 23rd February, 1875, the wife of CHARLES E. KOFOD, Esq., of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 29th ulto., at Trinity Church, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, Sir EDMUND HORNBY, Kt., Chief Judge of H. B. Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan, to EMILY AUGUSTA, eldest daughter of John P. Roberts, Esq.

DEATHS.

On the 1st March, at Clonacody, Clonmel, Ireland, Vice Admiral Sir HENRY KELLETT, K.C.B., in his 69th year.

On the 8th March, at his residence, 72 Lancaster-gate, Hyde-park, of pleuro-pneumonia, THOMAS [illegible], aged 48 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Takasago Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. C. C. Fail, Julius Bryner, H. Stünzi; 5 Chinese deck. For Hiogo—Mr. E. Starkey; 10 Chinese deck. For Yokohama—Mrs. Ekstrand, child and servant, Miss Ekstrand, Miss Marshall, Messrs. Paul Satorius, E. Keller and P. H. Morrisson. Per P.M. str. *Oregonian*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. O. W. Wyatt, W. Johnston, R. Mackenzie, D. Glass, J. M. Cory, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lines. For Hiogo—Messrs. Hippisley and W. C. Tilghman. For Yokohama—Miss C. R. Harris, Messrs. John Ure, Mackrill Smith, F. Grose, S. Morton, L. Moore, H. Rowland; 5 Chinese.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *China*—Mrs. Koss and child; 67 Chinese. Per str. *Nanking*—Messrs. Henderson and Bryant. Per str. *Appin*—Four Chinese. Per str. *Nestor*, from Liverpool—Mr. and Mrs. Penfold, Capt. Basset, and Capt. Hawthorne. From Hongkong—Messrs. Hall, Holliday, Campbell and Cruikshank; 67 Chinese. Per str. *Paouting*, from Tientsin—Messrs. Morris and Shephard. Per str. *Dragon*—Messrs. Otto Vogt and B. Christiernsson; 70 Chinese. Per str. *Taku*—9 Chinese. Per str. *Orissa*, from Hongkong—Lady Howard de Walden, Hon. E. H. Ellis, Hon. Miss Ellis, Messrs. Kennedy, Prior, Steel and McBain. Two steerage, and 83 deck. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Dr. Macartney, Capt. Febon, Messrs. Russell and Lépissier. Per M.M. str. *Sindh*—Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Messrs. F. S. Deacon, H. de Courcy Forbes, Chenla de Penter, S. Marsh. From Hongkong—Messrs. E. G. Low, Charles Wagner, Ashton, Lemaray, Hely d'Oissel, Simmons. Per str. *Glengyle*, from Hongkong—100 Chinese. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—100 Chinese. Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Mrs. and Miss Balance. From Chinkiang—Mr. Calbeck. Per P.M. str. *Golden Age*—Miss Nellie Nelson, Miss Cartwright, Miss E. Bingham, Miss N. Bingham, Mrs. H. W. Dinison, Dr. and Mrs. Bushell, Mr. and Mrs. Howe, Mr. and Mrs. Farnham and child, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Bonabeau, Capt. G. W. Andrews, Capt. H. Walsh, Dr. Macgowan, Messrs. W. MacGregor, E. L. Oxenhan, J. A. Harvie, Gibbons, R. Phœnix, F. L. Milligan, Geo. W. Stivers, Geo. Forbes, S. Walker, E. J. Pereira, R. M. Gray, L. R. Goldsmith, W. Cance, A. Campbell, R. J. Kerr, G. R. Corner, E. P. Hague, E. Tobin, J. A. Hawes, J. D. Bishop, B. Williams; 35 in steerage. Per M. B. S. Co. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, from Yokohama—Mr. Andrew Moore; 2 in steerage. From Hiogo—Messrs. F. Scott, L. Encarnação and servt., Busch, Curtis; one European, and one Chinese in steerage. From Nagasaki—Mr. G. W. Haden; 3 Chinese in steerage.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. steamer *Orissa*, for Madras—Captain Hussey Walsh. For Hongkong—Mr. R. M. Gray.

SUEZ HOTEL,
FACING THE MARITIME CANAL.

VISITORS will find every comfort in this OLD-ESTABLISHED HOTEL, universally acknowledged the best in Egypt.

The Hotel has been thoroughly renovated, and large additions made this season.

This is now the best point to commence travel in Egypt, and very suitable for Passengers waiting Canal Steamers.

GEORGE WESTCOTT, *Manager*.

a-a-f 24jn 37

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.0 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.0 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
Apr	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
24	29.900	64.5	63.5	55.0	60.0	55.0	7	N. E.	..
25	30 000	61.5	62 0	52.0	58.5	52.0	5	E. S. E.	..
26	29 902	56.0	53.5	49.5	51.5	46 5	8	E. S. E.	.04
27	29.950	51.0	55.5	43.5	49.0	46.0	7	N. N. E.	.77
28	30.050	52.5	64.0	45.5	54.5	49.5	4	N. N. W.	..
29	30.000	57.0	72 5	49.0	60.0	56.5	4	S. W.	..
30	30,150	59.0	65.0	58.5	58.0	51.5	2	N. N. E.	.02

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1875.

FEI YEN-LI, Literary Chancellor of Honan, discusses in the Peking *Gazette* of April 13th, the comparative merits of the two systems of purchase and competition in a manner which might be instructive to Lord Cardwell himself. In fact, Fei Yen-li is an officer who would not have disgraced the Government of Mr Gladstone, being eminently competent of the means to adopt how not to do a thing, and equally competent to reduce those means to writing. "There is a time for everything," an antiquated sage has informed us, and Fei Ta-jên now enlightens us further, that there is room for an argument in favour of everything, The memorial is like the late Minister's great speech on the claim of the King

of Bonny to Scotland (only we forgot' that exists only in burlesque); arguments are produced on every possible side of the question; and then the author, himself shocked with their diversity and nearly balanced weight, subsides when his own judgment would naturally be anticipated. According to Fei, the success of a government depends on the fitness of its officers—a dictum with which possibly Mr Beales himself might be found to agree. But there are ways more than one by which appointments may be made. There is the method of literary examination pure and simple, and there is the method of purchase pure and simple; and there are all manner of mixtures of those two, as well as appointments by favour. According to Fei Ta-jên, they are all very good. The qualities which lead to success at the literary examinations will in all probability stand a man in good stead when he is in office; again, experience points out that the officers who have purchased rank don't seem to be very much inferior to their lettered brethren. Altogether, if eighty or ninety per cent. are literary graduates, and ten to twenty purchasing officers, Fei thinks no great harm can be done. Fei being himself a literary graduate, we are of course called on to admire the breadth of mind and openness of character which has led him to make this exception in behalf of his unlettered compeers. Having, however, decided that the selection of persons for official appointments is a matter of paramount importance, but that the manner in which it is to be done is one of comparatively little moment, Fei throws out a scheme for nomination, subject to subsequent examination, not very unlike in part many propositions of similar nature put forward in more civilized countries. He would not abolish the purchase of the lower ranks of office, but when it came to the purchaser's turn to enter on actual service, he would not have him appointed thereto by the Provincial Governments. He should be required to go to Peking, hand in his application to the Board of Civil Office, and undergo an examination before the heads of that department as to his literary attainments. As the matter stands at present, the purchaser of office can go on till he gets his name on the top of the list for actual promotion. The Government at Peking names him for appointment in a certain province. He is possibly unknown there, and put into the wrong place for his talents to be made the best use of for the public service; or perhaps he is known to be utterly incapable, but, having been appointed from Peking, there is no help for it. Only the most incapable can be removed from their posts; the rest, the men who are "skilled with their tongue, and adepts in the art of making themselves useful, continue as an incubus on the official lists." We think we have heard the same complaints elsewhere. Fei Ta-jên adds that positions involving the collection of revenue, the movement of troops, and the administration of justice, cannot effectually be administered by persons without literary training; and those who attempt it are pretty certain to be dependent on the assistance of others. Without differing much from his dictum, there is little in the Chinese literary curriculum to favour the acquisition of knowledge in any of the three branches. Fei Ta-jên adds another more practical argument against the system of purchase as carried out in China, but the full force of which he fails to see. It affords a direct temptation to increase the amount of unchecked peculation on the part of officials, which is steadily ruining the empire. The man in low office peculates to purchase a higher, and the man in high office, to repay himself, gets appointed to low office those who display the greatest readiness to contribute to his needs. Like an article in the *Saturday Review*, the whole winds up in the most inconclusive way. The writer has had a good deal to say, and says it well; but, evidently thinking more of how to say it than of what to do with it when said, he leaves his reader more undecided than ever. Nevertheless, like his literary contemporaries of the *Saturday*, he is quite willing to expose himself to the sneers of those unalive to the questions of the day, rather than put forward a mass of mere empty verbiage. Fei's abilities are evidently thrown away. Downing Street under Mr Gladstone, or Southampton Street, Strand, would afford fitter opportunities for their display than the Literary Chancellorship of a Chinese Province.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 12th March, arrived on the 29th, by the M. M. steamer *Sindh*.

We have news at last of the *Gwalior*. She had to anchor 240 miles South-west of Hongkong, and a steamer was despatched to bring in the mails. She arrived at Hongkong yesterday afternoon, and her mails are coming on here by an extra steamer, which was to leave for Shanghai this morning.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. steamer *Orissa*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received:—

In reply to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Disraeli stated that it would be advisable to wait further advices with the regard to the Yunnan outrage. Her Majesty's Government had reason to believe that the Chinese Government complied with Mr. Wade's demand, but in the absence of detailed information deprecates further present discussion.—

The Viceroy's Proclamation deposing the Gaekwar of Baroda has appeared.

A Boat arrived in Hongkong from the mail steamer *Gwalior*, at anchor 240 miles from Hongkong, on the coast of Hainan. Her machinery is totally disabled.

In the House of Commons, a motion by Dr. Kenealy, for the appointment of a Royal Commission of Enquiry into the circumstances of the Tichborne Trial, was rejected by 433 against one after a protracted debate.

The Gaekwar of Baroda has been sent to Madras.

A meeting of shareholders in the Gas Company was held on Tuesday. The accounts showed a net profit of Tls. 23,120. A dividend has been declared at the rate of 11 per cent. A new gas-holder which is in course of erection constitutes a present drain upon the funds, as its cost is being met out of income; hence the reduction of 1 per cent from the usual rate of dividend. A slight increase has taken place in the quantity of gas consumed. Sir, E. Hornby and Messrs. Purdon, Hogg and Hitch were re-elected directors.—The fee to the Chairman for attending Directors' meetings was raised to Tls. 20; that to the other directors remaining at Tls. 10 as before.

The adjourned meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company was held on Thursday, to receive amended proposals with reference to the amalgamation of Hunt's and Heards' wharves with the Hongkew wharf. After two amendments had been rejected, the original motion for the amalgamation was carried, subject to the alteration of certain articles of the deed of settlement of the Hongkew Wharf Company, to be submitted to and approved by another meeting, of which thirty days' notice must be given.

An extraordinary meeting of members of the Shanghai Race Club was held on Thursday, Mr. C. J. King in the chair. The meeting was called in accordance with a resolution passed at the annual meeting, to take into consideration the correspondence between the Club and the Recreation Fund Trustees. The following resolution, proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. F. D. Hitch, was carried unanimously:—"That the Secretary of the Shanghai Race Club shall address the chairman of the Trustees of the Recreation Fund, to the effect that the members of the Shanghai Race Club respectfully decline the proposals contained in his letter to Mr. John Dent, of the 18th of August, 1874; as the club is desirous of reserving its independent action in the purchase of the privately held shares in the Race Course, as well as to retain the control of the Race Course and the Grand Stand enclosures, in the hands of the appointed officers."

The Shanghai Taotai has issued a Circular to the native merchants here, very much in the sense of the Customs' Taotai's late effort at Tientsin ; and we are told that it has been similarly met--by a threat to close business unless it is withdrawn. But for this we cannot vouch.

A case of considerable local interest has been heard at the Supreme Court. The parties were Butterfield & Swire *v.* Little & Co. The plaintiffs claimed a sum of about £60, as the difference between the amount of freight paid by them to the defendants in July last, for teas shipped on board the S. S. *Pleiades*, and what the freight would have amounted to at rates paid subsequently by other parties for teas shipped by the same steamer ; alleging that it is a custom of universal practice in Shanghai to make a return of such difference to the shipper, in case cargo is subsequently taken at a rate lower than that first fixed. The defendants denied the existence of any such established custom. At the close of the first day's proceedings, the Court intimated that the evidence adduced in support of alleged custom did not satisfy it, and the Plaintiffs decided, after consideration, to submit to a nonsuit.

The Chief Judge has given an important decision, in regard to the proceedings of lekin runners in the Settlement, on a re-hearing of the case Walker *v.* Malcolm which was tried before the Magistrate on the 5th April. Sir Edmund Hornby holds that the treaty, while giving free right to the Chinese to deal with opium as they choose, on its passage into the interior, does not give them a right to levy any tax beyond the import duty while it is still in the "port"; and, while not defining the port, implies that it has certainly not left the port while it is in the town of Shanghai. We argued to this effect in writing on the subject in the *N.-C. Herald* of the 25th February last, and are glad to find our opinion confirmed. The purport of the Chief Judge's decision is of course that the action of the opium runners is illegal, and should be opposed by the Foreign Representatives.

We are informed that the opium taken from Walker's coolies on the 18th ulto., and which gave rise to the recent cases in Court, has been recovered from the Chinese by H. B. M. Consul, and placed at Walker's disposal.

The steamer *Ocean* has been arrested at the suit of the owners of the *Fusing*, for the sum of Tls. 200,000, at which the latter have laid a claim for damages sustained by the collision. We hear that there has been a good deal of difficulty as to the form in which this claim should be raised. The Chinese claimed that it should be tried before the Consul and Taotai under Art. XVII of the Treaty of Tientsin, and the Chief Judge's ruling in the collision case appealed from Foochow (*v. N.-C. Herald*, Feb. 18, 1875) would uphold them in so doing. But the difficulty then arose that the Consular, or Mixed, Court so constituted is said to have no power of arresting the steamer. The C. M. S. N. Co. appear to have ultimately resolved on trying the case before the Supreme Court. The Chinese take immense interest in the case, from the fact that a number of mandarins were drowned by the accident ; and are said to be seriously inclined to treat the accident as a set-off against the murder of Mr. Margary in Yunnan ! averring that damages may be as reasonably claimed for the (accidental) death of so many mandarins, as for the (wilful) murder of a British official !

The yacht race on Saturday was competed for by only two yachts—the *Lillie* and *Wave*, and was won by the latter. The *Lillie* broke down. A second race on Thursday was won by the *Phantom*, three out of four yachts that started, having come to grief.

Shooting in the preliminary Rifle competitions come off on Tuesday. A report of proceedings will be found on another page.

A torch-light procession of the Fire Brigade was held on Tuesday night, and came off successfully.

We hear that there is a flower show in the Chinese city, in a portion of the Tea Gardens. Yesterday was the first day, and many of our readers will probably like to visit the place. The show will be open to-day and Sunday. Our readers may perhaps remember an account we wrote of a similar exhibition, about this time last year.

It is disappointing to learn from Reuter's telegram that the Government are still awaiting further information, in regard to the Yunnan case. We had hoped that sufficiently full details would long since reached them by telegrams from Calcutta, to enable them to see their way clearly. That they may elect to wait for a detailed report before taking into their own hands measures to punish offenders, we can understand. But they must know enough to be able to tell Parliament what investigatory steps are to be taken ; or are they awaiting the result of Colonel Browne's conference with Mr. Wade? The delay in the arrival of the *Gwalior* is doubly unfortunate, as he and Mr. Allen are on board.

We are indebted to Dr. Lamprey, of the 67th Regiment, for a much fuller narrative than has yet been published, of the attack on Colonel Browne's expedition, and the circumstances of Mr. Margary's assassination. The narrative was to be published, a few days after it was despatched to us, in the regimental paper of the 67th—*Our Chronicle*, and a copy is very courteously sent to us in advance, with the knowledge that it would have exceptional interest in Shanghai. Old residents will well remember the regiment when it was quartered here, after the campaign in the North and during the Taeping rebellion, and we are of course indebted to the recollection of its stay here, for the present paper. The 67th, being stationed at Thayetmyo, were in the way of getting early information of the expedition.

The account which has reached us from Burmah, of the attack on Colonel Browne's party, removes any possible surmise that it had the character of a riot. The whole affair was clearly premeditated, and comes home more closely than ever to the Governor of Momein. As we had learned before, Mr. Margary had gone on ahead of his party to try to overcome some opposition which was shown. He seems to have been persuaded that he had done so, and sent back word to Colonel Browne to that effect. We learn from the *Rangoon Gazette* that this messenger returned to Mr. Margary after delivering his message, and was one of those killed. A groom only seems to have escaped ; and it is from him, we presume, that the information comes that Margary was speared while mounting his horse in response to the tsaubwah's invitation to visit some hot springs in the neighborhood. The narrative we publish below says his head was carried to Momein and exposed on the walls of that city.—In the meantime, Col. Browne's party, deceived by the deception practised on Margary, was advancing into the trap. He also rode on ahead, and was politely received ; while the attacking party were gathering round. It soon became evident however that treachery was intended, and the timely arrival of his escort appears to have been his salvation. They commenced a retreat, were at once attacked, and a brisk fight ensued during which a leader of the assailants, wearing a Chinese Military Mandarin's uniform, was shot.

A serious attack has been made on some foreign sportsmen in the neighborhood of Quinsan. Particulars will be found on another page.

Admiral Ryder reviewed a large body of seamen and marines from the British men-of-war in harbour, on the Race Course, Wednesday morning.

M. Godeaux, Consul-General for France, has left for Europe by the *Meikong*, on furlough. He is replaced temporarily by M. Lemaire, until the arrival of Count de Chappedelaine who left Europe for Shanghai on the 11th instant.

We hear that the Russian Admiral intends to visit Nanking shortly, in the *Vsanick;* and afterwards to go on to Hankow with the *Ascold*.

It is understood that Admiral Ryder intends going up to Hankow shortly with the *Vigilant* and *Modeste*. We hope that he will go on to Ichang. It will do the Chinese good to see the British flag some distance up the Yangtze.

We hear that the steamer *Hankow*, which is to go to Hankow to load teas, will run through to Port Said without stopping. She will carry 4,000 tons of tea and sufficient coal to last her on the through passage.

The Viceroy of Nanking is expected here, to inspect the Arsenal. A number of soldiers, intended we believe as his guard, were encamped on the bank of the Soochow creek on Sunday, and made themselves a nuisance by crowding into the gardens of foreign bungalows there.

Our readers will remember Mr. Soulié's enterprising journey across Siberia, from St. Petersburgh to Peking, and the performances given in Shanghai by his troupe. We are sorry to hear that his stay in Japan has not been a profitable one, and that the troupe he brought with him through such an adventurous journey is greatly reduced. Nothing daunted, however, he purposes returning to Europe by

the same overland route, with a troupe of Japanese and Chinese acrobats.

We have received a volume of Returns of Trade at the Treaty ports in China, for the year 1874. It containa an abstract of Trade and Customs Revenue Statistics from 1864 to 1874.

We have received a pamphlet entitled "Notes on Chinese Mediæval Travellers to the West," by E. Bretschneider, M.D. Physician to the Russian Legation at Peking. These notes first appeared in the *Chinese Missionary Recorder*, and have been reviewed by us from time to time as they appeared in that magazine. They have a curious interest, and we are glad to have them in a compact form.

Dr. Williams has issued a circular to the Protestant missionaries in China, inviting their attention to Rule X of the Regulations for the Philadelphia Exhibition, and suggesting that they should interest themselves under it. Department X under this Rule is for "objects illustrating efforts for the improvement of the physical, intellectual, and moral condition of man;" and is sub-divided again into separate groups, of which one, headed "Religious organisations and systems," is an appropriate place for a missionary collection. Mr. Drew has suggested that a collection be made of everything which will form a full representation of the benevolent work done in China by Protestant missionaries since the arrival of Robert Morrison at Canton in 1807; and Dr. Williams thinks such an exhibition would be full of attraction and instruction to the people of the United States. The collection would of course comprise books written or translated by missionaries; statistics of number of missionaries engaged now and from the beginning; number of churches, of communicants, missionary schools, hospitals, &c., &c. The proposal is a new one, and no doubt a collection of 70 years work would make a formidable display. Dr. Williams sugests that the missionaries at the several stations should hold meetings, apportion the work of collecting, and appoint some one to correspond with a General Committee which has been formed at Shanghai.

A Chinaman committed suicide by cutting his throat with a chopper, on Wednesday, in the suburbs of the French Concession.

We regret to hear of another death by drowning in the Hwangpoo. On Friday evening the steamer *Yung Ning* arrived from Hankow, and was being berthed alongside the C.M.S.N. Co.'s Wharf, when Mr. W. H. Stanley, the chief officer, who was on the pontoon superintending the mooring of the vessel, walked over the end in the darkness, and before any assistance could be rendered him was sucked under by the strong ebb tide then running, and drowned. Mr. Stanley was an old resident in Shanghai, and was much respected, both by his shipmates and employers. This death would have been prevented had there been any protection round the pontoons, and we trust that measures will be at once taken to erect guards. We may remark, further, that we cannot remember having ever seen either a life buoy or a drag about any of the Shanghai wharves. We are told that, in this instance, if there had been a life line at hand, Mr. Stanley's life could probably have been saved, as he was seen for a few seconds vainly endeavouring to hold on to the smooth surface of the pontoon; but before a line could be brought from the steamer he had disappeared.

The body of a Chinaman was found on Saturday last, lying on the Pootung shore. The body had been some time in the water and was much cut about the head. It is supposed to be that of the sampan man missing from a boat found by the Police on the river, unoccupied, a short time ago. The body, which was almost past identification, has been handed over to the Lifeboat Association.

Looking through some old Municipal reports, we have come across one on Water Works, addressed to the Chairman of the Council in 1872. Three schemes are there brought forward by the Municpal Engineer—the Lung-hwa, Feng-wan-shan, and Yangtzepoo, and we note that the Works Committee remark on the latter as the most feasible. Their idea seems, therefore, to have been to accord with that of the present Water Works Company, who are carrying on operations in the neighborhood recommended. The Lung-hwa company, which promises to issue a prospectus bye-and-bye, chooses the first-named scheme, under the impression no doubt that the City—which its works will first reach—will prove a valuable client. There seems to be a lull, however, in the promotion of this scheme. Two months ago, we were to have a public meeting immediately. Two months later, we seem to be no nearer it.

Li Hung-chang seems to be specially active in military preparations at TIENTSIN. Besides massing troops and erecting numerous forts, he is said to be about erecting a line of telegraph between the chief forts—we presume those of Sinching, Taku and Peitang. He has also imported from Europe a number of torpedoes, which, with their charges, are now stored at the Taku forts. These tremendous preparations at Taku remind us of the Taeping complaint at Quinsan. The rebels had strongly fortified the approach from Soonkiong, but Gordon meanly took them in the rear. Perhaps Li Hung-chang may some day realise the same sensation.—The German Minister and the Inspector General of Customs have arrived at Tientsin, where they are expected to make a short stay.—We fancy our correspondent has arrived at a right conclusion, though from a somewhat mistaken premiss, in blaming so severely as he has done the appointment of Sung Pao-hwa to the Yunnan Commission. Sung Pao-hwa is not a member of the Commission; nor will he take a part in the business of enquiry. He is only going as escort to the delegates sent by Mr. Wade. Even for this office, however, we do not hesitate to say that he is an unsuitable person. The escort of a man so small in rank is directly calculated to lower the importance of the mission in the eyes of the Chinese; and our effort should be to give it every importance that circumstance can invest it with. The appointment should be insisted on, of a special commissioner ranking at least as high as a Taotai, and nominated by the Tsung li-yamen instead of by the Viceroy of Chihli. It is all very well to recognise Li Hung-chang as Commissioner of Foreign Affairs in matters of routine; but he should be allowed no independent say in such a matter as this. The official appointed to escort the foreign delegates should be appointed directly by the Government, so that the officials and people along the route may know his mission emanates from the Court itself.

A special meeting of land renters was held at CHINKIANG on the 24th April, to discuss the question of repairing the Bund. A Professional survey had been had, and it appeared that the river was eating in seriously into the bank. Mr. Kingsmill advised sinking vessels loaded with stone for a distance of 800 feet along the foreshore, as a foundation for the necessary works. The Chinese authorities wish the Foreign Community to share the expense of the necessary works. The latter decline. Temporary repairs to the Concession Bund will be made at the discretion of the Council.—Messrs. Spencer & Wolff write from Chinkeang on the 28th April:—We have again to report a most unsatisfactory week; business in Cotton Goods has been almost entirely suspended; and, although we have advices from Shanghai of an improved tone existing there, our market remains dull and inanimate. In Iron, Sandalwood, Sugar, Opium, etc., a like depression has been felt, and very few sales are recorded.

The HANKOW Chamber of Commerce report of the 26th April says:—There has been a fairly active market for Grey Cottons during the past three weeks, but no improvement in the demand for Fancy Goods and Woollens. Best Shanghai Cotton has declined to Tls. 10.60 per picul. Stock 14,000 bales, or 24,00 piculs.

The only news in NAGASAKI papers brought by the *Golden Age* relates to the movements of men-of-war. The Russian steamers *Yaponietz* and *Sobols* have left for Vladivostock, and another one is expected to arrive from that port. The French ships *Montcalm* and *Volta* had arrived from Kagosima.—Nagasaki seems to be possessed of a remarkable taste for literature. It would seem that so small a community could hardly support more than one newspaper; but Nagasaki always has two. And lately a third publication has been started there, called "The China and Japan Temperance Record." The Record, which is published monthly, is specially intended to further the cause of Temperance, and the contents are strictly in accordance with the title.

Two employés of the Comptoir d'Escompte in YOKOHAMA concerted a very large robbery from the bank, and had so far carried out their plan as to charter a schooner to convey them and their plunder away. They were discovered, and the greater portion of the money was recovered. They committed suicide on detection. Particulars of the tragedy, taken from the *Japan Gazette*, will be found on another page.

Summaries of FOOCHOW, HONGKONG and HIOGO news will be found on another page.

Editorial Selections.

MR. HART'S MEMO. ON THE FUTURE OF SHANGHAI.

HAVING met Mr. Hart's prophecy of our early extinction, so far as it is founded on threatened changes in our rivers, we may venture a word on his proposition that Shanghai has developed an abnormal prosperity and that Chinkeang is destined to be the commercial entrepôt of the future. His arguments on this point, also, are so mixed up with his wrong idea about river channels, that it is hard to separate the two. Still, distinct reasons are given why Shanghai must come to commercial as well as physical grief, and it may be well to examine them. Mr. Hart states twenty years as the limit of our possible existence. "In twenty years time, Chinkeang will have taken the place of Shanghai as a semi-terminus and transhipment port, but its foreign community will naturally [illegible] one, (political) possibilities aside." Here are two contingencies involved: the extinction of Shanghai in favor of Chinkeang, and a general decadence of foreign interests. These results, it appears, are to be brought about by two agencies, of which the Suez Canal is the major. 1° Steamers coming out through the Suez Canal are to make London and Hankow their termini, and so decrease our local trade that even the P. & O. will be obliged eventually to move on. 2° Chinese steamers will exclude foreign ships from the coasting trade, and will vie with us on the sea. "In ten or twenty years time," this competition "will have swept the foreign flag from the coasting trade of China, and displayed the Chinese colours in the London and Liverpool Docks." Apart from any question of physical changes, these seem to be the causes which are to ruin Shanghai, and transfer the shreds of its (foreign) trade to Chinkeang. What "political possibilities" have suggested themselves to Mr. Hart as capable of influencing the result, we try in vain to guess. To an ordinary mind, another war to regain our prestige and re-establish the position which diplomacy is carefully losing, might seem the most likely prospect. But Mr. Hart's note about the despatch of three Foochow gunboats to London would seem to anticipate a state of abject terror from their visit, leading to a general exodus of Englishmen with apologies for intrusion. These however are contingencies which do not enter into the argument. Changes in the natural course of events appear to be presently relied on.

First, then, as to the question of river traffic: has Mr. Hart so forgotten the early history of Shanghai, as to be unaware that sailing ships used to go to Hankow for teas long before the Suez Canal was opened? We can give him a list of nine—the *Highflyer*, *Guinevere*, *Coulnakyle*, *Eliza Shaw*, *Gossamer*, *Min*, *Sir Lancelot*, *Lauderdale*, and *Napoleon III*, which went up in 1867—against eleven steamers in 1874. They were not quite so large as the steamers which now make a yearly effort to swamp the London market at the earliest possible date; but they suffice to show that the practice is no new one, and that Shanghai has incurred for the last ten years, without perceptible hurt, the competition which is to swamp her within the next decade. If Mr. Hart insists that the increase in size of the steamers over the old sailing-vessels is itself an argument in favour of his prophecy,—as implying that a greater quantity of tea is now shipped direct than in former days—we reply that the teas shipped from Hankow are shipped largely upon orders from Shanghai, or by merchants actually resident in Shanghai. Their credits and drafts are negociated here; and so long as trade is thus directed and controlled from Shanghai, and yields its returns to Shanghai, the mere fact that more or less produce does or does not pass through the port on its way seaward, is of slight importance. And the competition of sea-going with river steamers stops here. There is no direct import trade to the river ports, such as we might expect to find growing if Shanghai were destined to be supplanted. Even the sea-going steamers which are destined for Hankow, drop their cotton goods at Shanghai as a natural entrepôt, before proceeding on their Yangtsze voyage.—We see no reason, therefore, to suppose that Shanghai is likely to subside because steamers go to Hankow to load tea; nor do we see the most remote tendency on the part of silk to go to Chinkeang. Silk merchants might follow such a change as Mr. Hart indicates. Given a large developement of Chinkeang at the expense of Shanghai, silk merchants might be led to try the new market; but they are not likely to wilfully inaugurate the change, so we must find some reason why Chinkeang should develope and Shanghai deteriorate, before that change is likely to ensue. We can find absolutely none, beyond the arbitrary one of the closure of Shanghai by physical causes; and we have shown that that contingency is so remote as to be not worth discussing. Chinkeang has a favourable position at the mouth of the Grand Canal, and that position will always insure it a considerable trade; but it is a local trade, incidental to a local position. The position of Shanghai, nearer to the seaboard, gives it an immense advantage as an entrepôt. For there is a coastwise as well as riverine traffic to be accommodated; and the situation of Shanghai, with a view to both contingencies, is perfect. The entrepôt could be no nearer the sea; and it could be no further from the sea without subjecting trade to increased expense through a longer river transit. Why should goods destined eventually to find their way to Japan or Tientsin, go 150 miles further up the Yangtze, to come those 150 miles back again, and incur twice over the risks incidental to river navigation by deep draught sea-going vessels? But the proposition is so extravagant, when fairly viewed, that we are almost ashamed to prolong our argument. As a matter of fact, Shanghai has become the entrepôt for Central and North China; and, so far from losing its position, the tendency of trade has been more and more to centralise here. Ningpo has virtually died out as an independent port, and is content to draw daily supplies from Shanghai as a depôt. The riverine ports have been thoroughly eclipsed. Establishments were started there, at the first opening of the Yangtsze, on a scale that seemed to contemplate possible rivalry with Shanghai; but one after another has been closed, and Shanghai remains the entrepôt from which they draw their weekly supplies. The efforts made to import goods directly from England to Chefoo and Tientsin have been abandoned. These ports likewise are fed from Shanghai; and the establishment of regular steam communication with Nagasaki, Hiogo and Yokohama, is tending to constitute Shanghai an entrepôt even for Japan. Has Mr. Hart ever heard of the Mutlah scheme?—an endeavour to divert the course of trade from the Hooghly to another river, and from Calcutta to another entrepôt? The Mutlah river runs a little south of the Hooghly, is shorter, and less dangerous. A town was created upon it under Lord Canning's rule, not fifty miles—we forget the exact distance—from Calcutta; a railway was made connecting it with Calcutta, the river was buoyed, pilots were trained, wharves were erected; every preparation was made for the trade which would inevitably accept the invitation tendered. But the Mutlah town is grass-grown, and the Mutlah river is nearly as deserted as before. Trade declined to leave its old channel and its old entrepôt, though a more convenient route was offered it. Australia affords a similar instance. The trade of Victoria has chosen to seat itself at Melbourne, which is situated some miles up the river Yarra Yarra. The river is narrow and shallow, and navigable only by very small craft; large ships generally anchor off a place called Williamstown, situated on the open bay a little to the West of the river's mouth. Some years ago, it seemed natural to certain people that the seat of trade should be moved bodily to Williamstown; land was accordingly bought; houses were built, and every effort was made to carry the theory into practice. The failure was complete. Melbourne remains the commercial as well as political capital of Victoria, and Williamstown is to it what Gravesend is to the City of London. We commend these facts to Mr. Hart, as instances how hard it is to divert an established trade; and we see less

reason why that of Shanghai should go to Chinkeang, than that of Calcutta to Mutlah. In the latter case, the new course offered was shorter and easier; in the present, the journey is longer and more dangerous.

INDIA AND CHINA.

It is instructive to residents in China, to compare once and a while the failures and successes of British government in India, as in many respects there are analogies between the two countries. Mr Markham's "Statement," exhibiting the moral and material progress of the British Empire in India, reviewed in the *Academy* of 27th February, is one of those works which gives us an insight into what has been doing in that great dependency. The spirit which actuated Trajan and the better-minded of the Roman emperors is not very different from that of the British rulers of India. Both attempted to set up, as the rule of government, entire justice, and to promote the happiness of the subjects who came under their rule, as well morally as materially. The great works undertaken by England in India will stand comparison with those of the Romans in their Asiatic possessions, and it is to be hoped that the influence of the modern empire will remain even more permanent than that of her ancient prototype. As the reviewer says—the keystone to the subject is finance. "England could not afford to govern India, if the latter did not pay its own expenses; and the real difficulty of the problem to be solved by her rulers is to curtail philanthropic expenditure within due bounds, and not to purchase material improvements at the cost of a deficiency in the yearly budget, or the odious alternative of the necessary imposition of taxes foreign to the spirit of the people." As in China, the mainstay of Imperial revenue is a land-tax, or rather rent, bringing in £21,000,000 per annum. Opium brings in some £9,000,000 more; £6,000,000 are levied on salt. Customs, excise and stamps make up the difference. No taxes exist on internal trade, the development of which is anxiously encouraged by the Government, and the only foreign tax introduced, the Income tax, has, in deference to the wishes of large sections of the more influential classes, British and Native, been taken off. Theoretically the tax is fair enough, but the experiment seems to prove that the Government had not yet obtained that confidence which would enable them to levy the tax in an unoppressive and equitable manner. Nations in an inferior state of civilisation steadily resist all attempts at direct taxation, because that confidence in their government which can only be gained when it is learned that the interest of governors and governed can be identical, does not yet exist. It took many years in England itself to reconcile the taxpayers to direct taxation, and the feeling of dissatisfaction is not even yet extinct. Still, although to reimpose the tax may not at present be expedient, it may be well to keep it before the eyes of the natives, as one with many good points to recommend it so soon as the requisite confidence on their part shall be acquired. Intellectually, Great Britain has made great strides in raising the capabilities of the subject races. It is undeniable that the effect is in many cases grotesque. The Indian mind is supple rather than retentive. It readily receives an impress from without, even before it has fully comprehended the reason or condition which has led to that impress being communicated. We have not, here, to look so far as India for a somewhat similar condition of affairs. More than any Asiatic nation, the Japanese are desirous of rendering themselves a civilized people. They possess many of the necessary qualifications, and have set themselves seriously and conscientiously to the work. Still, even their greatest admirers cannot deny that, amidst much that is sterling, there exists a vast amount which is simply superficial and often descends even to the ridiculous.

The labours of Great Britain will, however, probably be longest preserved in the public works with which she has overspread the land. It is curious, therefore, to note how the results have tallied with the predictions of those who observed their first beginnings. The most important of these works have been railways or works connected with irrigation. Many of those experienced in Indian ways boldly asserted that irrigation works were what was mainly required, while railways were unsuited to the wants of the country and the feelings of the people. The opinions of these men were worthy of consideration; they were not spoken idly or without knowledge. Curiously enough, the exact reverse has been the issue of the works undertaken. The large sums spent on irrigation have resulted in too many cases in positive loss, while the railways, constructed as they were at too often extravagant outlay, and after paying guaranteed interest, at present cost the government less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the original cost, while this charge is itself yearly diminishing. On the other land, the soils of India differ materially, and serious mistakes have been made in introducing irrigation works where they were positively deleterious. It is not always where there is least rainfall that irrigation is most needed. The coast of Madras is adduced as an example, where with an annual rainfall of from 50 to 60 inches a-year, irrigation is absolutely necessary, because what is called in India dry cultivation is, owing to the poorness of the soil, impossible. In the central districts of the same presidency, with a rainfall of only 30 inches, the rich soil of the plains only requires an occasional shower to produce plentiful crops. Here the farmers have been accustomed for centuries to grow, in rotation, crops to which in Northern China we are no strangers—millet, pulse, hemp, cotton and oil seeds. Irrigation is here worse than useless. It would only force the farmer to exchange his more wholesome and profitable crops for the culture of rice, one of the least profitable, if not the very least profitable of cereals. Of irrigation schemes, the great works undertaken at Orissa, Midnapur and Kurmol have, from causes such as the above, turned out complete failures. Besides these causes which have rendered so many of the irrigation schemes practical failures, there are others at work to produce the same result. It was hoped that canals would afford a ready means of communication during the year, and that even in the face of failure of the irrigation project, the industrial uses of the canals would repay their cost. Experience has proved this hope also fallacious. "Except in the rainy tracts in Bengal, and along the western coast, all attempts to keep canals open throughout the year have proved illusory, and a vast scheme for making the Godavery river navigable, after ten years persevering efforts and an enormous expenditure," has been finally abandoned as impracticable. Fortunately for China, she does not labour under many of the peculiar difficulties of India. Possessing a rich soil for the most part, and an abundant supply of rivers, few portions are actually sterile. What she does want is increased means of internal communication. Where canals are practicable, there is little fear of a want of water. Where from natural causes impracticable, the empire is as a whole admirably adapted for the construction of railways. England has honestly set herself in India to improve the condition of her people. China has persistently made it a policy to throw obstacles in their way. It is better sometimes to have failed in a good cause, then never to have attempted it, and not only England but China may well take example from the failures as well as the successes of British government in Asia.

LEEKIN SQUEEZES IN THE SETTLEMENT.

The decision of the Chief Judge in the case of "Walker *v.* Malcolm" will, we believe, give general satisfaction. We do not imagine that any charge will be made against us of writing in favour of opium or the opium trade—still less of the wretched system of opium-running by men of straw, which gave rise to the action. We, therefore, feel that we can express the more clearly the views which we have always held as to the inadvisability of the course lately pursued by the Municipal Council, with respect to levies within the Settlements. On more than one occasion lately, have we had to comment on the

unsatisfactory rôle played by the Police in the matter of local exactions. The latter have, in point of fact, been placed at the disposal of the native guilds, irresponsible bodies themselves, and in many cases, as experience proves, quite ready to take advantage of any relaxation on the part of the representatives of Foreign powers. Without official position themselves, they are made use of by the native officials when any encroachment is desired, and this very disponibility it is which has made them ready and potent weapons. To such a degree had this been carried in the days of our early intercourse with China that, as a matter of absolute necessity, a clause forbidding the interference with Foreign trade of such establishments, was inserted in the first treaty made with China for the regulation of maritime commerce—a treaty still in full force, and in fact the authority to which the Foreign Settlements at Shanghai owe their existence. As a matter of fact, the plaintiff, in conducting opium through the Settlement, was committing no illegal act. And we can conceive no more hurtful position than that taken up by Mr. Drummond on behalf of the Municipal Council, for the defence. The opium had paid its import duty according to treaty, and so far was free. Whether the act in which the plaintiff was engaged was consonant with or contrary to what jurists call *bonos mores*, is beside the question. So far as the Municipal Council or their employés knew of the law, the plaintiff was engaged in a perfectly legal action. While so engaged, eleven persons, claiming to be servants of a Chinese guild, attack him in the open street. The Chinese servants of the plaintiff are taken to the Mixed Court, while the opium, about the ownership of which there is a difference of opinion between plaintiff and the Chinese, is also handed over to Chinese custody. Now, with the Chief Judge, we must dismiss all sentimental views about this matter; and this we are the better able to do that, although these cases have mainly occurred with regard to opium, it being the most valuable commodity, there is really far more than opium concerned. And the decision of the Chief Judge tends to the exclusion from the Settlement of all tax gatherers of whatever sort.

We would ask any man charged with the preservation of order and discipline, how he could expect to keep good order, if beyond his own commands his men were to be at the disposal of outside and irresponsible individuals. With a very much better organised system than that of the Chinese, we would have good reason to dread the results. Knowing as we do the composition and management of such bodies as Chinese guilds, we can realise the inconvenience to Municipal government of the presence of their emissaries within the Settlements. Who were the eleven men who, in the open street, laid violent hands on the plaintiff's attendant Chinese? The Municipal Council only know that they gave tickets to some employés of the Opium Guild. What security has the Council that these same men will not molest, and do not molest persons pursuing in the street what is their ordinary avocation? None whatever. The police are ordered not to interfere with them, or rather are allowed to assist them, without any more proof of the legality of their proceedings than that offered by the possession of a ticket from the Opium Guild. But, as we have said, opium is only one commodity; a similar system of extortion prevails with regard to other goods, and is certainly not restrained, if it is not encouraged. Piece Goods are nearly as effectively watched as opium, but the amounts in question being small as compared with the exactions on the more valuable article, it does not pay to take the same precautions. Both, however, stand on the same footing, and we are glad to see the Chief Judge laying down the dictum that such charges within the limits of the port are decidedly contrary to treaty. Free dealing, even in opium, is clearly permitted within those limits; other foreign imports can claim a still further exemption. There can be little doubt as to what may reasonably be denominated the limits of the port; and we trust that the Council, having now the decision of the Chief Judge to back them, will before long draw up such rules as may prevent, for the future, these exactions within the limits of its jurisdiction.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

The *China Mail* gives some further news of French proceedings in Tonquin. Two ships of war had left for the Annamese capital, with a French official on board who was empowered to make final arrangements, and to fix the date of the opening of Tonquin to Foreign trade. He was expected back in Saigon on the 20th April, and it was assumed that he would bring news that the event would be fixed for some day in June next. It had been the intention of the French Admiral to visit Hué in person, but the King put so many obstacles in the way, that the idea was abandoned until the Court of Hué could be persuaded to be less obstructive. The difficulties raised, remind us very much of our early intercourse with China, and towards which we seem to be gradually drifting back. One objection was that the treaty forbade the ascent of the river as far as Hué by men-of-war, and that, consequently, the Admiral must travel overland from Touron to the capital;—just as the Chinese caused Lord Macartney to travel overland to Peking, and more recently opposed by force Sir Frederick Bruce's attempt to go up the Peiho. The Annamese also desired to be excused from firing any salutes. When the *Antilope* left on her second trip, her commander was instructed to inform the Hué authorities that all these objections must be withdrawn, or the treaty would be annulled; and, says the *Mail*, it is highly probable that the Annamese yielded. If so, Tonquin will, within the next eight or ten weeks, be opened to trade. The *China Mail* also publishes a very curious letter, derived ostensibly from a Chinese source, regarding some recent proceedings of the French in Tonquin which it is very difficult to comprehend. We shall try to make what we can of it. When Lieutenant Garnier was at Hannoi, certain malcontents came and offered their services,—"Laes" the letter calls them, we presume Laotians, or the primitive inhabitants of the district. When the French found it advisable to retire, the Laotians were left to their own devices, and the Government pressed them so much that they rose in actual rebellion. They tried to get French assistance, but only succeeded in obtaining a promise of French neutrality. The French, however, were desirous of renewing relations with Annam, and succeeded in getting a treaty signed in the beginning of last year. As an inducement apparently to the Hué Government to carry out its stipulations, they seem to have turned round on their old allies the Laotians. Possibly the fact is that, the latter having made themselves masters of two provinces on the French frontier, there was a prospect of affairs becoming unsettled with a rebellion raging next door. At all events, the letter states that the French interfered, and nearly exterminated the "Laes." Hereon, another disturbing element, which too often manages to crop up in the negotiations of the French with Eastern nations, came to the front. We find M. Calomer, a missionary bishop, negotiating between the French General and the Laotians, with the object of placing the latter under the protection of the French flag, in order to preserve them from the attacks of the Hué Government. Once more the counsels of the latter prevailed, and the French again desert the Laotians and send assistance to the Annamese. Hereupon, naturally, results a cry from the Laotians. They had twice been made tools of by the French, and promised assistance against their natural enemies the intrusive Annamites, and twice they had been deserted at their hour of need. Now, it is only necessary to add that the charge is entirely *ex parte*. The French Commandant's version of the matter is, doubtless, something very different, and would show that there was little if any of the ill-faith practised which is attributed to the French. Still the latter ought to have learned by this time that edged tools are dangerous. We cannot help sympathising with M. Calomer's attempt to screen the Laes from the persecution overhanging them; but a minister of the Gospel is seldom in a more unsuitable

position than when playing diplomatist; and it seems tolerably evident that in this case the French were led into an engagement which they found impracticable, and in withdrawing from which they incurred dislike if not discredit. The simplest solution would be the annexation of the entire country. Such close relations with a semi-barbaric Court, as the position of the French in Cochin China involves, are simply impracticable. We find the same difficulty every day in Burma, which is the more settled country of the two. And we cannot but think the extension of both English and French rule to the frontiers of Yunnan would be the simplest and best solution.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 8th April, there is an announcement that Wân-seang, the celebrated Chinese statesman, had memorialized the Throne, praying the Regents to allow him to retire from his public duties on account of continued ill-health. And further on, in the same *Gazette*, we find an Imperial Rescript on the subject of the memorial; commanding that Wân-seang, on account of his continued ill-health, shall be released from the duties of his rank as Major-General of the Manchow White Banner; and that he will not be required to attend to the transaction of business connected with the Board of Works, and the office of the Foreign-trained Legion at Peking; but that he will still be retained in his positions as a Privy Councillor, a Minister of State in the Cabinet, and a member of the Tsung-li yamên. In the *Gazette* of the following day, the 9th April, it is announced that Wân-seang had presented a special memorial to the Regents, thanking them for the favor of exempting him from certain duties.

In the *Gazette* of the 8th April it is announced that the Chinese official winter hats will be exchanged on the 21st April, (to-morrow), for the official summer hats.

In the *Gazette* of the 15th April it is announced that Ting Jih-chang (known to foreigners, I think, as Ting Foo-tai) formerly holding the post of Governor of Keangsoo, had arrived at the metropolis, and presented his respects to the Throne. And further on, in the same *Gazette*, it is stated that the Ministers of State and Ting Jih-chang had been summoned to appear for the transaction of business in the cabinet.

In the *Gazette* of the 15th April, it is announced that the Emperor would, at 6.30, arrive at the Kwan-tih Temple to offer up his prayers. This announcement, I fancy, does away with the rumors lately current in Peking and in this city, that His Majesty was at that time laid up with the measles.

There was a meeting of the stewards of the Race Committee held at 4 p.m. on the 16th instant, for the purpose of drawing up the Programme of our approaching Spring Races, which will come off on the 13th, 14th and 15th day of May. I may state generally that the prospects for a satisfactory meeting are very favorable.

At 2 P.M. on the 19th instant, the annual meeting of the landrenters of the British settlement here was held at H.B.M. Consulate; Mr. Mongan, Her Majesty's Consul, as usual on the occasion, presiding. Mr. Mongan opened proceedings by calling upon Mr. E. A. Solomon, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, to lay his statement before the meeting. Mr. Soloman thereupon addressed the landrenters, by first referring, in a general way, to the labors of the Council during the past year; and afterwards to the satisfactory condition of the funds on the closing of the year, as the statement of accounts which had been laid before the landrenters testified. He concluded by laying before the landrenters an estimate of the probable expenditure, which will be likely incurred by the new Council for the twelve months ending the 31st March 1876. The accounts for the previous year were then, with complete unanimity, passed by the meeting; as also the estimates of probable expenditure for the following year. Mr Solomon after that read letters which had been lately addressed to him by members of the community, regarding the purchasing of a fire engine; the annoyance suffered by certain residents in the settlement by the firing of salutes from vessels of war lying in proximity to their dwellings; and the blocking up of the thoroughfare by goods placed on the bund, arising from the negligence of the police not preserving an open space. These matters were accordingly all fully discussed and arranged. The business of the past year being then brought to an end, voting papers were handed to the Landrenters by Her Majesty's Consul, that they might proceed to ballot for a new Council; and the subsequent examination of them, after being filled up, shewed that Messrs. Cordes, Forbes, Moore, Hatch and Meadows were duly elected Councillors for the next twelve months. Her Majesty's Consul after that brought to the notice of the Landrenters three local matters, which imperatively demanded rectification. This, the new Council promised they would promptly carry out. The thanks of the meeting were then unanimously given to Mr. Solomon, the chairman of the late Council, for the able manner in which he had discharged his duties as the representative of the Council while in office. The business of the meeting concluded by a vote of thanks to Mr. Mongan, Her Majesty's Consul, for presiding over it on the occasion.

20th April.

I cannot see anything in the Peking *Gazettes* which have lately come to hand, of interest in particular for the Foreign world; nor have I otherwise heard of any news of political interest worthy of being reported to you on this occasion, for your readers information. In the way of diplomatic news, I am, however, able, in the first place, to mention that Herr von Brandt, the German Envoy, arrived here from Peking, two days ago. He subsequently called on Li Hung-chang, the Imperial Commissioner for Foreign Affairs; and yesterday, the Commissioner returned the call at the German Consulate. I am told that Herr von Brandt will stay here a week, and then return to Peking. During the evening of the 20th inst., Mr Robert Hart, Inspector-General of Customs, arrived here from Peking, and is staying at the residence of the Commissioner of Customs. Since his arrival, he has visited Li Hung-chang. It is stated that he will remain here for some days to transact business with that official.

General Raaslöff, the Danish Envoy, arrived here this forenoon, in the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shantung*. Immediately after the steamer had been moored alongside the wharf, he landed and proceeded to the Russian Consulate, where he took up his residence with Consul Waeber.

The weather continues very stormy, blowing gales from all quarters of the compass.

22nd April.

We have received Peking *Gazettes* up to the 21st inst. I cannot find any news in the batch having any particular interest for Foreigners, beyond the facts that His Majesty the Emperor would, on the 20th inst., visit the Kwan-tih and Yung-sze temples, to offer up prayers, which proves that he is in the enjoyment of such good health that he can go abroad in a sedan; and that Maou-chang-tse, one of the chiefs of the Tsung-li-yamên, had obtained an extension of some more days leave of absence. As this high functionary is not famed for entertaining any amiable feelings towards Foreigners, and as he is likewise distinguished for almost never opening his mouth at the conferences between Foreign officials and members of the Tsung-li-yamên, it is scarcely possible for us to imagine that his prolonged absence will be regretted by the Foreign officials. The Peking Races will come off on the 26th and 27th inst., and yesterday morning three of our sporting men started for Peking, to ride at the races, where we trust they will keep up the fame of the Tientsin turf. In the way of diplomacy, I have to mention that H. E. General Raaslöff, the Danish Minister, called upon the Governor-General yesterday forenoon; and that he and his suite took their departure, on horse-back, for the capital at one o'clock this afternoon, hoping to reach it late in the forenoon of the 26th inst., in time to see the first day's Races.

Herr von Brandt, the German Minister, still continues to remain at Tientsin, at the German Consulate; and it is said that his Excellency will not at present proceed to the South of China, but will in a day or two return to Peking.

The weather continues very tempestuous, no matter whether the daily wind comes from the south or the north, the east or the west. The thermometer, this morning, stood at 43° Fahrenheit, consequently fires in the rooms are still the order of the day.

PURITAN.

24th April.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* says it is reported on native authority that the money sent up country for the purchase of first crop teas, is considerably in excess of the sum forwarded for the same purpose at the corresponding period last year.—The Secretary of the Danish Legation, Lieutenant Schultz, left for the North on the 13th inst. The object of his visit to Foochow was to confer with the Provincial Authorities in reference to the Great Northern Telegraph Company's claims; and we are glad to hear that the existing difficulties are in a fair way towards a settlement. The Provincial Government never had, to use a common figure of speech, a leg to stand upon; they are therefore wise in giving up the contest, even at the eleventh hour. —Matters in Formosa have assumed a quieter aspect, although the native authorities at this Port continue to send detachments of troops across to Taiwanfoo.—A disturbance broke out at the South Camp on the morning of the 17th instant. The tumult originated, we are informed, with some Northern soldiers who attacked, with stones and mud, the foreign drilled troops under Mr. J. P. MacMahon. The officers on both sides successfully prevented the use of fire arms; and finally, fresh troops arriving on the ground, the Northern men were moved off and locked up in a neighbouring Joss-house—to ruminate, in sadness, over their breach of discipline. —The *Herald* of the 15th mentions a rumour that one of the Arsenal gunboats had been lost at sea; but does not confirm it in the following number.—A new gunboat of about 600 tons measurement is rapidly approaching completion at the Arsenal. Her construction is taking place entirely under native supervision.

FORMOSA.

It is not perhaps generally known that, whilst the Japanese were on shore in the South of the Island, last summer, the

Chinese authorities threw a garrison into Suaou bay on the East coast.

Since the departure of the Japanese forces, the Chinese General charged with the administratian of East coast affairs, has been busy pushing a road along the coast from Suaou to the Southward, and by last accounts, his head-quarters were established not far from Chockeday, for which position see Admiralty charts. Until quite lately, the aborigines have remained passive, but it is now reported that they have closed in on the rear of the Chinese working parties and are harrassing them considerably.

The General will probably retire on Suaou again, until he can mature plans for dislodging the aborigines and driving them across the first line of mountains. This will prove no easy task, as the undergrowth, in which the savages are perfectly at home, is difficult to penetrate, and attempts at firing it, owing to constant downfalls of rain, are not succeessful.

The Keelung coal-fields are now being surveyed by a mining engineer, Mr. Tyzack, whose services were engaged in England for the Fuhkien authorities. The idea is, I believe, if the engineer's report proves favourable, to introduce machinery, with a view to procuring better fuel for the use of the Foochow arsenal, the Chinese men-of-war, &c. Machinery once introduced, the importance of Keelung will rapidly increase, and we may hope to see good China steam-coal on the treaty port markets generally.

10th April.

CANTON.

The yearly literary examination at Canton has already begun, and the candidates of Namhoi and Poonyü districts were to pass their final examination yesterday.—All the Mandarins shaved their heads on the 18th inst., the hundred days' mourning expiring two days after. With the shaving of the head, the Viceroy ordered the assumption of summer attire. —A destructive fire took place in Nam Sing Lee, Canton, on the night of the 16th inst. It originated in a matshed builder's shop, the inmates of which were having a party, and while perhaps under the influence of drink, the shop was set on fire by a light being accidentally thrown on to the inflammable bamboo matting. As was to be expected, the conflagration spread with great rapidity, and in spite of the exertions of the fire brigades, it was not subdued till the neighbouring houses were burnt down. The sparks from the burning matting were carried across a stream and set fire to the houses on the opposite shore, destroying some six buildings.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

We reprint from the *China Mail,* Minutes of an emergent meeting of shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Co., supplied to it by the Secretary of the Company.—The *China Mail* learns that the wreck of the P. M. S. S. *Japan* lies at such a depth that all attempts to salve it have proved futile; the divers sent down came up in both instances insensible.—The schooner *Scotland* however is still in possession of the wreck, near which she remains anchored, when not obliged by bad weather to seek shelter. The wreck lies in about 19 fathoms water, 16½ miles S E. by E. ½ E. of Breaker Point, in Lat. 22° 46′ N. and Long. 116° 46′ E. A large iron buoy has been placed over the wreck, which by the way may be noted by ship captains. The charterers of the *Scotland* say that, though they were not fortunate in the selection of their divers, others will take their place in a few days, and that there is no idea of giving up the enterprise.—The same paper says the British steamer *Viking* stranded on the Bombay shoal at 2.30 a.m. on the 14th instant, when going from 10 to 11 knots. She remained there about 56 hours, getting clear on Friday, the 16th, at 11 a.m. She jettisoned nearly 1,000 tons of cargo, to get off, consisting of Manchester goods, rattans, pepper, sugar, ebony, &c., the said cargo being picked up by Chinese junks which were lying in the smooth water off the reef, almost before reaching the water. The vessel is now alongside the Hongkong Pier discharging and pumping; she will dock at Aberdeen to-morrow. —The officers of H. M. S. *Audacious* performed the pieces "He's a Lunatic" and "A Thumping Legacy" with great success at the City Hall, on the 17th inst.—Mr. H. David Bailey has resumed charge of the U.S. Consulate at Hongkong.—M. Plichon will act as Consul for France during the absence of Mr. Sienkiewicz.—The total revenue of the Colony for 1874 was $854,799.91, and the expenditure amounted to $921,479.54, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of $66,679.63. The increased expenditure was incurred on public works and buildings.—From the annual report of the Colonial Surgeon, published by the *Daily Press,* it is satisfactory to find that the health of the Police and Military is much improved. There has been less sickness during the past year among the former than in 1873, and the deaths in hospital have been 8, as compared with 11 in 1873. There have also been fewer deaths among the troops. A new civil hospital is much needed, and Dr. Ayres is pleased to announce that a site has been secured for it, and the plans have arrived from England. The number of admissions to this hospital has decreased somewhat. Considerable damage was done to the Old Civil Hospital during the late destructive typhoon. The health of the prisoners in Victoria Gaol has been fairly good, only one death occurring during the year. The Contagious Diseases Ordinance has worked well in the colony. During the past year the European and American women have been brought under it. The general health of the colony has been fairly good, the death rate not having increased appreciably.—The Canton Viceroy's family, who came overland from the North, arrived safely at Canton on the 13th inst.—The mandarin of Kowloong, Colonel Pang, ordered some time ago a quantity of mitrailleuses from Prussia, through a German firm, and these have recently arrived from Europe. A trial made at Kowloong, gave great satisfaction. It is supposed that the mitrailleuses are intended for use in the operations at Kashgar.—The German bark *Aldabaran,* wrecked in the typhoon of September last, has cleared for Canton to be broken up, as since she was raised she is found to be past repairing.—About 200 Chinese coolies arrived yesterday in the Canton Steamer *en route* for San Francisco. Their baggage was of equal size and similar description, shewing that they had been fitted out by a company.—A rock, distant about 120 feet from the Praya wall and a little to the Eastward of the Wanchi police station, is being blown up by the Naval Authorities; also some rocks near the shore and off Messrs Landstein & Co.'s godowns.

MACAO.

We learn from the *Jornal de Macao* that a Hakau boat and its crew have been arrested by the Portuguese gunboat *Tejo* for having, on Saturday the 3rd instant, overhauled a deep laden junk, when entering the harbour, and taken her as a prize to the Customs Station. Mr. Costa Cabral, the commander of the *Tejo* upbraided the English employés at the Customs Station when they went on board the gunboat to ask for the release of the captured boat and its crew. The Harbour Master, by order of H. E. the Governor, went on the same day to the Customs Station to demand the release of the junk, but not meeting there anybody to deliver his message to, he returned and informed the Governor, who immediately forwarded a despatch to the Viceroy of Canton. This despatch, however, could not be presented to the Viceroy as there is no Portuguese Consul is Canton, through whose medium such documents must pass according to official etiquette. The Portuguese, it appears, are in a terrible state of excitement, and a collision with the Customs mercenaries will happen sooner or later. The same paper says that, on Friday last, a steam launch belonging to the Customs Station, on attempting to overhaul a trading junk in the Portuguese waters, was fired upon by the latter, wounding mortally a mandarin on board the launch, who was taken to the hospital of St. Raphael, where he died an hour afterwards. —We hear that an Agricultural Company, under the auspices of the Government, is now being formed in Macao to work up the resources of Timor. A line of steam communication, receiving a handsome subsidy from the Exchequer, is to be established; all information that may interest all concerned has been given by a committee of investigation, and everything augurs a complete success. Timor is, politically, a province of Macao, which subsidises from its governor down to the last soldier. Timor is situated in Lat. 10.9 S. and Long. 123.6 E., is an island in the Indian Ocean, and measures 250 miles long by 50. The Dutch took possession of part of it from Portuguese in 1613, and the British occupied the island in 1811, but soon afterwards were obliged to quit it in consequence of great mortality among the troops. Ponies, swine, poultry, and buffaloes (which are only killed for the sake of their hides and horns) are found in great abundance. Bees' wax, sandalwood, sapanwood, hemp of the finest quality, coffee, Indian corn, and all kinds of spices may be had in large quantities for a mere trifle. The climate is temperate, but the miasma emanating from the several ponds of stagnant water, makes it deadly to Europeans, especially those that are addicted to spirits.—*Hongkong Times.*

HIOGO.

Sir Harry Parkes has been visiting Hiogo and Osaka. The Osaka correspondent of the *News* writes:—I wonder how His Excellency would fancy sojourning here for six months of the year, supposing that His Majesty *should* take it into his head, as it has lately been more than once rumoured that he will, to come and live here turn and turn about with Yedo?"—It is also said that Sir Harry intends visiting Nagasaki. We wish he could see his way to come on to Shanghai, and help decide on the measures to be taken for punishing the Yunnan outrage.—The following address of H. M. The Mikado to the Japanese Nation has been published in the native newspapers:—

On ascending the Imperial Throne, I assembled the nobles and high officials of my realm and took oath before the gods to maintain the five principles, to govern in harmony with public opinion, and to protect the rights of my people

Assisted by the sacred memory of the glorious line of my holy ancestors, and by the union of my subjects, I have attained a large measure of peace and tranquility.

So short, however, has been the space of time which has elapsed since the consummation of the late Revolution, that many essential reforms still remain to be effected in the administration of the Empire.

It is my desire not to restrict myself to the maintenance of the five principles which I swore to preserve, but to go still further and enlarge the circle of domestic reforms

With this view, I now establish the *Genro-in,* to enact laws for the Empire; and the *Dai shi-in,* to consolidate the judicial authority of the

Court. Thus, by assembling representatives from various provinces of the Empire, the public mind may best be known and the public interest best consulted, and in this manner the wisest system of adminstration will be determined.

I hope by these means to secure the hapiness of my subjects and my own. And while they must necessarily abandon many of their former customs, yet must they not on the other hand yield too impulsively to a rash desire tor reform.

I desire to make you acquainted with my wishes and to obtain your hearty co-operation in giving them effect.

Notification No. 59 from the Prime Minister, dated April 14th, abolishes the *Sa in* and *Yu in*, and announces the establishment of *Genro-in* and *Daishin in* (? Upper and Lower Houses), and that the *Shikiburio* will henceforth be attached to the *Naimusho*.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 1st.—Chih-ho, Civil Governor of Fêng-t'ien Fu, memorializes, reporting the decease of the Military Governor, Tu-hing-ah, which took place on the 9th March. On the previous day he had sent off a memorial, asking for sick leave, and had handed over the key of his seal of office to Chih-ho. During his recent illness, his mind has been entirely concentrated on his duties, and especially occupied with the disturbances prevailing in the province. Not a single word has escaped him on affairs of a merely personal interest. The only member of his family with him at Moukden is his third son, who proposes to proceed with the remains of his father to the family home in the Amoor region. Chih-ho adds that his compassion has been powerfully moved on finding that the Military Governor has died in very straitened circumstances.

April 2nd.—The Captain-General of the Bordered Yellow Mongolian Banner memorializes, requesting sanction to the adoption of an heir to a captain in the corps in question, who has died without issue.

April 3rd.—(Court Circular.) The Prince of Ch'un and his colleagues received instructions on their departure for the Eastern Mausolea.

The Grand Secretariat presented the memorial of the great State Assembly (on matters referred for deliberation.)

She-tsêng received instructions on his departure in charge of the "golden coffin" of the Imperial concubine, Show P'in—of the seraglio of Hien Fêng.

The Governor-General and Governor of Fuhkien memorialize on the appointment of a Magistrate for the district of Fêng-shan in Formosa. The former incumbent, Yen Ch'êng i, is a man of great prudence and integrity, but somewhat wanting in breadth of mind, and it has been requested by the Taotai of T'ai-wan, in consequence of failure on the Magistrate's part to deal suitably with foreign affairs, that he be exchanged with some other magistrate on the mainland. It is accordingly proposed that his late post at Fêng-shan be filled by the present Magistrate of the Wu-p'ing district, named Têng Kia-shêng, aged 43, a native of Nanking. Yen Ch'êng, who is to exchange with him, is a native of Hunan, aged 36, a Kü jên graduate, who was appointed to the Fêng-shan district in 1869, and removed from it in the following year (since which time he has probably been seeking the re-employment now to be given him.)

April 4—(1) A decree of the two Empresses, directing the Imperial Board of Astronomers to select an auspicious day for turning the first sod at the site upon which the mausoleum of the late Emperor is to be constructed. Notice is thereupon to be given to the Prince of Ch'un and his colleagues, the Directors of the Works.

(2) The Governor General of Sze-ch'wan reports that on the expiration of his two-months of sick congé he has resumed the active discharge of his duty, although still suffering under his old complaint. He feels bound not to think only of his own welfare, particularly at the present juncture, when the roads of the province are covered with the discharged irregulars who have been disbanded of late in Kweichow, and when trouble may be looked for on the part of local banditti and roving "braves," at the particular season when agriculture has no employment to offer and food is scarce.

(3) In a supplementary memorial the same official forwards a report by the colonel who had been sent to Sü chow Fu (on the upper Yangt-ze, near the border of Yünnan), to quell the disturbances caused by a body of braves who had mutinied for their pay. He has disbanded 800 of their number and retained 1,200 with their colours. He has further disbanded a force of 500 irregulars who were stationed on the frontier. The colonel in question has been further authorized to enrol a body of 300 men as body-guards, for the more effective maintenance of his authority. On the application of another military commander, who has reported that his men were becoming impatient of their long service, and were asking for their pay and discharge, 600 Hunan irregulars have been further disbanded. Since the Governor-General has held office in Szech'wan, he adds, he has disbanded no less than 50,000 men, and the great extent of territory for which he is answerable, together with the lawlessness encouraged by the proximity of frontier tribes, makes stringent precaution continually necessary.

April 5th—(1) A decree in reply to a memorial by the Governor of Shun-t'ien Fu, requesting an extension of the time during which the charitable relief agencies may be kept open. A further period of two months is granted, and an allowance of 200 piculs of millet is ordered to be supplied, together with Taels 400 out of the octroi revenue of the Ts'ung-wên (Ha-ta) Gate.

(2) The Governor of Shantung memorializes representing that a district magistrate, lately deceased, named Liu Ying-lin, was a defaulter to the extent of Taels 5,040 under different headings in the revenue for which he was accountable. His family have given no heed to repeated demands for the payment of this debt, and it is requested that he be posthumously stripped of his rank, and his late residence, both at his Magistracy and his native place, be searched and all discoverable property escheated.—A rescript sanctioning this course has already appeared.

April 6th.—(1) A decree, referring to the bounty sanctioned by the usage of his Majesty's predecessors, in the way of remissions of taxation, and commanding the Board of Revenue to examine and report on the measures of relief and exemption that should be granted, in honour of his Majesty's accession, and in fulfilment of his loving desire for the welfare of his people.

(2) A decree. Li Hung-chang memorializes requesting that the Taotai of Tientsin be commanded to repair to his post without delay. Let Li Chao-t'ang, the Customs' Taotai of Tientsin, who has now returned to Kwantung (his native province), be directed by the Governor-General and Governor to proceed without delay by sea to Tientsin, for the due discharge of his official duties.

(3) The Governor of Yünnan memorializes reporting the proceedings taken respecting the murder of a civilian official. On the 18th November last, a report was received by him from the Colonel of the Wei-yüan 威遠廳 military division, to the effect that on the 8th of that month it had been reported to him by a servant of Wang Sze-ki 汪嗣吉 sub-Prefect of the Wei-yüan department (in the Prefecture of Pu'-urh, in the extreme south of Yünnan), that his master had been murdered on the 28th Oct., by a band of malefactors who broke into the building where he was lodging, at a place called Pao Mu Tsing, and in addition to despatching the sub-Prefect, wounded several of his retainers and carried off all his money and effects. As they retired from the place they were pursued by the sergeant of the post, with the force under his command, but they forced a passage to the mountains, killing one of the soldiers of the pursuing force. On receipt of this report, the Governor had to observe that many years have elapsed since the department of Wei-yüan was recovered from rebel possession, and that no remnants of the insurgents were any longer in existence there, so that a searching enquiry into the causes which could have led to so serious an affair as this, was urgently needful. The locality being nearly 2,000 *li* (650 miles) from the provincial capital, however, time did not permit of sending a special commissioner for this purpose; and instructions were consequently despatched posthaste to the Taotai of the southern circuit and the Brigadier commanding at P'u-urh, with other officials, to proceed with a military force at once to the spot, and institute enquiry and action in the matter. A brevet Brigadier-General and a Lieutenant-Colonel were at the same time sent from the provincial capital to coöperate with them. The place were the murder took place was one of the localities containing salt-wells, situated among the mountains 120 *li* from the departmental town, and was provided with a *kungso* or lodging-station for the convenience of officials when travelling or residing at the spot. Wang Sze-ki had taken up his abode there from the moment of his entry upon the appointment of sub-Prefect, and had occupied himself with supervision of the Salt-boiling works. On an inquest being held, his body was found covered with wounds, fourteen in number. The efforts of the authorities resulted in the capture of five of the perpetrators of the crime, together with some of the stolen property. The prisoners arrived at the provincial capital under military guard on the 21st January 1875, and were placed on trial before the Judicial Commissioner. By the facts elicited it was proved that the murdered sub-Prefect, from the time when in November, 1872, he arrived in his department, had resided solely at the Salt-wells instead of in the departmental city. In September 1874 he sent his family to the provincial capital in charge of two of his underlings, named Chow Lao-shih and Liu Ch'ang-tai. When half way on their journey, the party were robbed of their money and valuables, and compelled to return. The sub-Prefect, suspecting the two underlings of complicity with the thieves, flogged and discharged them, and in the month of October Liu Ch'ang-tai died from the effects of the beating he had undergone. Chow Lao-shih hereupon sought out a sworn brother of the deceased, with certain others, told them his grievance, and informed them moreover that Wang Sze-ki must have a large amount of government money in his keeping, as he had not for a length of time made any remittances of the proceeds of the salt tax. A band was organised by whom the murder and robbery were subsequently perpetrated. On reaching the hills, the confederates, eighteen all told, divided the booty they had obtained, to wit, seven hundred taels in silver, opium, clothing, and female ornaments. One member of the band had not been able to join them in time for the act, and his share of the plunder, viz., Taels 50 in silver and 50 taels' weight of opium, with a couple of jackets, was sent

to him by one of the confederates, and duly accepted by him. The prisoners have been summarily executed according to law The deceased sub-Prefect is severely blamed both for his unauthorised residence away from his own city, and for the severity of the punishment inflicted on his underlings. The Governor states that a report had already reached him of the sub-Prefect's absence from his proper residence, his object being to profit by the administration of the salt-works, and he was on the point of ordering an enquiry into his conduct when this affair occurred.

April 7th—(1) The Court of Censorate memorializes forwarding the appeal presented by Kiang Mow-ch'un and other notables and taxpayers of the department of P'ei Chow 沛州 in Sze-ch'wan, complaining of rapacity on the part of the local Magistrate and his connivance at oppression practised by his subordinates. The representation made is as follows:—Thirty or forty years ago it was settled, on a petition of the taxpayers to the Governor General, that with regard to the assessed land-tax of the department, amounting to a total of Tls. 5,000 and odd, the amount collected should be Tls. 1.3.6. for each Tael of regulation levy, the additional 3 *mace* 6 *candareens* to include all charges for [illegible] adjustment of weight and standard, packing, and conveyance. Under the head of tea-grower's tax a further amount of eight or ten candareens was assessed in addition to each Tael of land tax. Matters were conducted on this basis for some years without charge, but during the reign of Hien Fêng some slight additions were made to the amount of levy. In 1868 the rate of exchange of silver stood at 1,600 *cash* per Tael. The Magistrate then in office demanded, however, 11,290 *cash* per Tael of tax-levy. Before he had collected much more than one-fifth of the year's assessment, his successor arrived to take office, and this Magistrate re-established a sub-office for the tax levy, and put on a further sum of 3,000 *cash* per Tael, introducing besides a new item of 1,000 *cash* per Tael under the head of Government courier assessment. In the autumn of the following year he issued a notification stating that an additional levy of the second half-year's tax-levy must be made, in conformity with superior orders calling for funds to supply the wants of other provinces, and a sum of ten times the amount of the regulation payment was exacted, beside the 1,000 *cash* per Tael for the courier service. In reality, however, there is no post-road in connection with the department, and no such charge had been known in previous years. A further catalogue of grievances is alleged, winding up with the statement that in the last seven years the amount of illegal taxation which has gone into the pockets of five successive incumbents of the Magistracy is between 150,000 and 160,000 Taels. The present incumbent is denounced as having exacted forced contributions over and above the amount of tax-levy, and as having been influenced by the local salt monopolist to allow the price of salt to be largely augmented. In order to guard his interests, the monopolist has raised a force of five hundred or six hundred vagabonds, who are scattered among the villages on the look-out for contraband dealers; and local banditti have taken advantage of this to plant themselves at every cross-road and commit depredations, it being impossible to distinguish who are brigands and who the watchers of the salt monopoly. The present Magistrate, moreover, having married his son to the assistant Magistrate's brother's daughter, has allowed the assistant Magistrate the unlawful privilege of sitting judicially for the decision of civil causes, the result being that judgment is sold to the highest bidder. The complainants have petitioned the Governor General, but, although His Excellency's instructions in reply were all that could be looked for in the way of authoritative stringency, the Magistrate has not paid the slightest attention to them. As a last resource, the appeal is brought to Peking.—A rescript has already appeared in the usual terms, remitting the subject for enquiry in the Province.

(2) The Governor of Chehkiang memorializes reporting the despatch of the first detachment of the vessels conveying the quota of the provincial grain tribute to Tientsin. The amount of white and ordinary rice to be sent north in the present year, from the Hangchow, Kia-hing, and Hu-chow prefectures, on account of the collection of 1874, is 4[illegible]0,000 and odd piculs. The provincial Rice Comptroller has proceeded to Shanghai to superintend the shipment there, which is to be accomplished in three divisions. The first of these has now been completed, amounting to 164,500 piculs, of which 50,250 piculs have been taken by the C. M. S. N. Company, and the remainder has been shipped by 50 native junks, which began their voyage from Shanghai on the 2nd February.

April 8th.—(1) A Decree. Wên-siang memorializes reporting that his health still remains unrestored, and entreating permission to vacate his offices. We grant him permission to vacate his post as captain-general of the Bordered White Manchu Banner, and sanction his withdrawal from supervision of the Board of Works and the division of Musketeers, in token of our sympathising regard. Let him still continue to occupy his office as Grand Secretary and his membership of the Grand Council and the Yamên of Foreign Affairs, resuming the active discharge of his functions when his complaint shall have been in some degree alleviated

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with an unimportant appeal rehearing case from An-hwei.

April 9th.—(1) A Decree. Shên Pao-chêng and his colleagues memorialize Us requesting posthumous rewards for a major who has fallen in action, and likewise that sanction be given for the erection of a memorial temple. Wang K'ai-tsün, a major of the Wên-chow division, who had greatly distinguished himself in his operations against banditti in Formosa, is reported to Us as having proceeded at the head of a body of troops, in the first moon of this year, to apprehend the savages of the Lion Head tribe, and We learn with profound commiseration that, having fallen into an ambuscade, he perished in the fight. Let posthumous rewards of a distinguished character be conferred upon him, on the scale appropriate to the rank of colonel, and let, as a special act of grace, a title of canonisation be conferred upon him, and a memorial temple be erected in his honour in the south of Formosa. Let the names of the two officers and ninety-three men who fell at the same time be likewise handed over to the Board, for the award of distinguished honours, and let them be admitted also to a place in the temple, for sacrificial honours, as a comfort to the manes of the faithful dead.

(2) Let Peh-yen-na-mo-hu Prince of the K'ortchin Mongols) be transferred to the captain-generalship of the Bordered White Manchu Banner (vacated by Wên-siang, see *Gazette* of 8th instant); and let Lung-k'in (the Prince of Su) succeed to the captain-generalship of the Bordered Blue *Han Kün* Banner.

(3) Li Hung-chang, Governor-General of Chihli, memorializes reporting that since the beginning of February two falls of snow have taken place in the province, and that on the 12th March rain fell to the depth of one or two inches (*ts'un*), greatly to the benefit of the wheat crop, and affording much satisfaction to the people. Works were begun on the 10th March on the embankment of the Yellow River in the south of province, where repairs were needed, and owing to the large concourse of labourers, a detachment of troops has been ordered to the spot, to guard against disturbances. As the river is open at Tientsin, and foreign vessels and the grain junks are beginning to arrive, the Governor-General proceeds on the 22nd March to take up his residence there.

April 10th.—(1) A decree, in reply to a memorial by the Court of Censorate, forwarding the petition lodged by a member of the imperial lineage named Eu shao, with reference to the death of his uncle, the former Military Governor of Ili, who perished with his entire family, and of whose deprivation of rank he appears to have complained. It is stated that on the attack upon Ili being made, in 1865, by the Mahommedan rebels, the late Military Governor, Ch'ang-ts'ing 常清, who had been stripped of his rank but left at Ili to carry out certain duties, mounted the walls with the Military Governor then in the city, accompanied by his staff, and contributed stoutly to the defence of the place. When the city was at length taken, Ch'ang-ts'ing still maintained the struggle from street to street, until he fell fighting, his entire family perished at the same time in the cause of their country. Their fate is most deeply to be deplored. Let Ch'ang-ts'ing receive posthumous honours on the scale appropriate to the fourth rank; and let honorary memorials be established on behalf of his stepmother Ch'êng-she, his son Tên-jun, his daughters (four in number), and his concubines Wang-she and Yüeh-she. Let the proper Board take note.

(2) The acting-Resident in Tibet, Hi-k'ai, memorializes at great length with reference to sundry judicial proceedings in connection with a case which is shewn to have been pending for the last two years, but the details of which are not set forth. Several Chinese officials, civil and military, are reported as having been in league together to falsify the evidence taken at a trial, and to have used illegal forms of torture, such as burning the flesh of a prisoner with a slow match, to extort confession. The offence charged in this case appears to have been "illicit communication with people beyond the border" (Nepalese?). A tumult in the yamên of the late resident Ch'êng-ki (who died on the 14th August last) is also incidentally refered to. The acting-Resident, having little experience as a judicial officer, submits for decision at Peking the sentences to be passed on the delinquent officials.

April 11th—(1) A decree in reply to a memorial by the Governor of Honan, directly that stringent proceedings be taken for the recovery of Tls. 20,800 due on account of sundry items of revenue collection by a deceased district Magistrate. Search is to be made for property that may have belonged to him at the places where he has successively held office, and at his home in Shantung. All property discovered is to be sequestrated.

April 12th.—(Court Circular). Ch'êng-twan presented his respects on his return from offering sacrifices at the Mausolea of the Ming dynasty.

(1) A decree in reply to a memorial by the Governor of Shensi, who appears to have complained of exactions perpetrated by the persons in charge of parties of lamas and tributary chieftains from the Tibetan frontier, when passing through the Province on the way to Peking. It is observed in reply that fixed regulations are in existence for the measure of supplies to be furnished on such occasion and the means of transport to be provided, and no exactions in excess of these allowances can be tolerated. The Governor-General of Szech'wan is to see in future that the

packages conveyed by parties of the description referred to correspond in weight and number with the statement furnished by the President in Tibet, and to notify the provincial governments along the line of journey with reference to the number of mules and drivers required. The authorities of Shensi, Shansi, and Chihli will furnish proper escort; and the same rule is to be observed for the return journey.

(2) The Governor of Honan memorializes, reporting the decease, on the 21st March, of K'iao Sung-nien, Governor-General of the Yellow River. A eulogium of the deceased official's character and devotion to his duty in the stations he has successively filled, is set forth in the customary terms.

(3) The same Governor reports the rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking by a decree dated August 1873, on the complaint of a man named Sun T'ung-hwei, who accused one Liang-k'o and others of the murder of his uncle Sun Sze-ch'êng. The deceased was married to a sister of Liang-k'o, and a kinsman of his, named Sun Sze-kieh, was accustomed to manage the family affairs for him during his absence from home on business. A quarrel arose in June 1873 owing to a suspicion on the part of deceased that illicit intercourse was being carried on between Sun Sze-kieh and his wife, but after an altercation in which blows were exchanged, the parties were separated and relations were established as before. Sun Sze-ch'êng is found to have been attacked with sunstroke shortly afterwards, on an intensely hot day, in consequence of which he died; and the present complaint originated in unfounded suspicions on the appellant's part. The appellant, however, is subject to fits of insanity, and on this ground he is absolved from punishment for bringing a false charge.

April 13th.—The Literary Chancellor of the Province of Honan, Fei Yen-li, memorializes in virtue of the decree of the two Empresses calling for advice, which was officially communicated to him on the 16th February by the Governor of the province. He feels bound, accordingly, to state the views his position has led him to form with reference to the public service; and he proceeds to submit that whilst selection of the agents of Government (用人) and the exercise of the highest functions of administration (行政) are duties the importance of which are equal, yet, inasmuch as the success of Government is dependent upon the quality of its agents' capabilities, if he were called upon to assign a place to either, he should give precedence to the selection of persons for official employment as the paramount consideration. In the endeavour to obtain able public servants, what is needful is to exercise due care at the outset of their admission. Although the state, in making choice of scholars by means of the competitive examinations, cannot depend on invariably obtaining talent of practical utility, yet, in the majority of cases, minds that can appreciate what is right and adapt themselves to active functions, fitting their possessors for the discharge of great and onerous duties, are yielded from this source The access to the public service furnished by means of contributions (purchase of rank) is, on the other hand, essentially an exceptional expedient. Where eighty or ninety in the hundred are derived from the regular course of entry, with but ten or twenty admitted by the purchase lists, no great detriment need accrue to the character of the civil service. In the six Boards, for instance, the secretaries of various classes should be drawn from among the graduates at the highest competitive examinations; and the Taotais, Prefects, and Magistrates in the provinces are all placed in direct authority over the people. Of late years, however, such appointments are filled in a multitude of cases from the purchase lists. Representations have been continually made on the subject by officials both at the capital and in the provinces, in reply to which Imperial commands have been given requiring the persons thus employed to be subjected to examinations, with the object of purifying the state of the service. The memorialist would observe, however, that examination before admission is preferable to examination after the purchase of rank has been completed; and he proposes that the following system of discrimination be henceforward adopted. Whenever individuals, whether of lettered pretensions but without degree of any kind, or having obtained by purchase an honorary degree of the lowest order, wish to obtain by purchase any of the positions above-named, they should not be allowed to effect the transaction at any provincial sale-of-titles office, but should be required to proceed to Peking and to hand in their application to the Board of Civil Office. They should then be orally examined by the chiefs of the Board, and tested both in replies to questions and in composition, stringent precautions being taken against false personation. Only such as should manifest adequate literary capabilities should be allowed to purchase rank. By this means not only would those be gathered in whom the examination system has passed by, but proper regard would also be had for the requirements of official station. It should further be prescribed that all persons at present holding appointments by purchase in any of the Boards or the provinces should be subjected to the ordeal of a test examination. As circumstances are at present, candidates for substantive appointments in the provinces who have got themselves named to certain posts, it may be, on the "80 per cent." or "40 per cent." tariff of purchase, having presented themselves in the province to which they are named, may be perfectly well-known to the high authorities as unfit for the positions to which they lay claim; and yet, as they have their appointments from Peking, it is impossible not to send them to their posts. Such among individuals of this class as in the course of time come to be removed from their posts or it may be impeached for misconduct, are only the most absolutely incapable and unfit. As for the rest, the men who are skilled with their tongues and adepts in the art of making themselves useful, continue as an incubus on the official lists. That in positions requiring so much experience as the discharge of duties involving the collection of revenue, the movement of troops, and the administration of justice, persons wholly without literary training should be compelled to rely on the assistance of others, is quite self-evident In former times, persons who purchased rank or office at least came forward with large sums for the transaction; but at the present day, advancement is obtained for "military service" and by "recommendations," beside which the agents employed in the military commissariat or the *li-kin* tax-offices do not scruple to embezzle the public funds in order to provide themselves with means for purchasing office. Once in place, they are followed by eager crowds of relatives and friends, often wholly devoid of the elements of education; and so it comes about that the benefits of the purchase system to the State are purely illusory. The memorialist winds up by repeating that he does not assert every candidate who has gained his honours by the literary examinations to be invariably qualified for practical service, nor that the subsidiary avenues to employment in no cases admit useful public servants; but he insists that a test examination should in all cases precede admission into the public service. Impressed with these views, he is ready to expose himself to the sneers of those who are not alive to the questions of the day, rather than to commit the fault of putting forward a mere string of empty verbiage.—A rescript was published on the 28th March, directing the proper Board to examine, and report upon the above memorial.

April 14th.—(1) A decree in reply to a memorial from the Military Governor of the Amoor, who has reported that on the 20th February an attack was made on the jail at Hu-lan T'ing (on the north bank of the river Sungari, Lat. 46° N., Long. 127° E.), by a band of 30 or 40 brigands, who carried off a number of the criminals confined there. In the rising of the prisoners some of the jailers lost their lives. The deputy magistrate in charge of the jail is stripped of his office, and is to be placed on trial and punished according to law; and other civil and military officials responsible are similarly deprived of their rank. A prisoner who was retaken has been executed. The remainder are to be recaptured without fail.

(2) The Vice-President of the Board of Punishments at Moukden memorializes reporting the serious misconduct of a member of the imperial lineage, named Fu-ming, residing at Moukden under banishment for an offence committed at Peking. He had lodged a complaint against the owner of a rice shop on the score of alleged non-payment of a debt, which was denied; and when summoned before the district magistrate for a hearing, he employed a number of men to seize and tie up the police runner who served the summons, and who, beside being cruelly beaten, was tortured by having his hairs pulled out. The offending *tsungshih* has been committed to prison, and it is requested that a commission be named to try him for his acts of violence.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI GAS COMPANY.

The annual meeting of shareholders was held on the 27th April. Present—J. G. Purdon, Esq., in the chair. Messrs. F. D. Hitch, J. C. Coutts, H. S. Morris, E Holdsworth, F. G. White, J. MacGregor, E J. Hogg, R. Thorburn, W. H. Dalgliesh, Ewen Cameron, A. Nachtrieb, J. P. Bisset, H. Scott Fitz, and G. J. Yeo, Secretary, representing 454 votes.

The notice calling the meeting was read

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Hitch, the minutes of the last meeting were taken as read.

The Chairman then called attention to the Report and Accounts. He did not know that there was much to add to what was there said. The report was full, too full perhaps for those who do not like dry detail; but the Directors were anxious to give all the information they could. The continued prosperity of the Company was gratifying. Of course the ratio of increase could not be expected to be so great in the case of an old as of a new Company; but that there was an increase at all is satisfactory, especially in these times of retrenchment. The working of the Company was all that could be desired. The Directors had taken a great deal of personal trouble, and had carefully watched the outgoings. The accounts were in good order. The Directors had enjoined care on the auditor, and he says books could not be better kept. Unless any one had any remarks to offer, he would now propose

That the Directors' and Engineer's reports and accounts for the year 1874 be approved and passed.

Seconded by Mr. Bisset, and carried unanimously.

Report.

The Directors regret that, owing to the late illness of the Secretary, the annual accounts were not presented a month earlier, as was

intended, but they have now much pleasure in submitting them, and trust they will be found satisfactory to the Shareholders.

The nett profits for the year are Tls. 23,120.76, being a slight increase over last year; out of which two semi-annual dividends have been paid, amounting to Tls. 16,500.

Although the last half-yearly dividend was only 5 per cent., instead of 6 per cent. as formerly, it will be seen that this was more a matter of precaution than from any inability to declare the larger amount out of the profits of the year; the consumption of Gas not increasing in the same ratio as in former years, the Directors preferred to apply the sum thus saved towards more quickly liquidating the loan for the new Gas Holder, than to carry out fully their anticipation expressed in the last annual report, of not having to interfere with the usual dividends; and they believe the shareholders will be of opinion that this was a wise policy.

To increase the quality of the Gas, the Directors have caused more Australian Cannel Coal to be used than formerly; and although this is a very expensive Coal, they consider the money well applied.

Photometric tests are regularly taken at the works of the illuminating power of the Gas, and during the past year the average has been equal to 14.2 sperm candles. The Engineer will be happy at any time to show this testing to any shareholder who may wish to see it.

At the request of the Municipal Council, the Company made a reduction of 12 cents per Public Lamp per month, and this year to meet another request of the Council, the Directors have made an arrangement by which the Lamps are lighted earlier in the evenings of the Winter months, and put out earlier in the Summer; and although there is an apparent saving of some hours in the year in the time the Lamps are burning, yet, as the hours taken off are in the early mornings, when the pressure of Gas is not so great in the Settlement; and the hours added are in the early part of the evening, when the pressure is greatest, the arrangement is not quite so favourable to the Gas Company as the former one was.

Application was made to the Council for a modification of the fines imposed on the Company for lights out during the night. At present, for all Lamps found not burning during any time of the night, no matter from what cause, a deduction of $2.65 per 1,000 cubic feet of gas is made, and it is established by investigation of the Company's servants that many of the Lamps are put out through malicious practices; the Company, therefore, not only get fined, but lose the gas which is allowed to escape. The Council, however, refused to make any alteration.

The amount of Coal used, state of the Works, Plants, etc., including the new Gas Holder, and other statistics interesting to the Shareholders, are given in the Engineer's annexed report.

The Directors retire in terms of the Deed of Settlement, but are eligible for re-election.

Mr. O. Brandt offers himself for re-election as Auditor.

Summary of Engineer's Fortnightly Reports.

During the past year 309$^{16}/_{20}$ Tons of Coal have been carbonized, giving a production of 27,330,400 cubic feet of Gas.

A slight increase only of 69,000 cubic feet in the consumption of Gas has taken place, this being a very small per centage as compared with former years.

The loss of Gas by leakage during the year is 10.06 %, against 13.56 % of last year.

The sale of Coke has been very satisfactory, but the demand for Tar has been very small, and this commodity is so rapidly increasing that in a few months more storeage room will be necessary.

The Buildings, Machinery, and Plant generally are in good repair.—144 yards of 14-inch main have been laid in the Nanking Road in the place of some 8-inch pipes, the latter being utilized in the works.—235 yards of old 6 and 7-inch mains in the Nanking Road have been removed, and 9-inch mains substituted. 210 yards of 7-inch main have been laid in the Garden Bridge Road and a portion of the Hongkew Road, and 164 yards of 3-inch, 168 yards of 2½ and 2-inch mains have been laid in the Bubbling Well Road, and other parts of the settlement requiring these extensions.

The New Gas-holder, of 70,000 cubic feet capacity, which the Contractors expected to have completed by the end of November, has been delayed through bad weather during the excavations, and detention of materials from England, but the work is now progressing and will be shortly completed.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ending 31st December, 1874.

		Tls. cts.
Dr.		
To Dividend of 6 per cent. on paid-up Capital, declared 9th January, 1874		9,000.00
,, Transfer from Profits of 1873 to Reserve and Depreciation Fund		3,582.79
,, Dividend of 6 per cent. on paid-up Capital, declared 26th June, 1874		9,000.00
,, Sundries		24.85
,, Passages		746.82
,, Bad Debts written off		50.63
,, Gratuities to Invalided Servants		240.00
,, Balance		14,120.76
	Tls.	36,765.85
Cr.		
By Balance 31st December, 1873		12,582.79
,, Sundries		53.98
,, Interest Account		388.95
,, Balance of Working Account		23,740.13
	Tls.	36,765.85
1875.		
January 1.—By Balance		14,120.76
,, (Dependency) Dividend to 31st December, 1874, declared 24th December, 1874		7,500.00
	Tls.	6,620.76

RESERVE AND DEPRECIATION FUND ACCOUNT for the Year ending 31st December 1874.

			Tls. cts.
Dr.			
To Amount written off from Cost of Land and Buildings	834.81		
,, ,, ,, ,, Plant..	3,164.60		
			3,999.41
,, Balance			6,499.65
		Tls.	10,499.06
Cr.			
By Balance, 31st December, 1873			6,916.27
,, Transfer from Profits, 1873			3,582.79
		Tls.	10,499.06

BALANCE SHEET for the year ending 31st December, 1874.

			Tls. cts.
Dr.			
LIABILITIES.			
To Share Capital Account— 1,500 Shares at Tls. 100 each			150,000.00
,, Sundry Creditors			1,458.60
,, New Gas-Holder Loan Account— Amount from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for New Gas-Holder now in course of erection			15,000.00
,, Unpaid Dividends			871.00
,, Reserve and Depreciation Fund			6,499.65
,, Balance of Profit and Loss			14,120.76
			187,950.01
Cr.			
ASSETS.			
By cost of Land and Buildings— Cost up to 31st December, 1873	41,632.35		
Cost of an adjacent lot of Land, purchased in April, 1874	200.00		
Cost of an Additional Wing to Fitters Residence	880.00		
Cost of an Additional Wing to Purifying House	703.19		
		43,415.54	
Written off for Depreciation		834.81	
			42,580.73
" Cost of Plant— Cost up to 31st December, 1873	99,738.82		
Cost of Extensions during the year, viz., Mains, Purifier, Connections, &c.	1,880.84		
Cost of New Gas-Holder now in course of erection	15,000.00		
		116,619.66	
Written off for Depreciation		3,164.60	
			113,455.06
,, Insurance 8 months unexpired			154.73
,, Stocks on hand— Fittings		11,965.81	
Plant Stock (transfer from Fitting Stocks)		2,320.21	
Coal, Coke, Tar, Oxide of Iron, Lime, &c..		2,253.06	
			16,539.08
,, Sundry Debtors— Sundry Fittings ordered		350.07	
Amounts due for Gas and Fittings, &c.— Accounts rendered	1,742.97		
Accounts not rendered	7,943.56		
		9,686.53	
Accounts for Coke and Tar, &c.		365.82	
			*10,402.42
,, Office Furniture			72.27
,, Cash at Bankers and in hand			4,745.72
		Tls.	187,950.01

* Since collected, Tls. 9,244.20

Mr. HOLDSWORTH next proposed, and Mr. CAMERON seconded

That Sir E. Hornby, Messrs. J. G. Purdon, E. J. Hogg, and F. D. Hitch be appointed Directors for the current year, with power to add to their number.—Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. HITCH said the shareholders were aware that a heavy portion of the duty of the Directors falls upon the Chairman. The Directors could testify that he had borne the great burden during the past year. He wished to propose—

That in view of the onerous duties which the Chairman of the Company is called upon to perform, he shall hereby be entitled to receive as his fee the sum of Tls. 20 for each Directors' meeting which he shall attend.

The fee for the other Directors remaining Tls. 10, as before.

Seconded by Mr. F. G. WHITE, and carried.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed, and Mr. MCGREGOR seconded,

That Mr. O. Brandt be re-elected as auditor to the Company for the ensuing year.—Carried.

This concluded the business, and the meeting broke up.

SHANGHAI AND HONGKEW WHARF CO.

The adjourned meeting of Shareholders in this Company was held at the Club yesterday afternoon, when the following were present:—Mr. C. J. King, in the chair; Messrs. Banyard, Bell, Bisset, Bromley, Drysdale, Fergusson, Groom, Gundry, Hawtrey, Hennequin, Jacques, W. Keswick, Lawrence, Lindsay, Lucas, J. Macgregor, Nissen, Overbeck, Rodewald, Sutherland, Thurburn, Tootal, Westall, Wood, and A. J. Pollock, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting was called in accordance with the notice which had appeared in that morning's paper, it was an adjourned meeting from the 1st of March last. He did not know if it would be necessary in this instance to read the minutes of the former meeting. They were somewhat lengthy, and were lying on the table, as they were published in the *North-China Herald* of the 4th of March. If the meeting would allow him, he would take them as read, with the exception of the part refering to the business of the present meeting, which was a resolution proposed by himself, and seconded by Mr. Forster, that the consideration of the proposed amalgamation of Hunt's and Heard's Wharves with the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company should be left to the Directors, as a Committee, to report on at a future meeting. The present meeting was held in consequence of that resolution, and it had been postponed on more than one occasion, but they were at last in possession of the report of the committee, which had been printed and placed in the hands of the shareholders. Its perusal would have assisted them in coming to a resolution respecting the proposed amalgamation. No opinion had been expressed in it, and the proposal had been left to the free and unbiassed opinion of the shareholders. He need not say that if any omission was detected, or if any question occurred to anyone present, with reference to the report, the committee would be happy to supply any information thereon. Having become pretty well versed in the matter, the Directors would be able to answer any questions that might be put to them, with respect to either the clauses or the figures.

Memo. of Proposed terms of Amalgamation.

I.—That the Wharves known as "Hunt's" and "Heard's" and the "Shanghai and Hongkew" shall be worked by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as General Agents, under a Board of Directors, of whom the Chairman shall be the senior representative of the said firm in Shanghai, and the other Directors to be elected from, and by, the Shareholders of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company,

and that the terms and conditions of the combined working shall be as follows.

II.—That Hunt's and Heard's Wharves shall be admitted into the amalgamation on the basis of Tls. 30,000 for their net earnings during the year 1874, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf on the basis of 10 per cent. on the Capital of the Company, say Tls. 24,200 per annum; and that out of the working account, provided the earnings admit of it, the said sums shall be paid in full, or in the event of the earnings not reaching Tls. 54,200, then the sum actually earned shall be divided *pro rata* in accordance with the above-valued income of the respective properties.

III.—That the Working Account of the combined Wharves shall be debited with the expenses necessary to the business, such as Coolie Hire, General Disbursements, Office Charges, Fire Insurance, Municipal Taxes, the Rent of the Sailors' Home frontage, Directors' Fees, Commissions, and all ordinary and necessary repairs to the Wharves and Premises, of the character usually borne by Tenants, as well as the repair of existing wooden structures.

IV.—That all Buildings shall be put in an efficient and serviceable state of repair (to the satisfaction of a surveyor, if required) by the parties to whom they respectively belong, on the amalgamation of the Wharves being decided upon.

V.—That out of the profits divided between them, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as representing "Hunt's" and "Heard's" Wharves on the one part, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company on the other part, shall each severally and separately pay the expenses that are usually borne by Landlords, and that may attach to their respective properties, such as the maintenance of sufficient accommodation to meet the requirements of the business of the wharves, the reconstruction of old buildings, otherwise than of wood, and the erection of new buildings, and the cost of dredging or otherwise keeping deep and serviceable the water in front of their respective properties.

VI.—That in case any expenditure is required for the construction of new buildings (not the re-erection of old otherwise than of wooden buildings), or for the extension of the accommodation of the wharves, as provided for in clause V., interest at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum shall be paid on all sums so expended, and such interest shall be debited in the General Working Account, and be paid to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. or the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company as the case may be.

VII.—That, it being desirable to retain no more land than is amply sufficient for all wharf purposes—keeping in view the probable extension of business and the prudence of reserving abundant accommodation to meet it—the surrender is agreed upon of land 200 feet in depth along the Hongkew road frontage of Heard's wharf; about 6½ mow to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.; 100 feet in depth along the Broadway frontage, east of late Olyphant's wharf to the "Chaou Fung" road; and 275 feet in depth along the Broadway frontage of "Ranlet's" land—in all about 24 mow, to the Shareholders of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company—whenever either party desires taking advantage of such arrangement—as well as any other portions of the respective properties as may hereafter be mutually agreed upon, so long as the withdrawal of all or any portion of such land is not detrimental to the interest of the combined wharves. Buildings affected by the surrender of any land are to be replaced by equivalent accommodation on the front or other part of the respective properties, at the separate cost of the party to whom such surrender is made.

VIII.—That, if in the opinion of the Directors of the Wharf Co., the combined earnings of the Wharves to the 30th June, in any year, will admit of an interim payment on account of the sums named in Clause II., such payment shall be made, provided it does not exceed one-half of the said respective sums of Tls. 30,000 and Tls. 24,200—or say, to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Tls. 15,000, and to the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. Tls. 12,100.

IX.—That on the first day of February in each year, or within one month of that date, the accounts of the Wharves shall be closed, and if it should appear that there is a Balance of Profit in the Working Account, after making the payments of the said respective sums of Tls. 30,000 and Tls. 24,200, the said Balance shall be equally divided between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as representing "Hunt's" and "Heard's" Wharves, and the Shareholders of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company respectively.

X.—That Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as General Agents for the Wharves, shall charge 5 per cent. commission on the gross earnings of the combined Wharves in full of all charges, for the General Management.

XI.—That the agreement between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., shall extend to the 30th June, 1887, when it shall terminate, unless otherwise arranged; but in the event of the silting up of the river, rendering the frontage of the respective properties useless for the berthing of vessels, it shall be competent for either party to retire from the agreement on giving 12 months' notice to that effect.

A silence of some duration ensued upon the conclusion of the Chairman's remarks. It was broken by

Mr. Groom, who presumed that the terms of the proposed amalgamation had been in the hands of the shareholders for some days, and had been well studied. He would, therefore, propose, without further preface,

That the terms of the amalgamation, as set forth in the memorandum now before the shareholders, be accepted, and that the directors be authorized to carry out the amalgamation and to transfer the business as soon as practicable.

Mr. Jacques seconded the motion.

The Chairman, after waiting some time, and nobody rising to speak to the motion, read it over again. He trusted the meeting would not look upon the matter as agreed to, without giving utterance to a free expression of opinion on the subject generally. It was a very important one, either to be refused or carried, for it included a chapter of twelve years, and it was right that free remark and discussion should be invited. He would be sorry to think the resolution should either be passed or rejected in a silent manner. While some amongst them might consider the proposed amalgamation a good thing, others might consider it a bad one. By free discussion, the meeting would be enlightened as to the true feeling on the subject, and be enabled to come to a conclusion.

Mr. J. A. Taylor said he had heard a good deal of discussion on the scheme for amalgamating the wharves, and it had been the opinion of himself and others that it would not be for the benefit of the shareholders, or the trade of the Settlement, that it should be carried into effect; but that a distinct management, not in the hands of a firm, but by the appointment of a qualified person, would be the best course to pursue. If the payment of a good salary would enable the Directors to obtain the services of such a man, he thought it would be for the good of the merchants, shippers, banks, and general trade of the place, to have such a manager. It was well that there should be a free expression of opinion on the question, for it must not be forgotten that the proposed lease was for a long term. He thought the proposed amalgamation was a step that ought not to be taken without deep consideration, and he would propose as an amendment,

That the management of the Hongkew Wharf Company be placed in the hands of a General Manager, under the supervision of a Board of Directors.

The Company were well able to afford to pay for the services of such a man, they had excellent premises and the command of a good business, with the best situation on the river; and he thought they were not in such a hopeless state as not to be able to carry on their own business, with a competent manager under the direction of a board, in all its requirements. Having given his opinion on the subject, he would move the amendment he had just read.

Mr. Rodewald seconded the amendment.

Mr. F. H. Bell thought it was well that individual opinion should be expressed on this subject, for it was one of the deepest interest. It was well, therefore, that there should be a very free expression of opinion generally upon it. For himself, he was individually opposed to the proposed amalgamation; and, with all respect to the high standing of the firm of Jardine, Matheson and Co., and possessing the greatest confidence in their management, he could not see the usefulness of the proposed scheme. If an increased business was to be acquired, he did not see why the Company could not continue the management themselves. He thought it would be a great mistake to have a monopoly of the kind proposed in the hands of one large shipping firm. He could not see how an increased business was to be obtained by the amalgamation, unless by raising the wharf rates. And any such movement would be opposed by all large shippers, and would prove detrimental instead of beneficial. He had been but a short time on the Board of Directors, but had been much struck with the mode in which the business of the Company had been managed by Messrs. Chapman, King & Co., and with the attention that had been given to its affairs by Mr. C. J. King personally.

The Chairman said the question of a general manager in place of the present agency, had often been discussed at the Board. The Directors had however invariably come to the conclusion that no advantage would attend such a change. The Company was sometimes asked to lend money on goods, but the practice was condemned in that room some years ago, and put an end to. The advances were not for the accommodation of foreigners, for he did not think he had received ten applications from foreigners in as many years. But among the Chinese traders there were needy men who at times required advances on goods brought to the wharf. Of course, a manager might conduct such a business, but he would have to be assisted by a very able shroff, for all sorts of things were brought to them, upon which a foreigner, would be liable to suffer heavy loss. Besides, the amount of advances was exaggerated. If Chapman, King & Co. had Tls. 30,000 out in advances they thought it a large sum, and it seldom amounted to so much,—on an average to not more than Tls. 20,000, which included a number of small sums. Such a business as that, he thought, would be better done by a firm than by the Company. Their manager would have to borrow money, and he would have to let it out at not more than one per cent. profit, or perhaps at even terms, while there would be the liability of fraud from the native borrowers. He therefore advocated the agency of a firm not because he belonged to one, but conscientiously, having reason for saying what he had said, and for one object only, the welfare of the wharf.

Mr. Groom asked, in the event of a manager being appointed, would the banks make advances on his godown warrants, or would they require the signatures of two directors in addition?

Mr. Taylor said he thought the banks would be perfectly satisfied with the warrants, so long as the directors were satisfied with the manager's accounts. He could not understand Mr. King's remarks on the subject. A manager would draw his cheques, and he (Mr. Taylor) did not see why the extra one per cent. should be charged.

The Chairman again said that the practice of advancing the Company's money was condemned at a meeting in that room, while an agent would advance the money himself. All the large transactions were in the hands of the banks

already, and it was only the small men who came for such accommodation. He hoped, as he had said before, that there would be full discussion on the subject.

Mr. F. H. BELL thought they should settle the main question first, as to whether any change at all should take place in the management of the wharf. He proposed, as a second amendment,

That the wharf remain as at present, under the general agency of Messrs. Chapman, King, and Co.

Mr. WESTALL seconded the amendment.

Mr. J. B. TOOTAL asked, with regard to the appointment of a General Manager as proposed by Mr. Taylor, how would Clause 7 apply?

The CHAIRMAN said of course the agency would disappear, which would, however, have to be effected at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. TOOTAL—Then supposing it to be carried now, it would have to be ratified at another meeting?

The CHAIRMAN said that anything that affected the deed of settlement of the Company would require another meeting. If they would refer to Rule 92, they would find that to be so.

Mr. TOOTAL—Then the intention of Mr. Taylor's amendment would not be carried into effect at once?

The CHAIRMAN—No; there must be another meeting held to confirm it, before the present agents could make way for the new manager. The Chairman then said he would proceed to put the propositions to the meeting. There were an original motion and two amendments, which he read in the order in which they were proposed. Unless some other amendment were proposed, he would put the last amendment first, which he accordingly did.

Five hands only were held up in its favour, and about ten against it; it was, therefore, declared lost.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted the first amendment, proposed by Mr. Taylor; when, on a show of hands, there appeared, *for* 10; *against*, 10. A vote was in consequence taken, the result of which was, *for*, 35; *against*, 112. This amendment was also declared lost.

The CHAIRMAN next put the original motion; but before a vote was taken,

Mr. LAURANCE asked if Mr. Daly's votes were to be accepted.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a question in regard to proxies. Those in question had been registered, but the gentleman who registered them had not attended the meeting, having been kept away by sudden illness, of which a medical certificate had been sent. A question might arise, if the voting had been a near thing, whether these proxies could be accepted, but he was glad to say in the present case it was unnecessary to raise the point.

Mr. LAURANCE asked that it might be recorded on the minutes that Mr. Daly's votes were tendered for the amalgamation.

The CHAIRMAN—Certainly.

The CHAIRMAN said, alluding to the vote about to be taken, that two-thirds of the votes in the Company would be required in favour of the amalgamation.

Mr. GROOM asked if that regulation could not be altered at an extraordinary general meeting?

The CHAIRMAN said the constitution of the Company could be altered at an extraordinary general meeting called for that purpose; but the present meeting was called for another purpose. He then read the various articles which were required to be altered in order to comply with the deed of settlement in such a case. He was not sure if the proposed amalgamation itself were not contrary to the deed of settlement.

Mr. GROOM said the question of an agency could be settled by the members present at a meeting

The CHAIRMAN said they would have to carry any alteration of the deed of settlement at a meeting at which two-thirds of the shareholders were represented.

Mr. GROOM said they had thrown out Mr. Daly's votes, because he was not present, and he wanted to know how many shares were represented at the present meeting? He would call attention to another interpretation of Rule 92, by which he held that the present was an extraordinary general meeting, and that there were more than two-thirds of the votes represented. In concluding, Mr. Groom alluded to the postponement of the meeting from time to time, and to the delay that had in consequence taken place.

The CHAIRMAN said he was glad Mr. Groom had called attention to the delay that had occurred, because he thought there were gentlemen present who could exonerate the Directors from having taken any part in causing that delay.

Mr. KESWICK said, if there had been any delay, he must plead guilty to having in some degree occasioned it. He had gone latterly into the business of the amalgamation with some reluctance, and only lately Mr. King had allowed him a further delay for re-consideration. He must, therefore, take the blame for a great part of the delay upon himself.

Mr. GROOM said in alluding to the delay, he meant no slur upon the Directors. He had alluded to the 30 days' notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the result of the casting up of the votes was in favour of the amalgamation of the wharves. The numbers were, *for*, 125 votes; representing 1,321 shares; *against*, 25 votes; representing 196 shares. He thought gentlemen would understand the matter thus: The meeting had decided in favour of the amalgamation, but there were certain rules which would probably have to be altered. The Directors would get over that difficulty in the best way by consulting with Mr. Keswick and Mr. Drummond, when the result would be made known.

Mr. TAYLOR said if they were not in order in altering the Rules at the present meeting, he thought his amendment might fairly come forward again.

Mr. KESWICK understood the position to be this; that the expression of opinion had been in favour of amalgamation, and it would now be for the Directors to consider such alterations in the Deed of Settlement as might be necessary to make the change practicable, and to give thirty days' notice of a meeting at which they might be either accepted or rejected.

The course proposed was tacitly agreed to, and the meeting broke up.

CHINKEANG LAND RENTERS' SPECIAL MEETING.

MINUTES of the Special General Meeting of the Land Renters in the British Concession of Chinkeang, held at H. B. M. Consulate, Saturday, the 24th day of April, 1875.

Present:—E. Colborne Baber, *chairman*. W. Bean, 7 votes; E. Starkey, 8; T. W. Duff, 1; A. Hardoon, 1; D. M. David, 1; A. Novion, 1; J. G. Gearing, 3; M. Wolff, 1; D. A. Emery, 1; G. Williamson, 1

The CHAIRMAN requested attention to the fact that the present was a special meeting, convened for the purpose of considering two questions—1st, The Chinkeang Taotai's proposal that the Land Renters should contribute to the expense of the preventive works rendered necessary by the dangerous action of the river; and, 2nd, the provisional repairing of the Concession Bund.

Mr STARKEY laid before the meeting a report of previous action regarding these points, which was read, as follows:—

Municipal Council's Report for Special General Meeting of Land Renters in the British Concession, Chinkeang, to be held at H. M. Consulate, on 24th April, 1875.

The Municipal Council have of late had some correspondence through H. M. Consul with H. E. the Chinkeang Taotai, on the subject of repairing the Concession Bund frontage.

The Council have been anxious to repair, in an efficient manner, the damages to the Bund, but find, after having employed professional advice, that in order to give the work a secure foundation, it will be necessary to fill up a deep hole which has formed in front of its Eastern position. This hole in the river bed extends the whole length of the Customs' Bund also, and as the Municipal Council's power does not extend to any works in the river, the Taotai was informed that the Land Renters could not share any portion of the expense attendant upon filling up the river bed. As, however, a great advantage would be gained to the Concession frontage by the filling up of this hole, Mr. Medhurst suggested to the Council that the Land Renters should bear a small proportion of the cost of the river works; by which means the Chinese Authorities might be induced to carry out the work in front of the Concession; otherwise he feared they would do nothing. The present meeting of Land Renters has been convened therefore, to determine what sum, if any, shall be contributed towards the expense of the works in the River bed.

The Council further solicit the consent of the Land Renters to a moderate sum being expended in temporary repairs to the damaged portions of the Bund. Thorough and substantial repairs to the whole facing could hardly be attempted at the present river level.

Mr. STARKEY also laid on the table a letter from Mr. Kingsmill, C.E., written at the request of the Council after a survey of the River and Bund, as follows:—

To the Honorary Secretary,
Chinkiang Municipal Council.

SIR,—In obedience to your instructions, I have examined the Bunding at your Port which has given way.

Having previously in 1865 made a survey of the frontage, I have been able to notice the changes which have taken place during that time, and which have caused the present state of matters.

At that time the river fell with a tolerably regular slope from the foot of the bunding to a depth at 240 feet of about 6½ fathoms.

Recent changes in the current of the River seem to have made it impinge on the right bank, below the entrance of the Canal leading to and Changchow.

In consequence of these changes, an eddy has been established opposite the lower end of the Concession and the Custom House, with the result that the bottom of the river has been worn into a deep hole, in parts upwards of 60 feet in depth, and lying within 100 feet of the foot of the Bund.

The water outside this deep hole again shoals to its former depth of about 40 to 50 feet.

This deep hole extends from opposite the Western extremity of No. 1 Lot, at least as far down as the entrance of the Canal referred to above. A mole which formerly formed the Western side of a small dock outside the entrance of the Canal has been completely carried away, while the corresponding mole forming its Eastern side has been partially undermined.

The wearing action of the River has taken place at so great a depth, and the slope from the bottom is now so steep, that I can see no possibility of preventing further encroachments by any merely superficial works.

I would advise as the most practical method of preventing further encroachments, the sinking of vessels loaded with stone or ballast for a distance of about 800 feet along the front of the foreshore.

Some fifty to sixty junks would be required for the purpose, could they be obtained: or in the event of old vessels not being procurable, a number of rough wooden cages could be made and filled with stone ballast. The space between the vessels would likewise require to be filled up with stone ballast.

An artificial foundation would thus be formed on which the works necessary for the bunding would be proceeded with.

The cost of these works would undeniably be great; but with a river like the Yangtze half measures would be useless.

Approximately 200 feet of the foregoing work would be in front of the Concession, the remaining 600 feet being in front, either of the Custom House or of Chinese owned land.

The cost should therefore be divided between the parties concerned.

I shall as soon as possible send you copies of the Chart of the foreshore and sections showing the present condition of the Bunding, together with such further particulars as may be necessary.

(Signed) Thos. Kingsmill, C.E.

Shanghai, March 15th, 1875.

The above having been read, Mr. Gearing remarked that before voting any contribution, it should at least be ascertained what course the Chinese Government proposed to take. In any case the aid the Land Renters could afford would be at the best very insignificant. Mr. Henderson was now in Chinkeang, and it would be advantageous if his opinion of the question of preventive works could be obtained.

In answer to this, Mr. Novion rose to state that Mr. Henderson had pronounced an opinion, as an Engineer, upon the condition of the Bunding and the works which it would be necessary to undertake. Mr. Henderson reported that "to prevent, as far as possible, further damage this next summer, stones should be thrown into the bed of the River, commencing next the Bund and extending outwards at least 100 feet from it; the object being to prevent the current undermining the present Bund. No definitive repair, however, could be effected at the present time. Such could only be carried out at low water next winter. It was desirable that a suitable Bund should be constructed in one uniform line without breaks, from the Concession past the Custom House to the mouth of the Canal."

After some desultory remarks on the nature and urgency of the repairs, Mr. Bean moved

That no contribution be made by the Land Renters towards filling up the hole in the River bed at present endangering the Bund.

Mr. Bean added that such repairs were the duty of the Chinese Government, and if any proportion of the expense were, on the present occasion, furnished by the Land Renters, a fatal precedent would be created, which would inevitably be cited in case of any future accident of a similar nature.

Mr. Williamson seconded this motion, which was also supported by Mr. Duff. The latter gentleman was of opinion that the matter should be forcibly represented to the native authorities by H.M. Consul, and that it should be insisted that the Chinese Government is bound to exert itself in conserving the River. The injury to the Bund, increasing by the neglect of the Taotai, ought in strict justice to be made good by him; and if the Land Renters consented to repair the existing damage, it was already more than could be expected of them.

Mr. Bean's motion was then put, and was carried *nem. con.*, Mr. Novion abstaining from voting.

With regard to the second question for the consideration of which the meeting had been convened, Mr. Bean moved, seconded by Mr. David, a resolution

That the requisite temporary repairs to the Concession Bund should be at once taken in hand.

This proposition was carried unanimously; the Chairman, however, remarked that it did not seem to make sufficiently definite provision for expenditure, whereon

Mr. Hardoon thought that the whole question might have been left to the Council.

Mr. Emery was of the same opinion. He therefore moved

That the amount of expenditure and extent of provisional repairs be left to the discretion of the Council.

Mr. Wolff seconded, and the motion was carried.

The usual compliment to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

E. Colborne Baber,
Chairman.

H.B.M. Consulate,
Chinkeang, 24th April, 1875.

China Traders' Insurance Company.

China Mail.

The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. A. MacG. Heaton, C. E. Parker, T. C. Hayllar, Brereton, J. J. dos Remedios, P. A. da Costa, R. Deacon, Sands, Tack Mee, Pang Ayun, M. J. D. Stephens, Nicaise, Fairbairn, W. H. Bell, E. G. Low, P. Karberg, McCulloch, Dr. O'Brien, Blakeman, Davis, Nelson, Forrest, Wotton, Mellish, Elwell, Middleton, André, Landstein, Anton, Kiær, Lapraik, Hancock, Hinam, E. Sharp, Leong Wing Choon, Kwong Cheong Leong, Linstead, Figueiredo, Gomes, Dantra, Yee On, Choy Achun, Harrison, Toller, Chater, Quong Kee, Gultzow.

Mr. Ray read the notice calling the shareholders together, and Mr. Parker explained the reason for the meeting. Messrs. Fearon & Co.'s failure he knew would seriously affect Augustine Heard & Co., and cause them to suspend. An extraordinary meeting was called for the 7th May, but as the China Traders' would be without a head when Aug. Heard & Co. ceased to exist, the present meeting was convened to resign the General Agency; appoint some one to conduct the business until the meeting of May 7th was held; and to make arrangements with regard to the debt due to the Company. He stated the position of Messrs. Aug. Heard & Co.'s affairs as far as known to him, and read a statement of the present position of the China Traders'.

He was about to propose the resignation of the General Agents, when Mr. Stephens said he would like to ask some questions. It was painful matter to refer to, but as he was a sufferer by the failure he felt the management of the Company should be closely enquired into. Before making any further remarks he would be glad to have the minutes of the General Meeting of February 19th last read. This was done, and Mr. Stephens continued that the last statement of accounts was not borne out by present statement of affairs. He then read and commented on a correspondence between himself and Mr. M. W. Boyd, and afterwards with Mr. Heaton, the present Chairman of the Company. As to the liquidation of Messrs. Augustine Heard & Co., if a fair dividend were likely to be forthcoming, the best thing would be to accept the assignment; if not, it should not be signed; and for the present, until more details were submitted, he was of opinion the latter course should be adopted. Rather than Mr. Parker's family should suffer, he was in favour of granting a sum of money to meet their present wants. He then asked the following questions:—

1st.—It is currently reported that a Bill to meet the losses on the *Japan* was drawn on the security of the Reserve Fund. Is this true, and, if so, please name amount of Bill and whether drawn by the China Traders'?

2nd.—Why did not the agents apply the working account to meet the losses, before attempting to encroach on the capital of the company?

3rd.—If the General Agents had no available funds in hand to meet this loss, why did they not at once come forward and say so, instead of waiting until the present time?

4th.—Can you give the meeting any idea as to the present position of the company, whether the whole cash in your hands is absorbed, and what amount of claims there will be on the Reserve Fund?

5th.—Produce the Original articles of Association, and also the original draft of such articles.

The articles provided for the winding up of the company under certain circumstances, and he thought it might be well to do so now.

Mr. Hayllar said the meeting was called under his advice. By the articles of association, Augustine Heard & Co. were made General Agents, with full powers of carrying on and managing the business, subject only in a few particulars to the control of a Committee. Upon Messrs. Augustine Heard & Co.'s dissolution the Company ceased to have any head or any person to conduct its business. He therefore advised that an emergent meeting should be called of the shareholders, to provide for two things.—1st. The conduct of the business of the Company till a formal meeting could be held on the 7th May. 2nd.—To take into consideration the advisability of the Company giving an assent to Augustine Heard & Co.'s assignment, which the Committee under the Articles had not power to do; and it was in consequence of this advice that the present meeting was called. The firm was heavily indebted to the Company, and the question was whether they should be forced into Bankruptcy or liquidate under the assignment clause. An assignment of this nature placed the assets of the firm under the control of the Bankruptcy Court as effectually as if a petition was filed, and to all intents and purposes the rights of the creditors were as effectually protected as by the other method of winding up, the expenses would be materially less, and the estate would be wound up more satisfactorily and speedily. If the deed was not assented to, most of the partners being out of the Colony, only Mr. Parker being here, bankruptcy proceedings would be probably necessary in the United States, England, Shanghai, and Japan, or wherever there might be a partner found. Messrs. Whittall and Linstead have agreed to act as liquidators, and they will have full powers to protect the interests of the creditors.

Mr. Middleton enquired whether it was important to take the assignment to-day, and Mr. Nicaise wished to know who was the legal adviser of the shareholders.

Mr. Hayllar replied that he was speaking as a shareholder, and for the Company's good. He had been called to a committee meeting, and had advised that the present meeting be held to meet the urgent questions before them to-day; beyond that he spoke as a shareholder. As to his loss, he had not mentioned it, though he was interested to three times the extent of Mr. Stephens.

Mr. Parker said, in connection with the correspondence read by Mr. Stephens, that he had received a telegram from Augustine Heard that he would leave for China a week after Albert arrived, and this was Mr. Boyd's reason for advising Mr. Stephens to await his arrival. Mr. Boyd being told by Mr. Albert that his brother would come, and Mr. Parker stating that he believed that if it had not been for the present state of affairs Mr. Augustine Heard would now be on his way out.

Mr. Nicaise enquired whether the $238,000 was in hand when the last report was published.

Mr. Parker said it was at the Company's credit in A. Heard & Co.'s books, which were kept as mercantile accounts always were, and it was impossible to follow each individual item.

Mr. Stephens wanted to know if the Report then published was correct.

Mr. Middleton said the Report had been presented to the shareholders and adopted at the General Meeting.

Mr. Elwell knew something about accounts, having had considerable experience with such matters, and said the accounts were made up in the usual way with mercantile accounts; the amount stated was

at the credit of the company in A. Heard & Co.'s books, and so stated in the report.

Mr. PARKER said, in reply to Mr. Stephens' questions, the money with Fearon & Co. was at the credit of the China Traders' Co., a separate account was kept, and an account current sent to the Company monthly. Messrs. Williams, Blanchard & Co. had been authorized to draw on Fearon & Co. for the *Japan* loss, and had the draft reached London and been paid, it would have wiped out all the balance in their hands excepting the fixed deposit, but it was not true that it was drawn on the security of the Reserve Fund receipts. As regards the working account, it always had been applied to payment of losses. With reference to a statement, one had been read, showing the Company to have more than the amount of its original capital intact.

The original draft of the Articles of Association was laid on the table.

Mr. PARKER further stated that Augustine Heard & Co. owed the China Traders' $200,000, and read a memo. of their liabilities and assets as far as known to him. He thought there would be a fair dividend, but as regards Fearon & Co.'s affairs he was unacquainted.

Mr. DEACON proposed that the resignation of Messrs. Augustine Heard & Co. be accepted.

This was seconded and carried.

Mr. HAYLLAR proposed that Mr. W. H. Ray be appointed to carry on the business of the Company under the superintendence of the Consulting Committee till the meeting of the 7th May, and sign policies for the Committee.

This proposition was seconded and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. MIDDLETON enquired about mortgages on Augustine Heard & Co.'s property, and was answered that one had lately been increased, but with that exception no recent change had been made. He then asked what the company's lien was on the steamer *Japan*. Mr. Ray replied $75,000, $25,000 of which was accepted in Hongkong, and has been reinsured, thus leaving the company's risk $50,000.

Mr. PARKER was about to ask the assent of the shareholders to the deed of assignment, when Mr. Stephens wanted the accounts made up to 31st March; two gentlemen who knew something about accounts to investigate them, and if necessary to stop the business of the Company. This proposition, however, met with no favour.

At the request of Mr. Nicaise, the minutes of committee meetings since Mr. Nelson joined the board, were read.

The shares held by the partners of Messrs. Augustine Heard & Co., it was decided should be forfeited.

Mr. DEACON proposed that the assignment be assented to.

Mr. LAPRAIK asked if there was any pressing necessity for doing so at this *meeting*.

Mr. HAYLLAR said it was pressing to save the expenses of bankruptcy.

Mr. PARKER said, if the deed was assented to a valuable business could be kept togegether, which would be lost if the firm was forced into bankruptcy or the partners delayed in starting again. Creditors in Europe and America had assented, and also all creditors here except the China Traders'.

Upon the question of why immediate assent to the deed was necessary, Mr. Parker urged that immediate assent was necessary in order that the business of the old firm might be kept together. If the assent were delayed all the good to be derived from the assent would be lost. A delay even of a few weeks would ruin the chance of keeping together the business, which was valuable and most promising. He knew that the desire of the Heards would be, if possible, to clear the name of their uncle from all liabilities, and he, having thrown himself into the same boat, was determined to go with them in this respect. It was laying out a work of long years before him, but this he accepted, and while unable to make any promises of payment in full, he trusted the time would come when no man could say that he had lost anything by Augustine Heard & Co. The immediate assent of the creditors was necessary, to be of any use.

Mr. DEACON was in favor of signing the deed, as more could be got out of an assignment than the bankruptcy court.

Mr. HAYLLAR seconded the motion. He saw no good to come from the firm being forced into bankruptcy.

The motion that the Company assent to the assignment, was then put and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. KIÆR proposed that the minutes be printed for the information of absent shareholders.

The meeting then dissolved.

Amusements.

S. V. C. SPRING MEETING.

The two preliminary Competitions were shot off yesterday, under favourable conditions of weather. The light was exceptionally good; dull and clear, without glare. There was a light breeze from the right, but not so strong as to require much allowance, and the only drawback was that in the early morning it was a little too cold to be pleasant.

Of 11 competitors entered for the Recruits' Cup, nine put in an appearance about 6.30 a.m. These made in some cases rather indifferent shooting, but the winning scores were fair, considering that none of the men had competed for prizes before. The result was a tie between Privates Pandorf (No. 2 Co.), and Malteau (No. 1 Co.); and on shooting off, the Cup was won by the former, Priv. Malteau taking the second prize.

For the Sweepstakes restricted to Volunteers who had never won a prize, there were 15 entrants, of whom 13 fired. The scoring here was better, especially as the longer range was 500 instead of 400 yards, and Private Sharp (No. 1 Co.) won the first prize, with the good score of 30 (an average of a centre per shot), Private Pandorf being second with 22.

The following were the principal scores:

A.—THE RECRUITS' CUP, presented by Lieut. Sim. Entrance Fee, $1. Open to all Members of the S.V.C. who have never competed for a Prize at any Rifle Meeting. Ranges, 200 and 400 yards. 5 Shots at each. Second Prize, the Entrance Fees.

	200 yds.	400 yds.	Total.
Priv. Pandorf, No. 2 Co.	23323-13	43033-13	26*
,, Malteau, ,, 1 ,,	22222-10	34342-16	26*
Troop. Johnston, Rangers	22233-12	22332-12	24
Priv. Holmes, No. 1 Co.	23023-10	33224-14	24
,, Vale, ,, 2 ,,	00222- 6	32242-13	19

* Ties—Priv. Pandorf....0.2. Priv. Malteau....0.0.

The others who fired were Privates Hodgson and Massey (No. 1 Co.), Thueson (No, 2 Co.), and Lewis (Mih-ho-loong Co.)

B.—A SWEEPSTAKES, open to all Members of the S.V.C. who have never won a Prize at any Rifle Meeting. Entrance Fee, $2. Ranges, 200 and 500 yards. 5 Shots at each. The highest scorer to take two-thirds of the Entrance Fees, the second one-third.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total
Priv. Sharp, No. 1 Co.	r3343-13	44324-17	30
,, Pandorf, ,, 2 ,,	32222-11	243r2-11	22
Trop. Johnston, Rangers	304-3-12	22030- 7	19
Priv. Joseph, No. 1 Co.	20223- 9	45r03-10	19
,, Little, ,, 1 ,,	42342-15	03rr0- 3	18
,, Hodgson ,, 1 ,,	42223-13	rr030- 3	16
,, Holmes, ,, 1 ,,	30223-10	00023- 5	15

The following also fired:—Gunner Newbigging (Artillery), Privates Malteau and Massey (No. 1 Co.), Glover and Thueson (No. 2 Co.), and Burrows (Mih-ho-loong Co.)

RACKET HANDICAP.

The following is the result of the usual Spring Handicap, which has been played off during the past month.

CLASS A.

Jones Hamilton Phipps give				
3 to	Dalgliesh			
4	3	Manson Cooper Wheelock Hearn		
5	4	3	Rose	
6	5	4	3	Scott

FIRST DRAWING.

Jones	15	15	15		
J. L. Scott (recg. 6)	7	11	10		
Manson	15	15	15		
Cooper	12	11	12		
Rose (recg. 3)	14	12	15	15	15
Hearn	17	15	9	6	3
Wheelock (recg. 4)	15	11	15	12	15
Hamilton	4	15	11	15	11
Phipps	15	15	15		
Dalgleish (recg. 3)	10	7	4		

SECOND DRAWING.

Rose (recg. 5)	6	15	15	17	
Jones	15	1	8	16	
Phipps	6	18	11	15	15
Wheelock (recg 4)	15	17	15	8	9

Manson bye.

THIRD DRAWING.

Phipps	15	15	15
Manson (recg 4)	5	9	7

Rose bye.

FINAL HEAT.

Phipps	3	17	15	15
Rose (recg. 5)	15	15	11	8

Phipps wins the A Handicap.

CLASS B.

Williamson gives			
3 to	Scott Goodfellow		
6	4	McLeod Church	
7	5	3	Brand Myburgh

FIRST DRAWING.

J. H. Scott	15	15	15
Goodfellow	7	9	13
Williamson	15	15	15
Brand (recg. 7)	9	11	9
McLeod	15	15	15
Church	3	11	3

Myburgh bye.

SECOND DRAWING.

Williamson	15	15	15	15
Scott (recg. 3)	10	10	18	12
Myburgh (recg. 3)	15	9	15	10	15
McLeod	7	15	8	15	6

FINAL HEAT.

Williamson	9	15	15	17
Myburgh (recg. 7)	15	10	12	16

Williamson therefore wins the B. Handicap.

S. Y. C. REGATTAS.

(*24th April.*)

Corinthian Cup.—Value $50. Course from the Recreation Ground, round the Red Buoy and back to Police Hulk.

This race took place on Saturday, and the entries were *Lillie*, *Wave* and *Fearless*, but the two former only came to the post.

At 9.40 a m., the gun fired, and both cast off, the *Lillie* taking the lead. The ebb tide was running strong, and there was a fresh breeze from E.N E. Both boats tacked in mid-stream and stood in for the P. M. S. S. Co.'s Wharf, and then a long reach was made for the Pootung shore, the *Wave* gradually gaining, and ultimately passing her opponent off Boyd's dock. Both boats had taken the precaution to reef down before starting, and it proved necessary, as they were observed to careen over to such an extent that capsizing appeared imminent, though fortunately no such mishap occurred

On passing the Ningpo Wharf, the *Wave* led by 200 yards, and, bar accidents, looked certain to justify the predictions of her backers, she being a hot favourite at 2 to 1. There was a nasty sea on opposite Collier's Dock in which both boats behaved splendidly, the *Wave* gradually drawing away. About this point, the *Lillie* fouled some fishing boats moored on the Pootung side of the river, and an accident seemed inevitable, but by good judgment and wonderful presence of mind on the part of the crack yachtsman, the danger was averted and all went smooth again. The *Wave* entered the ship Channel a mile ahead of the *Lillie*, the latter preferring to take the junk channel. Sheets were eased and the Bar rapidly approached, when the flood tide was met. It now became a difficult task, with a head wind and tide, to round the Red Buoy; and the *Wave* only succeeded in so doing, the *Lillie* having carried away her boom in the attempt, and turned back. The buoy was rounded at 0.11 p.m. and nothing being left to compete with, the run home was done under easy sail, and the goal was passed by the *Wave* at 1.38 p.m., the whole course having been traversed in four hours, less two minutes, the quickest time on record. Spectators and speculators looked anxiously for the return of the boats, and on seeing the *Lillie* first, were only doomed to further disappointment on learning that she had not gone over the Course.

The *Phantom* and *Kelpie* kept the yachts company going down the river, and another boat unknown by name, passed them all but the *Wave*, in boating. On enquiry, we learned that it belongs to the *Berwick Walls*, and is used for landing opium.

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29th April.

Corinthian Cup—Value $75. Course—from Moorings off Recreation Ground round Red Buoy, and back to Police Hulk.

The entries for this race, the last of the Season, comprised the *Wave*, *Nimrod*, *Lillie*, *Phantom* and *Fearless*, but the last named did not start. At 12.45 the gun fired and all cast off with their usual alacrity. Ebb tide running and a moderate fair wind, the direction being about S. W. The *Lillie* soon took the lead, and being favoured by fortune she maintained it to the Red-buoy, the *Wave* keeping second place, the *Phantom* third, and the *Nimrod* last. Scarcely an incident occurred worthy of note beyond the fact that the *Lillie* proved herself a fast boat with a free wind, as she gradually increased the distance betwixt herself and followers to the turning point. It must be mentioned that the *Nimrod* started with a double reef, which proved a mistake, as the wind fell lighter on approaching Woosung, than it was on parting from the buoys. The Red-buoy was rounded thus:—

Lillie	2*h.*	16*m.*	00*s.*
Wave	2	20	00
Phantom	2	21	30
Nimrod	2	23	00

The ebb tide was still running and all being close hauled, things looked favourable for the weatherly boats. The danger to be avoided was shoal water, but in this the *Phantom* only succeeded, the *Lillie* being the first to touch bottom on Pheasant Point, the *Wave* following suit and the *Nimrod* likewise. In the case of the latter it resulted in a decided loss, as it was fully half an hour before the succeeded in floating again. The *Lillie* led the way through the junks, and the *Wave* followed her; though not showing the good qualities for which she has acquired a fame. After passing the telegraph station, the wind veered to the N. W. which enabled all the boats to ease off their sheets and set jibs. The *Lillie* still led the van, the *Wave* one hundred yards behind her, the *Phantom* ¾ of a mile still further astern, and the *Nimrod* out of sight. When Yangtsze-poo was reached, a dead beat ensued, the *Lillie* and *Wave* being close together and the *Phantom* in the rear. Crowds of spectators watched the race from the banks, and there was never a more exciting race presented than that between the *Lillie* and *Wave* from Yangtze-poo creek to the goal, the distance being about four miles, and a fresh head wind and ebb tide. But the excitement was soon upset, as also were many newly made *pots*, as the leading boat, the *Lillie*, carried away her yard and became totally disabled. The race then appeared to be virtually won by the *Wave*, but here the old adage of "mishaps never coming singly," proved true, as the *Wave* refused to stay. The cause was unknown to those on board; a second attempt was made which proved futile. In the third attempt she grounded on the Pootung shore. The sail was then lowered, and the boat shoved off. Her chance of winning was still good. Another tack was made successfully, and when approaching the Naval Yard it was necessary to tack once more, but the boat would not go round, but became helpless and drifted alongside the Wharf piles. Here the cause of this unmanageableness became visible; it was, a broken centre board. A steam launch came to the rescue and took her in tow. The *Phantom* in the meantime came along and eventually won the race, passing the Police Hulk at 5h. 11m. 20sec, followed by the *Nimrod* at 5h. 20m. 15sec.

The vicissitudes and chances of racing of all descriptions are numerous, but in this race they exceeded all imagination. Four yachts started. The favorite grounded and stuck fast on Pheasant Point; the *Wave* grounded and broke her centre-board; the *Lillie* carried away her yard in the last reach, and the *Phantom* won the race, through good luck, and thus adds another laurel to the many she has already gained.

It is a fact worthy of note, and this being the last race of the spring season, we take the opportunity to mention it, that the three races that have been sailed for, have been won by the *Nimrod*, *Wave*, and *Phantom* respectively, all having being designed and built by Mr. J. P. Croal.

THE S. F. D. PARADE.

Tuesday evening the Shanghai Fire Department answered to the summons issued by their Chief Engineer, and mustered on the Bund, opposite the Club, in the following order, facing South.

Mih-ho-loong H. & L. Co., No. 1.
Hongkew Hook and Ladder Co., No. 2.
No. 1 Company, Shanghai.
,, 2 ,, Hongkew Steam Fire Engine.
,, 3 ,, Kin-Le-Yuen.
,, 5 ,, French Municipal Engine
,, 6 ,, Messageries Maritimes.
,, 7 ,, "Victoria" Steam Fire Engine.

The brigade was headed by the Volunteer band, and about 9.15 p.m. the order was given to start, when they struck up a lively marching tune. The brigade countermarched along the Bund, and turned up Peking Road, along the Honan Road to the Maloo, thence to Hoopeh Road, along Hoopeh Road and down the Foochow Road, finishing on the Bund in front of the Custom House.

The illuminations on this occasion were not equal to those on a similar display two years ago, given in honor of the Grand Duke Alexis; but as viewed from the river, the sight was really imposing. Rockets, blue lights, and fireworks of all descriptions were plentiful. Each engine was gaily decorated, as also were the Hook and Ladder trucks, the more noticeable being that of the Hongkew truck which bore on either side an illuminated view of an extensive conflagration, with the ladders placed against the still-standing walls, and apparently insensible and helpless Chinese being extricated from death by fire. The Mih-ho-loongs had their usual simile of a Water Dragon with an illuminated escutcheon on either side of "Say the word and down comes your house." The "Deluge" Co. displayed themselves by an Auxiliary hand engine, the old engine being laid up in ordinary. The "Kin-le-yuen" was strong in numbers, as also were Nos. 5 and 6, while the Victorias brought up the rear in good force.

The whole display was simply a grand success. On no previous occasion have we witnessed such a multitude of Chinese within the Settlement. Several stoppages had to be made by the procession, owing to the density of the crowd. But no collision occurred, the mob willingly giving way to the well organised brigade. The weather was all that could be desired.

On arrival at the Bund, the Brigade was dismissed amidst a grand illumination, and complimentary interchanges of cheers.

Miscellaneous.

ATTACK ON FOREIGNERS NEAR QUINSAN.

A very serious attack was made on some foreign gentlemen, near Quinsan, on Sunday. Mr. W. Cooper and Mr. F. M. Hague had gone up on a shooting excursion. On Saturday afternoon, in shooting at a snipe, Mr. Cooper unfortunately wounded a Chinaman. The latter was hidden among some barley, weeding or doing something of the kind, and must have risen as the shots passed him. He was, however, very slightly hurt, only a few pellets having struck his face and shoulder which they barely entered skin deep. Mr. Cooper took him back to the boat, dressed the hurt, gave him some money, and sent him away contented. Shortly afterwards however, he was carried back by a crowd, who demanded $50 and would listen to no other proposal. Mr. Cooper offered to go with them to the magistrate at Quinsan, or Shanghai, but they would listen to nothing but $50. He had not sufficient money, but to pacify them promised to obtain it, if a foreign boat came by; they cut the sail rope and eventually went away; but a large boat containing some twenty men armed with cutlasses and matchlocks remained alongside, and stayed the night to prevent the foreigners moving. This boat went away at 5 a.m., and shortly afterwards the Tepao came down and renewed the request for $50. Not having it, the foreigners could not give it; and pushed off into mid channel, out of the way of the people who were beginning to assemble. The Tepao shouted that he could not get the money, and the crowd ordered the lowdah to put in shore. He instead tried to scull away—the damage done to the ropes prevented sailing—when the people got

into little boats, boarded the house boat, took forcible possession and brought her ashore. They knocked the lowdah overboard and struck him severely while he was in the water. They tried to drag Mr. Cooper out of the cabin, having run ropes with nooses at the end, over the house, with the object of strangling him if they could get one over his head. Planting his foot against the steps however, he was able to resist their efforts for a time ; Mr. Hague in the meantime guarding the back entrance. How it would have ended can be easily surmised. Two men could not long resist such a crowd But there was fortunately another houseboat about two miles off, and Mr. Cooper had sent off two coolies to alarm the occupants, at the beginning of the row. The latter had however heard the yelling, and joining two foreigners from another boat which passed during the riot, the four set out with several of their coolies (fortunately dressed in European sailors' dress which imposed on the crowd) all armed with guns, to the rescue. Directly on their approach the crowd dispersed. Two of the latter however were arrested ; and hereupon a general alarm was sounded with gongs, throughout the neighborhood ; and another threatening advance was made. Two other foreign boats however had come up in the meantime, and the foreigners were now strong enough to land and show a bold front, whereon the Chinese appear to have thought discretion the better part of valour, and held back. The prisoners were shipped ; and the whole party went on board, leaving the houseboat which had been the first object of attack, in a wrecked condition, on the spot. The denouement upset the calculations of the Chinese terribly. Instead of murdering a foreigner, they had lost two of their own number who were likely to be punished severely. And instead of $50 they had a boat which they had themselves smashed, left on their hands as evidence of their guilt. The Tepao sent messengers along the banks for two miles, asking to exchange the boat for the prisoners ; but the offer was declined. Two of the boats, which were bound for Shanghai, returned by way of Tsingpoo, and the others pursued their excursion to the Si-ta lake. The former arrived in Shanghai yesterday afternoon, and the prisoners were handed over. The matter has been placed in the hands of H.B.M. Consul.

THE ATTACK ON COLONEL BROWNE'S EXPEDITION.

A common spectacle in China, as everybody who has ever resided for any time in the celestial empire knows full well, is a man's head placed in a bamboo basket and suspended over the gate of a city for the crowd to gaze at and take warning by. It is not often, however, that the demoralized instincts of Chinamen have been gratified by the sight of a European's head in such a position, and we may well fancy what a crowd has stopped to gaze intently on such an unusual object over the chief gate of Momein, one of the walled towns of the remote province of Yunnan. Day after day during the past month the eyes of a Chinese multitude, as it passed in and out of the city gate, were turned towards the *Yang quei tze tow,* or "foreign devil's" head. Some grinned, no doubt, with satisfaction, some wondered in mute astonishment ; and some, perhaps not a few—for all Chinamen are not such idiotic, frivolous creatures they are generally taken to be—made shrewd remarks, and questioned to themselves the wisdom of such a proceeding, however sophistically accounted for in the proclamation posted on the side wall of the city gate.

Poor Margary ! Full of life, and the pride of having accomplished the feat of being the first Englishman who succeeded in traversing from the north-east to the south-western limit of the vast empire of China, and safely got beyond its borders to Bhamo where we have a resident political agent—such, it seems to be too true, is his unhappy fate.

The story is soon told. Having accomplished his mission, to which he was duly accredited by our representative at the Court of the Emperor of China, and by the Chinese Government, and arrived safely at Bhamo on the confines of Burmese territory, he put himself in communication with Colonel Browne, who arrived at Bhamo from the south about the same time, in command of the expedition to the Governor General of the province of Yunnan, to open up a trade route with western China. It was considered that the experience he acquired in his recent journey would be most valuable to the expedition, and he at once prepared to return with it over the same ground to Talifoo, and through China to Shanghai. The expedition consisted of five Europeans, viz., Colonel Browne, Dr. Anderson, Mr. Allen, in charge of the Topographical Department, and Mr Ford in charge of the escort of 15 armed Seiks. To this was added, by the Burmese King's orders, a guard of 100 Burmese soldiers under two of their officers : so that, what with the baggage animals, several of the Chinese servants and other followers, the expedition assumed considerable dimensions.

Its history is, however, a very brief one. Starting from Bhamo through a line of country which had already been determined upon, and the necessary preliminary communications with the Tsawbas or heads of the clans of semi-independent tribes who inhabit the space intervening between Chinese and Burmese territory—who, in fact constitute the "buffer" between those nations—having been duly accomplished, the expedition set out ; but after a few days march some difficulties were encountered, and opposition began to be shown to its further progress. At length it became palpable that proceeding any further would be likely to cause a hostile collision with the people ; this of course was to be avoided, as the expedition, whatever may have been its merits, was strictly a pacific one. This route was given up, and the party returned to Bhamo, where a new one was determined on ; and as soon as the necessary communications with the chiefs residing in that direction were completed, the expedition started on its way again. A few marches had hardly been accomplished when rumours of opposition to its progress were again rife, and as it proceeded these rumours assumed a more definite form. From the accounts we have had the opportunity of hearing from the members of the expedition when they touched at Thayetmyo, where they arrived on the 15th ultimo on their way to Rangoon—and these accounts were necessarily very vague and limited until the official report of the mission is published—it seems the usual duplicity and feeble cunning of uncivilized people was apparent in the interviews with, and messages sent by, the chiefs of the Cochins, (Kakhyens ?)—the usual designation of these people, who are distinguished as Burmese or Chinese Cochins in accordance with their proximity to either the Burmese or Chinese territory, and are generally known in China as the *Shan ye,* or hill men, who prefer their own barbarous independence rather than submit to Chinese laws and customs.

At length the opposition compelled the party to halt, and in order to ascertain the reason of it, and if possible to adjust matters, Margary, with five or six Chinese servants who accompanied him, proceeded in advance.

We shall, perhaps, never fathom what took place in that interval. Suffice it to say that Margary did not turn up in the manner he had pre-arranged with Colonel Browne, and that the last communication with him was a message he sent back saying that the expedition was to come on, as it was all right. The Chinaman who brought back this message returned to Margary, and was one of the unhappy victims of that kind of treachery which has so frequently branded the Chinese character in history. This was near being exhibited on a larger scale. Colonel Browne, receiving the message that it was all right in front, started off ahead of his party with one or two others, and was to all appearance politely received by an official at his residence, which he was induced to enter ; presently it became no longer doubtful that some serious duplicity was intended, which was fortunately frustrated by the timely arrival of the armed escort. There was an immediate retreat, when their worst apprehensions were confirmed by the appearance of armed men on some neighbouring hills, and some shots fired from the jungle close by. One of the Seiks was struck by a spent ball, and a mule belonging the baggage train was shot through the neck. Fortunately, these were the only casualties, but they might have been more serious ; in fact, the safety of all the party would have been in much jeopardy had it not been for the resolute behaviour of the Seiks, who were armed with breech loading Snider rifles, but who had few chances of using them with effect, as the jungle was both close and dense. It was not until the Burmese guard and friendly Cochins, who behaved well, had set fire to the jungle, and thus obliged the enemy to expose themselves in the open, that their firing told. Probably twenty altogether were shot.

After such an unfortunate occurrence, it was of course impossible to think of proceeding further, and the next thought was how to get back to Bhamo. This being resolved on, the expedition retreated as fast as possible over the high range of hills which separates Chinese from Burmese territories. It was well it did so in time, as the armed body assailing it was only the advanced guard of a considerable force, which was being sent on from Momein with the object of cutting off retreat in all directions.

It was since ascertained, however, that there was no doubt as to poor Margary's fate. At the frontier town of Manwein, through which he had passed on his way to Bhamo, and where he had been hospitably received, he had been decoyed into a retired place under most friendly pretexts, when he was speared while he sat on his pony, by some dastardly Chinese ; and his head was sent on to Momein, together with the heads of five or six Chinese who accompanied him. One of these Chinese he had picked up in Shanghai. Another joined him at Hankow. He was a Christian, and a most intelligent and well-informed man. Another was a native of the province of Yunnan, who, being a Panthay, had escaped into Burma from the recent general massacre of his party and settled at Prome, where he married a Burmese wife. He joined the expedition with the view of returning to Yunnan to see his aged mother and surviving relations. He had made himself most useful, and was much regretted by all in the expedition. It must not be supposed that any of the Chinese servants were agents in the treachery ; on the contrary, the expedition owes its escape altogether to the fidelity and quick apprehension of the Chinese servant who accompanied Colonel Browne when he went on in advance.

Now, who were the aggressors ? There can be no doubt they were a band of Chinese braves, with, of course, some local Cochins. One of the leaders, who was more courageous than the rest, got in advance of his men, and was shot by the Seiks. There was an opportunity of

examining him closely, as his men bolted as soon as he fell. This man wore the usualdress of a Chinese mi itary official of a low grade. The Cochins were not altogether hostile to the expedition; on the contrary they assisted in carrying the baggage, and otherwise showed hostility to the Chinese; of course they were well remunerated, which was an important element in gaining their friendship, and they readily assisted in recalling Mr Elias, the Assistant Political Resident at Mandalay, who had started on a separate route to explore the course of the Irrawaddy.

Another reason for supposing that the treachery was approved of, if not instigated, by the Chinese Mandarins, is the fact of the heads having been sent to the Chinese city, where they were publicly exposed. It must also be remembered that this hostile attack took place within a few miles of the proper Chinese territory.

The Chinese Government appear to be bent on keeping a strict cordon around the western borders of their empire, with the object of guarding against the admission of Europeans in that direction. On all sides we see every effort made to get into the country from the west frustrated, and the recent expedition is only another evidence of this old Chinese exclusiveness which has been broken down pretty well on the eastern borders, but still exists where our gunboats cannot reach. There is no provision in the Treaty of Tientsin by which we can claim admission into China by any other direction than the sea board, and the disastrous failure of Colonel Browne's expedition is an unfortunate example of our shortsightedness in framing that Treaty.

Whether the Burmese were privy to the opposition may be hereafter more fully shown, or it may not be so; though the fate of the previous expedition under Major Sladen, and the fact of a Burman expedition having proceeded Colonel Browne's only a few days previously, besides the probability of other evidence being forthcoming, tend to throw some light on the cause of the unfortunate denoument of a project which was intended to be mutually beneficial to Chinese, Burmese, and English interests.

The question now remains, how will all this be regarded by the different nationalities interested in it? The Chinese will of course represent it as a great victory gained over the outer barbarians, and will treat it with the usual exaggeration, boasting how their braves beat back an immense army of invaders and utterly annihilated it, &c

The Burmans will, no doubt, regard it as a piece of diplomacy. They seem to be entirely opposed to the opening up of trade with China *viâ* Burma, and have reduced it almost to a minimum, though at one time it assumed considerable dimensions, and appeared capable of very great extension, had the trade route been thoroughly opened out.

The Seiks, who, though few in number, represent an important nation, will carry back the tidings with them to India. They fully expected to be detained at Thayetmyo until a large force could be collected to take revenge on the Chinese, not knowing of course that there were more direct ways of reaching their government than by sending an army up the Irrawaddy.

And lastly, what will our own people say when they hear the news? Apart from feelings of profound sympathy for the brave man who met with so cruel a fate, and of just indignation against the dastardly deed, it will prove a great disappointment to many who were in hopes, from the occurrence of recent events in China, that at last the dawn of progress had commenced to shine on the hitherto obdurate people of that country. A telegraph was in process of construction, coal mines were to be opened up and their proceeds brought in reach of the seaports by a tramway, which was to grow into a railway; a foreign loan was contracted for, and so on. Now comes this terrible blow. After all these years of diplomatic and commercial intercourse with that nation, it is the same as when we first approached it. The same acts of treachery, of inhumanity and duplicity, distinguish it now as then. There is one hope still left. The man who is now in the ascendant in China may exert some decided influence for good. He has had much intercourse with foreigners while at Shanghai, where he was obliged to reside while the Taiping rebels had overrun the province, of which he was Footai. It was by our assistance he was able to suppress that rebellion, and he has made great exertions to introduce English workmen and machinery into his country; he has, in fact, established extensive armouries and dockyards, for the purpose of manufacturing small arms and the largest cannon, and building armour-plated gunboats. This man, Li Hung-chang, is now the chief minister of state and guardian of the young heir who was elected on the death of the late Emperor. Had he been at the head of affairs when Colonel Browne's mission started, there is no doubt but it would have had a very different issue.—*(Our Chronicle—67th Regt. newspaper.)*

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 27th April, 1875.

Before Sir Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge*.

John Samuel Swire, William Hudson Swire, William Lang, James Henry Scott and William Drought Harrison, trading together as Butterfield & Swire *v.* Archibald John Little and Robert William Little, trading together as Little & Co.

Claim—£63.13.8 *and interest thereon at* 8% *per annum, for return of freight over-paid.*

Mr. Wainewright for plaintiffs.
Mr. Robinson for defendants.

The case, as set forth fully in the petition and answer, is as follows:—

Petition.

1.—The plaintiffs are merchants carrying on business at Shanghai, and elsewhere in the Empire of China, under the style or firm of Butterfield & Swire.

2.—The defendants are merchants carrying on business at Shanghai, under the style or firm of Little & Co.

3.—On or about the 6th day of July, 1874, the defendants who were charterers of the steamship *Pleiades*, placed the said steamship on the berth at Shanghai for New York, and advertised her to load Teas for conveyance to New York *vid* the Suez Canal "at current rates" of freight.

4.—On or about the 15th day of July, 1874, the plaintiffs, after having ascertained from the defendants that what they understood as the current rate of freight upon tea for shipment to New York was £5.10.0 per ton of Forty cubic feet, and that they would not take less, agreed with the defendants to ship on board the said steamship, one hundred and twenty-seven tons of tea or thereabouts, and to pay freight for the same upon delivery in New York at the aforesaid rate, and the plaintiffs subsequently shipped on board the said steamship one hundred and twenty-seven tons, fourteen feet eight inches of Tea, and paid to the defendants upon the delivery of the same in New York, namely, on the 14th day of November, 1874, the sum of £700.10.4 stg. as and for freight at the rate aforesaid.

5.—After the said tea had been shipped and after the said steamship had left Shanghai, the plaintiffs found, as the fact was, that the defendants had reduced the rate of freight in favour of a certain shipper or certain shippers, and had taken tea on board the said steamship for conveyance to New York at the reduced rate of freight of £5 per ton, or had made a return or allowance to the said shipper or shippers, which had practically had the effect of reducing the amount paid for freight to £5 per ton.

6.—The plaintiffs thereupon, relying on the well-known and established custom or usage of the port of Shanghai that, in a case where the rate of freight is reduced in favour of one shipper, all antecedent shippers are entitled to a similar reduction, applied to the defendants for payment of the sum of £63.13 8, being the difference between freight at £5.10 per ton, as paid by the plaintiffs upon the said one hundred and twenty-seven tons, fourteen feet two inches, and freight upon the same quantity at the reduced rate of £5 per ton, but the defendants refused to pay the same to the plaintiffs and the same is still due to the plaintiffs.

7.—The plaintiffs allege that the custom or usage of the port of Shanghai mentioned in the last preceding paragraph, formed by implication a part of their contract with the defendants, and that they entered into the agreement with the defendants, and made the shipment respectively mentioned and specified in the fourth paragraph of this petition, relying upon the said custom or usage, and upon the faith that the said custom or usage formed part of the said agreement, or that the said agreement would be subject thereto.

The plaintiffs therefore pray:—

1.—That the defendants may be decreed to pay to the plaintiffs the said sum of £63.13.8 with interest thereon at the rate of 8 per centum per annum from the 14th day of November 1874, together with the costs of this suit.

2.—That the plaintiffs may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

Answer.

1.—The defendants deny the existence of any such established custom or usage of the port of Shanghai as is mentioned in the sixth paragraph of the petition of the plaintiffs.

2.—The plaintiffs deny that they reduced the rate of freight by the said steamship *Pleiades* in favour of any shipper or shippers as mentioned in the fifth paragraph of the petition of the plaintiffs.

3.—The defendants deny that the plaintiffs were under the circumstances set forth in their said petition entitled to repayment of any freight paid by them on any of the cargo shipped by them on board the *Pleiades* as set forth in their said petition.

The defendants say they never were indebted to the plaintiffs in, or liable to pay to the plaintiffs, any sum of money in respect of the causes of action mentioned in the said petition of the plaintiffs.

Mr. Wainewright said the suit was brought to recover a small sum, being the difference between freight by a certain ship at a certain rate, and freight at another rate. The question really was whether the Court would consider there was a custom, and whether the custom was valid. Mr. Wainewright then read the petition and answer, from which His Lordship would see that, assuming he was able to prove a reduction had been made in the rate paid by other shippers, the case turned on the existence of a custom, that when the rates of freight are reduced in favour of one shipper, all shippers of cargo by that ship shall benefit. He would of course have to prove his facts. He did not know whether his friend would dispute that a reduction had been made; there would be no difficulty in proving it. A return had been made of 10s. a ton in the case of a certain shipper, and the amount had been forwarded by the latter to the consignee of the cargo, and was equivalent to a reduction in the rate of freight. The answer to the petition was, according to the rules of practice in this Court, rather meagre. There was nothing in it which enabled him to foresee what line of defence would be followed; whether Mr. Robinson would raise certain points of defence which were open to him, or not. The defendants denied the existence of any custom, denied the reduction in rate, and denied that the plaintiffs were entitled to recover. He had reason to believe that the validity of the custom would be disputed, and in that case the answer ought to have given certain further information. However, he was not going to rely on a techincal point, and should assume his friend was going to follow this line of defence. Now, as to the law ——

His Lordship suggested that it would be better to postpone discussion on the law of the case, until the custom had been proved. He presumed that, after the facts had been proved, when evidence as to custom was offered, Mr. Robinson would raise the question whether it was admissible. He should not venture to rule at once that the evidence was inadmissible, because that would be to stop the case. He should admit the evidence, without overruling Mr. Robinson's objection, and give him (Mr. R.) leave to argue that he was wrong in so doing.

Mr. Robinson thought the cases were so numerous in which judges had ruled that evidence was inadmissible, that his Lordship would have no difficulty in deciding whether the evidence in this case was so.

His Lordship said there were many cases on both sides; he should prefer to reserve his decision on the point.

Mr. Robinson—Of course it is as your Lordship prefers. Then we are to try the case on its merits. And in case of appeal, the complete pleadings will of course go home.

Mr. Wainewright then proceeded to call

E. Mackintosh, sworn, stated—I am clerk to the plaintiffs. I recollect the *Pleiades* being put on the berth for New York. She was advertised at current rates some time in July. My firm engaged certain freight shortly after the vessel was put on the berth. I saw the letter that passed between plaintiffs and defendants. Personally, I have no knowledge of the rate of freight, except having seen the letter from defendants to plaintiffs. The freight was ultimately engaged at £5.10. I know of nothing special in this business different from others. My experience in Shanghai extends over three years. There

was the *Bengal* on the berth for New York at the time, at the rate of £5.

Witness was going on to give evidence as to custom, when

Mr. ROBINSON objected to the evidence as inadmissible.

The Court admitted the evidence, subject to after discussion and decision.

Witness continued—I understand there is a custom in Shanghai that, where a reduction is made previous to the ship's sailing, and in course of her loading, the antecedent shippers are all entitled to a reduction. This applies to a sailing vessel as well as to steamers. Messrs. Butterfield & Swire are agents for a line of Ocean steamers, running between China and England and between ports in China. I know of our firm having reduced freight-rate while a ship has been on the berth. In October, 1872—the *Hector* was loading in Shanghai at £3.10. Engagements at that rate were made with several shippers; the rate was reduced to £3.00., and all shippers were put on the same footing. The bills of lading were not made out at that, but the shippers were returned the difference. In engaging freight we sometimes use this form (C) handed in; not always. Freight is engaged in various ways. In this particular case no special contract was made. We had a case on the 5th March last. The *Diomed* was loading at £3.10.; the rate was reduced to £3.5. All the previous shippers got the benefit of the reduction, including Messrs. Little & Co. There was no special agreement in this case. In some instances the goods may have been on board. In the case in question the bills of lading were not made out. I do not recollect any other cases in our firm.

By Mr. ROBINSON—The *Pleiades* was advertised at current rates when she was first put on the berth. She had not arrived then. I recognise this letter as in the handwriting of Mr. Lang. I can't say if any goods were on board the *Hector* at the time the reduction was made. I have no personal knowledge of the way in which the reduction was made. I have never known persons when applying to ship stipulate for reduction of freight. Some shippers have done so casually at time of engaging. My only experience was in the case of the *Diomed*, when the defendants claimed the benefit of the reduction. I cannot say whether they had stipulated for it. I have no personal knowledge of the engagements of freight for the *Diomed*. I know of no other instances in our line of any reduction being made to shippers in terms of the last shippers. I know of none outside of our line. We have had instances of raising the freights. In the cases where there was a rise, portions would pay at one rate and others at other rates. It is usual to make specific engagements for freight by our coast and river steamers. We have given advantages in the way of reduction of freight to shippers on the river and coast. I know of the practice in London and Liverpool. I don't think there is any custom of reducing freight in favor of antecedent shippers.

Re-examined—Competition with other lines induced us to reduce our freight. That competition has ceased.

W. PEARSON—I am Secretary of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce. I was so in 1869. I produce the annual report of the Chamber of Commerce for 1869—the letter from the North Shields and Tynemouth Chamber of Commerce to the Shanghai Chamber, and the reply to it. I have no personal knowledge of the custom of reducing freight.

By Mr ROBINSON—There is nothing more in the records of the Chamber, on the subject of reduction, than those documents I have produced.

A. G. WOOD, sworn, stated—I am a member of the firm of Gibb, Livingston & Co. We deal largely in the agency of both steamers and sailing vessels. I understand it to be the custom that antecedent shippers get the benefit of subsequent reduction of freights. I don't recollect any instance where our firm got the benefit of such reduction, except one, where we loaded ourselves. That steamer was the *Enterprise*, in June 1874. Her rate was £4, and she had 500 tons. It was then reduced to £3.10 - all first shippers got the benefit of that. I don't know if bills of lading had been signed. I don't recollect any special agreement having been made. The reduction was applied for by the shippers. It was made as a matter of course.

By Mr ROBINSON—I have had six years' experience of freighting steamers for coast ports, Europe, and America. We had other steamers besides the *Enterprise*, but that was the only steamer that reduced rates. Except that case, I don't recollect our firm getting reduction of freight for shipments made by us. The capacity of the *Enterprise* was 2,100 tons. I know frequently of stipulations as to reduction being made. It is possible that those 500 tons on board the *Enterprise* were under some such stipulation. There is no fixed tariff for the coast. It is common to make arrangement for a lower rate of freight on the offer of filling the vessel. It does happen that we get a smaller quantity of cargo than that promised. I have not known of any claim being made for the deficiency. In the case of a rise in freight, first freights remain unaltered. One steamer therefore would carry one portion at a lower rate and the other at a higher rate. I think the custom is reasonable. I don't know the custom of London or any other ports.

[Mr. WAINEWRIGHT admitted for the sake of argument that the custom is peculiar to Shanghai.]

Re-EXAMINED—I read through the engagement and manifest books, and that gave me the information in regard to the *Enterprise*. The business was carried on in the usual way. Whether engagement of freight is made in writing or verbally, all get the reduction equally, unless a positive engagement was made. I don't know that the custom prevails in the river trade.

By COURT—In case no application is made, the agent would fill up the bill of lading at the rate originally engaged. We had given shipping orders for the 500 tons for the *Enterprise*, but I don't know whether the goods had been shipped. In cases where goods had been shipped, and bill of lading made out, freight payable elsewhere, letters have been written for the reduction at the port of payment.

J. B. MANSON, sworn, stated—I am in the employ of Reid, Evans & Co. We shipped 700 or 800 tons on board the *Pleiades*, in July and August 1874. The terms upon which freight was engaged are stated in these contracts. Mr. Evans engaged it, but I was quite aware of it. We got bills of lading for the 200 tons at £5.10. We got the return of 10 shillings a ton. We got a return altogether of Tls. 1,073.74. Our constituents in New York got the benefit of the return. We approved the contract and and kept it private. I have had 12 years experience in shipping business in Shanghai. I always make the return, and expect to get it, whether there is any or no stipulation. I think it is fair to do so. We have had returns like that on ships. The last instance was the *Mary Whitridge*, in December last. We had shipped before the reduction was made, and bills had been signed and forwarded to London. Nothing special was agreed in engaging freight by her. I forget whether we applied for the reduction. I know of ships frequently making such a reduction, but I don't know about steamers—I know the business about coast steamers. I refer to vessels going to England and America. I have known of this custom since 1862.

By Mr. ROBINSON—I cannot tell if the 700 tons we shipped by the *Pleiades* belonged to us or to our constituents. We had a third interest in 463 half-chests and whole interest in 50. They would be about 45 tons. The return on those would go to Messrs. Reid, Evans and Company, according to the proportion of their interest. The actual freight paid in New York was £5.10. I have known in my experience where stipulations were made by shippers for the benefit of any subsequent reduction. I don't recollect any other instance where commission was given for giving freight. Freight for the *Mary Whitridge* was engaged by a broker. For aught I know stipulations might have been made there. I went to Russell & Co., and applied for the letter from the Captain of the *Mary Whitridge* reducing the freights. The reduction was either 5 or 10 shillings. I forget what quantity we shipped. Perhaps 200 tons. Our friends in New York got the benefit of the commission on their tea by the *Pleiades*.

By COURT—When the *Mary Whitridge* was on the berth, we shipped, and subsequently when we shipped again, we learned the reduction of freight, and we got the reduction on the whole.

THOS. R. WHEELOCK, sworn, stated—I am a ship-broker, and have had 7 or 8 years experience. My opinion is that it is a custom to reduce the freight for back shipments, if it be reduced to subsequent shippers—particularly sailing vessels. I can't recall to mind an instance after cargo was on board, of a steamer returning freight—nor even after freight had been engaged. I have an impression that such a thing has occurred. In sailing ships, there have been cases, after cargo had been shipped—even where no written engagement was made. I sometimes write out contracts, and sometimes not. Sometimes I make the stipulation for a return; but whether so or not, I expect shippers to get the reduction. I have known of their getting it. I have known returns being made without application. I understand this to be the custom as long as I can recollect. Where reductions are made after bills had been signed, letters are given, and I presume payment of the reduction is made on it. This (shown me) is a form of such a letter. I have seen it.

By Mr. ROBINSON—Sometimes the captain, sometimes the consignees sign the letter. All that I have seen, the captain had signed. I don't know of a single instance where the consignee has signed. In some I do and others I don't know the engagement of freight where the reduction was subsequently made. I have been desired by shippers to secure the benefit of such reductions. I frequently stipulate for this for my clients. I have known instances of merchants getting commission for putting freight on board. It is not usual that a person engages more space than he wants. It does happen sometimes. I don't remember any claim being made in consequence. In case of a rise in freight, the original rate is adhered to. I had something to do in loading the *Mary Whitridge*. She was put on the berth at £3.10., and then reduced to £3. I don't recall what cargo was on board when the reduction was made. I think I engaged 800 or 900 tons after the rate was reduced. Her capacity was about 1,500. I don't know if other brokers were engaged in filling her.

RE-EXAMINED—I don't know of commissions as high as 10 shillings a ton being given to merchants. My instructions to secure benefit of reduction were always verbal. I note it in my contract sometimes, but whether so or not, it is always done. There is no such custom on the coast—it is only on home-bound steamers.

By COURT—I think the commission to merchants for freight is 5 per cent. I don't know of any application for return of freight being refused, except the plaintiffs' case. I don't know if any refusal was made in the case of the *Northampton*.

E. H. LAVERS, sworn, stated—I am a member of Gilman & Co., and have had nearly 15 years' experience in shipping business. It is my opinion that there is a custom in Shanghai of reducing the freight of antecedent shippers when freight is reduced at the last moment. It applies to both steamers and sailing vessels. It does not prevail in the coasting trade. My firm have been agents for a great number of ships and steamers. We have frequently written to captains, representing to them that if their vessels were put on the berth, every shipper should be placed on the same footing. In 1861, we warned the captain of the *Queen of the Ocean* in the same terms. We have always conformed to the custom. We have not made any return, but made the reduction. We frequently made the reduction after bills of lading had been signed. We get a certificate from the captain, and present it to the shipper, as to what rate would be charged. We make the reduction whether any stipulation had been agreed to or not, and make it whether applied for or not. I mention the *Burdwan* in June 1869; July 1869, the *Mary Moore*; June 1870, *Cutty Sark*. *Golden Spur*, July 1870; July 1870, steamer *Glenlyon*; August 1874, *Glenfinlas*. I consider the custom applied to these cases. Messrs. Little and Co. were shippers by the *Glenlyon* and got the reduction. I have engaged freight with other firms and got the reduction in freights; the *Eliza Shaw* from £3 to £2.10. I dont recollect any stipulation being made We got a certificate signed by the Captain, of a reduction. In July 1869 we forwarded a certificate to London that the freight per *Burdwan* was reduced from £4 to £3.10. I consider we are entitled to such reduction whether agreed to at first or not, or whether

steamer or sailing vessel. I think the reason why reductions have not been so often made in the case of steamers as sailing vessels, is that steamers remain in port but a short time, that they go to outports to fill up, and that they have not been running for many years. I think the custom is a reasonable one. The advantages, speaking as a merchant, are that ships placed on the berth might otherwise remain in port a long time. Cargo is put on board, and merchants who ship first would remain a long time out of the use of their money, and it accelerates the loading of a vessel. Some merchants won't begin to ship until they see some cargo on board.

By Mr. Robinson—In the case of a shipper stipulating for a reduction of freight, I consider that a solitary instance entitles all others to the same reduction. It is so, because it is the custom of the port. It is rather an extreme case to expect, that because a captain takes half a dozen cases in his cabin for nothing, he should take the whole of his cargo for nothing. Say five tons—it would then be governed by the custom of the port. I know of other steamers besides the *Glenfinlas* and *Glenlyon*; the *Hector* and the *Diomed*. The rate of the *Glenlyon* was reduced from £4 to £3.10s. I can't say how much cargo was on board when the reduction was made. I have no doubt that in many cases there were stipulations as to reducing freight, and there were many when the reduction was made with no such stipulation. I think a captain may stipulate for freight at different rates contemporaneously. Steamers have been running between Shanghai and Europe since 1862. Since 1867, for the first time we had an important line—the plaintiffs'. In some instances we engaged space, and agreed as to a rate with the proviso for reduction. It is not our invariable rule to stipulate for this reduction. Whenever we have written in, we have stipulated for the reduction. I don't know in my experience of commissions being allowed on freight. It has happened occasionally that more space has been engaged than has been ultimately required. In case of a rise, the first rate is paid. I don't know the London, Liverpool or Glasgow practice.

Re-examined—We don't always engage freight in writing. I don't know if engagements made by brokers include that stipulation. It is generally understood. I do so when writing, to make things clear. I consider I am entitled to it in any case. Vessels very often leave at lower rates than those advertised, and the custom holds as good. Whether rates are advertised or not, I expect the return to be made, and should make it myself.

H. H. Joseph, sworn, stated—I was acting shipping clerk to the P. & O. Co. I have known an instance of the P. & O. reducing their freight after steamer had begun to load. It was the *Mirzapore*—in July, 1873. Her destination was London. She reduced her freight for New York. Freights had been engaged when the change was made, and shippers at the higher rate got the benefit also. The difference was refunded here—freight being payable in Shanghai. I don't know of any stipulations. I don't remember such ever being made. I don't know of the custom of the port in that respect.

By Mr. Robinson—My Shanghai experience extends to three years and a half. Mr. Lind is the Company's agent here. I didn't personally superintend the engagement of the cargo. Mr. Barnes commenced it. I don't down the terms of the first lot. The reduction was made because there were two—the first Tls. 23, the 2nd Tls. 22. I had principally to do with the 2nd. I don't know the rate at which the bills of lading were signed. There was only one firm who had shipped at the higher rate. It had shipped about 50 tons. It is not my business to speak of the policy of the Company.

F. H. Bell, sworn, stated—I have had 17 years experience in shipping business. My firm have been consignees for a great number of ships. I consider antecedent shippers are entitled to the benefit of reduction in the rate of freight. I am not certain whether this custom is applicable alike to steamers as to sailing vessels. I know of a great number of sailing vessels doing so. A circular is sent round certifying the reduction. It is sent round to every shipper, whether any stipulation had been made or not. I know a great many; among others *William Melhuish*, *Huntly Castle*, *Thermopylæ*, *Lady Louise*. I don't think the custom applies to the river and coast lines. I have had instances of the reduction made to us. I have never had the reduction refused. I shipped by the *Pleiades*, and have never applied for the reduction, as I did not know that steamers made the reduction. I dont think it is reasonable, and it is high time steamers should resist it. If the shippers are the stronger body, they can command their own terms and make their own stipulations, but as a custom I look upon it as unjust. I consider it unjust from a shipowner's point of view.

By Mr. Robinson—In the cases of the vessels I have named, there was a general reduction. I know instances where, through the benefit having been obtained by one shipper, all the others had joined. The origin of the custom was, that there were a number of vessels loading the same goods for the same place. Steamers are differently situated now. The *Duke of Abercorn* raised her freight by 10s. a ton. Those who had shipped at the lower rate paid at that rate. I don't know of commissions being given for freight to New York. Strawbraid and silk are available for cargo on board tea-laden vessels. I have no London experience.

Re-examined—The last shipper rules the rate. It very often happens that the advertised rate is higher than the rate at which the early portion of the cargo is shipped.

By the Court—It is certainly reasonable from a shipowner's point of view that in the case of the *Duke of Abercorn* the increased rate should govern the whole.

A. Broom, sworn stated,—I am a freight broker, and have been so since 1863. I consider there is a custom of reducing the freights, and know of many instances. I certainly think it applies to steamers as well as to sailing vessels. The *Gordon Castle*, in October 1872, was put on at £3 for Messrs. Dickinson & Co. for London. The rate was afterwards reduced to £2/10 and they got their bills of lading at that. I know also of all the other instances referred to to-day. I know of many instances where my friends have got the benefit of the reduction. The *Glenlyon*, I engaged freight for. The *Weymouth*, July, 1872 was on at £3/10 and afterwards reduced. I have never heard the custom disputed. The *Nestor* put her rate down in August, 1872, from £3 to £2.10; the *Thermopylæ* the *Sir Lancelot* in June 1874 from £3.10 to £3; the *Dartmouth* from £3.10 to £2.10. I can't call to mind other instances. The custom is quite irrespective of any previous stipulation. I have never known of a return being refused. Supposing there was no such custom, ships would not be able to load so well. No one would give a freight to start with. The first freight is a sort of decoy. I don't think the cusstom holds good in river ports, but I don't know sufficiently to speak of it.

By Mr. Robinson—I have heard difference of opinion on the subject of the custom. I was in Shanghai in 1860, but was at home for some time after that. My attention has not been confined solely to shipping. I have heard the stipulations alluded to. I have never seen a contract with the stipulation. I have mentioned the stipulations to new shipping clerks, but as a rule I have not done so. I shall be very much surprised to hear of commissions being received by merchants for getting freight. Brokers should get them. The *Glenlyon* and the *Gordon Castle* are the only two instances I can call to mind at present.

Re-examined, — My present experience extends now to 5 years. I did have something to do in that line before that. I believe the custom to be quite sufficient not to require it noted in writing.

W. de St. Croix, sworn, stated—I am shipping clerk to Gilman & Co. The *Burdwan* reduced her rate of freight, and bills of lading having been signed, we gave first shippers the certificate. I have been shipping clerk more than six years. Freights are not usually engaged in writing, brokers come in and obtain shipping orders. When the cargo is on board, we give the bill of lading to shippers at the rate and if there is any change at the last moment, either bills of lading are altered or certificates given. I have never had any difficulty in getting reduction, whether there was a written agreement or not. I know of no distinction between sailing ships and steamers, so far as reduction goes. I know nothing about the coast ports. We have had very little to do with the coast ports.

To Mr. Robinson—In the cases of the sailing ships you name, there were no terms. I have looked in the books and found no terms. It is usual to enter the terms. There might have been letters. But I think no terms were made. All these things passed through my hands. My impression is that there were no terms. I have been in the habit of engaging freight through brokers for Messrs. Gilman & Co In such cases I do not think I ever wrote stipulating for reduction. This was done up to about three years ago, when the Chinese used to engage freight. It was sometimes done and sometimes not done. I do not think other people did it. In the case of the *Glenlyon* the rate was reduced from £4.10 to £4. I think she had about 500 or 600 to tons at £4. I cannot tell exactly, because I make out the manifest at the final rate. The *Glenlyon's* capacity was about 3,200 tons. The reduction in her case might apply to 5 or 6 persons. I do not think any of those 5 or 6 persons stipulated for reduction in writing. The broker might have said "on the usual terms," or something to that effect. In the case of the *Glenfinlas*, about 700 tons was engaged at £5. Her total capacity is about £3,200 tons. I think the reduction was only made to one shipper. There was no stipulation in that case, further than that the captain was told when he went on the berth, that he would have to take his chance of a reduction. We shipped cargo at the reduced rate. I agree with previous witnesses that when there is a rise in the rate of freight, the first shippers are entitled to the lower rate.

Re-examined by Mr. Wainewright—In the case of the sailing ships named, they would not have more than 1,000 tons on board—except the *Cutty Shark* which had about 1,100; she carrying 1,630. I have never known a reduction when freight has been payable here.

C. Lucas—I am a member of Blain & Co. I have been concerned in shipping cargo to Europe. I consider that there is a custom that shippers at a higher rate have a right to the lower, whether an agreement has been made or not. I have had abatements made to me in several cases. The latest were the *Dartmouth* and *James Shephard*. I don't recollect any case in which we got reduction on a steamer. We had shipped the tea in the case of the *Dartmouth*, and had bills of lading signed. We had no express stipulation about reduction, either in her case or that of the *James Shephard*.

To the Court—We started the *Dartmouth* and the *James Shephard*; that is, we commenced the freight.

Evidence continued—I consider that makes no difference.

To Court—I consider there is a positive custom of the port as regards steamers. I consider it does not apply to coast and river steamers. That is a different kind of trade. My firm has had constant reductions in other cases. I am not aware that ship owners in London have made the return without any letter. I have never known a case where the reduction has been asked for and refused.

To Mr. Robinson—I am speaking of my own firm's business. I cannot recall a case in which we have had a reduction on a steamer. I don't know of any instance in which a commission has been given for giving freight—other than to brokers. I agree with the rest of the witnesses that if the rate of freight were raised, I should expect to pay at the rate at which I engaged. I know that the alleged custom has been the subject of much complaint by shipowners at home.

John Sharp—I am a freight broker: have been so three years: had to do with freight seven years before, as Shipping Clerk in Gibb, Livingston & Co. I understand it is a custom of the port of Shanghai, that when the rate of freight is reduced, shippers at the higher rate have the benefit of the reduction. It is always stipulated, generally verbally, not often in writing. I consider it necessary to make the stipulation in the case of steamers,

in case of sailing vessels not. I don't think the custom has been established in the case of steamers. There seems to be a doubt about it. I have heard agents of steamers express a doubt. I have not known any cases of steamers where a reduction has been made. I do business with Messrs. Gilman & Co. I did not know of the *Glenlyon* and *Glenfinlas* having paid a reduction. In engaging freight by a steamer I always stipulate that if she takes freight at a lower rate than she is then engaging at, she shall come down in my case also. I make this stipulation verbally. I also do so in the case of sailing ships, to avoid trouble. I have known cases of sailing ships where reduction has been refused. A vessel called the *Georges* came to Gibb, Livingston & Co. The rate was reduced for £4.10 to £4. Bull, Purdon & Co. put cargo on board at the higher rate, and were refused a reduction. They took the Captain to the Consulate and failed to get reduction. I think the reduction was claimed on about 60 tons. That is the only case I remember of a reduction having been refused. I have known a number where it has been admitted—after as well as before B./L. have been signed. I have known cases where the allowance has been made without being stipulated for. The custom does not apply to the coast trade; the agreement there remains as it is made. If the custom were abolished, I think it would be a benefit to shipowners. I don't know in what way.

Mr. Brodie Clarke was next called. Before being sworn, Mr. Clarke asked His Lordship if witnesses in such a case as this were entitled to a fee?

His Lordship—You are entitled to your expenses for coming here.

Mr. Wainewright was prepared to tender the hire of two jin-rik-shas, from E-wo and back.

Mr. Clarke had thought an expert was entitled to a fee of two guineas.

His Lordship—That is when you are in business in your own account, and can prove loss through being taken away from business.

Mr. Robinson thought, as the point had been raised, it would be valuable if his Lordship would decide it.

His Lordship said an expert was entitled to a fee if he were a master, and could prove loss of time and business through being summoned to Court. Still he thought would be a great misfortune if the custom were introduced in Shanghai. As it is, we give each other the benefit of our experience without a fee. No fee, for example, could indemnify the senior member of a firm for being taken away during the busy season.

Mr. Robinson—It is generally arranged by sending for such an one at the time we want him.

His Lordship—Exactly, and your client does the same for him next time.

Brodie A. Clarke—I am shipping clerk to Jardine, Matheson & Co. I have been in that position five years consecutively, and before that 2 years. I have been ten years in Shanghai. I do not consider that there is a custom at Shanghai that when a lower rate of freight is subsequently taken, the first shipper is entitled to reduction—not unless it is specially stipulated. I consider the stipulation is necessary in the case of sailing ships as well as steamers; otherwise the captain refuses to agree to it. In ships that our firm is agent for, I only remember having to reduce the freight once, and then there were only 50 tons on board. That was a sailing ship. The shipper had the benefit of the lower rate. There was a stipulation that if the rate was lowered the shipper should have the advantage. It was verbal. I know the case of the *Georges*. I have known cases where the captain has gone away short, rather than accept reduction. I do not know positively of any other case where reduction was refused. I know of cases by hearsay, but cannot remember names of ships. I have heard it generally reported that captains had refused to lower the rate. I consider there is no custom at all unless specially stipulated. It often happens that a shipper engages 1,000 tons in a ship, and fails in his engagement. It would be very hard on the agents that the ship should either have to go short or take a lower rate. I have often engaged freight without making any stipulation. It has always been considered that if the bills of lading were signed, the captain could hold to the rate. He could not if it were stipulated otherwise. I never so stipulated because I thought it unfair. I do not know that the firm ever had a return made. But I did not always ship the tea. The return would not come to me unless I shipped the tea. They may have got it; but I don't know. The Chaaze generally engages the freight. In engaging freight I should not make the stipulation unless I got especial orders to do so. Brokers sometimes do and sometimes do not make the stipulation. If they make it, I agree to it. There is no such usage on the coast.

To Mr. Robinson—On the coast each man makes his own agreement. I am clearly of opinion that no custom binding the antecedent shipper to get a reduction on freight, has been established as regards steamers. Where freight is raised, the first shipper is entitled to have his cargo carried at the lower rate, if he has his bills of lading signed. It is not true that the *Sir Lancelot* was put on at £3.10 and reduced to £3. There was no freight engaged at the higher rate.

Re examined by Mr. Wainewright—I do not usually engage tea freight. Mr. Jaffray usually does so. I base my knowledge on what I see and hear, and my experience. We have had no occasion to be asked to make a reduction.

Mr. Robinson said, Mr. Wainewright first asked Mr. Clarke a series of questions to show he was an admirable witness, and was now trying to prove his evidence valueless.

Re-examination continued—In case of the *Sir Lancelot*, all that took place was this. I was asked what rate she would be put on the berth at, and said, "I suppose £3.10;" but she really never was laid on at that rate.

To Mr. Robinson—We often get more freight engaged than the broker can give.

His Lordship—In fact, "engaging freight" is rather a loose expression.

Witness—A broker would not consider the quantity named binding. He would not think anything of not producing it. In Foochow the custom is different.

Mr. Wainewright remarked that he had two other witnesses to examine, and was going on to propose an adjournment, when

His Lordship said:—After having heard 13 witnesses, I think that unless the two more you propose to call, can give more certain and positive evidence of the custom upon which you rely, it may be as well for me to state now, that I do not see any thing in the evidence already offered which at all satisfies me of the existence of any such custom as that contended for by the Plaintiffs. The most it amounts to is, that a great many people have in the case of sailing vessels made returns of freight; but I much doubt whether in all those cases it would not be found that there was very little freight engaged when the reduction was made on the rate, or that it was not quite a voluntary act on the part of the Captain or Consignee of the vessel. In a majority of instances it has certainly been returned because at the time the Broker engaged freight a stipulation was made, or an understanding come to, that in the event of the freight being lowered, a previous shipper at a higher rate was to have the benefit of it. A custom, to be upheld, must be valid in point of law, uniform in point of practice—and I think also it ought to be reasonable. There is certainly a complete lack of uniformity in the evidence of the existence of this custom. It amounts merely to this, that shippers have been powerful enough to insist on, and ship-owners or their Captains have not liked to resist, a return of freight when a reduction has become necessary for fear of not getting loaded; but I see no evidence of anything like a custom sufficient to support the petition in this case. I merely throw out these remarks at this stage, because it appears to me that it is throwing away time to hear any more witnesses if they cannot carry the case a great deal further than has been attempted. If you think you can carry it further, I will hear the witnesses, and you, on it to-morrow morning. In the meantime, it is for you to make up your mind whether there is any chance of your doing so.

Mr. Wainewright was much obliged to his Lordship for the intimation. It would of course now require very careful consideration on his part whether he should advise his clients to go on with the case. He would take this opportunity to mention, in case he had not another opportunity, that the object of the plaintiffs in bringing this suit had been to test the validity of the custom. They were really interested more the other way—

His Lordship—It has occurred to me more than once in course of the proceedings, that you must really wish it upset.

Mr. Wainewright—No. We wish to succeed. I have called witnesses without knowing what they were going to say; the object being to test the question for the good of the community; and I have not attempted either to find out beforehand what they would say, or to suppress portions of their evidence which might possibly be adverse.

His Lordship—That is the proper way to bring forward witnesses in a case where a question of custom is involved; not to examine them beforehand.

Mr. Wainewright must confess he was disappointed that the evidence he had brought forward had not made more impression on his Lordship, as to the recognised custom.

His Lordship—But the difficulty is to know what custom it. Custom, as it represents itself to many, is a general course of dealing. But to a lawyer it appears differently. A general course of dealing does not necessarily represent a custom that is bound to be recognised.

Mr. Wainewright thought that at any rate he had shown that it was recognised. He did not know whether his Lordship had looked at the cases.

His Lordship thought he had looked at nearly all. Of course he did not know what cases Mr. Wainewright might be going to cite.

Mr. Wainewright had thought that the present custom, if proved, might be brought in as an incident to the written contract.

Mr. Robinson—But you must prove the custom first.

After some further conversation, it was understood that Mr. Wainewright would intimate to the Court what course the plaintiffs would pursue, before the hour of sitting.

April 28th.

Mr. Wainewright, in terms of the adjournment yesterday, intimated to the Court that, after the strong expression of opinion made by His Lordship yesterday, he had been instructed by his clients not to proceed further with their case, and he submitted to a non-suit.

Mr. Robinson would beg to be permitted to make two observations. A certain amount of imputation had been cast upon his clients of want of good faith in resisting the plaintiffs' claim. Now, they were only co-charterers of the *Pleiades* with a firm in Japan, and it was the resolution of the latter to make the resistance. So far as the defendants were concerned, they had offered to abide by the arbitration of the Chamber of Commerce or any other private individual, but it was the plaintiffs who insisted upon having the question decided by a legal tribunal.

Mr. Wainewright, on behalf of his clients, would also say that, in view of the important point which the case involved, it would have been unsatisfactory for it to be decided on private arbitration.

His Lordship said he thought the case was just such a one that ought to be resisted and brought into Court.

Mr. Robinson's second point was as to the question of costs. He thought the case was one which involved a point of vital interest to the commerce of the place, and the costs should not be taxed strictly according to the scale of the amount at stake.

His Lordship agreed, and instructed the taxing master, who had had the advantage of hearing the case, to allow costs irrespectively of any scale, and according to what should be allowed, in his discretion, for the services rendered.

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2 P.M.

Walker *v.* Malcolm.

Alleged detention of Opium.

Mr. Miller for plaintiff.
Mr. Drummond for defendant.

Mr. Miller explained that this was a re-hearing of the case Walker *v.* Malcolm, tried before the Magistrate on the 5th April, in which His Lordship was sitting on the bench with Mr. Nicolas. He took it therefore that His Lordship was familiar with the details. The summons had in that instance been dismissed, with costs against the plaintiff.

His Lordship was perfectly familiar with the case, and did not wish to hear any evidence. All Mr. Miller need do was to argue that the Magistrate was wrong in his decision.

Mr. Miller would then take the evidence as reported in the *N.-C. Daily News*, and comment upon it. The case was that, on the 18th March, the Plaintiff and his servants were proceeding along the street, the servants carrying on their persons certain opium valued at Tls. 50. They were seized by eleven ruffians, nine of whom fled, leaving two on the scene of action. And the two undertook to tie the coolies' queues together and took them to the Police Station. And now he came to the question of detention. The Defendant Malcolm was the sergeant in charge of the station on that night. He says that when the men came in, finding the Runners' cards bore the Municipal seal, he ordered P. C. Boysen to escort the whole party to the Mixed Court. Now that, he contended, was detaining the opium in such a way as to lose the plaintiff his opium, and as regarded the coolies it was for his Lordship to judge whether men sent two miles with their queues tied were or were not in custody. Mr. Miller quoted and commented at some length on the evidence; and asked his Lordship to decide, upon it, that Malcolm had, by his action, caused the opium to be lost. The time of detention did not signify; whether it was kept in the Police Station two minutes or five. He was responsible if by his conduct he jeopardised the opium. If he had cast the whole party out into the street—

His Lordship—In that case there would probably have been a further breach of the peace.

Mr. Miller—That would have been another case which would have come before the Court in another way. But the Sergeant did not do so. He dealt with the case; he sent a Policeman up with the men to the Mixed Court, and that was detention.

His Lordship. Let me put a case. Suppose I am sitting in my dining room, and hear a row. I see four men pitching into two. I go down and drive them all into my yard and say: "What is all this about? I don't like a breach of the peace, and shall not allow it." Two of the men produce opium, as a cause of quarrel. I say I have nothing to do with that, and send my servant with them to the nearest Police Court. Would you say I had detained the opium?

Miller—I certainly should.

His Lordship I thought you would be driven to do so. And the case is exactly on all fours with the present one.

Mr. Miller said—If people choose to kick up a row they must take the consequences, but you have no right to interfere. You cannot take a man's goods and make them deviate. They are going one way, and you make them go another. Defendant all along says he had nothing to do with the matter. But as a matter of fact he dealt with it. He ordered Boysen to take the party to the Mixed Court. There has been an unjust attempt to slur this case because it involved opium. But he hoped his Lordship would not allow that to weigh.

His Lordship said he would like to hear Mr. Drummond on the question of costs. In order to get costs, he must justify the conduct of the Police.

Mr. Drummond contended that they had acted according to national comity. He thought the Court would find nothing in the case to show that they had been doing otherwise. Suppose the officers of any Consulate wished to execute an order of that Consular Court,—the Police were deputed by the Council to be guardians of order, and the officers would fall back on them to carry out the order.

His Lordship—Then you liken Lekin runners to the constables of a Consular Court. They are supposed to be the agents of a guild to protect it against smuggled opium. But how if the people carrying the opium were not smugglers?

Mr. Drummond submitted that the Treaty gives the Chinese power to take any steps they see fit, to prevent smuggling. Art. XLVI says "The Chinese Authorities at each port shall adopt the means they judge most proper to prevent the revenue suffering from fraud or smuggling."

His Lordship agreed, and said the Police ought even to go further and detain the opium. But about the smuggling?

Mr. Drummond said the question what was smuggling was, by the same clause, to be decided by the Chinese.

His Lordship—They may say a man was smuggling; but they must give primâ facie evidence of it.

Mr. Drummond—The Municipal Police are under the orders of the Council, and the Council are responsible for their conduct. In order to enable them to have a guide whether men calling themselves Lekin runners are authorized servants of the Guild, they have taken steps from time to time to enable the Police to identify them. The latest method had been by issuing to the Runners, cards bearing the Municipal seal. The question whether the opium was smuggled or not, had to be decided by the Court to which it was given up. The men were brought to the Station charged with smuggling, and the Police passed them on to the Court.

His Lordship—Were they so charged?

[It was shown that there was no entry made on the charge-sheet. But Sergeant Malcolm had entered the incident in an "occurrence" book.]

Mr. Drummond—They were brought in in charge of Lekin runners and sent on in charge of the Police to the Mixed Court, to prevent a breach of the peace. They say we do not know whether the opium is smuggled or not. We have nothing to do with that. We merely send the whole case to the Mixed Court. Large sums were often involved in these cases, and if the Police were not to go, it would be worth the while of smugglers to employ a large force to carry off the opium. To prevent this, to prevent the party being attacked in the street, the Police lend assistance. It appeared to him that this was the only course they could pursue, and they had done so for a long time. If a case were brought to the Station without evidence that the men were Lekin runners, it would be another thing. The Police would have to take stronger action. They might then, as had been remarked, be simple thieves. But in the present case, the Police simply said we will protect you from the station to the Mixed Court, and see that you are not attacked in the streets where we are bound to preserve order. A similar case, Loureiro *v.* Stripling, had been decided by the magistrate from that point of view; and the principle had been adhered to in the present case. Whether or not it was proper that a case of the kind should be brought once at least to this Court for His Lordship's decision, he would not argue; and would not press for the costs of this Court, either one way or the other.

His Lordship then delivered judgment as follows:—

Besides reading the evidence adduced before the Magistrate, I had also the advantage of hearing the case in his Court, and I am clearly of opinion that there has been no detention by the Police of the opium, the property of the claimant, which will support the claim made.

I think it will be well, however, for me to explain why I do not think the course pursued was a right one. The Police of this Settlement base their right of interference between persons employed in carrying opium within the port, and the Lekin runners—who appear to be persons in the employment of certain farmers of the taxes—simply on the ground to prevent breaches of the public peace, and to maintain order in the streets of the Settlement. Now, how do they do this? they see ten men set upon two in the public highway, they permit the ten to tie the tails of the two, and they escort the two as criminals, leaving it in the option of any of the ten to accompany the latter to the Police Station. This is a species of non-interference, which I do not understand. The ten commit the assault, for it is an assault in the eyes of the Police, and yet the two upon whom the assault is committed, are the only persons who are treated as wrong-doers. Then, when the parties arrive at the Police Station, no charge is made. They are not charged with smuggling opium, but they are shown to have opium on their persons, upon which the persons who assaulted them are allowed to take possession of the opium, and again the two victims are taken as Criminals through the streets, under the charge of a Police Officer, to the office of the Native Magistrate; and what becomes of them or the opium, I do not know. It certainly has never been in the possession of the Police; and they are not, therefore, liable for its detention; but I think if they knew there was any dispute about the opium, and of course they did know this, they ought to detain it, so that, at any rate in those cases where it turns out, as it mostly will do, that it is the property of the Foreigner, it may be returned to that Foreigner, and not be confiscated for the benefit of those who have no right to it.

As the facts are in this particular case—they look very much like this: a man is walking in the streets with a watch in his pocket, or a servant is taking his master's watch to a watch-maker—half-a-dozen men set upon him and endeavour to take the watch from him—the Police seeing this, interfere, handcuff the possessor of the watch—walk him off to the station, allowing, if they feel so inclined, those who have attempted to deprive him of his property to accompany them, but in no way compelling them. Arrived there, the watch is produced, upon which it is coolly appropriated by the persons who attempted to take it by force. Why or wherefore is not stated, and the pick-pocketing, robbery, or whatever it may be called, is, as it were, conducted respectably, under quasi-official sanction.

I must now consider what offence, if any, the men having possession of the opium are supposed to, or have in fact, committed, because, if they have committed an offence, the Police are right in facilitating their removal to the proper tribunal for trial. And in doing so, I must necessarily enquire if their master has been guilty of any offence, because if he has, they cannot screen themselves by simply saying they acted under his authority.

I am not going to consider this case from a sentimental point of view. Of all the nonsense that is talked, there is none greater than that talked here and in England about the immorality and impiety of the opium trade. It is simply sickening. I have no sympathy with it, neither have I any sympathy with the owner of a gin-palace; but as long as China permits the growth of opium throughout the length and breadth of the land, taxes it, and pockets a large Revenue from it—sympathy with her on the subject is simply ludicrous and misplaced.

Now, it is not pretended that the opium which is seized by these Lekin runners is smuggled. It has in fact paid the Import duty—at least it is not pretended it has not; but it is seized because it is alleged it is liable to other duties. Is it? I have only the Treaty before me, and to it I refer, and by it I can alone judge of this asserted liability. By the 5th Rule, made in pursuance of the Treaty, it is stated: "Opium will henceforth pay 30 Taels per picul import Duty. The importer will *sell* it only at the port. It will be carried into the *interior* by Chinese only, and only as Chinese property; the Foreigner will not be allowed to accompany it."

Now it is clear from this that opium, which has paid the import duty, is free from any other duty whatever within the port, and as if to make this more clear, it is expressly stated that it can only leave this *Port* to go into the *Interior* as Chinese property and unaccompanied by Foreigners—the object being to make it subject in the interior to all the duties, squeezes, &c., &c., which in the interior are levied legally and illegally on produce in transit or in course of consumption. In the port it is free, but the moment it leaves the port, it is taxable to any extent, and the Foreigner has no right to interfere; but to say that it is taxable within the port under the Treaty, is to strike a fatal blow at the root of all commercial treaties, because it is to give another meaning to the infliction of "import duties." If immediately goods are imported, and have paid import duties, they are open to taxation, then the consideration for the payment of the duty vanishes and is lost, for it is quite possible to impose such taxes as will render the article unsaleable, and thus destroy the very object with which the import duty is imposed. In the Port, then, no duty can be charged or tax levied beyond the import duty of 30 Taels per picul. And the opium can be sold and delivered in the Port on these terms, and can be carried about in the Port from seller to purchaser so far free—there is nothing that I can see in the Treaty which renders it liable to further taxation within the Port,

whether it be the property of a Chinaman or a Foreigner. The Import duty has freed the drug within the Port. This is my interpretation of the Treaty. If I am right it is difficult to see what offence the servants of the plaintiff have committed. Nay, it is clear that they have not committed any offence, and if they have committed no offence, they certainly ought not to be treated as if they had.

So far on the Law of the case, as far as I understand it. But if the conduct of the Lekin runners is an infraction of the Treaty, it does not follow that British subjects are to take the enforcement of what they consider the particular meaning of the Treaty into their own hands. That is for their government to do. It is for the subject to complain, for the government to rectify, and, under ordinary circumstances, to indemnify or obtain indemnification; but I cannot and will not approve of, or permit, any attempt to enforce by violence or force any interpretation which an individual may attach to a Treaty right. I think the Police should continue to interfere to prevent any breach of the public peace, and to prevent the Lekin runners from openly attacking persons carrying opium; and when they do take any such steps, they should take all persons engaged in such breach of the peace to the Station, and retain the opium until the true owner presents himself. I conceive they do not lay themselves open to action by so doing. But persons engaged in this trade will do well to remember that, if it is found they are mere nominees—men of straw—neither they nor the real owners of the drug will have any cause to complain if, in lies they tell to get possession of it, if in the false pretences they make—they fail to be satisfy the Police, and fail to get back the opium. They have no business to complain of unfairness if they are themselves unfair: This Court will not assist them. A trade carried on in disguise—clandestinely and in secret, by men who are notoriously not in a position to carry it on, is open to grave suspicion and is sure to come to grief.

Disapproving, therefore, of the course pursued, I shall confirm that part of the judgment of the magistrate in which he dismisses the case, and simply order the case to stand dismissed without costs.

HALL & HOLTZ *v.* WEST.

The following letter, referred to in the Defendant's answer in the above case (reported last week), will form a useful record in connexion with it:—

Shanghai, 10th September, 1874.

JOHN WEST, Esq.,

DEAR SIR,—As your engagement with our Firm will terminate during the latter part of January next, we deem it right to inform you that at the expiration of same we shall no longer need your services. We give you this timely notice in order that you may have ample time to endeavour to procure for yourself another situation in the East, should you so desire.

By the terms of our agreement you are not permitted to accept another situation here without our permission, but we hereby withdraw that restriction, and give you full permission to engage yourself to any already established business here or elsewhere; and we may mention that, should you be able to obtain an engagement at once, and wish to accept same, we shall be happy to cancel your agreement with us forthwith.

With respect to the clause regarding your setting up in business on your own account, we hold you to our original agreement.

In the event of your desiring to proceed to England to seek employment and wishing to leave at once, we will secure your passage and grant you half-pay for the unexpired term of your agreement; should you, however, prefer to remain with us until the time has fully expired, we shall raise no objection to your so doing, providing we have no cause to complain of your conduct, and at the expiration of said term will at once secure your passage for Europe.

(Signed) HALL & HOLTZ.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, April 28th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

Drunk.

John Cameron, Thomas Humphry, of the *Fleurs Castle*, and John Hall, a resident at the Sailors' Home, were brought up charged with the above offence, but were discharged upon promising not to offend again.

April 29th.

R. *v.* EDWARD WRIGHT.

Drunk and Incapable.

Defendant, an able seaman, who was recently shipped on board the *Sir Lancelot*, from the Sailors' Home, was brought up by the police, charged with the above offence. It was the prisoner's third offence within a very short period, and he appeared to be suffering from the effects of drink.

His WORSHIP, after a suitable admonition, sentenced him to a fortnight's imprisonment.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, April 23rd.

Before GEORGE F. SEWARD, Esq., *United States Consul-General.*

SAVAGE *v.* TYREE.

Decision.

The Petition in this matter sets forth that the plaintiff is a British subject resident at Shanghai, and the defendant a citizen of the United States, and at the moment within the jurisdiction of the Court; and that the defendant has failed to deliver 25 tons of L.B. Lead, bought from the defendant's agent, H. J. Limby, through plaintiff's broker, R. H. Gore-Booth.

Attached to the petition is the broker's note, which reads as follows:—

"Shanghai, 6th Nov. 1874.

"H. SAVAGE, Esq.

"SIR,—I have this day bought from A. F. Tyree, Esq. (of Ningpo), L.B. Tons 25, Twenty-five tons L. B. Lead, at Tls. 5.92½ (Five ninety-two and a half Taels) delivery two months' payment cash.

"Your obedient servant,

"R. H. GORE-BOOTH."

Upon this contract the plaintiff claims for One hundred and sixty-five Taels, being the enhanced value of the Lead at the date when the contract fell due.

The defendant alleges that he is not acquainted with the plaintiff nor with Mr. Gore-Booth, that he has not transacted any business with or through these persons, that he has not made a contract with the plaintiff as alleged, or in any other way for the delivery of twenty-five tons of Lead, and that he has not employed Mr. Limby in the capacity stated by the plaintiff, or authorized him to sell any goods for him through any other person.

The plaintiff offers in evidence the statements of Mr. Limby and Mr. Gore-Booth, and, among other documents, hands in an admitted copy of the Broker's note rendered to the defendant, which is as follows:—

"Shanghai, 5th November, 1874.

"A. F. TYREE, Esq.,

"Ningpo.

"DEAR SIR,—We have this day sold on your account to sundry Foreign merchants 200 tons (Two Hundred Tons) large pigs L.B. Lead at Tls. 5.85 per picul—delivery two months. Payment as customary. Commission nil.

"Yours faithfully,

"H. LIMBY & Co.

"Confirmed,

"A. F. TYREE."

In his evidence, Mr. Limby states that the 25 tons of Lead, bought by the plaintiff through Mr. Gore-Booth, was a part of the lot sold, as shown in the above note.

Without entering further upon the evidence adduced, I notice the following points:—

1st.—That the plaintiff claims to have bought through Mr. Gore-Booth as Broker.

2nd.—That the defendant is said to have sold through Messrs. Limby & Co. as Brokers.

The capacity in which Mr. Gore-Booth acted is asserted by the plaintiff himself. The capacity in which Messrs. Limby & Co. acted may be inferred from the contract note, and is perfectly established by the tenor of the correspondence which passed between the defendant and them.

I believe it to be a principle of law that one Broker cannot employ another to do business entrusted to him without authority from his principal. There is no evidence that such authority was given in this case. The act of Mr. Gore-Booth, therefore, cannot bind the defendant.

That his act should not bind the defendant will be more evident when it is noticed that the contract notes do not agree in date, and more particularly in the prices stated. The difference in prices somewhat exceeds the amount which the brokerage at the usual rate of 1 per cent. would have come to, and indicates that the Brokers considered themselves entitled to two commissions, or to so much of two commissions as the transaction would allow. This way of doing business might be regular enough if Messrs. Limby & Co. were acting as the defendant's agents or factors, but all the circumstances should have indicated to them that they were not acting in such capacity. And, looking to the different prices stated, it may well be doubted whether the defendant would have been bound to fulfil the sale had Messrs. Limby & Co. themselves concluded the assumed bargain. I take it that a Broker's *bought* and *sold* notes are valuable only as evidence of a contract, and that if they differ, beyond the amount of the commissions (which should be stated in them), they become valueless.

I think also that a Broker's note should mention the principals, for otherwise it may be difficult to establish between them any privity of contract. I do no know that this is essential, but it would certainly be better.

For the reason stated, I therefore dismiss the petition. The plaintiff will pay the costs of the Court, which amount to $44.52. These do not include the defendant's costs in coming from Ningpo, as I have no evidence upon this head.

Extracts.

THE ATTACK ON COLONEL BROWNE'S PARTY.

(Rangoon Gazette.)

The members of the expedition to Yunnan returned on Friday, and Dr. Anderson left for Europe on Sunday. Colonel Browne remains here for the present. We are now in possession of full details of the attack upon the expedition, which fortunately, owing to the steadiness of the Sikh escort, and the judicious application of a little palm oil to the Kachyens, escaped destruction. After all, it appears, the presents and so forth were not looted, and barring the loss of Colonel Browne's uniform pillaged by the friendly Kachyens in charge of it, and of Dr. Anderson's dress clothes, coupled with the destruction by fire of a few pack-saddles which were burnt to prevent their falling into the hands of the marauders, but little damage was done, and but few souvenirs remain in the hands of the enemy. Mr. Margary, who was received in an extremely friendly manner at Manwyne on his outward journey, had left the party, and ridden on to that place, utterly at a loss to understand the rumours that were abroad as to obstacles ahead. He, it appears, believed no harm was intended, and wrote to have his journal sent on to him. It would seem he had been in Manwyne for some thirty hours when the Saubwah suggested a ride outside to visit some springs, hot springs we believe, a short distance from the town. As he was mounting his pony, he was speared and subsequently beheaded, and his Chinese attendants, five in number, shared his fate—his syce only, we understand, being fortunate enough to make good his escape. Unaware of the catastrophe which had happened, the expedition resumed its march in the morning, following the road to Manwyne. As the members advanced through a sort of hilly ampitheatre surrounded by dense jungle, they became aware, between seven and eight in the morning, of a thin line of Chinamen below them to the right, while in their rear there were signs of others, in a word, a *cordon* was being drawn round them. To their left was a steep hill with an almost vertical descent on the other side. They were not long left in ignorance of their neighbours' intentions—puff after puff of smoke from the surrounding jungle told that the attack had commenced. The Kachyens forthwith stampeded over the hill, playfully drawing their

fingers across their throats as they passed Colonel Browne, by way of conveying their views of the fate that was in store for him. The Sikhs unstrapped their cartridge-boxes. Methodically and coolly they went to work, and taking up a position by some large stones towards the bottom of the hill, prepared to send a bullet in the direction of every puff. Cautioned by Colonel Browne to be careful of of their ammunition, they threw themselves out in skirmishing order, and from 8 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, firing was kept up. Meantime a Kachyen hailed the party to the effect that he had been offered five hundred rupees by the enemy to come over to his side; but Colonel Browne topped the offer liberally, and at the request of the Kachyens handed them powder wherewith to fire the jungle. This procedure had a most wholesome effect, and cleared the gorge in the rear, thus enabling the expedition to make good its retreat. The Kachyens were marvellously impressed by the prowess of the Sikhs, and being in a state of maudlin drunkenness would insist upon embracing them. While the Burmese who accompanied the expedition, and who were repeatedly shouted to by the Chinamen not to expose themselves to fire, as they were attacking the foreign devils only, were in a state of uproarious excitement, blazing away and aiming at nothing in particular and shouting the equivalent in Burmese to "We are men," which statement they confirmed in a manner highly illustrative of the principle that "seeing is believing." Fortunately, hardly any casualties occurred. One of Dr. Anderson's men was shot through the arm, and a ball grazed the side of another native. We believe the return of the expedition to Bhamo in safety was not welcomed there by any demonstrations of satisfaction—rather the reverse; possibly the Yunnan Merchants and their constituents in Bhamo do not precisely relish the prospect of open competition, and more especially European competition, in a trade which at present is virtually their monopoly.

There is a rumour that the British Resident is to be withdrawn from Bhamo. We hope that is not so. The opening of that route to trade *must* come, and because the machinations of the old anachronism at Mandalay have for the moment retarded it, it would be idle to look upon the project as impracticable. We believe, on the return trip, H. M. of Burmah intimated his wish to receive the mission. We are glad that our proverbial politeness to barbarous potentates did not in this instance influence the Mission to accept his invitation.

THE MURDER OF MR. MARGARY.

Major-General Margary writes to *The Times* as follows:—As the public have not been informed of the whole facts, real or supposed, concerning the disastrous defeat of the British Mission from Burmah through China, may I beg you to be kind enough to publish the following? The first telegram received said:—"The attacking party was the advanced guard of an army of 3,000, sent by order of the Governor of Momein to annihilate British party; of this there is no doubt." "With deep grief Colonel Browne reports that Margary and his servants, five Chinese, have been killed at Manwine, and their heads exposed over wall of town. Chinese commanded by the nephew of Lee See Hie." The last telegram from Colonel Strover, *viâ* Rangoon, dated March 3, states:—"From private information I learn that Margary went ahead of expedition to reconnoitre, when twelve miles from Manwine, in consequence of hostile interruption; he entered to reconnoitre, and was treacherously murdered." Poor fellow! we know not what horrible torture he may have been subjected to when the Chinese got him into the town. My heart bleeds to think of it. Will our present noble Government and the British nation allow this most outrageous insult and defiance of it to pass unavenged? I trow not. If it did our hold on India would be imperilled. As it is, no doubt exaggerated rumours of a large force of English "foreign devils" being easily defeated will spread through China and elsewhere like wildfire, and what may be the effects of it if we do not act promptly? Manwine should be razed to the ground and Momein occupied by us—two feats easy to be accomplished; and then there would be sufficient protection, both moral and physical, for a commercial route through Burmah into China, open to all countries. We went to war with the King of Abyssinia on account of his imprisoning a Vice-Consul. Lord G. Hamilton, in his tame answer to Mr. Cartwright in the House of Commons on Thursday last, called my son a "distinguished engineer who had joined the expedition at Bhamo," thus making him appear a private individual travelling on his own account, whereas he was in Her Majesty's Consular service in China, and was sent to join the Mission to conduct it through China, by order of the British Minister at Peking. He went most willingly, and held Imperial safe conducts.

TONQUIN.

A Chinese letter from Tonquin, dated 12th January, which has been placed in the hands of the *China Mail*, contains some curious news on the state of affairs there. It runs somewhat as follows:—

I promised to keep you informed of what takes in Tonquin, and especially as to what has become of the poor partisans of the Laes (Le) since they were abandoned by the French, above all since they were paid for the services they rendered to the French cause in being fired at. There Laes are real natives of Tonquin, partisans of the old dynasty of that country, and consequently not in favour of the supremacy of the Government at Hué. When Lieutenant Garnier came to Tonquin with his men, the Laes at once joined them, hoping to have their country placed under the French protection against the Annamites. When Garnier was killed and French troops withdrawn, these Laes were abandoned to the hatred of the Annamite mandarins. At first, part of them were killed by the mandarins, but later, the Laes gathered together to offer resistance, informing the French, however, that if *they* would attack them on behalf of the Annamites, they would not even defend themselves. The French answered them that they would remain neuter on the one side as on the other, that the Laes could fight against the Hué Government, which would have nothing to do with them (the French).

On the strength of this promise they united under the flag of the Laes (old Tonquinese dynasty) for the purpose of trying to drive away their Annamite tyrants, and then re-establish their King. They were advancing rapidly, and were already in possession of two provinces, when the French, unable to any longer resist the solicitations of their friends the Annamites, shot down the poor Laes. Since then the French have renewed their attacks frequently and have nearly exterminated these unfortunate partisans of the Lae family, who were the Frenchmen's friends. It was to put a stop to this that Bishop Calomer interfered.

My former letter left the Laes after their last engagement with the French troops, which engagement did them so much harm and obliged them to take refuge in the "Cotba" mountains. A very strange fact has recently occurred, which once more shows the value of some people's word, and especially the value they put on fulfilling their engagements. Monsignor Calomer, the good Bishop, who, as all those that have followed these events in Tonquin know, deplores the fate of these poor Laes, went and proposed to the French Commander to stop, by a conciliatory measure, the extermination of these good people. He promised to obtain their submission, if the Commander would protect them against the hatred of the Annamite mandarins. This submission the Bishop told him would not only lead to peace, of which the country has so long been deprived, but also to show the people that circumstances alone were the cause of the Laes' misfortunes—misfortunes which they rightly attribute to the French, and for which they reproach them. The Bishop asked in return for an engagement (which he considered simply as an act of charity), that the Laes should be respected by the Annamite mandarins, and that they forthwith should be placed under the protection of the French flag. He added even that the best means would be when their submission was given, to send most of them to Saigon.

The French Commander promised the Bishop that he would take all the Laes under his protection to prevent the Mandarins' exactions, and to ask permission at Saigon to send part of them to Lower Cochin-China, if they quietly laid down their arms and made faithfully their submission.

An Annamite priest was sent to make known these ideas of peace, and to advise the Laes to stop the rebellion, which had been so fatal to them. While this was going on, and the French Commander was thus endeavouring to arrange with Monsignor Calomer this honest and honorable measure to put a stop to the sufferings of the unfortunate Laes, the mandarins found means to insinuate to the Commander that this measure was dangerous, and that they had better get rid of the rebels, &c. They succeeded in making the Commander assist them by lending them two gunboats, the *Aspic* and *Espingole*. Notwithstanding the promise made to the Bishop, who had already sent messengers of peace who by that time ought to be amongst the Laes, notwithstanding the promptings of conscience which ought to show men the infamy of this action, the French Commander consented to assist the Annamite Mandarins in their fight with the Laes, at the very moment when the latter received the word of peace from the Missionary's mouth.

Judge, my dear friend, of the deplorable result of the Bishop's negotiations and the lamentable consequence that would necessarily arise from the parleys and conciliations brought about by the priest. The Laes were ready to listen to ~~the promises~~, were even going to move down, and believed, when they saw in the distance the smoke of the gunboats, that these came to take them off to Hai Phang, when the shells and shot from the men-of-war's guns showed them their false position. During this, the Missionaries had of course to bear the burnt of the wrath of the indignant Laes and got back with much difficulty, bringing the answer that the Laes would not submit on any conditions, and that they would rather die than to trust again to the Frenchmen's treacherous promises.

Monsignor Calomer is a Spanish Bishop residing one day's distance from Haiphong, where the French are.

THE YOKOHAMA TRAGEDY.

Japan Gazette.

The intense excitement which pervaded the community during the whole of yesterday, in consequence of the discovery of the embezzlement of a large sum of money by two employés of the French Bank, and their flight with the plunder on board a schooner which they had purchased, culminated when it became known that the vessel had been overtaken by those sent in pursuit of her, and that the drama which had, though for so brief a space, so strongly enchained the minds of the public, had ended in blood. The *Sea Gull*, with the dead body of one of the defaulters, and the almost lifeless form of the other, reached the anchorage at a late hour last night.

Through the courtesy of one who accompanied the *Sea Gull*, we are enabled to give a very full account of all that transpired from the moment of the steamer's leaving Yokohama yesterday afternoon until the hour of our going to press. The *Sea Gull* steamed out of harbour at 2.20 p.m. yesterday, having on board Mr. F. E. White, H.B.M.'s Consular Constable, provided with warrants for the arrest of Swaby, Adds, and Capt. Withers, emanating from the British Bonsulate, and of Cantelli, from the Italian Consulate; six bluejackets of H.M.S. *Thalia*, in charge of Sub-Lieutenant P. C. Riatt, to enforce, if need were, the civil authority; and Capt. Pagden, whose services were called into requisition to identify the *Iris*, with the appearance of which he was perfectly familiar. These, with two engineers and the firemen, were all who proceeded by the vessel, none others being allowed on board. Our informant's story is as follows:

On proceeding on board *Sea Gull* at 1 P.M., found the fires had not been laid, and sufficient steam to enable us to make a start was not generated until 2.15 P.M. Got away with 15-lbs. steam, the little vessel proceeding at a good speed. Rounded Homoco Spit as closely in as possible, the lead going all the time. As soon as we were clear of the Spit, shaped a

course for about a point inside of Kanonsaki Light, so as to make as straight a course as we could, and to keep out of sight as much as possible. On rounding Kanonsaki Point, at 4.15 P.M., the *Iris* was observed standing in towards Kaneda Bay, a little distance below the Plymouth Rocks. Seeing some fishing-boats very close to her, and thinking that the fugitives might attempt to elude us by reaching the shore, which was at no great distance —say ¾ mile—we put on all steam possible, and hugged the land, to try and cut out any boat going ashore. Two men were stationed with glasses, to watch the ship and the boats, and observe if any one left. Our little vessel went on at an increased speed, although there was a swell rolling in from seaward. As we neared the vessel, when within about 20 yards of her, we observed Swaby and Cantelli standing in the cabin hatchway, watching us very intently, the Captain being busy on deck, working the ship, and Adds also watching us through a pair of opera-glasses. On their seeing the Constable and H. M.'s naval uniforms, and the white ensign at the main of the steamer, and thinking, no doubt, that resistance was useless, they disappeared from sight, and the sound of shots was immediately heard to proceed from the cabin of the schooner. When within a few feet of the *Iris*, the constable and the armed guard immediately sprang on board, and orders were immediately given by Mr. White for sail to be take off the schooner, and at the same time he rushed down the companion-ladder, accompanied by one of the seamen, leaving the vessel in command of Captain Pagden. Eight minutes after she was boarded, a breeze came down from the eastward, and had the pursuers been delayed another 30 minutes, there cannot be a doubt that the fugitives would have effected their escape. Capt. Pagden braced-up, and steered for midchannel. On proceeding below, it being then 4.40 p.m., a sad spectacle met their view. Immediately in front of them, lying athwart the cabin, they found Swaby, on his left side, groaning and breathing heavily. He had a pistol, firmly clenched, in his right hand, the fingers still moving, as if trying to fire again. On the opposite side of the saloon, in the foremost cabin, sat Cantelli, with a pistol in his right hand, staring at them, the blood trickling down his face from a wound in his forehead, just above the right eye. The pistols were immediately taken from both, and they were carefully laid out by the seamen. Water was brought, their faces were washed, and efforts were made to restore Cantelli, who did not seem to be so severely wounded as Swaby. The latter expired about 2 minutes afterwards, and was immediately covered up. On the pistols being examined it was found that two chambers of Swaby's pistol had recently been discharged, but only one of Cantelli's. Cantelli was attended by a seaman until he expired. He would sometimes remain quiet for half-an-hour, then breathe heavily and gurgle in a most awful manner. While the two men were being attended to below, Adds, and the Captain, Withers, were placed at the stern of the vessel, in charge of an armed sentry. Sail having been taken off a hawser was got out, and she was taken in tow by the *Sea Gull* and proceeded with all speed back to Yokohama. Kanonsaki was passed at about 6.15, when, the wind favouring a little on the starboard bow, all fore-and-aft sail was made on the schooner. Arrived off the light-ship at 9.30 p.m, and anchored close to the *Thalia* at 10.15 p.m. The *Sea Gull* was immediately dispatched to the *Thalia* for the doctor, who, on arrival, pronounced Cantelli as certain to die before midnight, and would not, therefore, advise his removal; this opinion proved to be correct—he expired at 11.40 p.m. Numbers of boats came alongside the schooner, but no one but those immediately interested were allowed on board. Early this morning, the undertaker, Mr. P. Bohm, arrived with two shell coffins, and took the bodies on shore. The Constable and Sub-Lieutenant, with the guard, remained on board of the schooner all night, and left this morning after the vessel had been searched. At 2 a.m. Mr. G. Hodges, Consular-Constable, and Sergeant Percival, of the Municipal Police, proceeded on board, and removed Adds and Withers to the Consular Gaol, This forenoon, the Constable, Mr. White, with the assistance of Mr. F. W. Marks, made a formal search of the *Iris*. She had been fitted out without regard to expense, and evidently for a long voyage. Although she had only cleared for Manila, she had on board five sheep, two pigs, a quantity of fresh beef, and about two hundred fowls. In the cabin, everything had been fitted up with an eye to comfort; the furniture was of the best, and, on the poop, there were a couple of rattan lounges. She was also tolerably well armed. On the cabin table were several revolvers, loaded, and ready for use, and a lot of knives and Japanese short swords. The guns spoken of in our last night's issue—of which there were two on deck, lashed, and two below—were evidently intended for signalling only. The trunks, carpet-bags, snd other luggage of Swaby and Cantelli were examined, and in various places money was found to the amount of 31,337 *yen*, in 10, 5, and 2 *yen* gold pieces, besides £48 in English sovereigns. Several 5 and 2 *yen* gold pieces were also found on the bodies this morning. The whole of the money was taken charge of by Mr. White, who took it ashore and deposited it in the hands of H.B.M.'s Consul. Adds and Withers will, no doubt, shortly be tried on the charge of aiding and abetting the escape of Swaby and Cantelli. Whether they are guilty or innocent remains to be proved. Adds certainly seemed to treat the affair with perfect coolness, and when the vessel was boarded was smoking a cigar, with an air of *nonchalance*; but when actually placed under arrest he turned pale, and seemed considerably disconcerted. He maintained that the vessel was his, and asserted that she could not be taken from him.

The Captain, on the contrary, emphatically disclaimed any knowledge of the intentions of his passangers in undertaking the voyage, and seemed thunder-struck when informed by the Consular Constable of the object of his mission.

This afternoon, at 2 o'clock, an inquest was held at the British Consulate on the body of Swaby.

An enquiry was held this afternoon, by the Italian Consul, Sig. P. Castelli, at No. 1114, into the circumstances attending the death of V. Cantelli.

Clippings.

The *China Mail* believes the English and French Governments at home are negociating as to the possibility of acting in concert regarding the opening up of Tonquin on the one hand and Burmah on the other, so as to permit of free ingress to the borders of Western China.

We learn that a gratuity of one hundred taels was allowed to each of the families of those mandarins who were drowned in the *Fusing*, by the C. M. S. S. Company; and in addition to that, a gratuity from the Government is expected, a memorial having been sent to Peking on the subject.—*China Mail.*

In reference to the report we recently mentioned, that the Chinese Government intends to send some boys to England to learn the science of navigation, we now learn that it was not quite correct in detail. They are not to be sent there to go through a course of study in a naval school, but they are to be taken round the world in one of the Chinese men-of-war in order to learn practical navigation under the instruction of Capt. Tracey, R.N. The ship selected for the purpose is the *Yang Woo*, and she is now fitting up for the purpose, but she will not be able to start till the middle of autumn. She will first visit Japan.—*China Mail.*

Later advices tend to confirm our most unfavourable suspicions with regard to the foul treachery and brutality of the Chinese officials concerned in the murder of Mr. Margary. There can be no doubt as to the culpability of the Yunnan Authorities, and we are glad to observe that the entire foreign press unite in condemning the atrocity. It is rumoured in the North that the Chinese Government has expressed its willingness to indemnify the family of the deceased gentleman; but we hope that no satisfaction short of the execution of capital punishment on the ruffianly instigators of the crime will be accepted. The honour of the British flag is at stake, and we trust that it will be fully vindicated by determined and resolute action on the part of H. B. M.'s Minister.—*Foochow Herald.*

At the present moment, China stands answerable for a terrible, unprovoked, and aggravated crime. The way in which she will deal with it will depend upon the attitude and demand of the nation which, through one of its murdered citizens, has been outraged and insulted. It will be well that, as is likely, the circumstances should be investigated by English officials; but it is hardly probable there will a dispute about the facts. Any plea of irresponsibility should be summarily and indignantly dismissed. What England dictates China will no doubt do; and, as has been said, England's policy must be firm and unswerving. First and above all else, England must insist upon the severest punishment of those who instigated and carried out the dastardly crime. Official position of any participant, instead of being accepted in mitigation of punishment, must be pointed out as a reason for the infliction of punishment in its fullest and severest form.—*Hongkong Times.*

Apropos of Mr. Margary's murder, the *Pioneer* has the following. The last sentence is significant:—Our telegraphic announcement —to the effect that the expedition was attacked at a place about half-way between Bhamo and Talifoo; that Colonel Browne has retreated within Burmese territory, and that Mr. Margary has been killed—is as surprising as it is painful. The mistake may have been involved in some over-confident reliance on the credentials of the Pekin Government. In outlying provinces of the Chinese Empire, the authority of the Central Government is very loosely exercised. It is premature at present, however, while the *contretemps* is so imperfectly realised, and the expedition is on its way back, to speculate on the measures which the Government may have to undertake. But our policy in China for years has been tending to lower the British name in Chinese estimation, and sooner or later it will be necessary to give up all intercourse with the country or take steps to restore our political credit with the mandarins.

It is sadly to be feared that the feeble policy of the Government of Great Britain during the past ten years is in some degree responsible for the commission of this (Mr. Margary's) murder. Our Government has relaxed its hold on China, has suffered the treaties wrung from Chinese statesmen at infinite cost and trouble to become practically dead letters, and has lost much of the influence and prestige which formerly attached to the British flag in the East. The inactivity which has characterised English policy in China of late years has certainly not proved masterly. It has been productive of great mischief to our interests here, and has earned for us nothing but the contempt of other European nations, and the insolence of the Celestial. No longer are English officials treated with the marked courtesy once extended towards them in China. They are now put off with lame excuses, treated sometimes with scant ceremony, and, generally speaking, are not paid the deference which in former years they commanded. The reason is obvious. We have fallen in the estimation of the Chinaman; familiarity has bred contempt. The British lion has gone to sleep and they have found him wonderfully tame and harmless. It is advisable, nay imperative, that he should shake himself together and once more show that he still retains his pristine vigour, is prompt and willing to avenge the slightest affront offered to him, and is eager and able to protect his interests, wherever and whenever threatened.—*Daily Press.*

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A Chinese letter from Tonquin, dated 12th January, which has been placed in the hands of the *China Mail*, contains some curious news on the state of affairs there. It runs somewhat as follows:—

I promised to keep you informed of what takes in Tonquin, and especially as to what has become of the poor partisans of the Laes (Le) since they were abandoned by the French, above all since they were paid for the services they rendered to the French cause in being fired at. There Laes are real natives of Tonquin, partisans of the old dynasty of that country, and consequently not in favour of the supremacy of the Government at Hué. When Lieutenant Garnier came to Tonquin with his men, the Laes at once joined them, hoping to have their country placed under the French protection against the Annamites. When Garnier was killed and French troops withdrawn, these Laes were abandoned to the hatred of the Annamite mandarins. At first, part of them were killed by the mandarins, but later, the Laes gathered together to offer resistance, informing the French, however, that if *they* would attack them on behalf of the Annamites, they would not even defend themselves. The French answered them that they would remain neuter on the one side as on the other, that the Laes could fight against the Hué Government, which would have nothing to do with them (the French).

On the strength of this promise they united under the flag of the Laes (old Tonquinese dynasty) for the purpose of trying to drive away their Annamite tyrants, and then re-establish their King. They were advancing rapidly, and were already in possession of two provinces, when the French, unable to any longer resist the solicitations of their friends the Annamites, shot down the poor Laes. Since then the French have renewed their attacks frequently and have nearly exterminated these unfortunate partisans of the Lae family, who were the Frenchmen's friends. It was to put a stop to this that Bishop Calomer interfered.

My former letter left the Laes after their last engagement with the French troops, which engagement did them so much harm and obliged them to take refuge in the "Cotba" mountains. A very strange fact has recently occurred, which once more shows the value of some people's word, and especially the value they put on fulfilling their engagements. Monsignor Calomer, the good Bishop, who, as all those that have followed these events in Tonquin know, deplores the fate of these poor Laes, went and proposed to the French Commander to stop, by a conciliatory measure, the extermination of these good people. He promised to obtain their submission, if the Commander would protect them against the hatred of the Annamite mandarins. This submission the Bishop told him would not only lead to peace, of which the country has so long been deprived, but also to show the people that circumstances alone were the cause of the Laes' misfortunes—misfortunes which they rightly attribute to the French, and for which they reproach them. The Bishop asked in return for an engagement (which he considered simply as an act of charity), that the Laes should be respected by the Annamite mandarins, and that they forthwith should be placed under the protection of the French flag. He added even that the best means would be when their submission was given, to send most of them to Saigon.

The French Commander promised the Bishop that he would take all the Laes under his protection to prevent the Mandarins' exactions, and to ask permission at Saigon to send part of them to Lower Cochin-China, if they quietly laid down their arms and made faithfully their submission.

An Annamite priest was sent to make known these ideas of peace, and to advise the Laes to stop the rebellion, which had been so fatal to them. While this was going on, and the French Commander was thus endeavouring to arrange with Monsignor Calomer this honest and honorable measure to put a stop to the sufferings of the unfortunate Laes, the mandarins found means to insinuate to the Commander that this measure was dangerous, and that they had better get rid of the rebels, &c. They succeeded in making the Commander assist them by lending them two gunboats, the *Aspic* and *Espingole*. Notwithstanding the promise made to the Bishop, who had already sent messengers of peace who by that time ought to be amongst the Laes, notwithstanding the promptings of conscience which ought to show men the infamy of this action, the French Commander consented to assist the Annamite Mandarins in their fight with the Laes, at the very moment when the latter received the word of peace from the Missionary's mouth.

Judge, my dear friend, of the deplorable result of the Bishop's negotiations and the lamentable consequence that would necessarily arise from the parleys and conciliations brought about by the priest. The Laes were ready to listen to ~~the promises~~, were even going to move down, and believed, when they saw in the distance the smoke of the gunboats, that these came to take them off to Hai Phang, when the shells and shot from the men-of-war's guns showed them their false position. During this, the Missionaries had of course to bear the burnt of the wrath of the indignant Laes and got back with much difficulty, bringing the answer that the Laes would not submit on any conditions, and that they would rather die than to trust again to the Frenchmen's treacherous promises.

Monsignor Calomer is a Spanish Bishop residing one day's distance from Haiphong, where the French are.

THE YOKOHAMA TRAGEDY.

Japan Gazette.

The intense excitement which pervaded the community during the whole of yesterday, in consequence of the discovery of the embezzlement of a large sum of money by two employés of the French Bank, and their flight with the plunder on board a schooner which they had purchased, culminated when it became known that the vessel had been overtaken by those sent in pursuit of her, and that the drama which had, though for so brief a space, so strongly enchained the minds of the public, had ended in blood. The *Sea Gull*, with the dead body of one of the defaulters, and the almost lifeless form of the other, reached the anchorage at a late hour last night.

Through the courtesy of one who accompanied the *Sea Gull*, we are enabled to give a very full account of all that transpired from the moment of the steamer's leaving Yokohama yesterday afternoon until the hour of our going to press. The *Sea Gull* steamed out of harbour at 2.20 p.m. yesterday, having on board Mr. F. E. White, H.B.M.'s Consular Constable, provided with warrants for the arrest of Swaby, Adds, and Capt. Withers, emanating from the British Bonsulate, and of Cantelli, from the Italian Consulate; six bluejackets of H.M.S. *Thalia*, in charge of Sub-Lieutenant P. C. Riatt, to enforce, if need were, the civil authority; and Capt. Pagden, whose services were called into requisition to identify the *Iris*, with the appearance of which he was perfectly familiar. These, with two engineers and the firemen, were all who proceeded by the vessel, none others being allowed on board. Our informant's story is as follows:

On proceeding on board *Sea Gull* at 1 P.M., found the fires had not been laid, and sufficient steam to enable us to make a start was not generated until 2.15 P.M. Got away with 15-lbs. steam, the little vessel proceeding at a good speed. Rounded Homoco Spit as closely in as possible, the lead going all the time. As soon as we were clear of the Spit, shaped a

course for about a point inside of Kanonsaki Light, so as to make as straight a course as we could, and to keep out of sight as much as possible. On rounding Kanonsaki Point, at 4.15 P.M., the *Iris* was observed standing in towards Kaneda Bay, a little distance below the Plymouth Rocks. Seeing some fishing-boats very close to her, and thinking that the fugitives might attempt to elude us by reaching the shore, which was at no great distance —say ¾ mile—we put on all steam possible, and hugged the land, to try and cut out any boat going ashore. Two men were stationed with glasses, to watch the ship and the boats, and observe if any one left. Our little vessel went on at an increased speed, although there was a swell rolling in from seaward. As we neared the vessel, when within about 20 yards of her, we observed Swaby and Cantelli standing in the cabin hatchway, watching us very intently, the Captain being busy on deck, working the ship, and Adds also watching us through a pair of opera-glasses. On their seeing the Constable and H. M.'s naval uniforms, and the white ensign at the main of the steamer, and thinking, no doubt, that resistance was useless, they disappeared from sight, and the sound of shots was immediately heard to proceed from the cabin of the schooner. When within a few feet of the *Iris*, the constable and the armed guard immediately sprang on board, and orders were immediately given by Mr. White for sail to be take off the schooner, and at the same time he rushed down the companion-ladder, accompanied by one of the seamen, leaving the vessel in command of Captain Pagden. Eight minutes after she was boarded, a breeze came down from the eastward, and had the pursuers been delayed another 30 minutes, there cannot be a doubt that the fugitives would have effected their escape. Capt. Pagden braced-up, and steered for midchannel. On proceeding below, it being then 4.40 p.m., a sad spectacle met their view. Immediately in front of them, lying athwart the cabin, they found Swaby, on his left side, groaning and breathing heavily. He had a pistol, firmly clenched, in his right hand, the fingers still moving, as if trying to fire again. On the opposite side of the saloon, in the foremost cabin, sat Cantelli, with a pistol in his right hand, staring at them, the blood trickling down his face from a wound in his forehead, just above the right eye. The pistols were immediately taken from both, and they were carefully laid out by the seamen. Water was brought, their faces were washed, and efforts were made to restore Cantelli, who did not seem to be so severely wounded as Swaby. The latter expired about 2 minutes afterwards, and was immediately covered up. On the pistols being examined it was found that two chambers of Swaby's pistol had recently been discharged, but only one of Cantelli's. Cantelli was attended by a seaman until he expired. He would sometimes remain quiet for half-an-hour, then breathe heavily and gurgle in a most awful manner. While the two men were being attended to below, Adds, and the Captain, Withers, were placed at the stern of the vessel, in charge of an armed sentry. Sail having been taken off a hawser was got out, and she was taken in tow by the *Sea Gull* and proceeded with all speed back to Yokohama. Kanonsaki was passed at about 6.15, when, the wind favouring a little on the starboard bow, all fore-and-aft sail was made on the schooner. Arrived off the light-ship at 9.30 p.m, and anchored close to the *Thalia* at 10.15 p.m. The *Sea Gull* was immediately dispatched to the *Thalia* for the doctor, who, on arrival, pronounced Cantelli as certain to die before midnight, and would not, therefore, advise his removal; this opinion proved to be correct—he expired at 11.40 p.m. Numbers of boats came alongside the schooner, but no one but those immediately interested were allowed on board. Early this morning, the undertaker, Mr. P. Bohm, arrived with two shell coffins, and took the bodies on shore. The Constable and Sub-Lieutenant, with the guard, remained on board of the schooner all night, and left this morning after the vessel had been searched. At 2 a.m. Mr. G. Hodges, Consular-Constable, and Sergeant Percival, of the Municipal Police, proceeded on board, and removed Adds and Withers to the Consular Gaol, This forenoon, the Constable, Mr. White, with the assistance of Mr. F. W. Marks, made a formal search of the *Iris*. She had been fitted out without regard to expense, and evidently for a long voyage. Although she had only cleared for Manila, she had on board five sheep, two pigs, a quantity of fresh beef, and about two hundred fowls. In the cabin, everything had been fitted up with an eye to comfort; the furniture was of the best, and, on the poop, there were a couple of rattan lounges. She was also tolerably well armed. On the cabin table were several revolvers, loaded, and ready for use, and a lot of knives and Japanese short swords. The guns spoken of in our last night's issue—of which there were two on deck, lashed, and two below—were evidently intended for signalling only. The trunks, carpet-bags, snd other luggage of Swaby and Cantelli were examined, and in various places money was found to the amount of 31,337 *yen*, in 10, 5, and 2 *yen* gold pieces, besides £48 in English sovereigns. Several 5 and 2 *yen* gold pieces were also found on the bodies this morning. The whole of the money was taken charge of by Mr. White, who took it ashore and deposited it in the hands of H.B.M.'s Consul. Adds and Withers will, no doubt, shortly be tried on the charge of aiding and abetting the escape of Swaby and Cantelli. Whether they are guilty or innocent remains to be proved. Adds certainly seemed to treat the affair with perfect coolness, and when the vessel was boarded was smoking a cigar, with an air of *nonchalance;* but when actually placed under arrest he turned pale, and seemed considerably disconcerted. He maintained that the vessel was his, and asserted that she could not be taken from him.

The Captain, on the contrary, emphatically disclaimed any knowledge of the intentions of his passangers in undertaking the voyage, and seemed thunder-struck when informed by the Consular Constable of the object of his mission.

This afternoon, at 2 o'clock, an inquest was held at the British Consulate on the body of Swaby.

An enquiry was held this afternoon, by the Italian Consul, Sig. P. Castelli, at No. 1114, into the circumstances attending the death of V. Cantelli.

Clippings.

The *China Mail* believes the English and French Governments at home are negociating as to the possibility of acting in concert regarding the opening up of Tonquin on the one hand and Burmah on the other, so as to permit of free ingress to the borders of Western China.

We learn that a gratuity of one hundred taels was allowed to each of the families of those mandarins who were drowned in the *Fusing*, by the C. M. S. S. Company; and in addition to that, a gratuity from the Government is expected, a memorial having been sent to Peking on the subject.—*China Mail.*

In reference to the report we recently mentioned, that the Chinese Government intends to send some boys to England to learn the science of navigation, we now learn that it was not quite correct in detail. They are not to be sent there to go through a course of study in a naval school, but they are to be taken round the world in one of the Chinese men-of-war in order to learn practical navigation under the instruction of Capt. Tracey, R.N. The ship selected for the purpose is the *Yang Woo*, and she is now fitting up for the purpose, but she will not be able to start till the middle of autumn. She will first visit Japan.—*China Mail.*

Later advices tend to confirm our most unfavourable suspicions with regard to the foul treachery and brutality of the Chinese officials concerned in the murder of Mr. Margary. There can be no doubt as to the culpability of the Yunnan Authorities, and we are glad to observe that the entire foreign press unite in condemning the atrocity. It is rumoured in the North that the Chinese Government has expressed its willingness to indemnify the family of the deceased gentleman; but we hope that no satisfaction short of the execution of capital punishment on the ruffianly instigators of the crime will be accepted. The honour of the British flag is at stake, and we trust that it will be fully vindicated by determined and resolute action on the part of H. B. M.'s Minister.—*Foochow Herald.*

At the present moment, China stands answerable for a terrible, unprovoked, and aggravated crime. The way in which she will deal with it will depend upon the attitude and demand of the nation which, through one of its murdered citizens, has been outraged and insulted. It will be well that, as is likely, the circumstances should be investigated by English officials; but it is hardly probable there will a dispute about the facts. Any plea of irresponsibility should be summarily and indignantly dismissed. What England dictates China will no doubt do; and, as has been said, England's policy must be firm and unswerving. First and above all else, England must insist upon the severest punishment of those who instigated and carried out the dastardly crime. Official position of any participant, instead of being accepted in mitigation of punishment, must be pointed out as a reason for the infliction of punishment in its fullest and severest form.—*Hongkong Times.*

Apropos of Mr. Margary's murder, the *Pioneer* has the following. The last sentence is significant:—Our telegraphic announcement —to the effect that the expedition was attacked at a place about half-way between Bhamo and Talifoo; that Colonel Browne has retreated within Burmese territory, and that Mr. Margary has been killed—is as surprising as it is painful. The mistake may have been involved in some over-confident reliance on the credentials of the Pekin Government. In outlying provinces of the Chinese Empire, the authority of the Central Government is very loosely exercised. It is premature at present, however, while the *contretemps* is so imperfectly realised, and the expedition is on its way back, to speculate on the measures which the Government may have to undertake. But our policy in China for years has been tending to lower the British name in Chinese estimation, and sooner or later it will be necessary to give up all intercourse with the country or take steps to restore our political credit with the mandarins.

It is sadly to be feared that the feeble policy of the Government of Great Britain during the past ten years is in some degree responsible for the commission of this (Mr. Margary's) murder. Our Government has relaxed its hold on China, has suffered the treaties wrung from Chinese statesmen at infinite cost and trouble to become practically dead letters, and has lost much of the influence and prestige which formerly attached to the British flag in the East. The inactivity which has characterised English policy in China of late years has certainly not proved masterly. It has been productive of great mischief to our interests here, and has earned for us nothing but the contempt of other European nations, and the insolence of the Celestial. No longer are English officials treated with the marked courtesy once extended towards them in China. They are now put off with lame excuses, treated sometimes with scant ceremony, and, generally speaking, are not paid the deference which in former years they commanded. The reason is obvious. We have fallen in the estimation of the Chinaman; familiarity has bred contempt. The British lion has gone to sleep and they have found him wonderfully tame and harmless. It is advisable, nay imperative, that he should shake himself together and once more show that he still retains his pristine vigour, is prompt and willing to avenge the slightest affront offered to him, and is eager and able to protect his interests, wherever and whenever threatened.—*Daily Press.*

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 30TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From Liverpool—*Nestor;* from London—the *Cawdor Castle* and *Ægean;* and from Marseilles, the M. M. steamer *Sindh*, with the London mails of 12th ultimo.

TELEGRAMS.—London, 27th April.—*Cotton*, 8⅛d.; *Shirtings*, 8¼-lb. *Eagle*, 10s.; markets quiet; *Iron*, £9; and *Lead*, £22 10s.

PIECE GOODS.—A fresh run after *Heavy Shirtings*, the continuance of the excitement in *T-Cloths*, an increasing enquiry for 14-lbs. *Drills*, and greater activity in the WOOLLEN market, are the principal features noticeable in the business for the week closing last night.

Grey Shirtings—6, 7, & 8¼-lbs. Common have been wanted throughout, but buyers have been unable to pay the rates demanded, and, consequently, the settlements have not been so heavy as they otherwise would have been. The stocks of low counts are light, and it must be that prices in the country too closely approximate to the offers of last mail, and to which the dealers have most firmly adhered, that so little has been done here in the interval. At the close, 8¼-lbs. more particularly exhibit rather a weakening tendency, C.P.H. *Peacock*, at the Auction yesterday, realizing only Tls. 1.64⅜ *a* 1.64½ per piece. And further, the news from Tientsin by yesterday's steamer is considered less favorable by the Northern men, who say they must wait for further advices before doing any more in Shirtings. Little lots of good medium to best 8¼-lbs. have occasionally been booked on the basis of last quotations, but enquiry has been extremely lifeless, and although holders, till now, have remained firm, it is becoming more evident that demand must improve, if the position is to be maintained. On the other hand, heavy goods are in great favour again, and no small excitement has prevailed during the past few days. Higher rates have been paid for all classes, and the settlements—nearly all to arrive—are very considerable. Some of the prompts extend to six weeks from date, and buyers seem willing to operate freely in goods per steamer on the way from home, however recent her time of sailing. Business in *Grey Shirtings* since 23rd instant is summarised as follows :—6-lbs.,—13,500 pieces at Tls. 1.34 *a* 1.37 per piece ; 7-lbs.—10,000 pieces at Tls. 1.44 *a* 1.50 per piece ; 8¼-lbs.—35,000 pieces at Tls. 1.65 *a* 1.66 for common, Tls. 1.67 *a* 1.70 for good Common, Tls. 1.72 *a* 1.76 for ordinary medium, and Tls. 1.99 for a few of Dewhurst's *Eagle ;* and 9¾ *a* 10-lbs.—13,000 pieces at Tls. 2.68 *a* 2.80 per piece.

White Shirtings.—Finest Reeds have been steady, and at the close the rates are decidedly against buyers. A high count has been placed to arrive at Tls. 3.25 per piece, and a favorite 72 Reed—godown cargo—has been done at Tls. 2.75 per piece. The lowest counts continue somewhat difficult to move, and the sales of 64 *a* 66s are insignificant. Business estimated at 7,450 pieces.

T-Cloths.—Enquiry for these has not changed in character, nor has it in any way slackened, and the commoner makes of 6, 7 and 8-lbs. are still wanted. 14 × 16 cloths have not altered in value, notwithstanding the demand, simply because sellers are afraid to let an offer pass them, and are only too glad to secure a profit—however small—while it is within their reach. Of Common 7-lbs. there cannot have been less than 35,000 pieces sold to arrive since Tuesday last, prices ranging from Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.36 per piece. The cargo is nearly all in *Hongkong*, and will be here within ten days hence ; and of Ordinary Mexicans at Tls. 1.42 *a* 1.46, the sales aggregate nearly 14,000 pieces, and would have been larger had the supplies been forthcoming. Of 6-lbs. there have been fully 7,000 pieces disposed of at last quotations, and close upon 25,000 pieces of 8-lbs. have changed hands at Tls. 1.65 *a* 1.85 per piece, the highest figure being for Dewhurst's M.T. *Tunsin* chop. Best Mexicans have received but little notice.

Drills.—14-lbs. English. This Cloth has been in constant request, and its increasing scarcity is now making itself felt. There is little in first hands to be met with under Tls. 2.40 per piece, and some holders are reluctant sellers at that figure. Still the dealers as a rule refuse to rise to that level ; nor are they likely to do so while speculators continue to supply the market at 3 *a* 4 candareens per piece under it. Moreover they will hardly look at Ordinary 15-lbs. at about Tls. 2.42 *a* 2.43 per piece at which such are on offer. All stocks are firmly held, however, and importers seem very confident that ere long they will gain the day. *Dutch Drills* are enquired for at the close.

Jeans.—Scarcely any progress to report, and quotations nominal.

Sheetings.—The absence of supplies has prevented business, there having been frequent enquiries, and at slightly higher rates.

Fancy Cottons.—22-in. *Velvets*, and 18-in. *Velveteens* have met with a little more attention, which has resulted in settlements to extent of 500 pieces of the former at Tls. 0.18 *a* 0.18½ per yard, and 210 pieces of the latter at Tls. 0.13½ per yard. Assorted *Chintzes*, and *Gentian Shirtings*, have likewise been in better request, and a few *Turkey Reds*, *Irishes*, printed *Twills*, printed *T-Cloths* and blue *Handkerchiefs* have, this week, changed ownership. Buyers have been paying Tls. 1.25 *a* 1.35 for *Chintzes ;* Tls. 1.75 for 2½-lb. *Turkey Reds* of fair chops ; Tls. 2.30 for printed T-Cloths ; Tls. 4.65 for printed *Cashmeres*, 52 yards ; and Tls. 0.52 *a* 0.54 per dozen for Handkerchiefs.

Woollens.—There has been a slight increase in the business in Woollens since last mail day, but, excepting for special chops of *Camlets*, former market values have been barely maintained. *Long Ells*, C.P.H. and U.U. *Scarlets* have sold at Tls. 7.05 and 7.00 respectively, and a small *assortment* of the latter has been placed at Tls 6.80 per piece. Total sales—2,500 pieces. In *Camlets*, transactions amount to about 1,200 pieces at Tls. 12.25 *a* 12.50 per piece for *black ;* Tls. 13.25 *a* 13.50 per piece for *gentian ;* Tls. 13.50 per piece for *scarlet*; and Tls. 13.20 *a* 13.35 per piece for *assortment*. *Lastings.*—The commoner chops of these have been saleable in little lots on the basis of last week's currencies, and there have been enquiries for No. 2 *Crape Lastings*, but offers are 5c. *a* 1 mace per piece lower than those last advised. *Figured Orleans*, no change in tone or character.—Sellers cannot make progress unless they offer inducement ; but in this way fair quantities continue to go into consumption. The sales for the week are set down at 7,000 pieces at rates ranging from Tls. 2.90 *a* 3.35 per piece. *Plain Lustres.*—A small lot of 500 pieces *Cock* chop, assorted, at Tls. 3.35 is the only transaction reported. *Spanish Stripes* and *Cloths.*—The Auction sales of the former have almost supplied all wants. In the general market there has been scarcely any movement, and fine *Broad-Cloth* has been offered at a decline without attracting a buyer.

OUTPORTS.—Foreign and Native advices from all the Outports for once are unanimous in their reports on markets. Business was very dull everywhere at latest dates.

HANKOW, 26th April.—"Demand for Plain Cottons has fallen off considerably, and sales compare unfavorably with those of the "previous fortnight. Woollens and Worsteds are saleable in small quantities only. *Cotton.*—Stocks are large and quotations heavy at "Tls. 10.50 per piece for best Shanghai Staple. Lead, L.B., difficult of sale at a fall of 2 mace per picul."

CHINKEANG.—Trade enquiry very slack, and prices easier all round.

TIENTSIN.—Lower prices for 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings.* A small business doing in *White Shirtings*, 14-lbs. *Drills*, and Common to Ordinary Mexican *T-Cloths* wanted.

JAPAN—*Hiogo.*—No response as yet—20th April—to the improved state of matters in Shanghai. To *Yokohama*, a similar remark is applicable, and at *Nagasaki*, the trade was confined to some trifling sales of 6 & 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, and to cheap *Figured Orleans*, and *Plain Lustres.* *Velvets* were declining in value and becoming more difficult to move at all the ports.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.4.5	14.4.5	14.2.0	13.0.0	13.7.5	...	...	12.5.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ... Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.0.5	7.0.0	6.3.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.0.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.0½	0.5.7	0.5.8½	0.6.1	0.6.2	0.6.2	0.5.7	0.5.8	0.5.6	0.5.6

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 29TH APRIL, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
C.P.H. Camlets p. pce. Tls.	14.45/14.47½	14.45	14.22½	.....	13.77½	...	.....	.....	.....	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.61	0.57¾	0.57¾/ 0.58¾	0.63½	.....	0.65	0.58	0.59½	0.58¼/0.58¾	0.58

SALES.—*Camlets*, C.P.H., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 14.35 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs., av. Tls. 0.59½ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H., Peacock, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.64½ *a* 1.64¾ per piece.

		T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—				
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...	₩ pc.	1.3.4	to	1.3.8
7lbs.	,,	1.4.3	,,	1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.5	,,	2.0.0
9 a 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.4.5
9¾ a 10-lbs.	,,	2.7.5	,,	2.9.0
Tun Sin	,,	3.1.0	,,	nom.
G. E. White Shirtings—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₩ pc.	1.6.2½	,,	1.7.0
60 reed	,,	1.7.3	,,	1.9.0
64 ,,	,,	1.9.0	,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.3.5	,,	2.6.5
Best	,,	2.8.0	,,	3.3.0
Drills, Am. 40 yds 30in 15lbs.		3.3.5	,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 a 15-lbs.		2.3.5	,,	2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,,		2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 a 14½-lbs.		2.3.0	,,	2.4.0
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb		2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 a 8¼lbs		1.8.3	,,	1.9.3
American ,, ,, ,,		2.7.5	,,	.....
Sheetings—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 a 38in. 15lbs.		3.7.0	,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 a 16lbs.		2.7.5	,,	2.9.5
T-Cloths—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.1.5	,,	1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.2.9	,,	1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.8	,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,,	,,	1.4.3	,,	1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.6.5	,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX		1.8.5	,,	2.2.0
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in.	₩ dz.	0.4.5	,,	0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White	₩ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.5.0	,,	2.6.5
Brocades—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed	,,	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0	,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings	,,	2.3.5	,,	2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.5	,,	1.4.5
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.		2.0.0	,,	.....
50/52 ,,		3.7.0	,,	4.9.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2½ a 3lbs. 32in.		1.7.0	,,	2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8½	,,	0.1.9½
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3½	,,	0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.1
Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5	,,	0.0.6½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in.	₩ pc.	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
41 in.	,,	1.4.5	,,	1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,,	0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S	,,	13.2.0	,,	14.0.0
G G	,,	13.5.0	,,	.....
S S G	,,	13.4.5	,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.6	,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.9½	,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,,	.....
Long Ells—				
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H	₩ pc.	7.0.5	,,	.. ...
,, C P H nom.	,,	7.0.5	,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,,	6.7.0	,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.8.0	,,	.....
,, G G	,,	6.6.5	,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,,	12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.7.5	,,	3.9.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—Only one small sale of 2,400 bundles com. Belgian at Tls. 2.25 is recorded this week, but rates for all brands, in sympathy with a decline at Home, have a weak tendency. *Lead.*—A few hundred pigs of L.B. have been placed this week at Tls. 6.05 per piece, free of brokerage, but latterly the article has been offering at that figure and buyers are holding off. *Tin.*—Rates are again easier, sales of *Fong Hing* having taken place at Tls. 19.50 *a* 19.60 per picul. *Copper.*—No change. Transhipment to Hongkong continues. *Quicksilver.*—Quiet at quotations.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.		Tls. m. c.
Quicksilver	per Pcl.	115.0.0	a 120.0.0	
Tin Plates—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0	a 6.2.0	
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	
Iron Wire—No. 17 ...	nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0	a 6.7.5	
18 ...	no demand. ,,	7.0.0	a	
19/23	,,	7.7.5	a 8.0.0	
Straits Tin—Fong Hing	,,	19.6.0	a 19.8.0	
Fok Chok nom.	,,	19.0.0	a 19.2.0	
Common Chops... ,,	,,	13.7.0	a	
Steel	per Tub	3.3.0	a 3.4.0	
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	a 4.5.0	
Japan Copper—Finger none	,,	.....	a	
Slab, best ,,	,,	18.0.0	a 18.5.0	
Ore ,,	,,	.....	a	
Hoop Iron	,,	3.2.0	a 3.3.0	
Pig Iron	per Ton	27.0.0	a	
Nailrod Iron—				
Dawe's Best Nom.	per Pcl.	3.1.0	a 3.1.5	
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ,,	,,	2.8.0	a 2.8.5	
Belgian ,,	,,	2.5.5	a 2.6.0	
M. M. Crown ,,	,,	2.7.5	a 2.8.0	
Bar—Dawes ,,	,,	2.9.0	a 3.0.0	
Round	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0	
Lead—L B Nom.	,,	6.0.0	a 6.0.5	
Japanese & Common Brands ,,	,,	... .	a	
Cotton—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0	a 8.4.0	
,, Medium	,,	9.0.0	a 9.4.0	
,, Best	,,	9.8.0	a 10.4.0	
Sugar—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0	a 6.4.0	
,, 2	,,	5.2.0	a 5.8.0	
,, 3	,,	4.6.0	a 5.2.0	
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	a 5.4.0	
,, 2	,,	4.6.0	a 4.8.0	
,, 3	,,	4.4.0	a 4.6.0	
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0	
Common ...	,,	2.6.0	a 2.8.0	
,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0	
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	a 2.6.0	
Pepper—Black	,,	8.4.0	a 8.5.0	
—White	,,	15.0.0	a 18.0.0	
Rattans—Common	,,	2.8.0	a 3.6.0	
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	a 4.0.0	
—Best	,,	4.2.0	a 4.4.0	
Sapan Wood—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0	a 3.0.0	
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	a 2.4.0	
Sandalwood—South Sea	,,	3.5.0	a 3.7.0	
Timor	,,	9.0.0	a 10.0.0	
Malabar	,,	16.5.0	a 18.0.0	
Mangrove Bark	,,	0.7.0	a 1.3.0	
Flint Stones,	,,	0.4.5	a 0.5.2	

FREIGHTS.—*Hilda*, British barque, 306 tons, Shanghai to Hiogo, no lay days—private terms; *Ægean*, British steamer, 836 tons Monthly Charter, (1 month), no lay days—private terms; *Grasmere*, British barque, 698 tons, Shanghai to New York, no lay days—private terms; *Europe*, British steamer, 528 tons, Newchwang to Shanghai, 2 lay days—$0.20 per picul; *Lunan*, British brig, 262 tons Chefoo to Swatow, 15 lay days—$0.30 per picul; *Glenfalloch*, British steamer, 1,386 tons, Nagasaki and back (with dispatch), no lay days—$2.00 per ton coal.

COTTON.—Scarcely any business to report this week. The market closes weak. Prices nominal.

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates are firm at an advance of ⅛d. *a* ¼d. on last week's quotations. Bank paper is now to be had in some quarters at 5s. 9¼d., and Credits cannot be placed under 5s. 9⅜d. Documents may be quoted 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 10d. A fair amount of Private paper was settled for delivery about 20th May at 5s. 10d. On India, Rs. 306 on Bombay and Rs. 307 on Calcutta may be quoted. Settlements to a moderate extent were made at Rs. 366 on Bombay for Telegraphic transfer towards the end of May. On Hongkong, there is but little demand at quotation.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7½d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9¼d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 10d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.33¾	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand,	Rs. 307	₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	Rs. 306	₩ 100 ,,

On Hongkong,—Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅜ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—72.85 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—80.0 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 173.00 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,590 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stocks on 30th April are reported as :—

Stock on 16th April	Malwa,	2,818½	Chests.	Patna,	1,783	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	39	,,	,,	95	,,
Total	,,	2,857½	,,	Total ,,	1,878	,,
Deliveries from 16th April	,,	748½	,,	,,	433	,,
Present Stock	,,	2,109	,,	,,	1,445	,,

Bargained Opium ..... 750 Chests.

Prices, since last English mail, have ranged as follows :—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*	*Closing Price.*
Malwa—New,	Tls. 432	430	430
Old,	Tls. 455	455	455
Patna—New,	Tls. 437	432	434
Old,	Tls. 450	445	448

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,380,290	lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	2,462,811	,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,043,351	,,
,, —Green	Deficiency	1,778,729	,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	53,078,716	lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	~~24,368,632~~	,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,526,490	,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	8,686,707	,,

Black.—The season is closed.

Green.—About 900 ½-chests have been settled at rather easier prices, and the unsold stock is now 3,600 ½-chests.

From Hankow our news is to the 26th, and reports state that the weather has been generally favorable for the New Crop, which was expected to be large in quantity and good in quality. Picking had commenced up-country, and prices were about equal to those paid last season. First arrivals were expected about the 14th May.

List of Tea Hongs opened in the Hankow districts :—

Oonfaa	50	against in 1874	56	Brought forward	132		148
Chong Sow-kai	16	,,	19	Wun Kai	7	against in 1874	5
Sun Yong	13	,,	13	Ma Kew	2	,,	4
Yung-low Tung	12	,,	19	Loong Kong	3	,,	5
Yung-low Si	1	,,	1	Tai Sa Ping	6	,,	7
Nip-ka See	6	,,	5	Toong San	17	,,	17
Ping Kong	7	,,	6	Eu How	2	,,	1
Lie Ling	15	,,	15	Pak Lie Kew	5	,,	1
Chun Hang	4	,,	5	Ko Kew	2	,,	1
Low Yong	8	,,	9	Seang Tam	20	,,	20
				Sundries			8
Carried forward	132		148	Total 1875	196	Total 1874	217

From the Ningchow districts we have at present no list of Hongs opened.

Export to Great Britain is as under—(Exclusive of lost cargoes.)

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,092,732 lbs.	58,712,442 lbs.	61,460,385 lbs.
Green	12,354,616 ,,	9,891,805 ,,	11,152,421 ,,
	77,447,348 lbs.	68,604,247 lbs.	72,612,806 lbs.

Export to United States and Canada—

Black	1,844,500 lbs.	801,149 lbs.	1,275,964 lbs.
Green	18,368,697 ,,	20,147,426 ,,	22,255,867 ,,
	20,213,197 lbs.	20,948,575 lbs.	23,531,831 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	77,447,348 lbs.	68,604,247 lbs.	72,612,806 lbs.
,, Foochow total season	61,581,299 ,,	55,448,663 ,,	52,937,142 ,,
,, Canton total season	19,863,912 ,,	15,775,807 ,,	20,492,303 ,,
	158,892,559 lbs.	139,828,717 lbs.	146,042,251 lbs.

SILK.—The latest public telegrams from London are dated the 27th ultimo, and report of the silk market—"No change, demand slight," and quote Dragon chop Nos. 2, 3 & 3½ Tsatlee at 17s., and 9/12 Moss Taysaam at 12s. per lb. ; deliveries of China 3,000 bales to date.

Since previous date the total settlements for the season have been increased to 71,450 bales, against 57,000 at same date last year. Amongst the purchases were about 150 bales of chop silk, but the larger portion of the business transacted has been in inferior and common re-reels, at Tls. 285 *a* 325 per picul—Tls. 335 *a* 395 per picul for the better grades,—and market Tsatlees costing from Tls. 260 @ Tls. 295 per picul. Arrivals having been very small, the unsold stock is reduced to 300 bales.

The season may now be considered virtually ended, and with the limited stocks left unsold it is impossible to give the usual list of quotations.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, from 22nd to 28th April, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 89 @ 94, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	1,800	11,950	4,950	21,910	2,750	105,979	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
T-Cloths .... ,,	1,070	6,640	6,185	6,330	6,220	68,440	...	1,170	...	...	...	...	...	5,600
White Shirtings .... ,,	100	930	300	2,750	1,850	32,120	...	130	...	...	...	...	...	2,100
Drills .... ,,	...	120	...	5,420	616	31,094	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	420
Jeans .... ,,	...	...	...	580	1,800	23,482	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Sheetings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	14,440	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	..	...	...	...	570	2,399	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	47	450	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	50	50	100	200	150	1,050	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	...	520	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes .... ,,	60	180	180	580	145	5,175	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	550
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	...	200	...	200	1,080	4,060	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Velvets .... ,,	...	90	92	372	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Velveteens .... ,,	...	48	20	132	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	...	550	200	2,340	...	550	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	1,600
Muslins ....Pcs.	100	...	200	400	...	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Dimities .... ,,	...	...	100	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	...	84	18	150	210	702	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	120
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	...	56	8	226	...	106	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	96
Camlets .... ,,	20	170	311	900	160	1,010	...	200	40	...	...	...	...	60
Long Ells .... ,,	...	100	80	2,080	80	340	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lastings .... ,,	...	40	...	540	60	1,310	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	20
Crape Lastings .... ,,	30	40	...	...	80	530	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	...	...	..	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
,, Figured .... ,,	60	560	102	730	1,663	3,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	450
,, Crape .... ,,	...	...	...	...	60	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ....Pcls.	937	334	...	328	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead .... ,,	125	...	1,053	...	125	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 30/4/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	154,739	1,324,406	27,303	1,203,483	1,101,992	850,000
T-Cloths .... ,,	101,655	799,969	18,840	456,481	262,072	829,000
White Shirtings .... ,,	40,280	222,422	5,052	236,255	109,657	59,000
Drills .... ,,	37,669	* * 177,304	21,420	106,929	173,575	427,000
Jeans .... ,,	26,122	111,275	7,670	118,996	36,281	62,000
Sheetings .... ,,	14,440	24,510	11,140	27,880	5,050	40,680
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	2,969	14,865	550	21,653	9,638	.....
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	149	11	1,982	2,333	2,300
,, Dyed .... ,,	.....	900	* * * 800	800	?	.....
Brocades, White .... ,,	497	6,311	.....	5,783	1,698	.....
,, Dyed .... ,,	1,680	15,966	559	13,740	26,844	23,800
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	1,320	5,603	400	6,400	7,887	5,500
Chintzes .... ,,	6,990	57,908	1,822	29,794	60,560	96,000
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	5,590	32,315	500	36,796	30,797	16,600
Velvets .... ,,	746	13,646	348	17,687	11,739	19,600
Velveteens .... ,,	248	3,449	1,079	5,265	3,046	8,400
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	5,640	60,769	250	28,022	40,033	83,500
Muslins ....Pcs.	1,600	12,246	56	4,168	3,022	20,700
Dimities .... ,,	360	6,690	.....	2,330	10,360	10,300
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	1,302	14,574	1,039	14,375	10,555	28,400
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	498	6,849	662	6,941	10,532	17,800
Camlets .... ,,	2,871	27,383	1,060	23,373	18,120	16,700
Long Ells .... ,,	2,740	22,980	1,220	21,720	7,752	12,900
Lastings .... ,,	1,990	12,118	630	9,770	10,062	3,900
Crape Lastings .... ,,	780	3,810	100	3,319	8,679	2,700
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	120	4,990	300	6,009	5,069	15,300
,, Figured .... ,,	7,397	49,728	2,300	23,211	102,012	116,000
,, Crape .... ,,	860	8,005	939	4,239	17,354	8,500
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	1,303	34,312	.....	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	1,622	43,363	1,428	60,554	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Pera, Conquest, Candor Castle, Gordon Castle, Fi-yen, Glenfalloch, Olympia, Nestor, Sindh, Ægean, Messenger,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

* * For 189,635 in Report No. 166 read 139,635.

* * * Local Deliveries declared from time to time, but as there were no imports since 1st January last until the arrival of the M. M. str. *Meikong*—the deliveries were omitted in the weekly statement. *White Spots* also are in rather an anomalous position, and I am inclined to think that in the Customs daily returns the Re-exports must be declared in error under the heading, *White Brocades.*

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

May 1, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—April 24th, French barque *Mistri*, from Cardiff.

Departures.—None other than Coasters.

The English mail steamer *Orissa* takes 72 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9⅝d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9¾d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 306. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 307 *a* 307½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅜. Gold Bars, Tls. 173.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 72.80 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 79.80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 1st May :—

Banks.—There has been a steady demand for shares since our last report, but owing to the firmness of holders, only a small business has been done at 27 % for cash and 31st May ; 24 % at least could now be got, but there are no sellers.

S. S. N. Shares.—Continued pressure to sell resulted in a considerable business at Tls. 70, at which the market closes firm with no sellers.

Fire Insurance Shares.—*Hongkongs* are on offer at $480, and *Chinas* are wanted at $134. Immediately after our last report, *Victorias* were done at $130. On the 26th, business was done at $136 ; on the 28th and 29th at $142, and yesterday at $146. There are now buyers at $148.

Marine Insurance Shares.—Several sales of *Yangtszes* have taken place at Tls. 560. *China & Japans* are quiet at Tls. 80.

Wharf Shares.—A few have been placed at Tls. 96.

The Weather has been fine and mild. The thermometer has ranged from 44 to 71.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	24 % dis.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	70
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 65
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co.	,, 100	5 p. c.	88
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 139
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 560
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 187
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	480
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	148
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	133½
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	1 p. c.	96
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£99 10s. Ex. 5/7

Exchange
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅞

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

DEUTSCHE BANK.

Shanghai Agency.

THIS Agency will be Closed on the 30th of June proximo.

No deposits will be received in Current Accounts after the 15th of April, and all parties having Current Accounts with this Agency, are requested to withdraw their Balance, on or before the 31st May.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

E. SELIGMANN,
Manager.

30ju 2782 Shanghai, 24th March, 1875.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital $5,000,000
Reserved Fund $100,000

Court of Directors.

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Deputy-Chairman—A. F. Heard, Esq.

E. R. Belilios, Esq. | H. Hoppius, Esq.
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W. H. Forbes, Esq.

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On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5%
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Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

EWEN CAMERON.
Manager.

31 de-75
(c.a.) 2078 Z 26th Feb., 1875.

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PAID-UP CAPITAL .....£800,000.

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Bank of England.
The City Bank.
National Bank of Scotland.
Agents in Paris,—
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With Agencies at all the principal Ports in the East, Australia and America.

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THE Corporation are prepared to sell Bills of Exchange on the City Bank and National Bank of Scotland, London, on Paris, Australia, or any of their own Branches; also to buy Bills, advance upon Securities, grant Credits, and generally transact all manner of Banking business.

Deposits are received on terms which can be learnt on application.

M. W. BOYD,
Manager.

c-a 17ju-75
2023 Shanghai, 25th Mar., 1875.

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of London.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates, less 20 per cent discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

30se 2902 Z Shanghai, 1st April, 1872.

NOTICE.

ON and after this date, the discount of 33⅓ % on Premia will be allowed by this Office for Local Risks only.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.,
Agents—China Traders' Insurance Co., (Limited.)

tf 2897 Shanghai, 27th May, 1874.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 417. SHANGHAI, MAY 8, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℘ AN.

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England,	Mar. 19	Hankow,	May 4
San Francisco,	„ 20	Yokohama,	Apr. 30
Hongkong,	May 2	Nagasaki,	„ 30
Tientsin,	„ 4	Foochow,	„ 29

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Feb. 4 } Received 16th March.
Shanghai, ... Jan. 29 }

MARRIAGES.

At Shanghai, May 6th, by the Rev. G. D. B. Miller, Captain C. P. HAWES, of Shanghai, to NELLIE A. NELSON, of New York, U. S. No cards.

At Holy Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. Canon Butcher, E. F. OTTAWAY, of the I. M. Customs, to Miss E D FINCH, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Finch, of Dutney, Surrey, England.

On the 24th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Revd. R. Hayward Kidd, JOSEPH MORISON TAYLOR, Merchant, Shanghai, to ISABELLA, only daughter of Captain David Reid, Peterhead, Scotland.

DEATH.

At Aberdeen, on May 5th, GEORGE FALCONER, of Hongkong, suddenly, of inflammation of the lungs.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1875.

NOTHING would seem to be more difficult to destroy, than a religious dogma which has once gained credence. Looking back at the history of the world, we cannot fail to notice how religions have been rooted up, or voluntarily changed, time after time; and, taking a superficial glance at the new formulæ and dogmas which have superseded the old, we seem justified in the belief that religions, like garments, can be doffed and donned with little inconvenience or interference with the personal comfort of the wearer. When, however, the practice of the new religion comes to be enquired into, we find in the majority of cases that the same temper which framed the primitive religion of a people, often survives to weld into its new faith the principles and practices of the old. There are few countries in Europe where the old heathen pantheon of the Greeks and Romans does not even now exercise its influence on the religious forms patronised by the inhabitants; and it need therefore excite the less surprise to find, in China, traces of the most primitive religions of humanity. The most popular divinity in China is perhaps Amida Buddha. The temples of the Buddhist religion contain shrines in his honour, and are thronged with crowds of devotees burning incense before him, or repeating his name in ever-wearying iteration. The atmosphere is redolent of the former, and vibrates with the low hum of the mystic formula —"Amito Foo, Amito Foo," poured out by the worshippers; for he who repeats this name the greatest number of times dispels most effectually all worldly thoughts, all harassing and impious desires. Yet, for all this connection with Buddhism, Amida does not of right belong to it. The doctrine of Amida and his Paradise of the West, so far from being in consonance with that of Sakyamuni, is directly opposed to the fundamental principles of the religion handed down by the sage. The dreamless Nirvana, where non-existence is to be the great balm for poor human nature, has given way to a future world of life, activity, and happiness, to which the devotee, by performing aright his religious observances, may finally hope to attain. Buddhism has been supposed to be peculiarly fitted to Asiatic humanity; but the Northern development of the religion has nearly everywhere overlaid the doctrines of Nirvana with the more practical belief in a future state of rewards and punishments. Whence then comes this doctrine of Amito Foo, or in its Sanscrit form Amitâbha—"measureless light?" We are probably not far wrong in considering it a survival of the old Iranian legend of Yima the Shining and his Terrestrial Paradise. Of it we are told "He took away from the 'daevas' (evil spirits) both blessings and profits, both fatness and herbs, both food and grain; in whose rule were poured out for the body imperishable foods; immortal were men and beasts; the water and trees were not dried up. In his rule was no cold, no heat, no old age, no death; no envy created by the daevas, on account of the absence of lying." The legend of Amito sprung from the districts of the Upper Oxus, where Zarathustrianism gave way about the time of the Christian era to a modified Buddhism; and though the name Amidâbha in Sanscrit expresses "measureless light," it is not impossibly as much a corruption as a translation of the name of Yima Khshaêta, the *Shining*. Yet Yima is older than even the religion of Zarathustra. In the Vedas he is already venerable. He was the first of mortals who died and discovered the way to the other world; he guides other men thither, and assembles them in a home which is secured to them for ever. He is a king and dwells in celestial light in the innermost sanctuary of heaven, where the departed behold him associated in blessedness with Varuna. To the pious he grants luminous abodes in heaven, but he has not yet, as he did in the later mythology of the Hindoos, assumed the rôle of judge of the departed, administering, as does Minos in the twin legend, an equal justice to good and bad. Before this doctrine of retributive justice had sprung up amongst the

conquerors of India, the separation from the Iranian branch had already occurred. Yama, the first mortal, becomes Yima, the king of Aryana Vaeja, where he rules in justice for a thousand years. Virtuous, and above all things hating lying and untruth, his kingdom is prosperous and his subjects are happy. At the last, listening to the voice of the tempter, he becomes envious and untruthful, when Azhidahatra the "Biting Serpent" prevails over him and destroys his kingdom. Such was the legend which prevailed in the valleys of the Hindoo Koosh, when Buddhism made its way and superseded the old religion. But although it nominally extinguished the the older faith, it could not destroy the character of its legends, which thus survived and finally overlaid the impractical precepts of its southern rival. From Cashmere the legend spread till finally Amida, from being an insignificant hero, became a Buddha himself and, in China at least, has given a colour to the religion far different from that intended by its original founder.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 19th March arrived on the 3rd inst., by the P. & O. str. *Lombardy*.

The English mail of the 5th March *(ex Gwalior)* arrived on the 5th inst., by the P. & O. str. *Bombay*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. str. *Sindh*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week :—

War between China and Kashgar is apprehended. Russia is friendly to the latter power.

The 2,000 Guineas :—

Camballo .....First.
Picnic .....Second.
Breechloader .....Third.

The Installation of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of Freemasons took place in the Albert Hall with a magnificent ceremony. 7,000 masons were present.

Slight disturbances at Baroda. Ranees deported.

The Emperor of Germany has approved of the introduction of a Bill suppressing religious orders.

The Bishop of Munster has been released.

A colliery explosion has occurred at Bunkershill, Staffordshire. 35 persons lost their lives.

A reply of Belgium to Germany has been communicated to the Chambers. It promises to follow the initiative of Germany in the modification of laws.

The Pope is suffering from weakness.

The Chester Cup has been won by "Freeman."

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were monopolised by our Spring Race Meeting, which took place under the happiest auspices as regards weather, and afforded good sport. That it should have been so, is matter for congratulation both for the sake of men interested in the sports and of those who look on Race week as an opportunity to go away for a trip. The number of house-boats which went away on Saturday, shows that the exodus up-country was not less than usual; but we do not hear of so many people going to the Snowy Valley. A rumour which has got abroad that the quarters there are going to grief, probably deterred some. The priests collected some money among foreigners, not long ago, for the avowed purpose of repairing the dwelling rooms at the Temple; but the design does not appear to have been carried out.—A full report of proceedings will be found elsewhere.

The fine weather which so luckily prevailed on the three race days, broke up altogether on Wednesday night. Heavy rain during the night and throughout Thursday morning effectually stopped further sport, and the Stewards wisely postponed the fourth day till Monday; an arrangement which is very likely to lead to a second "last day" on Tuesday. The weather cleared in the afternoon, but the state of the course would have prevented any satisfactory racing.

During the ensuing week we are likely to be busy on Municipal matters, Tuesday being the day fixed for the Ratepayers' meeting.—There is a report that the meeting is likely to be postponed till the 18th, in consequence of the non-readiness of the printed documents that have to be circulated beforehand. But we are without official announcement. As yet, only the Estimates for 1875 have been so circulated; and even if the Report can be sent round in reasonable time, there will remain the revised Land Regulations which ought certainly to be in the hands of the Ratepayers several days before the meeting. We are not sure that it would not be better to have two meetings; to dispose of the ordinary business on Tuesday—if the Report can be got out in time, and adjourn discussion of the Land Regulations till the following week. The combined business will hardly be got through in one day, anyhow.

From the documents appended to the Minutes of the French Council meeting, in another column, it will be seen that the Arbitrators have recommended that the Yank-king-pang bund shall remain as it is. They decide against the encroachment in principle, both as to its interference with navigation, and as possibly prejudicing the rights of riverine proprietors. "Every isolated construction which encroaches on a narrow and usually encumbered canal, must more or less diminish the facilities of navigation, if it is not executed on scientific principles and conformably to a plan conceived with the object of ameliorating the course of the water way; and consequently it may prejudice more or less the interests of riverine proprietors on the opposite bank." As regards the question raised by the French, whether the English Council has not also encroached, the arbitrators have no sufficient data to decide. "But as the jetties built on this (North) bank are isolated works, they must, if they depass the original banks, be regarded as encroachments," and as more or less affecting free navigation, and liable therefore more or less to prejudice the interests of riverine proprietors on the other side. That of course is clear; the question is whether they are encroachments at all. However this may be, the arbitrators recommend that matters be left as they are, and that an undertaking be come to between the two Councils, as to the future. —The effect of this decision seems to be to confirm an admitted encroachment, which the arbitrators admit is a prejudicial one. To quote the words of the English statement, "the creek is narrowed some 12 to 14 feet; and this (English) Municipality, instead of enjoying the advantage of a watercourse 50 feet wide as originally intended, will only have one 36 to 38 feet, and the French Municipality become possessed of land to which they are in no wise entitled."

The departure of M. Godeaux has stopped consideration of the Municipal reforms he had suggested, but he promises the French Council to talk about them to the Foreign Office, while in Paris. —The English Council decline to join in ordering any more bridges until they have consulted the Ratepayers. It will be remembered that the French Council suggested they should order one for the Bund, subject to arbitration of the shares to be respectively borne by the two Councils.—Some correspondence has taken place relative to introducing a Contagious Diseases Act in Shanghai.—Land is to be bought to widen the Rue du Consulat.—The Chairman of the French Council is to be a member of the General Hospital Committee.—The Council is in the satisfactory position of being able to deposit Tls. 10,000 in the Comptoir d'Escompte.

We mentioned last week that two of the men concerned in the attack on Mr. Cooper near Quinsan, had been captured and brought down to Shanghai. One of them is said to be cousin to the man who was wounded; but the lowdahs say all he did was to retake a bamboo which had been wrested from the assailants by the foreigners, and handed over to one of the boatmen. Otherwise he was fairly quiet. The second man, however, is declared to have taken an active part in chopping the boat's sail and rigging, and otherwise leading on the mob. It is fortunate so prominent a culprit has been caught.—We understand that H. B. M. Consul has claimed from the Taotai a formal investigation, and has signified his intention to be present at the hearing, either in person or by deputy, no matter whether the case is heard at Quinsan or in Shanghai. The two Chinamen are still in the hands of the police, awaiting the decision of the Consul and Taotai as to their disposal.

Two heavy fires have occurred in the English Settlement; one in the Maloo, between the Shanse and Fohkien Roads burned down 16 houses; a second, originating in Fohkien Road spread to Taewan Road, and destroyed 116 houses. Fuller particulars will be found on another page. About four o'clock on Sunday morning, several bamboo huts near the Broadway, Hongkew, tenanted by coolies, were burnt down; and at about the same hour on Tuesday afternoon, five others, on the bank of the Soochow Creek, were destroyed in like manner.

Mr. Allen, of the Consular Service, and who accompanied Colonel Browne's expedition to Burmah, arrived by the *Bombay* on Wednesday. We learn that Colonel Browne will be shortly on his way here.

On Tuesday morning, shortly after nine o'clock, H.M. corvette *Modeste* got up steam and proceeded down the river *en voyage* to Hankow. Later in the morning, H.M. despatch-boat *Vigilant*, having on board His Excellency T. F. Wade, C.B., and Admiral Ryder, Commander-in-chief on the China station, also left the harbour for the same destination.

We print on another page, an account of the attack on Colonel Browne's expedition and of Mr. Margary's murder, which has been sent to the London *Times* by one of the members of the party, and has been kindly placed at our disposal by the writer. It substantiates, in the main, the narrative we published last week, but is much more comprehensive, and covers, we imagine, the most interesting details of the attack, and of the unhappy murder of Mr. Margary, that are likely to find light pending local enquiry into the circumstances

We also print on another page some documents which throw strong light on the origin of the outrage. It is quite likely, as Indian papers affirm, that the King of Burmah may have had an active finger in the pie; but these documents bring the direct guilt very startlingly home to the Chinese. There are four documents, of which two give distinct evidence of the advent of a large force from Momein, with the object of attacking the English. One letter predicts the day of the attack, and warns a Burmese official in the English camp to quit it for his life, adding that the warning is given by order of the Chinese. Another mentions the arrival of the Momein force at Manwein, under the command of one Shoon—a nephew of the Li-su of whom we heard so much in connexion with Major Sladen's expedition. Li seems to have been at that time a sort of partisan leader, fighting for the Imperialists; he now holds the rank of Colonel, and is military commandant of the district. The inference clearly is that the attack was organised directly by him, quite possibly in collusion with the King of Burmah.

A Calcutta telegram quoted in the *Straits Times*, attributes an important speech to Lord Napier. He is reported to have said that Colonel Browne was then en route to Simla, having in his possession a letter written by the King of Burmah to the Tsaubwa of Bhamo, desiring that every obstacle night be put in the way of the late Mission, and that they should not be allowed to return. If it can be shown that this letter was despatched before Mr. Margary's murder, the King's days as an independent sovereign are surely numbered.

We are glad to find that it is proposed to collect a memorial fund in honor of the late Mr. Margary. The subscription is limited to $5, but any sum from $1 up to that amount will be received. The subscription sheet lies at the Shanghai Club, and has already received a numerous list of names. It is proposed that the form of memorial shall be left to the subscribers. A memorial window or a tablet has been proposed. Possibly if the sum subscribed be large, some other and better idea might be entertained.

The C. M. S. S. *Fei Yuen* is in dock, having the finishing touches put upon the extensive alterations she has been undergoing for some weeks past—preparatory, it is said, for a voyage to England.

On the site of the old Hermitage, at Sicawei, has been erected a new and more imposing building as a place of entertainment, to celebrate the opening of which a *bal masque* is announced to take place this evening.

We have received a number of the *China Punch*, in respect of which we cannot do better than quote the words of the *China Mail*; for, like our own dead favorite Puck, the Hongkong paper can hardly be so well appreciated elsewhere as in its own country. "The colored illustration, "John," is a capital likeness of an esteemed resident. The other drawings are scarcely up to the mark reached on former occasions, but will amuse residents. Of the reading matter, the best, as usual, is the "Ornithological," which hits off several prominent officials here, and one at Canton. The lines to "Our Uncle" are the sharpest in the issue, but some of the advertisements will, in the language of reviewers, "repay perusal." The "Legislative Council" preserves its amusing medium between jest and earnest, and *Punch* pays the *Audacious* Band a deserved compliment."

We have the March-April number of the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal*. The most interesting papers are another chapter of Dr. Bretschneider's "Notes on Chinese mediæval travellers to the West," and one by Archimandrite Palladius on "Traces of Christianity in Mongolia and [illegible]." We shall endeavour to notice them at greater length bye-and-bye. Among the remaining contributions, are lectures on "Medical Missions in Japan," read by Dr. Berry before the Osaka and Kobe Missionary Association, and one entitled "The blood of the Martyrs is the seed of the Church," read by the Rev. A. E. Moule before the Ningpo Association. The Rev. G. E. Moule contributes an article on the correspondence lately published in the *N.-C. Herald* under the heading of "Christian Missions from a Chinese point of view."

We have received the first number of a Magazine entitled "The Friend of China,—the organ of the Anglo Oriental Society for the suppression of the Opium Trade." The present number contains reports of an inaugural meeting, and of a meeting held at Devonshire House to meet Mr. Chan Laisun, besides various extracts &c., bearing on the question. There is also circulated within its covers a letter asking for subscriptions to carry on vigorous operations:—"We have" says the writer, "an arduous task before us, nothing less than to inform the mind, and arouse the conscience of the nation, and this in respect to a subject remote in locality and utterly strange to the majority of Englishmen, although all are implicated in upholding the evil system. Lectures should be given, and Public Meetings held in every town in the land. The Press must be freely employed. Extensive foreign correspondence must be maintained. To do all this, we need both the ample donations of the rich, and the smaller, but equally important, because more numerous, contributions of less wealthy sympathisers." Among the donations already received, we notice the names of Edward Pease, £1,000, and Thomas Hanbury, £250. The names of Mr. Hanbury and Dr. Legge also appear among the Executive Committee.

We have no particular news from the North, except that the Chinese were impertinent to Foreigners at the PEKING races. —It was rumoured that the Emperor has measles.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from CHINKIANG on the 5th May:— The general depression noticed in our last, continued during the early part of the week now under review, but later on some enquiry for Cotton Goods sprang up; and although prices do not yet shew much improvement, a decidedly healthier tone exists.

A serious riot occurred at KIUKIANG on 1st May. A mob attacked the American mission premises and completely smashed the contents. No harm was done to individuals, nor does any ill will seem to have been shown to the missionaries by the respectable inhabitants. Rumours of a pending disturbance appear to have prevailed for some days previous, and this, taken in connexion with the curious way in which the row began, seems to imply that it was preconcerted. A man living hard by, whose son had been in the constant habit of running in and out of the school, asks the porter what has become of him. The porter does not know; the man says the missionaries are detaining him with the object of taking his heart and eyes, etc., according to the old formula. The porter pooh-poohs him; the man gets the mob which has been collecting joins in and guts the buildings. It is curious that several officials live hard by but none interfered. They are said to have since shown some energy in bambooing offenders.

An AMOY correspondent of the *Hongkong Times* writes under date 27th April:—Mr. Pedder, the British Consul, leaves this to-morrow for Foochow by the S. S. *Douglas*, and has handed over charge of his office to Mr. Interpreter Phillips, who will act as Consul.—Our rainy season is not quite over as yet.—It appears that the Japanese intend running a line of steamers on these Coasts.

Shen Paou-chen, the Imperial Commissioner at FORMOSA, has returned to Foochow, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Fonkien had gone over to that island on the 10th ulto. It may be remembered that Commissioner Shen memorialised the Government some time ago for the transfer of the Lieutenant-Governor to Formosa, who is to reside there as the seat of Government. It appears now that the suggestion has been adopted.

Shanghai has been thoroughly beaten in the NAGASAKI regatta. A private telegram has been received, running: "Kobé first, Nagasaki second, Shanghai 100 yards behind. Our class of boat no use against theirs. Weather rough; raining hard. Sculling races postponed till to-morrow."

Some further details of the YOKOHAMA tragedy will be found an another page.

Editorial Selections.

MR. HART'S MEMO. ON THE WOOSUNG BAR.

We have dealt with two features of Mr. Hart's memorial—the alleged deterioration of our river, and the prospective decadence of Shanghai. There remains the question of Chinese competition and the threat that "in ten or twenty years time this competition will have swept the Foreign flag from the coast of China, and displayed the Chinese colours in the London and Liverpool docks." Is Mr. Hart prepared to assert that the Chinese are a superior race to his own countrymen? Because the proposition seems to involve something like that conclusion. If so, we differ from him, and will back the Intelligence and Energy that invented the steamer and has run off the junk, to work that steamer more successfully than the Stolid Stupidity which was content with the junk will be able to do in two generations. The patriotic though mistaken policy of the rice tribute subvention enables the so-called China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. to run against Foreign steamers. But Foreign steamers hold their own and pay dividends, notwithstanding the heavy handicap. Now, the value of this subvention will be less to the Chinese Company, in proportion as its fleet enlarges; Tls. 300,000 will pay the working expenses of six steamers, and will form a handsome subsidy to twelve; but the Chinese will have to run more than twelve, and more than twenty-four, and more than the Coasting trade of China. So that, if the competition is to be pushed to an extreme, it will be gradually reduced by force of numbers to a fairer and easier basis. The amount of tribute rice can hardly be increased indefinitely; though, of course, some new and still more flagrant subsidy may be employed. On the other hand, it is notorious that the Northern Chinese themselves do not like the line, and that the existing capital is so largely supplied by Li and other high mandarins, that the name of "Merchants' Company" is a misnomer. The Chinese themselves have little confidence in its permanence, and look at it as an individual rather than a national enterprise. On the whole, we think the position of the C. M. S. N. Co. less promising than it seems to Mr. Hart; and, as Foreigners continue at present to hold their own, we will back them to do so still. Unless some vast change takes place in the system of Government, unless great awakening takes place in the Chinese character, and some great impulse is given by both causes to individual Chinese enterprise, it will take Chinese steamers far more than ten and more than twenty years to monopolise the existing trade; and we see no present likelihood of either contingency, while we see every chance of a gradual increase in trade, and consequent demand for more and more steamers to accommodate it. The Customs' arrangements, and the ingrained propensity of the Mandarins for squeezing, would alone suffice to prevent the monopoly which Mr. Hart foresees; and the dislike of the Northern Chinese to the very Company which is supposed to be an embodiment of native enterprise and patriotism, is a curious comment on the whole proposition.

The arguments against the extinction of the Foreign flag on the coast apply more strongly against the prospects of Chinese competition at sea. Chinese merchants would certainly be exempt, abroad, from the official squeezes which check them at home; and it is quite possible they might muster courage to send a steamer across the Ocean, in charge of foreign officers. But are their business and financial arrangements sufficiently complete to permit the operation as a purely Chinese transaction? We have every respect for the profundity of Chinese wisdom, the enlightenment of Chinese civilisation, and the integrity of the Chinese character; but we doubt whether the Chinese banking system is sufficiently developed to cover distant financial operations; and we doubt whether the prejudices of foreign bankers would allow them to come in aid. The Chinese bankruptcy laws are crude, their system of assignees has been found imperfect, and their detective system has not worked well where foreigners have been interested. All these causes will tend to hinder the confidence necessary to large financial transactions. At present, Chinese merchants who [illegible] produce have to do so through a Foreign firm; and Foreign firms have not found it always easy to recoup the loss where margins have proved insufficient, nor have the Chinese commercial code or its administrators proved valuable aids in the effort. There is, however, nothing in the past history of China—unless we except the remarkable expedition in the reign of Yungloh, which seems to have had chiefly a political object—and certainly nothing in our recent experience, to indicate that her people are likely to enter upon distant enterprise. A stray steamer may very likely go now and then to Europe; but this is a vastly different [illegible] injure the position of foreign merchants as traders and carriers between Europe and China. Placing the Chinaman on his mettle as against the European or American, what is there to lead us to believe that the latter will be distanced? Even assuming that the Chinese can get hold of their native trade, where they should have a marked advantage over Foreigners, when they go abroad they must contend with us on our own ground. And there is nothing in their character, or in the present circumstances of the China trade, to lead as to expect that they will make the effort successfully.

Holding then to our conviction that neither the future of Shanghai nor of foreign trade is yet threatened, either by physical difficulties or commercial competition, we insist on our claim that the Woosung Bar should be dredged by the Chinese Government, on broader grounds than Mr. Hart is disposed to allow us. So far from accepting it as a measure that will enable Shanghai only to make a show of vitality during its declining years, we claim it as necessary to accommodate the increasing commerce of which we look to find Shanghai the centre. Disputing altogether the natural and commercial agencies alleged by Mr. Hart to be at work—the former as untrue and the latter as illogical, we hold that the next ten, twenty, thirty years, will witness a growing developement of trade, which the Chinese are bound by treaty obligation, by the custom of the civilised countries among which they aspire to rank, and by their own interests, to facilitate. The United States appropriate millions of dollars annually to the conservative of their water courses. The bed of the Mersey requires constant attention to make it navigable; Glasgow has positively made a channel to accommodate its commerce. But China has not energy to order out a single dredger to facilitate the approaches of a port having a trade of Tls. 100,000,000 yearly, and yielding a revenue of over Tls. 3,000,000 to an impoverished exchequer. We would gladly hope that the impulse which has been given to public feeling by the appearance of Mr. Hart's memorial, and the controversy it has excited, may lead to further insistance on the Chinese performing one of the commonest duties of a Government. But our confidence in the inert force of mandarin stagnation is so great, and our confidence in the present conduct of Foreign diplomacy at Peking so slight, that we cannot venture to be sanguine. If we were given opportunity of fighting fairly our own battles, our chances would be better. There are some Statesmen in the West who are not trammelled by diplomatic fictions nor too much saturated with Chinese casuistry to be able to take a common sense view of a practical question. But when we find such stabs in the dark are being dealt us, as the present memorial, we are placed at a double disadvantage. We are glad to know that a refutation has followed the memorial, to the Government of the United States, and that the present discussion will be brought afresh to the notice of the British Admiralty. It may be hoped that the steps which are being now taken to secure an efficient survey and report upon the Bar, will furnish the authoritative basis which is needed for further representations upon the subject, and that Western Governments will authorise those representations taking the form of a demand.

ATTACK ON MISSIONARY PREMISES AT KIUKIANG.

ON the 1st instant, the premises of the American Missionaries at Kiukiang were sacked by a mob of Chinese, the city Magistrate apparently looking on, unable or unwilling to interfere. The affair had more than a passing interest, as it marked a revival of the absurd and malicious reports which led to the Tientsin massacre of 1870, and there seems to be evidence to prove that it owed its origin to a settled plot. On the afternoon in question, the father of one of the boys, who had been in the habit of attending the school, presented himself, and stated that his child was missing. Having succeeded in collecting a mob, he told them that the Missionaries were desirous of murdering the child, for the purpose of taking out his eyes and heart for use as medicine. It was in vain that the porter protested against the utter absurdity of such a charge. Mobs do not generally reason, and, as in this case there were grounds for believing that the whole affair had been previously planned, the ringleaders were ready, and the work of demolition went on, but fortunately without any injury to life or limb. A person who had left Kiukiang some three days before imforms us that, at the time of his departure, rumours of a threatened disturbance were prevalent; so that the disappearance of the boy, and the charge of making away with him, which were put forward as occurring on the spur of the moment by the father of the boy, were evidently only part of a well-concocted plan. Now, our readers will remember that the scandalous pamphlet "A Death blow to Corrupt Doctrine," which undoubtedly led to the Massacre at Tientsin, owed its origin to a district not very far from Kiukiang. They will also remember that, of all provincial capitals in China, that of Kiangsi (Nanchang) has been distinguished by the unfriendly disposition evinced towards foreigners. It is not many years since Mr. Baber, of H. B. M.'s Consular service, was set upon in the streets of the city; and, had it not been for the presence of mind he displayed, would probably have paid the penalty for visiting the city on official business, with his life. Mr. Mayers, who went up to obtain redress for this treatment of a Consular officer, and also to attempt to relieve some of the illegal exactions on trade which have been customary in this province, met with but partial success; and to the present day the port of Kiukiang is distinguished by the opposition offered to the Transit Pass clause of the Treaty of Tientsin. Kiukiang has become a bye-word amongst the ports on the Yangtsze; one after another, the foreign houses established there have had to succumb to the many obstructions placed in the way of business; and though within the last three years some slight progress has been made, it has been fitful and effervescent. Yet it is known that Kiukiang is capable of developing a large trade. It has the command of a large and fertile district; but so well have the avenues to trade been closed, that the greater part of the foreign commerce of the province is carried on, not by its own port of Kiukiang, but by bye-ways and across mountain passes from Ningpo, Swatow, or Chinkeang.

The most curious part of the attack on the missionary premises was that, although no difficulty seems to have been experienced in getting a mob to destroy the buildings—as indeed little was to be anticipated, when the city Magistrates did not think it necessary to make an attempt to preserve order—it seemed not to be possible to excite the people of the town; and the Missionaries found no difficulty in obtaining shelter and eventually making their escape from the city. In all difficulties at Kiukiang, the so-called *literati* and the mandarins connected with them have taken an active part. Some seven years ago, a bungalow built in the hills by the Foreign residents was attacked and destroyed, and the instigation of the outrage was distinctly traced to a *literate* of local influence. Fortunately, the doctrines which have prevailed to such a extent since, were not then so fashionable as now; and the perpetrators of the outrage had to make good the damage done, and make an apology. Still, every now and then, difficulties of a like nature arise; and we hear once or twice a year of attacks like the last being made on unoffending foreigners. This time, the outrage has occurred within the city, itself closely joining on to the Foreign settlement. Now we have no reason to alter the opinion we have always expressed, that the best method to encourage difficulties like the present is to temporise. A smart and effective punishment readily nips in the bud any desire to proceed to extremities. In this particular instance, no condign punishment is needed. The destruction has fortunately been confined to property, but for this the rioters were scarcely to be thanked. It is a well-known practice with the Chinese themselves to punish all officers who, either by misconduct or incapacity, have permitted a sedition to occur within their jurisdiction. Whether, therefore, the Magistrate who looked on did so approvingly or in helpless impotence, in Chinese eyes he is equally liable to be punished for his fault. Of course, the measure to be meted out would in the eyes of justice be very different; but the fact of responsibility remains. We trust that, now a considerable armed force is either in the Yangtze or about to proceed thither, some sensible ground of action will be determined on, to put a stop to these repeated assaults, before they become so serious as to need more forcible means of repression.

THE PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION.

THE Americans, laudably proud of the completion of the first hundred years of their separate existence as a nation, purpose, amongst other methods of celebrating the event, to open a large International Exhibition in Philadelphia. Probably no better means could be devised of showing how the arts of civilisation can alter the very face of the globe. The details of the Exhibition building, and the proposed allotments have been decided on, and the various nations have been invited to appoint their respective commissioners. Messrs. Drew, Detring, and Hannen have, with propriety, been appointed as Commissioners in China, to superintend the transmission of articles intended for exhibition. The building itself will resemble most, in style, the original edifice of 1851 in Hyde Park, and in this the Americans have perhaps exercised a wise judgment, for it is questionable if any of the subsequent exhibitions, attempted as they were to be set out with more or less of architectural form, were really so successful. The feature in the former building, formed by the great transept with its semi-circular roof, is omitted, and instead the centre is raised to an extra height, and flanked with four towers. There seems to be a certain want of dignity in this portion of the arrangement, the towers only rising to the height—insignificant when compared with the length of the building—of 120 feet. The building is to be 1,880 feet long, and 464 feet broad—covering almost exactly 20 acres. this is reserved for the United States, and about one-twentieth for Great Britain and the Colonies. The remainder of the space is divided in a most elaborate manner. China and Japan are each allowed 7290 square feet—say a little more than a *mow* each. With the experience of Vienna, this amount will probably not be found in excess of requirements — certainly not, if the Government desire to take an active part. Little, of course, is to be expected from private exhibitors in China. The arts are in too primitive a stage, and too little appreciated to make it worth the while of any such to trouble his mind with exhibiting his goods. Where each man's [illegible] good as his neighbour's, and none rise above mediocrity, there is little scope for display, unless proceeding from an external cause. In time, exhibitions in China itself, where the results of competition could be made apparent to the exhibitors themselves, would probably give a renewed spirit to native enterprise; but the mutual self-improvement which is the great object of international exhibitions, will more or less be lost at Philadelphia as regards Chinese, from the absence there of those who alone could take advantage of it. It is curious, too, to note the relative proportions allotted to other countries —Persia has 7776 square feet allotted,

or more than China. We do not know much of the trade of Persia with the United States, but we should be disposed to imagine, in view of the greater distance and less intimate connection of the two, that Persia would be hardly likely to take so great an interest in the Exhibition as the nearer nation. That the Chinese do take a considerable amount of interest in these affairs cannot be denied, but China is a long way from Philadelphia.

The Exhibition will open on the 19th of April, and close in October. Contributions will be received from each country through its Commissioners only. The Customs' regulations will be relaxed at eight of the principal seaports, so far as to allow goods for exhibition to go forward, under supervision, duty free. No sketches, copies, or photographs, of objects exhibited will be allowed without the permission of the exhibitor. These are the main provisions under which goods will be received.

Attached to the main exhibition will be the Art Gallery, which is intended to be permanent, and which will form one of the characteristic features of the whole. The building will be of stone, with glass and iron roofs, and displays considerable novelty in its form and arrangements. These will be best described by the following extract:—

"The main entrance opens on a hall 82 feet long, 60 feet wide, and 53 feet high, decorated in the modern renaissance style; on the farther side of this hall, three doorways, each 16 feet wide and 25 feet high, open into the centre hall; this hall is 83 over it 80 feet in height. From its east and west sides extend the galleries, each 98 feet long, 43 feet wide, and 35 feet in height. The galleries admit of temporary divisions for the more advantageous display of paintings. The centre hall and galleries form one grand hall 287 feet long and 85 feet wide, capable of holding eight thousand persons, nearly twice the dimensions of the largest hall in the country. From the two galleries, doorways open into two smaller galleries, 28 feet wide and 89 feet long. These open north and south into private apartments which connect with the pavilion rooms, forming two side galleries 210 feet long. Along the whole length of the north side of the main galleries and central hall extends a corridor 14 feet wide, which opens on its north line into a series of private rooms, thirteen in number, designed for studios and smaller exhibition halls. All the principal central hall are lighted from above; the pavilions and studios are lighted from the side. The pavilions and central hall are designated especially for exhibitions of sculpture."

The exterior of the building, in its general design and details, displays considerable merit, though a want of height, rendered necessary from the internal arrangements, may seem to detract in some measure from its appearance. A certain German element is very marked in the renaissance style in which it is composed.

THE G. N. TELEGRAPH CABLE.

It is satisfactory to learn that the Chinese Government has been at length persuaded to acknowledge the existence of the Telegraph Cable. Hitherto they have declined to recognise it officially, and the local officials, following their lead, have refused to treat cases of cutting it by boatmen, otherwise than as pilfering. It is difficult enough to detect cases of theft, where sections of the cable are really cut out and taken away for sale; but it is next to impossible to detect cases of cutting it as it often is cut, merely to free an anchor which has got entangled in it: and only severe punishment when a culprit is found out, can be expected to prevent such wilful damage. About a year ago, the Superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. explained to the Taotai of Ningpo, how junks could free anchors in case of entanglement, and His Excellency had proclamations embodying the explanation sent to the coast and islands. These had a good effect at the time, but latterly the cable has again been frequently damaged, and the Taotai has been again appealed to, to protect it. The agents of the Company somehow found out who were the culprits in certain cases, and the Acting Superintendent, Mr. Bohr, through the U. S. Consul at Ningpo, furnished the Taotai with their names and address. His Excellency showed interest in the matter, and promised that steps should be at once taken to punish the offenders. The latter were found to live in the Chinhai district, and instructions were sent to the magistrate to pursue them.—These instructions have been carried out, and the Taotai has since issued a proclamation, acknowledging the receipt of complaints from the Superintendent of the G. N. Co., regarding the damage done to the cable, and [illegible] Chinhai magistrate has arrested and punished one offender—with bamboo and cangue—he being undoubtedly too poor to pay for the damage done. The proclamation concludes:—

"The submarine telegraph cable belonging to foreigners is of immense value and a very important affair. I now warn you fishermen that, if in the future any person cut or damage the wire, he will not only be severely punished, but moreover, even if he is poor, be liable to pay the expense of repairing the cable."

A still more important proclamation, which we subjoin, has been issued by the Paoshan magistrate, acknowledging the receipt of orders from the Tsungli-yamen (through, of course, the provincial and local authorities) to see to the protection of the cable. The importance and value of the cable is fully acknowledged; and it is likely that now orders to protect it have been issued from Peking, depredators will be punished in a way that will convince them more clearly of the necessity of care and the unprofitableness of theft.

Fung, by Imperial appointment district magistrate of Paoshan, &c., &c., issues for General Information the following Proclamation:—

I have been honoured with a despatch from H. E. Fung, the Superintendent of Customs in the province of Kiangnan and Taotai, in which it was stated "that the Taotai was honoured with an order from the Viceroy of Nanking H. E. Li. H. E. Li has received from the Tsungli-yamen an official note stating that the Foreign Ministers sent a despatch to the Tsungli-yamen to the effect that it was the Danish Great Northern Telegraph Company which has established a submarine telegraph line from Hongkong to Shanghai, that Chinese merchant vessels and fishing boats, either being unaware of the fact or being careless, when they raised their anchors, also raised the cable and then cut it; moreover that there are people who go out in boats, drag the cable, steal it, and sell it for money; therefore, the Foreign Ministers have asked for sufficient protection for the cable and for measures against it being damaged; the Viceroy was, therefore, ordered by the Tsung li-yamen to issue orders to the local authorities along the sea-coast, to provide means for the safety and protection of the cables, and therefore the Taotai is instructed to order the different district Magistrates that they shall pay full attention to have this affair settled in a satisfactory way."

I think when the Foreigners have laid cables at the bottom of the sea for sending messages, those cables could not in any way have been in the way of your ships. From the commencement of our relations with Foreigners, there have always been weak points in our amicable relations with them. Foreign Merchants from all parts of the world have arrived in our country, and naturally they wish to be in correspondence with their own people at home. Now-a-days our countrymen also go abroad, and they also use the telegraph for sending messages and communications. The telegraph therefore has indeed great advantages both for us and for Foreigners, and therefore it is not to be permitted that malicious people fish up the cables, steal them, and destroy them. Accordingly, I will make careful enquiries in this affair and establish a system for its close protection, and therefore I issue this proclamation to you, trading-junks, fishing-boats, seamen, and all other people, that you cannot and must not anchor with your ships where the Foreigners have laid their cables. If, in storms, it should be inevitable to anchor on those places, then you must be very careful; and if nevertheless the cable should be raised on your anchors you must place it again in its original position in the sea; you must not move it about, nor destroy it. Should hereafter, through carelessness, the cable be destroyed, or purposely cut, and you be convicted of this fact, then I will arrest you and severely punish you, and I shall not pardon you.

Tremble and obey, etc.

THE SHANGHAI "DEFENCE TAX."

We are able to give, below, a rough translation of the Taotai's circular to the Native merchants, which we referred last week in our news Summary; and on another page will be found a translation of a pertinent article from the *Shunpao*, explaining its purport, and protesting against the exaction.

The move appears to be very similar to that of the Customs Taotai at Tientsin, and is not a happy inauguration of the Taotai's reign. A Defence tax was imposed in Shanghai during the days of the Rebellion, and has never been abandoned, although the collection has been materially relaxed. The Taotai now insists on its full payment, and the *Shunpao* very pertinently asks why Shanghai of all places should be subjected to such an impost? For it seems to be peculiar to Shanghai; and the *Shunpao* might have remarked that Shanghai has always been indebted for its defence—even during the rebel times when the tax was instituted—to the protection of foreigners. It is a common remark among Chinese at the

present day, in case of any trouble here—"If Foreigners are driven from Shanghai, there will be no safe place in China."

We understand that the Chinese resolved on Saturday last, to ship no more sugar and chow-chow cargo until the matter is settled, and so far they have carried out the intention. We are told that the Taotai is beginning to feel his position untenable, and that a retreat on his part will probably soon complete the resemblance to the Tientsin episode. In the meantime, the measures taken by his emissaries appear calculated to give the greatest amount of irritation. Two cases which occurred a few days ago have given great offence. While two native hongmen were taking delivery of cargo with their cargo books in their hands, these were snatched away by the Tax collectors, and were lodged in Court before the Taotai. One man was fined Tls. 630, and the other Tls. 450. We cannot but think the present opportunity might be taken, to make a strong move for the abolition of such an anomaly as the Defence Tax, altogether.

Translation of Proclamation issued 19th of 3rd Moon of 1st year of Kwangsu, (24th April,) by Feng Taotai of Soochow, Sungchiang, and Taichang :—

Whereas the receipts from the collection of the Chenfang cheuen (Defence Tax) have been steadily diminishing, it is found that the decrease does not arise from a falling off in trade, but solely from Chinese merchants adopting artful measures to evade it. Foreigners are craftily deputed to pass goods at the Customs, or a surreptitious understanding is entered into with the Tax runners; and all kinds of nefarious proceedings are the result. For instance, the amount of cargo imported or exported by a certain firm forms a large total, while the return of his cargo at the Defence Tax office is insignificant. The malpractices and evasions thus resorted to become apparent. It would be but right to investigate thoroughly into such proceedings, and to deal punishments out with a stern hand. In the present case, however, bygones will be treated as bygones and not be rigorously inquired into; but from this time henceforward merchants will be required to change their course and to allow some little play to the natural feelings of their inner conscience. On every occasion of importing or exporting cargo, they will repair to the Defence Tax Office and there pay tax according to regulation. In the case of merchandise at present on storage and not returned to the office, a limit of ten days is fixed for the preparation of a schedule giving the true quantities, with names of owners, &c. to be handed in to the office, where the merchant will be permitted to make good the arrears of tax due without the imposition of a fine. But in the event of any person daring to resist the present orders, the case, if found out, will be dealt with severely by fine and punishment. Let it not then be said that you have not been forewarned. It thus becomes necessary to issue these commands. Let the merchants and commission agents, on receipt thereof, comply with the same with all alacrity.

A special command addressed to Canton merchants Tsiang Fah-yuen, Pan Tsuenan and others.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

There is no interesting news in the late Peking *Gazettes;* and I have heard of nothing particular going on, these last few days, in Peking in diplomatic circles. To-day is the first day of the Races there, which I suppose are creating some excitement in the Legations.

The German Envoy is still staying here, and I have not heard when he will start for Peking.—Mr. Mayers, Chinese Secretary of H. M.'s Legation, is expected here this evening, to leave by the S. S. N. Co.'s str. *Chihli* to-morrow morning, for Shanghai.—Mr. Waeber, the Russian Consul, left here this morning for Peking; as also did Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Customs. H. E. Sun-tze-ta has furnished each of the Consulates here with a Chinese chart of the Peiho, shewing the places where the grain junks will moor and anchor while in the port. Marks have been put up at the extremities of the different places as a guide to the junks to place themselves. The Taotai deserves considerable praise for his exertions in this matter, the arranging of which was much required to prevent collisions between the steamers and junks while navigating this narrow river.

The weather still continues very cold, although we are now nearly at the end of April. The thermometer this morning stood outside at 39° Fahrenheit. If we had a good fall of rain, the country would be much benefited by it. People are this year fearing drought.

27th April.

As to news from the metropolis, I may mention I am in receipt of a letter dated 30th April, in which the writer says :—"I hear that the Chinese were rude to the foreigners at the races at Peking." As the Yunnan affair, as we all know here, is at present being much talked about both by the higher and the lower classes of Chinese as well at Peking as at Tientsin, and as the late and still continuing exodus of a number of families from the Legations in Peking has led the populace of both places naturally to jump to the idea that the foreigners of the capital are leaving Peking because they are apprehensive of trouble [illegible] does not surprise me in the least that we should now hear the lower orders of people at Peking have manifested their dislike to foreigners, at the Peking races.

On the 30th ultimo early, his Excellency Herr von Brandt, the German Envoy, left here for Peking.—Mr. Mayers, Her Majesty's Chinese Secretary of Legation, with his family, has reached here from Peking, and proceeds on to Chefoo by the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shingking*, to-morrow.

The weather since last writing to you has continued extremely boisterous. On the evening of the 28th ultimo, at the end of a day's dust storm, we had a violent thunder storm with rain; and as at this season of the year we naturally look for having, after any rain, calm, fine weather, we were much disappointed in having during the whole of the 29th a furious gale from the north with another dense dust storm. On the morning of [illegible] saw a flock of some thirty wild geese flying south over my house.

PURITAN.

1st May.

HONGKONG.

The most interesting news from Hongkong relates to the steamer *Gwalior*. She got on well after leaving Singapore, until the 16th April, and had reached within 100 miles of Hongkong, when the top of her cylinder blew off, and one of the sluice valves being open she commenced to make water rapidly. When all hope of saving her had been given up, and the boats ordered out, the valve was closed—according to the *China Mail* by the action of the water, according to the *Hongkong Times* by one of the Engineers diving and stopping the hole. The *Gwalior* could not make head way under sail, but drifted and anchored under Hainan. A boat in charge of the second officer, Mr. Seymour, set out for Macao, was plundered by pirates on the way, and reached port in five days. A full account of the incidents will be found in another column.—Mr. Nicaise, the Manager of the Borneo Co., has joined the Directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.—A theatrical performance has been given on board the *Princess Charlotte*.—The *Daily Press* and *China Mail* join in condemning the appointment of Sung Pao-hwa, to accompany the British delegates to Yunnan. They write, however, from the point of view of our Tientsin correspondent's letter; and as we have already remarked, the appointment becomes less absolutely insolent, when we understand that Sung is not a member of the mission but only an escort to the English Officers. Even so, however, his no-rank makes him a thoroughly unsuitable person, and the *China Mail's* remarks are still applicable :—"We most earnestly hope that, for Mr. Wade's own sake and for the sake of British prestige in China, this appointment, if made, will be cancelled, and another official of proper position appointed in his place. The Minister and his Peking advisers, strongly as they doubtless feel on the matter, are probably unaware of the excitement caused throughout India and China by the murder. It is a topic of constant conversation at every table, and each step taken to avenge it is narrowly watched and hotly criticised. The British Press has been unanimous in taking up the matter, and involving, as it may, a declaration of war upon Burmah, our home politicans have accorded it a notice which questions connected with China have long sought in vain. It is a case in which public opinion will be most outspokenly pronounced, should the measures taken fail to satisfy reasonable requirements."—The *Daily Press*, taking the text of Mr. Hart's memo., joins us in condemning the prevalent secresy at Peking.—The *of Tokio*, has arrived after a passage of twenty-nine days; she is an exact counterpart, in construction and fittings, of the *City of Peking*. Her length is 425 feet; beam, 48 feet; depth of hold, 38 feet; and registered tonnage 5,079.—The *Mail* of the 28th April says the *Braemar Castle*, from Singapore, is anchored off Stonecutters' Island, with sickness of some kind on board. She carried pilgrims from Jeddah to Singapore, and was quarantined on arrival at the latter port.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Herald*, referring to the late tragedy, says :—The escapade which has just had so tragic a termination is remarkable in all its details. Not the least astounding part of it is its inception. We look at present in vain for the ultimate motives of the crime. The defaulter [illegible] position socially, and ought to have been unembarrassed in their pecuniary affairs. They were in the receipt of handsome and increasing salaries, were employed by one of the wealthiest banking corporations in the world, and could reasonably look forward to certain and lucrative promotion in the future. Their immediate superior testified to their industry, good behaviour, and friendly relations with himself. One of the culprits at least is known to have been the son of a man of large estate, and to have relations in the possession of considerable worldly wealth. It has not appeared that either of the defaulters indulged in any extraordinary extravagances, or indeed in an expenditure unwarranted by his income. Future revelations may disclose some powerful causes which impelled them to the commission of so desperate and apparently so unnecessary a crime. At present it appears

to be without reason and without excuse. That they felt their attempt was a desperate one, in which they must succeed or die, is evident from the deliberate manner in which they effected their embarkation and that of their stolen treasure and the utter absence of anxiety they are alleged to have displayed when the saw that they must choose between death and capture. Rarely, indeed, in the annals of crime has been witnessed such a combination of want of apparent motive, consequent facility of prosecution, hardihood both of conception and execution, rapid failure, and tragic termination of the criminal undertaking. We have little doubt that the fears of M. Vouillemont, the manager of the Bank, as expressed at the recent inquest, that the defalcations are not limited to the amount of money actually stolen, will prove to be only too well founded. It may perhaps turn out that systematic fraud had been carried on for some time, and that certainty of approaching detection hastened the criminals to their final *coup*. Bail to the amount of $5,000 has been accepted for the appearance of George Withers, late Captain of the now ill-famed schooner *Iris*, charged with aiding and abetting in the recent embezzlement. The cash-box which, when first discovered on board the *Iris*, it was impossible to open, has since been opened, and found to be nearly full of jewellery. A further sum of $700 in gold has been found by Mr. White on board the vessel. —At the inquest on Swaby's remains, the jury, after three-quarters of an hour's deliberation returned a verdict that the deceased feloniously killed and murdered himself; and some vague and idle rumours having got afloat concerning the burial, the *Herald* thinks it right to set matters at rest by stating the real circumstances of the case. Some friends of the deceased, wishing to see his mortal remains decently interred in a spot befitting the position he held in life, directed the sexton to dig a grave for the body in the reserved part of the cemetery. He complied. Another friend, to whom, in life, Swaby had said he would like his remains to be interred near those of the late Dr. Dalliston, went to the sexton and gave orders to dig a grave near Dr. Dalliston's. The sexton did so. Afterwards came the undertaker, who, acting according to his lights and the strict letter of the law, ordered that the deceased should be buried in the paupers' portion of the cemetery. This involved digging a third grave, in which in due course the remains of Swaby were interred. Out of respect, however, for his friends, permission has been granted to exhume the body and to inhume it elsewhere. At the burial the acting Consular Chaplain, when about to read a portion of the funeral service over the body, was stopped by Constable Hodges, and he then [illegible] himself to the delivery of an address, to which of course no legal or other objection could be urged.—A [illegible] has committed *hara-kiri* because he was rebuked by his employer for some slight reason. This suicide is commented on by the *Mail* as betokening a high sense of honour on the part of the unfortunate, who preferred death to what he deemed disgrace—*hara-kiri* being usually committed to avoid the punishment of death, otherwise inevitable.—To turn to pleasanter matters, the *Mail* announces that eight classes of medals for services of distinction, one of them being for the Formosa expedition, have been determined upon by the Government, and will be shortly issued.—The trade in rabbits appears to have been revived in the Capital. Speculation, however, is restrained within reasonable limits and prices do not exceed 50 or 60 *yen*.—The number of jinrikshas plying for hire in Yedo is often stated at random at 250,000. The accuracy of this estimate is, however, best tested by the number actually constructed in any one given period, and in the month of January 22,860 vehicles were built in the city and its neighbourhood. *Choya Shinbun* gives the total number of jinrikshas plying in Tokio as 10,246; including the suburbs, 22,860. —The *Echo du Japon* mentions that on the 3rd ult. a severe typhoon visited the province of Echizen, during which several villages were almost totally destroyed by hailstones, which are said to have fallen for hours, and many of which were of the size of a nut and weighed 10 *grammes*.—The A. D. C. gave a performance on the night of the 14th ult., selecting two of John Madison Morton's farces, "A Regular Fix" and "A Thumping Legacy," which are described as having been played excellently throughout.—One of the native papers speaks of a machine for cleaning rice, which has lately been invented by a man in Tokio named Okada Yeijiro, the use of which is rapidly increasing. The inventor, by employing thirty-six mortars, can clean 100 sacks of grain, each containing about four *to*, in one day. In the long days during summer he will be able to clean 150 sacks. Two other persons in the neighbourhood have also large appliances on the same principle, which effect an immense saving of labour.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 15th.—(Court Circular). The former Governor of Kiang-su, Ting Jih-ch'ang 丁日昌, paid his respects on arrival at Peking, and had audience.

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with the report of the rehearing of an appeal case in Chihli. A villager named Hu Sze had been apprehended on a vague suspicion of his being implicated in a case of high-way robbery, as having lodged overnight the persons supposed to have been guilty of the crime, and, on being [illegible] the Magistrate of the district, he falsely confessed the charge, in dread of being put to torture. When further called upon to acknowledge himself guilty of complicity in a previous case which was on record, he refused to confess, whereupon the Magistrate, believing him to be wilfully prevaricating, ordered him to be beaten with a stick on the palms of his hands and the soles of his feet. A relative named Hu Urh, who had been arraigned at the same time, pleaded for mercy on his behalf, whereupon he himself was beaten, and both were then locked up in prison. Hu Sze, being deprived of the opium to which he was accustomed, succumbed shortly afterwards to an attack of dysentery, and died on the 30th January, 1873. On report being made to the Prefect of the department, he sent another district Magistrate to verify the decease, and he, in company with Hu Urh, inspected the remains and attested the fact that the sores left by the bastinadoing were in process of healing and that deceased had died from natural causes. The appeal which was lodged at Peking grew out of a tumult raised in the Magistrate's Yamên by the widow of deceased, her sister, and two male relatives, who, in consequence of their unseemly behaviour, were committed to prison. Upon this some more of the relatives assembled and carried off the prisoners by force, together with the coffin containing the remains of the deceased. More arrests were made hereupon, and the case was removed to the provincial capital for trial, when it was traversed by the appeal to Peking. The culprits of the Hu family are now pronounced guilty in various degrees, and the ringleader of the disturbance would have been sentenced to death by strangling had he not already died in prison. Several others are sentenced to flogging and banishment. The Magistrate who gave rise to the whole affair is pronounced to have acted indefensibly by bastinadoing a prisoner in a manner and with an implement unwarranted by law, and he would have been dealt with had he not already been dismissed from the service on a separate charge.

April 16th.—(1) The Governor-General of the Grain Transport, Wên-pin, memorializes, referring to the recent appointment of Wên-lin, his second cousin, as Superintendent of Customs at Hwai-an Fu. On the arrival of his relative at his post, Wên-pin has exhorted him most earnestly to discharge his duties with all possible vigour and uprightness; but he has now to ask whether, his own official residence being within a few miles of that of the Superintendent of Customs, although there is no connection between the two offices, and the regulations do not in so many words forbid the employment of relatives at the same time in the two posts in question, [the junior] should not still be removed from proximity to the official jurisdiction of his relative. Rescript: There is no occasion for removal. (N. B. The rule of *hwei-pi* 迴避, or "withdrawal," is designed for the purpose of guarding against collusion between relatives in civil or military employ, who might happen to find themselves placed in authority one over the other. In such cases, the junior is bound to "get out of the way," by exchange into some other jurisdiction or otherwise).

(2) The same functionary memorializes with reference to the Intendant of the Hwai-Yang Circuit, Liu Hien, whose period of service having expired, should according to regulations proceed to Peking for audience. As acting and afterwards as actual Taotai, Liu Hien has occupied his present post for nine years, and it is solicited that he be allowed to remain in it without being required for the present to proceed to Peking, on the ground of his presence being valuable in the conduct of the works in progress for the repair of the Grand Canal, and notably of the great [illegible] 惠濟閘, which is about to be proceeded with.—Granted by rescript.

April 17th.—(1) The Governor-General of Chihli reports the execution of two criminals, mother and son, for the murder of their husband and father. The victim, a man named Wei-Urh Lien-ch'êng, was a small farmer, and a man of dissipated habits, who was gradually disposing of his property and consuming the proceeds in drink. His wife consequently took counsel with her son, Wei-ta Nan-k'an, for the murder of the head of the family, to which he consented; and one evening, on Wei-Urh returning home in liquor, he was beaten to death with a club by the mother and son. As soon as life was extinct, the son took his father's body on his back and carried it out to a cemetery in a neighbouring ravine, where the mother dug a hole in which the remains were put out of sight. Detection subsequently ensued, and mother and son, having been found guilty of the crime, have been subjected to the penalty of *ling-ch'ih* according to law.

(2)—The Governor of Shantung reports the execution by *ling-ch'ih* of a man for the murder of his aunt and his first cousin, by putting arsenic in the millet from which their food was prepared, in revenge for being required by his aunt to give up a house which he had been allowed by her to occupy for a time. One half of the criminal's property is to be awarded to the family of his victims; and as his cousin left no issue to become his heir, the Magistrate of the District is to direct the heads of the clan to which he belonged to select a person, qualified in order of birth and seniority, to be recognized as heir to the murdered woman, in order to continue the family line and ancestral sacrifices.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

An extraordinary meeting of members of the above Club was held on the 29th April. Present,—Mr. C. J. King in the chair; Messrs. R. Fergusson, A. McLeod, F. D. Hitch, E. G. Low, J. Hart, G. A. Lindsay, T. M. Drysdale, F. B. Aubert, Lovett, Thorburn, Rees, Limby, Cummins, Lucas, H. de C. Forbes, Sheppard, J. Broadhurst Tootal, McGregor, Savage, Morriss, Pollock, Provand, Rice, Scott, Overbeck, Tiefenbacher, Möller, Brandt, Wainewright, and Barnes Dallas, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN called upon

The Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting, which he did, and also the resolution passed at the annual meeting, on the motion of Mr. Lucas, seconded by Mr. Haas, "That the correspondence between the Club and the Recreation Fund Trustees be printed and circulated among the members, and the decision in the matter left to an extraordinary meeting."

The CHAIRMAN then said that this meeting had been called in accordance with the resolution of the Race Club just read. The correspondence had been before them for some time, and the object of the present meeting was to give some answer to the letter addressed by Mr. Purdon to the Race Club on the 18th of August last, and which was informally sent to Mr. Dent. He held in his hand a resolution which he would read to them—

That the Secretary of the Shanghai Race Club shall address the chairman of the Trustees of the Recreation Fund, to the effect that the members of the Shanghai Race Club respectfully decline the proposals contained in his letter to Mr. John Dent, of the 18th of August, 1874; as the club is desirous of reserving its independent action in the purchase of the privately held shares in the Race Course, as well as to retain the control of the Race Course and the Grand Stand enclosures in the hands of the appointed officers.

By that resolution, they begged to decline the proposals of the Recreation Fund Trustees to take charge of the Race before putting it, [illegible] Race Course; but to hear anything that could be advanced to the contrary. If there was any good reason for putting themselves in the hands of the Recreation Fund Trustees, it would of course be their duty to listen to it, and act upon it if it were thought necessary.

After waiting for some time, and no one rising to speak,

The CHAIRMAN said if there was nothing more to be said on the subject, he would, without further observation, move the resolution.

Mr. F. D. HITCH seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

It was also decided that a letter of thanks should be written to Mr. John Dent for his services in connection with the subject of the correspondence.

The meeting then terminated.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 13 Avril 1875, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents :—M.M. A. Hennequin, L. Ewald, F. D. Hitch, E. Millot ; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Maignan, empêché pour affaires de service, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul Général demandant au Conseil si la date du 20 Avril, qu'il se propose de désigner pour les élections, paraît convenable. Le Conseil prie le Président de répondre affirmativement.

Communication d'une autre lettre de M. le Consul Général, informant le Conseil qu'il prend note de son désir de voir élargir le programme des réformes à introduire dans le Réglement d'organisation Municipale, mais qu'étant sur le point de partir pour la France il ne lui sera pas possible de participer ici même à l'étude de ces réformes. M. le Consul Général ajoute qu'il engagera, toutefois, le gérant du Consulat Général à s'y associer et que, de son côté, il profitera de son séjour à Paris pour entretenir le Département des Affaires Etrangères de la question dont il s'agit.

Lecture de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council au sujet de la réclamation pour empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang :—

"Shanghai, 6th April, 1875.

"SIR,—The Council have received your letter of the 3rd instant, and observe with regret that it was not convenient to you to fix the arbitration for 5th inst. They will be glad to learn the earliest possible date on which it will be agreeable to your Board to proceed with it. The annual meetings of the Ratepayers in both Settlements are now approaching, and my colleagues think that you will agree with them that it would be desirable for all parties concerned to have the result of the arbitration made known before then if possible.

"I have the honor to be, etc.,

"J. G. PURDON,
Chief Justice."

Conformément au désir exprimé par cette lettre le Conseil décide de remettre, dans le plus bref délai possible, le dossier de l'affaire entre les mains de M. le Consul Général, en le priant de vouloir bien fixer, avec l'arbitre du Municipal Council, le jour où ils pourront régler la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

Lecture de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council au sujet du pont Yang-king-pang No. 1 :—

"Shanghai, 31st March, 1875.

"SIR,—Your letter of 29th instant has been considered by the Council, who however are still of the opinion expressed in their letter of 19th instant, that they must defer taking any further steps in the matter referred to until after Ratepayers' meeting, now so shortly to be held.

"I am Sir, etc.,

"J. G. PURDON,
Chief Justice."

Le Conseil regrette que le Municipal Council n'ait pas cru devoir prendre en considération la proposition qui lui a été faite de faire immédiatement la commande d'un pont en fer pour remplacer le pont en bois No. 1, et régler ultérieurement la difficulté financière, car le Conseil ne voit pas qu'une décision prise par les Ratepayers au Nord du Yang-king-pang puisse en quelque façon l'engager :—

Lecture de la lettre suivante du Secrétaire du Municipal Council au sujet de la création d'un dispensaire :—

"Shanghai, 23rd March, 1875.

"SIR,—I am instructed to express the Council's regret at the delay in replying to your communication of 5th November last, but the question involved was one requiring time for careful consideration.

"The Health Officer of the Municipality has at length submitted a very full report urging the only proper way to provide suitable accommodation.

"The Health Officer and Municipal Engineer have visited the building at the head of Foochow Road, in which the Municipal Authorities on this side proposed at one time to commence the work of a Lock Hospital. They do not regard this building as at all suitable for the present purpose, and the Health Officer states that if the inspection of public women is seriously to be taken in hand in Shanghai, it will be necessary to build on a plan somewhat similar to that adopted in the Hospital for Chinese in the Shantung Road.

"Nothing further can be done therefore until the Ratepayers in this side have decided to go to a heavy expense in building and fitting up. Whether they will do this in face of the many difficulties which are said to beset the successful working of a Lock Hospital when established, is doubtful. Should they authorize the expenditure being incurred, under these circumstances, the Board will again have much pleasure in addressing you. Meanwhile, doing myself the honor of conveying the thanks of the Board for your offer to work in union with them,

"I am, Sir, etc,,

"E. B. SOUPER,
"*Secretary.*"

D'après l'opinion exprimée par le Municipal Council sur la création d'un dispensaire, le Conseil est d'avis qu'il n'y a pas lieu de donner suite à ce projet qui ne peut être mis à exécution qu'avec la participation des deux Administrations.

Le Président est chargé de traiter avec M. Hanssen, représentant des Mineurs Webb, pour l'acquisition du terrain nécessaire à l'élargissement de la rue du Consulat, sur les bases de Taëls 5,000 le *mow* de 6,600 pieds carrés, fixées par les arbitres.

A la demande de M. Keswick, président des Administrateurs de l'Hopital Général, le Conseil délègue son Président comme membre Administrateur de cette institution.

Examen d'une demande de transfert de licence pour débit de boissons. Le Conseil ne peut y faire droit, la license demandée étant périmée et aucune autre n'étant vacante.

Examen d'une demande de licences pour la circulation de 100 Jin-rick-shaws. Le nombre des licences étant limité et l'Administration n'en ayant aucune de disponible, le Conseil ne peut, actuellement, prendre cette demande en considération.

Communication d'une lettre de M. l'Agent de la Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes souscrivant pour Taels 200 par an à la Taxe commerciale. Le Secrétaire est chargé de transmettre les remerciements du Conseil.

Examen de deux demandes de réduction d'impôts. Le Secrétaire est chargé d'informer les pétitionnaires que leur réclamation obtiendra l'attention de l'Administration à l'époque de la révision des impôts que le Conseil doit entreprendre incessamment.

Le Conseil ordonne un dépôt, au Comptoir d'Escompte de Taëls 10,000 pour 6 mois, [illegible] 1875, présentant un encaisse de Taëls 4,014.25. Sur cette somme, répartition faite aux employés contributeurs de l'allocation qui leur a été acordée et du décompte applicable à l'année écoulée, Taëls 185.25 sont, aux termes des statuts de la Caisse des Retraites, à reverser dans la Caisse Municipale. Le Conseil approuve le reversement de cette somme.

Examen et approbation des rapports de fin d'année et des inventaires présentés par les chefs de service.

Examen des rapports journaliers des chefs de service.

Examen du rapport de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

Séance du 21 Avril, 1875 Sont présents: —M.M. A. Hennequin, E. [illegible], Voisin, Conseillers restants; C. Leroy, H. Maignan, H. Scott, J. F. Seaman, Secrétaire.

M. Millot, empêché, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Le Conseil s'étant réuni sur la convocation de M. le Consul-Général à l'effet de se constituer sous la présidence du doyen d'âge, M. Maignan prend place au fauteuil.

M. Voisin est élu Président.

M. Hennequin est élu Vice-Président. Vérification des opérations Electorales du 20 Avril. Le Conseil déclare qu'elles se sont passées régulièrement et reconnait en conséquence leur validité.

La Séance est levée.

Correspondance échangée avec le Municipal Council relativement aux empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang :—

Shanghai, 19th April, 1875.

SIR,—I have your letter of yesterday's date,

but I do not quite understand whether you have forwarded to M. Godeaux a plan of the Yang-king-pang, with a note merely explaining that plan, or whether you have submitted your side of the question to him. In either case, I think there has been some misapprehension on your part, as to the manner in which the question was to be submitted to the arbitrators.

This Council never contemplated one side forwarding anything in advance of the other, nor to one of the arbitrators alone, but supposed the usual course in such matters would be pursued.

We understood, as will appear from my previous letters, that the two Councils would fix a day upon which they would forward to the joint arbitrators an agreement as to the points to be decided, signed by both parties and accompanied by a statement from each Council of its case; and each Council was to have a copy of the other's statement, and allowed then to send in, if necessary, to the arbitrators, a written reply thereto, and these documents together would constitute the case.

This Council were of the opinion that no arbitrators would entertain a question unless it was put formally before them in this manner, and it was for this purpose that they wrote to ask what day would be convenient to you.

I would respectfully suggest, therefore, that the points as agreed upon be signed by both parties, and forwarded to Messrs. Godeaux and Medhurst, and as I presume your statement has gone in, we will forward ours so soon as we can have it written out, and forward it to those gentlemen. We will send you a copy of it, and I have to request that you will kindly furnish this Council with a copy of what you have already sent in to M. Godeaux.

(Signed) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 20th April, 1875.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in handing you copy of the statement of the Council's case, which they propose sending in to the Arbitrators.

The original correspondence between the two Councils, to which reference is therein made, is already in your possession.

(Signed) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman,

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

Shanghai, [illegible]

GENTLEMEN,—I forward herewith documents in support of this Council's position in regard to the question now submitted to you for your decision.

From a reference thereto, it will appear that this Council have always protested against the encroachment of the French Council on the South side of the Yang-king-pang (see letters of Dec. 11th, 14th, 27th and 31st, in the pamphlet herewith.)

And it will also be seen that, after a good deal of negotiation, it was agreed at a meeting of the Consular Body to leave the matter to arbitration.

It has ever been the intention of this Council to have this question thus authoritatively settled, but owing to the illness and death of the late Secretary, Mr. Johnston, and the delay in the appointment of his successor, the matter with others was overlooked for the time, but at the first convenient opportunity was again brought up by this Council, and it

The French Council have finally agreed to this course, but have in the meantime admitted that it was an encroachment they had made (see their letter of 13th March, 1875). This Council might have rested the case here, as the fact of an encroachment would be sufficient to justify them in requesting the French Council to rectify it, or failing that, to appeal to the French Consul-Général to decide whether they were not bound to do so. Feeling, however, so secure in their position, and that they would attain the same end through the arbitration, they consented to submit the question in its present form to you.

With regard to the first point, this Council feel confident that it needs no argument to prove that an acknowledged encroachment on a narrow water-course like the Yang-king-pang, is an obstruction to the navigation of of the creek.

With regard to the second point, that it is prejudicial to the interests of owners of property along the Creek, as well as the general public, scarcely admits of more doubt. The enclosed copy of letter from the agent of M. A. Cushny, dated 7th December, 1874, as well as that of a number of Ratepayers in the accompanying pamphlet, dated 15th April, 1862, will show with what jealousy the owners of property regarded any scheme narrowing the creek. And, moreover, that such a scheme may easily prove detrimental to the health of the neighbourhood, it is only necessary to instance the detention in consequence of the crowding of night-soil and other nuisance boats.

It is manifest that, if one side can encroach the other can, and this Council have always reserved to themselves the right to carry their bund line as far into the creek as the French Council have theirs, if the latter was allowed to remain.

At the time the land on both sides of the creek was given up by the owners to the public, and the roads formed from it, and the bridges taken over by the two Municipalities, the width of the creek was 50 feet.

If the French encroachment is allowed to remain, the creek is narrowed some 12 to 14 feet, and this Municipality, instead of enjoying the advantage of a water-course 50 feet wide, as was originally intended, will only have that of one 36 to 38 feet, and the French Municipality become possessed of 12 to 14 feet of land to which they are in no wise entitled.

The injustice of this is so apparent that I will not dwell further upon it.

With regard to the third point submitted at the request of the French Council, it will be seen by reference to copies of my letters to M. Voisin of 16th February and 20th March, 1875, that, while this Council not only do not admit any encroachment, but on the contrary as per sketch plan therewith, show that they have given up ground to widen the creek, yet willingly allowed the question to be submitted.

As the French Council have never pointed out to this Council where such encroachments exist, I am at the moment unable to do more than to deny that there are any.

But I must add that, had any such encroachment been made and pointed out to this Council by the French Council, it would have been immediately rectified; but during the whole time that our expensive stone bunding was being formed alongside that Creek, we Council regarding encroachments, although our protest against their encroachment was before them.

In conclusion, by the admission of the French Council that they have made the encroachment which was the original cause of complaint by this Council, it becomes unnecessary for me to trouble you with plans showing the width of the creek in 1865, which, however, can be submitted should you require them.

And the questions whether such an encroachment is not an obstruction to the free navigation of the creek, and whether it is not prejudicial to the interests of this community, are ones which this Council confidently leave to your judgment.

(Signed) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 21 Avril, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—J'ai reçu les lettres que vous 20 Avril, a permis me demander copie du m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 19 et le memoire fourni par le Conseil à son arbitre dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, et la seconde me mettant en possession de celui remis par le Municipal Council à son arbitre pour la même affaire.

Le Conseil a toujours compris que les arbitres communiqueraient à chaque administration les raisons mises en avant par la partie adverse, et qu'ils ne manqueraient pas, le cas échéant, de faire appel à leurs clients respectifs pour éclairer tout point douteux. C'est donc de son arbitre que le Conseil attendait la communication de ceux des arguments de votre administration qui lui auraient paru devoir provoquer spécialement une réponse.

Toutefois, le Conseil n'a aucune raison pour ne pas intervertir la manière de faire connaître les raisons des deux Municipalités à leurs arbitres, et j'ai, par consequent, l'honneur de vous remettre copie de la note explicative qui a été remise à M. Godeaux.

Veuillez agreér, &a.,
Le Président du Conseil,
(Signé) A. VOISIN.

Note explicative pour servir au réglement de la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, remise le 16 Avril, 1875, à M. Godeaux, Consul-Général de France.

Extrait de la lettre adressée le 24 Mars, 1875, au Président du Municipal Council par le Président du Conseil Municipal:—

Shanghai, 29th March, 1875.

"Sir,— . . . . . Afin d'obvier à tout malentendu, je vous prie donc, de me permettre presque une redite en énumérant ici les points que le Conseil entend soumettre à la décision des arbitres :—

"1e.—Le construction du quai du Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles est-elle un obstacle à la navigation du Canal?

"2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

"3e.—Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le Municipal Council sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang. Dans l'affirmative, ces empiètements sont-ils un obstacle à la navigation du Canal et portent-ils préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

"Espérant que les deux administrations se trouveront d'accord pour faire régler, d'un seul coup, par la décision des Arbitres, toute controverse relative à des empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

"Je vous prie d'agréer, &c., &c. . . . ."

Lettre du Président du Municipal Council, acceptant les bases de l'arbitrage:—

"Shanghai, 29th March, 1875.

"SIR,— . . . . . I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th inst., which was laid before the Board at their meeting this morning.

"The Council, while of the opinion that there are no grounds whatever for supposing that they have made an encroachment on the Creek on this side, but on the contrary, they have voluntarily given up ground to widen it, as explained in my letter of 16th February last, yet, feeling as they do their position in this respect so strong, they do not object to its being made part of the question, if your Council desire it. They, therefore, agree with your Council in understanding the questions to be—

"1st.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the creek?

"2nd.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the creek?

"3rd.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North Bank of the Yang-king-pang? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the creek? And do they really prejudice the interests of property owners?

"The Council suggest that Monday, the 5th April proximo, be the day appointed to submit the question to the arbitrators, and trust this date will be convenient to your Council.

"(Signed) J. G. PURDON,
"*Chairman.*"

Jus qu'à quelle date faut-il remonter et sur quel titre faut-il s'appuyer, pour arriver à la solution des trois points soumis à la décision [illegible] ? L'extrait de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council les précise:—

" . . . . . But I may mention here that this Council has already in its possession sufficient evidence to satisfy them that the works complained of constitute a violation of the agreement entered into by the Councils of the two Municipalities in July 1862, and seriously interfere with the traffic of an important public highway.

"I have, therefore, to protest against your action, the immediate consequence of which has been to jeopardise seriously the interest of property holders in this Concession along the banks of the Yang-king-pang.

"On the part of this Municipality, the agreement has been rigidly adhered to, as our plans and surveys will show, and I trust on considering the circumstances of the case, no time will be lost by your Council in restoring the boundaries of the creek. . . . ."

La convention invoquée dans la lettre ci dessus est relatée dans le document suivant:—

Extrait de la Séance du 25 Juillet, 1862.

" . . . . . Communication d'une lettre du Secrétaire du Conseil Municipal de la Concession Anglaise, demandant au Président une entrevue, qui a eu lieu, et dans laquelle ce Secrétaire, organe du Conseil Anglais, a exprimé de désir de conserver au Yang-king-pang une largeur uniforme de 50 pieds ; il a demandé à cet effet le concours du Conseil d'Administration Municipale Française. Cette largeur sera en conséquence établie en prenant le milieu du Canal à marée basse, et laissant 25 pieds du côté Anglais et autant du côte Français.

"Decidé que le Conseil Français concourra de tout son pouvoir à ce but désirable ; et que son Président est chargé de faire connaitre cette décision au Conseil Anglais. . . . ."

Les deux Municipalités sont donc engagées par la convention de Juillet 1862, et, c'est à partir de cette date qu'il y a lieu de voir si des empiètements ont été commis par l'une et l'autre Municipalité dans les différents travaux qu'elles ont eu à faire exécuter aux berges du Yang-king-pang. Toutefois, après avoir par lettre du 14 Décembre, 1872, ainsi qu'il a été vu plus haut, requis le Conseil Municipal de s'en tenir aux dispositions de la convention de Juillet 1862, le Municipal Council introduit un autre document et une date antérieure, ainsi qu'il ressort de l'extrait suivant d'une lettre datée 31 Décembre, 1872.

" . . . . . They send you a tracing of the survey made by Mr. Yuell, of the Royal Navy in 1855, by which you will see the width of the creek at that date was 50 to 60 feet. The width shown by this plan at the Honan road, where the encroachment amounts to a stoppage of water traffic, is 60 feet.

"The Council would also observe that the creek has never been surrendered, but still remains a Chinese water course.

"The Council trust, therefore, that the plan now sent will remove any misconception that may have existed, and hope that your Board will discontinue further work until the views of the Taotai are learned. . . . ."

Cette lettre a été écrite, sans doute, dans l'ignorance que la Concession Française n'a été doteé d'un Conseil Municipal qu'en 1862, ainsi qu'il en appert de cet extrait de *la seánce d'installation.*

"L'an 1862, le 30 Avril, Monsieur le Consul Général de France a convoqué au Consulat de France, M.M. les proriétaires d'immeubles sur la Concession Française à l'effet de leur présenter M.M. Buissonnet, Schmidt, Meynard, Maniquet, et Fajard, nommés membres du Conseil d'Administration Municipale par décision consulaire du 29 Avril, pour entrer en fonctions à partir du 1er Mai prochain, lesquels ont accepté ces fonctions et ont été reconnus en leur nouvelle qualité par les propriétaires présents. . . . ."

Ainsi, la Municipalite Française n'est responsable de changements faits au cours du Yang-king-pang, qu'à partir du 30 Avril, 1862, date de son existence, et tous changements faits antérieurement à cette date sont imputables aux différents propriétaires riverains.

En résumant ce qui précéde il se presente tout d'abord :

L'existence d'une convention passée entre les deux municipalités en Juillet, 1862, pour déterminer le cours du Yang-king-pang :

Puis ensuite le reproche de n'y avoir point adhéré, fait à la Municipalité Française par le Municipal Council.

Enfin le consentement des deux Municipalités de faire décider si elles ont commis des empiètements par les travaux qu'elles ont fait exécuter aux berges du Yang-king-pang.

Travaux Exécutés

Par la Municipality, Nord du Y. K. P.

Entre les Ponts	1	et	2	quai construit en 1866. " refait en 1868.
do.	2	et	3	quai construit 1870-71.
do.	3	et	4	do. 1871.
do.	4	et	5	do. 1870-72.

Par la Municipalité Française.

Entre la rue Discry et le Pont 6, de	Septembre ou Janr. 1872. 1873.
" Ponts 1 et 2	1874.
" Ponts 2 et 3	1875.

Tous les travaux du quai du Yang-king-pany, sans exception, faits par le Municipal Council, ont par conséquent été executés antérieurement à ceux faits par le Conseil Français.

Afin qu'on puisse se rendre compte da la position de ces travaux, un plan est joint à ce mémoire. Il est à remarquer qu'il représente exactement, outre les lignes actuelles, les lignes fixées par le plan cadastral dont la confection a été confiée par le Conseil Français, en séance du 10 Juin 1864, à M.M. Knevitt, Whitfield et Kingsmill ; or, le Conseil Français était composé des mêmes Conseillers qui avaient souscrit à la convention de juillet 1862, et, il faut ajouter que le plan de la Concession Anglaise a été levé à la même époque et sur la même échelle.

Les plans ont été terminés en 1865 et aucuns travaux de quai faits après la convention de Juiller 1862 n'ont été commencés avant 1866.

Fin de la note remise à M. Godeaux, Consul Général de France, arbitre de la Municipalité Française.

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

SIR,—On refering to statement of their case sent in to the arbitrators, the Council find that the bunding works referred to therein were completed in 1870-1871, and therefore prior to the protest lodged by this Board against your bringing forward your bunding in 1872. The words therefore on the last two pages, "*although our protest against their encroachment was before them.*" have been struck out.

Will you please substitute the enclosed part of the statement in the last sheet in your possession.

(Signed) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

——

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

SIR,—I am directed to request you to be good enough to obtain the signature of your Chairman to the enclosed document. When completed it will be sent in this morning to the Arbitrators with the Council's statement of their case.

(Signed) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

——

Encroachment—Yang-king-pang Creek.

The questions agreed upon by the two Councils to be submitted to arbitration of the French Consul-General and H.B.M. Consul, and any third arbitrator or umpire whom they may find it necessary to appoint, are as follows :—

1st.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek ?

2nd.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek ?

3rd.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North Bank of the Yang-king-pang ? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek ? And do they really prejudice the interests of property owners ?

The two Councils hereby agree to consider the decision of the said Arbitrators in the matter submitted to them as final and binding, and further bind themselves to accept, and act in accordance with, the decision and directions given by the said Arbitrators.

(Signed) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman, Municipal Council, North of the Yang-king-pang.

(Signé) A. VOISIN,
Président du Conseil Municipal.

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

——

Shanghai, 21 Avril, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—Je suis chargé de vous faire remarquer que l'obligation, pour le Conseil, d'accepter la décision des arbitres dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang et les cases sur lesquelles doit porter l'arbitrage sont spécialement formulées dans les lettres du Président, du 13 et du 24 Mars, 1875.

Néanmoins, pour complaire à la requête que vous me transmettez, je vous envoie la pièce que vous m'avez adressée sur laquelle le Président à apposé sa signature.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous envoyer une obligation conçue en Français dans les mêmes termes, et je vous serai obligé de me la retourner après qu'elle aura été signée par le Président du Municipal Council.

Le Sécretaire,
(Signé) H. SAYN.

Sentence Arbitrale rendue dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

Lejourd'hui vingt-trois Avril mil huit cent soixante quinze.

Nous, Ernest Godeaux, Consul-Général de France, et W. H. Medhurst, Consul de S. M. Britannique, arbitres chargés par compromis en date du 21 de ce mois, de juger le different pendant entre le Conseil Municipal de la Concession Française et le Conseil Municipal du "Foreign Settlement" au sujet d'empiètements qui auraient été faits sur le Yang-king-pang,

Avons, en présence de M. Vignale, Consul Général d'Italie, choisi par nous comme tiers arbitre, en vertu du droit qui nous en a été reconnu, pour prononcer entre nous en cas de désaccord, rendu notre décision de la manierè suivante :—

Les questions qui nous ont été soumises sont :

1e.—La construction du quai du Yang-king-pang entre les rues Discry et de Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est elle un obtacle a la navigation du canal ?

2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux entérets des propriétaires riverains ?

3e. Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le "Municipal Council" sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang ; dans l'affirmative, ces empiètements sont-ils un obstacle à la navigation du canal et portent-ils prejudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains ?

En principe nous sommes d'avis que toute construction isolée qui empiète sur un canal étroit et ordinairement encombré, doit plus ou moins diminuer les facilités de la navigation, si elle n'est exécutée d'après les principes de l'art et conformément à un plan conçu dans le but d'améliorer le cours de cette voie d'eau, et que par suite elle peut porter un préjudice plus ou moins considérable aux interêts des propriétaires riverains établis sur l'autre rive ; nous croyons en outre qu'elle ne devrait pas être entreprise sans l'assentiment de l'autorité territoriale.

Nous disons, en conséquence, en ce qui concerne les questions No. 1 & 2, que si, dans son état actuel, le quai du Yang-king-pang, entre les rues Discry et de Touranne, empiète sur les rives primitives du canal, il en restreint plus ou moins la navigation, et que par suite ce quai peut être plus ou moins préjudiciable aux propriétaires riverains établis de l'autre côté du cours d'eau, et généralement à toute personne intéressée à sa libre circulation.

Quant à la troisième question, en l'absence de tout moyen de vérifier la largeur primitive du Yang-king-pang, et à defaut du texte de la convention qui serait intervenue en 1862 entre les deux Conseils Municipaux, de même que d'un plan fixant la ligne intermediaire à partir de laquelle devrait être mesurée la largeur que chacune des Municipalités devait laisser au canal, nous ne saurions nous prononcer sur le point de savoir si des empiètements out été faits sur la rive gauche de ce cours d'eau.

Mais comme les quais construits sur cette rive sont des œuvres isolées, ils doivent, être regardés comme des empiètements ; ils restreignent dès lors plus ou moins la navigation et peuvent ainsi porter plus ou moins préjudice aux propriétaires riverains établis de l'autre côté du cours d'eau et géneralement a toute personne interessée à sa libre circulation.

Quoi qu'il en soit, nous recommandons que, de part et d'autre, les choses soient laissées dans l'état, mais que les deux Conseils concluent pour l'avenir une convention tenant compte à la fois des besoins de la navagation et de ceux de la circulation des quais, laquelle convention, accompagnée d'un plan, serait soumise a l'approbation de l'autorité chinoise et préciserait, en fixant des points de repère, la largeur à attribuer désormais au Yang-king-pang. Nous recommendons en outre, que toute construction de quai ulteriéure, de chaque côté du canal, soit l'objét d'un accord préalable entre les deux Municipalités.

Ainsi fait et jugé à Shanghai, les jour, mois et an que dessus, et avons signé en double exemplaire la presente sentence arbitrale.

(Signé) E. GODEAUX.
W. H. MEDHURST.

but I do not quite understand whether you have forwarded to M. Godeaux a plan of the Yang-king-pang, with a note merely explaining that plan, or whether you have submitted your side of the question to him. In either case, I think there has been some misapprehension on your part, as to the manner in which the question was to be submitted to the arbitrators.

This Council never contemplated one side forwarding anything in advance of the other, nor to one of the arbitrators alone, but supposed the usual course in such matters would be pursued.

We understood, as will appear from my previous letters, that the two Councils would fix a day upon which they would forward to the joint arbitrators an agreement as to the points to be decided, signed by both parties and accompanied by a statement from each Council of its case; and each Council was to have a copy of the other's statement, and allowed then to send in, if necessary, to the arbitrators, a written reply thereto, and these documents together would constitute the case.

This Council were of the opinion that no arbitrators would entertain a question unless it was put formally before them in this manner, and it was for this purpose that they wrote to ask what day would be convenient to you.

I would respectfully suggest, therefore, that the points as agreed upon be signed by both parties, and forwarded to Messrs. Godeaux and Medhurst, and as I presume your statement has gone in, we will forward ours so soon as we can have it written out, and forward it to those gentlemen. We will send you a copy of it, and I have to request that you will kindly furnish this Council with a copy of what you have already sent in to M. Godeaux.

(Signed) John G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 20th April, 1875.

Sir,—I have much pleasure in handing you copy of the statement of the Council's case, which they propose sending in to the Arbitrators.

The original correspondence between the two Councils, to which reference is therein made, is already in your possession.

(Signed) John G. Purdon,
Chairman,

A. Voisin, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 20th April, 1875.

Gentlemen,—I forward herewith documents in support of this Council's position in regard to the question now submitted to you for your decision.

From a reference thereto, it will appear that this Council have always protested against the encroachment of the French Council on the South side of the Yang-king-pang (see letters of Dec. 11th, 14th, 27th and 31st, in the pamphlet herewith.)

And it will also be seen that, after a good deal of negotiation, it was agreed at a meeting of the Consular Body to leave the matter to arbitration.

It has ever been the intention of this Council to have this question thus authoritatively settled, but owing to the illness and death of the late Secretary, Mr. Johnston, and the delay in the appointment of his successor, the matter with others was overlooked for the time, but at the first convenient opportunity was again brought up by this Council, and it

The French Council have finally agreed to this course, but have in the meantime admitted that it was an encroachment they had made (see their letter of 13th March, 1875). This Council might have rested the case here, as the fact of an encroachment would be sufficient to justify them in requesting the French Council to rectify it, or failing that, to appeal to the French Consul-Général to decide whether they were not bound to do so. Feeling, however, so secure in their position, and that they would attain the same end through the arbitration, they consented to submit the question in its present form to you.

With regard to the first point, this Council feel confident that it needs no argument to prove that an acknowledged encroachment on a narrow water-course like the Yang-king-pang, is an obstruction to the navigation of the creek.

With regard to the second point, that it is prejudicial to the interests of owners of property along the Creek, as well as the general public, scarcely admits of more doubt. The enclosed copy of letter from the agent of M. A. Cushny, dated 7th December, 1874, as well as that of a number of Ratepayers in the accompanying pamphlet, dated 15th April, 1862, will show with what jealousy the owners of property regarded any scheme narrowing the creek. And, moreover, that such a scheme may easily prove detrimental to the health of the neighbourhood, it is only necessary to instance the detention in consequence of the crowding of night-soil and other nuisance boats.

It is manifest that, if one side can encroach the other can, and this Council have always reserved to themselves the right to carry their bund line as far into the creek as the French Council have theirs, if the latter was allowed to remain.

At the time the land on both sides of the creek was given up by the owners to the public, and the roads formed from it, and the bridges taken over by the two Municipalities, the width of the creek was 50 feet.

If the French encroachment is allowed to remain, the creek is narrowed some 12 to 14 feet, and this Municipality, instead of enjoying the advantage of a water-course 50 feet wide, as was originally intended, will only have that of one 36 to 38 feet, and the French Municipality become possessed of 12 to 14 feet of land to which they are in no wise entitled.

The injustice of this is so apparent that I will not dwell further upon it.

With regard to the third point submitted at the request of the French Council, it will be seen by reference to copies of my letters to M. Voisin of 16th February and 20th March, 1875, that, while this Council not only do not admit any encroachment, but on the contrary as per sketch plan therewith, show that they have given up ground to widen the creek, yet willingly allowed the question to be submitted.

As the French Council have never pointed out to this Council where such encroachments exist, I am at the moment unable to do more than to deny that there are any.

But I must add that, had any such encroachment been made and pointed out to this Council by the French Council, it would have been immediately rectified; but during the whole time that our expensive stone bunding was being formed alongside that Creek, we Council regarding encroachments, never a word of protest against their encroachment was before them.

In conclusion, by the admission of the French Council that they have made the encroachment which was the original cause of complaint by this Council, it becomes unnecessary for me to trouble you with plans showing the width of the creek in 1865, which, however, can be submitted should you require them.

And the questions whether such an encroachment is not an obstruction to the free navigation of the creek, and whether it is not prejudicial to the interests of this community, are ones which this Council confidently leave to your judgment.

(Signed) John G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 21 Avril, 1875.

Monsieur,—J'ai reçu les lettres que vous 20 Avril, m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 19 et le memoire fourni par le Conseil à son arbitre dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, et la seconde me mettant en possession de celui remis par le Municipal Council à son arbitre pour la même affaire.

Le Conseil a toujours compris que les arbitres communiqueraient à chaque administration les raisons mises en avant par la partie adverse, et qu'ils ne manqueraient pas, le cas échéant, de faire appel à leurs clients respectifs pour éclairer tout point douteux. C'est donc de son arbitre que le Conseil attendait la communication de ceux des arguments de votre administration qui lui auraient paru devoir provoquer spécialement une réponse.

Toutefois, le Conseil n'a aucune raison pour ne pas intervertir la manière de faire connaître les raisons des deux Municipalités à leurs arbitres, et j'ai, par consequent, l'honneur de vous remettre copie de la note explicative qui a été remise à M. Godeaux.

Veuillez agreér, &a.,
Le Président du Conseil,
(Signé) A. Voisin.

Note explicative pour servir au réglement de la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, remise le 16 Avril, 1875, à M. Godeaux, Consul-Général de France.

Extrait de la lettre adressée le 24 Mars, 1875, au Président du Municipal Council par le Président du Conseil Municipal:—

Shanghai, 29th March, 1875.

"Sir,— . . . . . Afin d'obvier à tout malentendu, je vous prie donc, de me permettre presque une redite en énumérant ici les points que le Conseil entend soumettre à la décision des arbitres:—

"1e.—Le construction du quai du Yang-king-pang, entre la rue Discry et la rue Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles est-elle un obstacle à la navigation du Canal?

"2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

"3e.—Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le Municipal Council sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang. Dans l'affirmative, ces empiètements sont-ils un obstacle à la navigation du Canal et portent-ils préjudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

"Espérant que les deux administrations se trouveront d'accord pour faire régler, d'un seul coup, par la décision des Arbitres, toute controverse relative à des empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

"Je vous prie d'agréer, &c., &c. . . . ."

Lettre du Président du Municipal Council, acceptant les bases de l'arbitrage:—

"Shanghai, 29th March, 1875.

"Sir,— . . . . . I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th inst., which was laid before the Board at their meeting this morning.

"The Council, while of the opinion that there are no grounds whatever for supposing that they have made an encroachment on the Creek on this side, but on the contrary, they have voluntarily given up ground to widen it, as explained in my letter of 16th February last, yet, feeling as they do their position in this respect so strong, they do not object to its being made part of the question, if your Council desire it. They, therefore, agree with your Council in understanding the

1st.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne, in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the creek?

"2nd.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the creek?

"3rd.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North Bank of the Yang-king-pang? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the creek? And do they really prejudice the interests of property owners?

"The Council suggest that Monday, the 5th April proximo, be the day appointed to submit the question to the arbitrators, and trust this date will be convenient to your Council.

"(Signed) J. G. Purdon,
"*Chairman.*"

Jus qu'à quelle date faut-il remonter et sur quel titre faut-il s'appuyer, pour arriver à la solution des trois points soumis à la décision des arbitres? L'extrait de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council les precise:—

" . . . . . But I may mention here that this Council has already in its possession sufficient evidence to satisfy them that the works complained of constitute a violation of the agreement entered into by the Councils of the two Municipalities in July 1862, and seriously interfere with the traffic of an important public highway.

"I have, therefore, to protest against your action, the immediate consequence of which has been to jeopardise seriously the interest of property holders in this Concession along the banks of the Yang-king-pang.

"On the part of this Municipality, the agreement has been rigidly adhered to, as our plans and surveys will show, and I trust on considering the circumstances of the case, no time will be lost by your Council in restoring the boundaries of the creek. . . . ."

La convention invoquée dans la lettre ci dessus est relatée dans le document suivant:—

Extrait de la Séance du 25 Juillet, 1862.

" . . . . . Communication d'une lettre du Secrétaire du Conseil Municipal de la Concession Anglaise, demandant au Président une entrevue, qui a eu lieu, et dans laquelle ce Secrétaire, organe du Conseil Anglais, a exprimé de désir de conserver au Yang-king-pang une largeur uniforme de 50 pieds ; il a demandé à cet effet le concours du Conseil d'Administration Municipale Française. Cette largeur sera en conséquence établie en prenant le milieu du Canal à marée basse, et laissant 25 pieds du côté Anglais et autant du côte Français.

"Decidé que le Conseil Français concourra de tout son pouvoir à ce but désirable ; et que son Président est chargé de faire connaître cette décision au Conseil Anglais. . . . ."

Les deux Municipalités sont donc engagées par la convention de Juillet 1862, et, c'est à partir de cette date qu'il y a lieu de voir si des empiètements ont été commis par l'une et l'autre Municipalité dans les différents travaux qu'elles ont eu à faire exécuter aux berges du Yang-king-pang. Toutefois, après avoir par lettre du 14 Décembre, 1872, ainsi qu'il a été vu plus haut, requis le Conseil Municipal de s'en tenir aux dispositions de la convention de Juillet 1862, le Municipal Council introduit un autre document et une date antérieure, ainsi qu'il ressort de l'extrait suivant d'une lettre datée 31 Décembre, 1872.

" . . . . . They send you a tracing of the survey made by Mr. Yuell, of the Royal Navy in 1855, by which you will see the width of the creek at that date was 50 to 60 feet. The width shown by this plan at the Honan road, where the encroachment amounts to a stoppage of water traffic, is 60 feet.

"The Council would also observe that the creek has never been surrendered, but still remains a Chinese water course.

"The Council trust, therefore, that the plan now sent will remove any misconception that may have existed, and hope that your Board will discontinue further work until the views of the Taotai are learned. . . . ."

Cette lettre a été écrite, sans doute, dans l'ignorance que la Concession Française n'a été doteé d'un Conseil Municipal qu'en 1862, ainsi qu'il en appert de cet extrait de *la seánce d'installation.*

"L'an 1862, le 30 Avril, Monsieur le Consul Général de France a convoqué au Consulat de France, M.M. les proriétaires d'immeubles sur la Concession Française à l'effet de leur présenter M.M. Buissonnet, Schmidt, Meynard, Maniquet, et Fajard, nommés membres du Conseil d'Administration Municipale par décision consulaire du 29 Avril, pour entrer en fonctions à partir du 1er Mai prochain, lesquels ont accepté ces fonctions et ont été reconnus en leur nouvelle qualité par les propriétaires présents. . . . ."

Ainsi, la Municipalite Française n'est responsable de changements faits au cours du Yang-king-pang, qu'à partir du 30 Avril, 1862, date de son existence, et tous changements faits antérieurement à cette date sont imputables aux différents propriétaires riverains.

En résumant ce qui précéde il se presente tout d'abord :

L'existence d'une convention passée entre les deux municipalités en Juillet, 1862, pour déterminer le cours du Yang-king-pang :

Puis ensuite le reproche de n'y avoir point adhéré, fait à la Municipalité Française par le Municipal Council.

Enfin le consentement des deux Municipalités de faire décider si elles ont commis des empiètements par les travaux qu'elles ont fait exécuter aux berges du Yang-king-pang.

Travaux Exécutés

Par la Municipality, Nord du Y. K. P.

Entre les Ponts	1	et	2	quai construit en	1866.
				,, refait en	1868.
do.	2	et	3	quai construit	1870-71.
do.	3	et	4	do.	1871.
do.	4	et	5	do.	1870-72.

Par la Municipalité Française.

Entre la rue Discry et le Pont			6, de Septembre ou Janr.	1872. 1873.
,,	Ponts	1	et 2	1874.
,,	Ponts	2	et 3	1875.

Tous les travaux du quai du Yang-king-pany, sans exception, faits par le Municipal Council, ont par conséquent été executés antérieurement à ceux faits par le Conseil Français.

Afin qu'on puisse se rendre compte da la position de ces travaux, un plan est joint à ce mémoire. Il est à remarquer qu'il représente exactement, outre les lignes actuelles, les lignes fixées par le plan cadastral dont la confection a été confiée par le Conseil Français, en séance du 10 Juin 1864, à M.M. Knevitt, Whitfield et Kingsmill ; or, le Conseil Français était composé des mêmes Conseillers qui avaient souscrit à la convention de juillet 1862, et, il faut ajouter que le plan de la Concession Anglaise a été levé à la même époque et sur la même échelle.

Les plans ont été terminés en 1865 et aucuns travaux de quai faits après la convention de Juiller 1862 n'ont été commencés avant 1866.

Fin de la note remise à M. Godeaux, Consul Général de France, arbitre de la Municipalité Française.

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

SIR,—On refering to statement of their case sent in to the arbitrators, the Council find that the bunding works referred to therein were completed in 1870-1871, and therefore prior to the protest lodged by this Board against your bringing forward your bunding in 1872. The words therefore on the last two pages, "*although our protest against their encroachment was before them.*" have been struck out.

Will you please substitute the enclosed part of the statement in the last sheet in your possession.

(Signed) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

SIR,—I am directed to request you to be good enough to obtain the signature of your Chairman to the enclosed document. When completed it will be sent in this morning to the Arbitrators with the Council's statement of their case.

(Signed) EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

Encroachment—Yang-king-pang Creek.

The questions agreed upon by the two Councils to be submitted to arbitration of the French Consul-General and H.B.M. Consul, and any third arbitrator or umpire whom they may find it necessary to appoint, are as follows :—

1st.—Is the Yang-king-pang Bund between the Rue Discry and the Rue Touranne in its present position, an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek?

2nd.—Does it really prejudice the interests of property owners along the line of the Creek?

3rd.—Have the Municipal Council made encroachments on the North Bank of the Yang-king-pang? If so, are these encroachments an obstruction to the navigation of the Creek? And do they really prejudice the interests of property owners?

The two Councils hereby agree to consider the decision of the said Arbitrators in the matter submitted to them as final and binding, and further bind themselves to accept, and act in accordance with, the decision and directions given by the said Arbitrators.

(Signed) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman, Municipal Council, North of the Yang-king-pang.

(Signé) A. VOISIN,
Président du Conseil Municipal.

Shanghai, 21st April, 1875.

Shanghai, 21 Avril, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—Je suis chargé de vous faire remarquer que l'obligation, pour le Conseil, d'accepter la décision des arbitres dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang et les cases sur lesquelles doit porter l'arbitrage sont spécialement formulées dans les lettres du Président, du 13 et du 24 Mars, 1875.

Néanmoins, pour complaire à la requête que vous me transmettez, je vous envoie la pièce que vous m'avez adressée sur laquelle le Président à apposé sa signature.

J'aurai l'honneur de vous envoyer une obligation conçue en Français dans les mêmes termes, et je vous serai obligé de me la retourner après qu'elle aura été signée par le Président du Municipal Council.

Le Sécretaire,
(Signé) H. SAYN.

Sentence Arbitrale rendue dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang.

Lejourd'hui vingt-trois Avril mil huit cent soixante quinze.

Nous, Ernest Godeaux, Consul-Général de France, et W. H. Medhurst, Consul de S. M. Britannique, arbitres chargés par compromis en date du 21 de ce mois, de juger le different pendant entre le Conseil Municipal de la Concession Française et le Conseil Municipal du "Foreign Settlement" au sujet d'empiètements qui auraient été faits sur le Yang-king-pang,

Avons, en présence de M. Vignale, Consul Général d'Italie, choisi par nous comme tiers arbitre, en vertu du droit qui nous en a été reconnu, pour prononcer entre nous en cas de désaccord, rendu notre décision de la manierè suivante :—

Les questions qui nous ont été soumises sont :

1e.—La construction du quai du Yang-king-pang entre les rues Discry et de Touranne, dans les conditions actuelles, est elle un obtacle a la navigation du canal?

2e.—Porte-t-elle préjudice d'une façon réelle aux entérets des propriétaires riverains?

3e. Des empiètements ont-ils été commis par le "Municipal Council" sur la rive gauche du Yang-king-pang ; dans l'affirmative, ces empiètements sont-ils un obstacle à la navigation du canal et portent-ils prejudice d'une façon réelle aux intérêts des propriétaires riverains?

En principe nous sommes d'avis que toute construction isolée qui empiète sur un canal étroit et ordinairement encombré, doit plus ou moins diminuer les facilités de la navigation, si elle n'est exécutée d'après les principes de l'art et conformément à un plan conçu dans le but d'améliorer le cours de cette voie d'eau, et que par suite elle peut porter un préjudice plus ou moins considérable aux interêts des propriétaires riverains établis sur l'autre rive ; nous croyons en outre qu'elle ne devrait pas être entreprise sans l'assentiment de l'autorité territoriale.

Nous disons, en conséquence, en ce qui concerne les questions No. 1 & 2, que si, dans son état actuel, le quai du Yang-king-pang, entre les rues Discry et de Touranne, empiète sur les rives primitives du canal, il en restreint plus ou moins la navigation, et que par suite ce quai peut être plus ou moins préjudiciable aux propriétaires riverains établis de l'autre côté du cours d'eau, et généralement à toute personne intéressée à sa libre circulation.

Quant à la troisième question, en l'absence de tout moyen de vérifier la largeur primitive du Yang-king-pang, et à defaut du texte de la convention qui serait intervenue en 1862 entre les deux Conseils Municipaux, de même que d'un plan fixant la ligne intermediaire à partir de laquelle devrait être mesurée la largeur que chacune des Municipalités devait laisser au canal, nous ne saurions nous prononcer sur le point de savoir si des empiètements out été faits sur la rive gauche de ce cours d'eau.

Mais comme les quais construits sur cette rive sont des œuvres isolées, ils doivent, être regardés comme des empiètements ; ils restreignent dès lors plus ou moins la navigation et peuvent ainsi porter plus ou moins préjudice aux propriétaires riverains etablis de l'autre côté du cours d'eau et géneralement a toute personne interessée à sa libre circulation.

Quoi qu'il en soit, nous recommandons que, de part et d'autre, les choses soient laissées dans l'état, mais que les deux Conseils concluent pour l'avenir une convention tenant compte à la fois des besoins de la navagation et de ceux de la circulation des quais, laquelle convention, accompagnée d'un plan, serait soumise a l'approbation de l'autorité chinoise et préciserait, en fixant des points de repère, la largeur à attribuer désormais au Yang-king-pang. Nous recommendons en outre, que toute construction de quai ulteriéure, de chaque côté du canal, soit l'objét d'un accord préalable entre les deux Municipalités.

Ainsi fait et jugé à Shanghai, les jour, mois et an que dessus, et avons signé en double exemplaire la presente sentence arbitrale.

(Signé) E. GODEAUX.
W. H. MEDHURST.

Amusements.

THE SHANGHAI RACES.

Stewards:—C. J. King, Esq., F. D. Hitch, Esq., R. Fergusson, Esq., E. G. Low, Esq., F. H. Bell, Esq., A. McLeod, Esq., J. Hart, Esq.

Barnes Dallas, Esq., *Clerk of the Course.*

First Day.

Monday, 3rd May, 1875.

This, the first day of our Spring Meeting, was favoured with most enjoyable weather, the first requirement of out-door sports. The morning broke dull and half-clouded, but with a mild and healthful breeze. As the day wore on, the sky became more overcast, but towards noon the weather brightened up somewhat, and although Sol was merciful, and never burst out with the unpleasant heat sometimes felt even at this early season, there was sufficient brightness to make things cheerful.

The Grand Stand presented a pretty and animated appearance, having never been more numerously attended, the ladies' balcony especially attracting attention, from the number of its fair occupants and the brilliancy of their costumes; while, to make matters still more pleasant, the Race Club Stewards with tasteful forethought, had provided a liberal supply of flowers and shrubs, though in the way of decoration the Stand is susceptible of still greater improvement. The absence of music was much deplored, remembrance of the bands of the *Iron Duke* and *Hartford* being strong in the minds of those who were present at our last Autumn Meeting.

The recent fine weather caused the course to be dry and hard, as was evident from the clouds of dust raised by the competitors in each race; and this, no doubt, while adding to the pace, left the real staying powers of some of the ponies an open question. It is one thing to gallop over a hard and even surface, and another to be forced at racing pace through mud, perhaps fetlock deep. It will be seen from the return appended, that the time in which some of the races were run is given as "the fastest on record;" the reason will be found in the foregoing remarks; and we must wait a little longer before conceding the belief that the China pony will be, even by the law of evolution and an increase in the length of his vertebræ and the number of his pairs of ribs, ever able to compete comparatively with his brother the horse. However, horses are not in China, and the ponies are very fleet; but we must wait for the mud of Autumn before even *Teen Kwang* can be ~~cote—the fleetest han mirel. Did taker. altogathar, the sport to-day was deceptive~~ in more senses than one. Not only was the course hard and unpleasant, but several of the races proved, as a learned friend observed, "mere hunts," the winning pony being so far ahead as to render pursuit hopeless by sight, and in one instance nearly by scent, supposing such a quality to exist among the other excellencies of the China pony. The racing throughout, however, did not fail in interest; and the success of the various winners was the signal for plaudits that reminded newcomers especially of Epsom Downs or Newmarket Heath.

The first saddling bell rang soon after noon, and although at that time there were hardly a score of persons in the neighbourhood of the Grand Stand, yet before the flag was lowered for the start, a large concourse had assembled, and vehicles of all kinds, from the aristocratic pair to the imitation buck-basket, filled the enclosure and overflowed outside. It is superfluous to mention jinrikshas and wheelbarrows,—they are everywhere, and yesterday appeared to be extensively patronised. Spectators on foot, too, assembled in large numbers; and the course was fringed with Chinese, whose number can only be set down as legion. As far as outside attendance goes, the total must be given as greater than ever; which of course shows an increasing interest in the sport even among our Celestial acquaintances. After *Teen Kwang* had disposed of the Griffins' Plate, an interval of three-quarters of an hour was allowed for tiffin. The Race Club, as aforetime, issued an invite to their lady visitors and their friends, and in the Committee room at the back of the Grand Stand they each day found a capital spread, laid out by Mr. Williams of the Shanghai Club. In a tent not far distant, tiffin was also served for the guests of the Shanghai Club, and lighter refreshments were to be had within the basement of the Stand itself.

We ought not to omit to mention that among the occupants of the Grand Stand to-day were Admiral Ryder, Captain Buller, and a number of officers from the different British, American, and other ships in port, and some visitors from the Outports.

The Belle Vue Stand was fully occupied, as were also some other temporary stands erected at intervals on the margin of the Course.

Subjoined is a report of the racing:—

1.—Chu-Ka-Za Cup.—Value, Tls. 75.—For China Ponies only.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Half-a-Mile.*

Mr. O'Leary's chesnut *Ravenscote* 10st 8lb.. 1
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Wild Oats* 10st 5lb. 2
The Fhairshon's grey *Ghillie* 10st 0lb..... 3
Mr. Rheubrick's white *Toryboy* 10st 8lb ... 0
,, John Peel's cream *Hughie Graham* 10st 8lb 0
,, Kushan's grey *Caractacus* 10st 6lb..... 0
,, D. Brand's grey *Andante* 11st 4lb 0

For this, the first spin of the meeting, seven out of thirteen entrants came to the post, at 12.15, *Wild Oats* being favourite against the field, though at small odds. After two false starts, the lot got away with almost the regularity of a rank, but it was in a few strides apparent that *Ravenscote* was breaking away from the rest. He soon showed clearly in front, and set the pace so strong that a tail occurred, *Wild Oats* running second, and *Ghillie* third. Rounding the turn into the straight run home, *Wild Oats* drew on *Ravenscote*, but failed to head him, and he ran in a winner by about a length, three lengths between second and third. Time, 57 secs., being the fastest, we believe, on record for any half-mile race at Shanghai.

2.—The Criterion Stakes.—A Sweepstakes of Tls. 15 each, with Tls. 100 added.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Second Pony to save his Stakes.—*One-Mile.*

Mr. O'Leary's grey *Ravenshoe* 10st 5lb 1
,, Zirom's grey *Gladiateur* 10st 11lb 2
,, Foh-kieu's grey *Benachie* 10st 8lb 3
,, Voisin's grey *Flageolet* 10st 5lb 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Grindstone* 10st 11lb. 0
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Sinecure* 10st 11lb... 0

A comparatively small field came to the post for this race also—six out of seventeen entrants, but they were a very pretty lot, *Ravenshoe* having the preference of opinion, however, and showing very game on leaving the paddock, and also at the post. *Gladiateur* was also in good form, and looked a likely runner, though some preferred *Flageolet* to him. They got off well together, *Benachie* with a slight lead at the rails, *Gladiateur* getting away second, the favourite being fourth. In this order they continued until reaching the ¾-mile post, when *Flageolet* assumed the lead, *Benachie* dropping into third place. *Ravenshoe*, however, now began to show his fine condition, and at the half-mile post was in the second place, and pressing the leader hard. A pretty race ensued between the two, and at the Monument, *Ravenshoe* challenging *Flageolet* the tug of war commenced, resulting in a few strides in the light blue showing in front and putting on the steam vigorously. The black-and-white was equally plucky, but was unable to regain his lost advantage, while opposite Belle Vue, *Gladiateur*, passing both *Benachie* and *Flageolet*, began to press on the leader, whom, however, he was unable to overhaul, *Ravenshoe* going past the post an easy winner by a length. The others were beaten off. Time—2m. 9s.

3.—Griffins' Plate.—Value, Tls. 250.—Second Pony, Tls. 50; last Pony to pay third Pony's entrance.—For China Ponies that have never run at any meeting in China or Hongkong.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Three-quarters of a Mile.*

Mr. Seer's grey *Teen Kwang* 10st 5lb..... 1
,, Morriss' white *Shawandasee* 10st 5lb... 2
,, Zirom's grey *Favori* 10st 5lb..... 3
,, Fungus' grey *Flambeau* 10st 5lb..... 0
,, Foh-kien's grey *Argument* 10st 8lb..... 0
,, Kebrevo's grey *Volnay* 10st 8lb 0
,, Jos. Dawson's grey *Piastre* 10st 11lb... 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Bonito* 10st 8lb 0
,, Bill's dun *Sea King* 10st 8lb 0
,, Do. grey *Sea Foam* 10st 5lb 0
,, Do. bay *Sea Swallow* 10st 2lb 0
Lord Nosoooze's grey *Retrenchment* 10st 8lb. 0
Mr. Hinckley's chesnut *Choctaw* 10st 5lb... 0
,, John Peel's grey *Duncan Gray* 10st 5lb. 0
,, Godolphin's black *Black Thorn* 10st 6lb. 0
,, Sach's grey *Daümling* 9st 13lb 0
,, Drakcir's grey *Radical* 10st 11lb..... 0

This, the test race of all new comers, proved a complete fraud as far as racing was concerned. The lot got off, after some little rearrangement, at the first attempt, *Teen Kwang* almost immediately showing in front, followed by *Favori*, the rest in a troop. The leader increased his distance in the easiest manner possible, until he had placed several lengths between himself and his pursuers, when on nearing the Monument his rider steadied him down into the quietest of gallops. On entering the straight, the gallop became a canter, and all interest in the race was over. *Favori* was hereabout challenged by *Shawandasee*, and quickly yielded second favours. In this order the winning post was reached, the rest coming on in a ruck, the victor being greeted with loud plaudits. Time, 1.30, being again the fastest pace on record.

4.—The Jockey Cup.—Value, Tls. 100.—For all China Ponies that have never won a Race anywhere previous to this meeting.—To be ridden by Jockeys who have never had a winning mount before this Meeting.—Weight, 11st.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Once round.*

Mr. Hinckley's chesnut *Choctaw* 1
,, Kushan's grey *Sceptic*..... 2
,, Zirom's grey *Mignon* 3
,, Kebrevo's white *Weisslack*..... 0
.. Troy's grey *Martin Forster* 0
,, Rheubrick's black *Black Rod* 0
,, Mustard's spotted *Scrambler*..... 0
,, Godolphin's grey *Pendarves* 0
,, Sach's chesnut *Blitz*..... 0

The lot got away at the first attempt, *Pendarves* with a slight lead, *Scrambler* next, but all close together, *Sceptic* being last and hard held. There was little or no change, except in the ruck, until nearing Probst's Garden, where *Choctaw* began to show a strong disposition to challenge *Pendarves'* right to first place, deposing him at the Widow's Monument, *Pendarves* gamely striving to regain his lost honours, but fruitlessly; for, on entering the straight, both *Mignon* and *Sceptic*, both of whom had gradually improved their position, came on with rapid strides, and, close to Bellevue, both passed the favourite, when a pretty race ensued for second place. *Choctaw* maintained his lead, and won

easily by five lengths; *Sceptic* beating *Mignon* by about half a length for second place. *Pendarves* fourth. Time, 2min. 45secs.

5.—THE VISITORS' CUP.—Value, $355.—Presented by the Visitors to Shanghai.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Two Miles and a Half.*

Mr. Zirom's grey *Gladiateur* 10st 11lb 1
,, Rheubrick's grey *Furore* 10st 8lb 2
,, Blackridge's grey *Oceola* 10st 5lb 3
,, Forbes' grey *Galopin* 10st 2lb 0
,, Jos. Dawson's grey *Sequin* 10st 8lb ... 0
,, Voisin's cream *Tourterelle* 9st 13lb..... 0
,, Bill's grey *Seamew* 11st..... 0
,, Fhairshon's skewbald *Dhuiné Wassail* 10st 8lb 0

Out of twenty entrants, eight put in an appearance at the post, and in obedience to the fall of the starter's flag, all went off at a fast pace, *Gladiateur* and *Sequin* in front, *Furore* third, the rest well up, with *Dhuiné Wassail* last. Nearly in this order they approached Probst's Garden, *Oceola* being fourth. The pace now slackened somewhat, and all drew pretty close together, the positions of the leading ponies being, however, unchanged. The Monument was passed in the same order, but at the straight *Furore* galloped up close to *Sequin*, and passed the Stand nearly neck and neck with him, *Gladiateur* being still well in front. Very slight change was apparent as the ponies passed the Stables, and it was not until the Gardens were reached in the second round that the winner could with any approach to certainty be selected. *Gladiateur* and *Furore* then came away from the rest, and on entering the straight, the former was seen to be winning easily, jockey hands down, and using neither whip nor spur. Nearing the Monument, *Sequin* gave way to *Oceola* for third place, and so the race ended. Time, 5m. 50½s.

6.—THE GERMAN CUP.—Value, Tls. 400.—Presented by the German Community.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Winners at this Meeting, 7lbs. extra.—Entrance, Tls. 10.—*One Mile and a Quarter.*

Mr. Morriss' white *Shawandasee* 10st 5lb... 1
,, Zirom's grey *Favori* 10st 8lb 2
,, O'Leary's grey *Ravenshoe* 10st 12lb ... 3
,, Foh-kien's grey *Benachie* 10st 8lb 0
,, Kebrevo's grey *Volnay* 10st 8lb 0
,, Major's grey *Silver Eagle* 10st 11lb ... 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Bonito* 10st 8lb 0
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Alone* 10st 5lb 0
,, Gore's grey *Caprice* 10st 6lb..... 0

This was decidedly the best race of the day so far. The stud got off well together, *Benachie* leading, closely waited on by *Furore* and *Shawandasee*, *Bonito* fourth and *Ravenshoe* fifth. The pace was very fast, and opposite the Stand *Bonito* ran into second place. Passing the Gardens the same positions were maintained, and until coming into the straight, when some excitement was caused by seeing *Shawandasee* and *Ravenshoe* answering the call of their jockeys in such a manner as to render the result extremely doubtful. Nearing Bellevue, *Shawandasee* ran into first place, but *Ravenshoe*, although making a gallant effort, was unable to wrest second honours from *Favori*, and finished a good third, though carrying 7lbs. extra as a previous winner; the rest were well up. Time, 2m. 44s.

7.—THE MEMBERS' PLATE.—Value, Tls. 79.—Presented by several Members of the Shanghai Race Club.—For all China Ponies not otherwise entered at this Meeting, and that have never won a race.—Weight, 10st. 7lbs.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*One Mile and a Half.*

Mr. Field's white *Crumbs*..... 1
,, Troy's grey *Sir Wm. Wallace* 2
,, Bill's grey *Sea Bird* 3
,, John Peel's grey *Tam O'Shanter*..... 0
,, Zirom's brown *Le Pauvre Diable*..... 0
,, Ring's grey *Feemah* 0

This was by no means an extraordinary race, but nevertheless afforded an opportunity of showing what some ponies can do when not held too long. The lot were started in a cluster, *Tam O'Shanter* slightly in front, with *Le Pauvre Diable* in close attendance. At the three quarter mile post, his impoverished majesty, mending his pace, ran into first place, and soon afterwards *Crumbs* also went into second. At Probst's Garden the lot were pretty well together, but on passing the Monument, *Crumbs* assumed the lead, and increasing it won easily hands down by at least four lengths. *Sir William Wallace* had in the meantime run through his horses and become second, while *Sea Bird* making a strenuous effort, which however, came too late, was a good third. Time, 3m. 24½s.

THE HUNT HANDICAP.—Value, $200.—*Twice round the Steeplechase Course.*

Light Brigade 1
Southdown..... 0
Gameboy 0
Spondulick 0
Schwalbe 0
Petit Maitre 0
Maloo..... 0
Cekko 0
Sea Horse 0

The Steeplechase admits of no description. It was a hollow affair throughout, and much fun was caused by the refusals of the ponies to take their jumps, and, in some instances, the consequent unseating of the riders.

Taken as a whole, the afternoon's sport was successful, and it was brought to a conclusion at about half-past five o'clock; soon after which hour the Stand and Course were left to their normal solitude.

SECOND DAY.

Tuesday, 4th May, 1875.

The weather to-day was delightful, though in the open the sun was rather oppressive, but in the shaded balcony of the Grand Stand a grateful breeze played with a refreshing coolness. There were, however, fewer visitors than on the previous day. The number of outside spectators had also diminished, but when it is remembered that the Meeting extends to four days, including the "off day"—generally the most enjoyable of the quartette to sporting men—the fallling-off in this respect cannot be wondered at.

Despite watering in the morning, the course was, if possible, harder than yesterday, and the inevitable result was that several of the races were a foregone conclusion, notably the half and three quarter mile for *Ravenshoe* and the mile and a half for *Teen Kwang*. The Derby pace was, as we are assured by a competent remembrancer, within 28 seconds of the time in which the first Derby was run, and thus speaks well for the fleetness and endurance of the China pony, more especially when it is remembered that the weight is 28 lbs. greater than at Epsom. Respecting the other races, there is little to notice beyond what appears in the description of each; but it is satisfactory to record, however, that two slight differences which occurred unavoidably, were decided by the Stewards in an amicable manner.

As will be seen below, the Engineers' Challenge Cup, the first in Shanghai, led to a capital race,—in fact it was the really exciting race of the meeting.

Appended is a return of the day's sport:—

1.—THE SHANGHAI CUP.—Value, Tls. 75.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Winners of *one race* in China or Hongkong since 1st October, 1874, 7lbs. extra; *two or more races*, 10lbs. extra.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Half-a-Mile.*

Mr. O'Leary's chesnut *Ravenscote* 11st 4lb.. 1
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Wild Oats* 10st 5lb. 2
,, Voisin's grey *Flageolet* 10st 12lb..... 3
,, John Peel's cream *Hughie Graham* 10st 10lb..... 0
,, Drakeir's grey *Radical* 10st 12lb..... 0
The Fhairshon's grey *Ghillie* 10st 8lb..... 0

Ravenscote and *Wild Oats* started favourites, the 7-lbs. penalty upon *Ravenscote* being thought in some degree to militate against his chance of winning. After two attempts, the ponies got away to a capital start, *Ravenscote* slightly in front, *Wild Oats* second, closely attended by *Flageolet*, *Hughie Graham*, and the others. On coming into the straight, the light blue was next the rails, and so far in front as to have the race clearly in hand, although *Wild Oats*, in the centre of the course, seemed determined the race should not be lost without an effort. The winner, however, increased his lead, and passed the post easily some five or six lengths ahead. Time, 57s., the same as in the half-a-mile spurt yesterday.

2.—THE SHANGHAI DERBY.—A Sweepstakes of Tls. 15 each, with Tls. 100 added.—For all China Ponies being *bonâ fide* Griffins at date of entry.—First Pony to receive 75 per cent., second Pony, 15 per cent.; third Pony, 10 per cent.—Weight, 10st. 7lbs.—*One Mile and a Half.*

Mr. Seer's grey *Teen Kwang* 1
,, Zirom's grey *Favori* 2
,, Do. grey *Gladiateur* 3
,, Fohkien's grey *Argument*..... .. 0
,, Kebrevo's grey *Volnay* 0
,, Major's grey *Silver Eagle* 0
,, Troy's grey *Martin Forster* 0
,, Jos. Dawson's grey *Louis d'Or*..... 0
,, Morriss' white *Shawandasee*..... 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Bonito* 0
,, Bill's grey *Sea Foam* 10st 7lb 0
Lord Noseooze's grey *Retrenchment*... 0
Mr. Hinckley's chesnut *Choctaw*..... 0
,, Granite's dun *Stone Crusher*..... 0

Gladiateur and *Favori* started best to win, the former carrying 1-lb. extra. *Choctaw* had also a pound additional, while *Louis d'Or* carried 3-lbs. and *Sea Foam* 2-lbs. overweight. *Teen Kwang*, after his performance yesterday over the three-quarter mile, was of course favourite, *Shawandasee*, also finding considerable favour; the field nevertheless meeting backers at 2/1. After three attempts, the lot went away at pretty even distance, and on entering the straight, *Louis d'Or* was slightly in front, *Gladiateur* second, *Shawandasee* third, something undistinguishable fourth, and the favourite fifth. They passed the Grand Stand in this order, but on nearing the stables, *Teen Kwang* was evidently dissatisfied with his place, and making a rush, went into the front rank. *Gladiateur* and *Favori* accepted the challenge, and the favourite was at present unable to do more than pass into second position. *Gladiateur* fourth. At the far side, the pace began to mend, and *Teen Kwang* drew into first place, *Favori* wresting the second honours from *Gladiateur*, the rest beginning to tail alarmingly, *Bonito* and *Shawandasee* heading the ruck. At Probst's Garden, *Teen Kwang* began to obtain a clear lead, a position he still further improved at the Monument, while the second place was disputed gamely by *Gladiateur* and *Favori*, the latter giving way until reaching the straight run, where he again collared *Gladiateur*, and pressed the leader so hard that he seemed likely to win. *Teen Kwang*, however, increased his distance, and won by about four lengths; two lengths between second and third. *Bonito* fourth, and *Shawandasee* fifth. Time, 3m. 11½s.

3.—THE MERCHANTS' CUP.—Value, Tls. 155.—Presented by the Merchants of Shanghai.—For China Ponies only.—Winners in Hongkong or Shanghai, at or since the Autumn Meeting, 1874,

5lbs. extra for each race won.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Three quarters of a Mile.*

Mr. Ten Broeck's grey *Wild Oats* 10st 5lb... 1
,, D. Brand's grey *Andante* 11st 2lb..... 2
,, Voisin's grey *Flageolet* 10st 10lb..... 0
,, O'Leary's grey *Ravenshoe* 11st 11lb... 0
,, Rheubrick's white *Toryboy* 10st 8lb... 0
,, Bill's dun *Sea King* 11st 0lb..... 0
,, Mustard's spotted *Scrambler* 10st 8lb... 0
,, Sach's chesnut *Blitz* 10st 5lb..... 0

As usual in a short spurt, some little trouble was experienced in getting the ponies in order at the post, and it was not until the third attempt that they got off, *Ravenshoe* slightly leading, with *Wild Oats* and *Flageolet* close up, the others in a cluster, *Sea King* last. In this order they passed the Garden, but on approaching the Monument *Wild Oats* assumed the lead, *Ravenshoe* dropping slightly behind. Rounding the turn into the straight there was no change, but here the real interest of the race began, for *Andante* was seen coming up at a fast pace, and seemed likely for a few moments to pass the leading pair. *Ravenshoe*, however, quickly recovered his lost position, and again coming to the front, an exciting race ensued between the three, which ended in *Ravenshoe* passing the judge's chair by a short length in front of *Wild Oats*, *Andante* about a length and a half behind the second. On returning to weigh, however, it was found that *Ravenshoe's* jockey, owing to some oversight, could not scale, and on the matter being referred to the Stewards, they adjudged the race to *Wild Oats*. It was also said that *Wild Oats* did not return to the paddock to unsaddle, but this was overruled. Time, 1m. 32½s.

4.—The Engineers' Challenge Cup.—Value, Tls. 500.—Presented by the Engineers of Shanghai.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—To be won two consecutive Meetings by a Pony or Ponies, the *bonâ fide* property of the same owner.—Entrance, Tls. 10; to be paid to the winner until the Cup is finally won.—*One Mile and a Quarter.*

Mr. O'Leary's grey *Ravenshoe* 10st 8lb 1
,, Morriss' white *Shawandasee* 10st 5lb .. 2
,, Fohkien's grey *Argument* 10st 8lb 0
,, Jos. Dawson's grey *Louis d'Or* 10st 11lb. 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Grindstone* 10st 11lb. 0
,, do. grey *Furore* 10st 9lb 0
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Sinecure* 10st 11lb... 0
,, Zirom's grey *Favori* 10st 5lb 0

For this, the first Engineers' Cup ran for in Shanghai, a small but capital field came to the post, including some of the cracks of the meeting. *Furore* went off with the lead, *Favori* second, and *Ravenshoe* third, all quite close, and the rest very near. On the far side, opposite the line, but shortly afterwards *Ravenshoe* showed in front. Approaching the Garden, *Favori* and *Ravenshoe* were racing together; but between this point and the Monument, the tail was great, *Shawandasee*, however, running into third place. From this time it was clear that the race lay between *Ravenshoe* and *Favori*, and a gallant struggle ensued between the two. On entering the straight it was difficult to tell with accuracy which was leading, but when nearly opposite Belle Vue, *Favori* was slightly in front, and the pair raced side by side, but so close that they cannoned. At the finish, *Favori* was ahead by a neck, *Shawandasee* third. The rider of *Ravenshoe*, however, claimed on a foul. The Stewards afterwards investigated the matter, and after hearing evidence on both sides, decided that the claim was sustained, that *Favori* was disqualified, and that *Shawandasee* should take second place. The excellent riding of *Favori's* jockey was, nevertheless, the theme of much praise on the course. Time, 2m. 44s.

5.—The Race Club Cup.—Value, Tls. 150.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Winners at this Meeting of a Race of one mile or under, to carry 3lbs. extra; of over a mile, 7lbs. extra—penalties not accumulative.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Two Miles.*

Mr. Zirom's grey *Gladiateur* 10st 11lb 1
,, Granite's dun *Stone Crusher* 10st 5lb... 2
,, Gore's grey *Caprice* 10st 8lb..... 3
,, Rheubrick's grey *Holy Friar* 10st 11lb 0
,, Bill's grey *Seamew* 11st 2lb 0
,, Hooper's grey *Strathmore* 11st 0lb..... 0
The Fhairshon's skewbald *Dhuiné Wassail* 10st 8lb 0

Gladiateur went away with a slight lead, with *Dhuiné Wassail* second, *Seamew* third, and *Strathmore* fourth, the others tailing, *Stone Crusher* being last. This order was kept nearly the first time round, although near the Monument, *Dhuiné Wassail* drew on *Gladiateur*, and raced with him for some distance, while *Stone Crusher* and *Caprice* putting on steam, began to lessen distance most materially. Nothing more occurred worthy of notice until entering the straight for the finish, when *Gladiateur* still in front, began to push for home, and *Caprice* raced *Stone Crusher* for second place, a capital struggle ensuing, which resulted in favour of *Stone Crusher*. It was all through a safe race for *Gladiateur*. Time, 4m. 34½s.

6.—The Tsatlee Cup.—Value, Tls. 60.—Presented by some of the Silk Inspectors of Shanghai, added to a Sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each.—For all China Ponies that have never won a race at or prior to this Meeting.—Weight, 11st. for 13 hands; to give or take 6lbs. for every inch under or over.—The winner to pay Tls. 50 to the fund.—*One Mile.*

Mr. Zirom's grey *Mignon* 11st 0lb 1
,, Fungus' grey *Flambeau* 11st 0lb..... 2
,, Rheubrick's grey *Bonito* 11st 6lb..... 3
,, Forbes' grey *Galopin* 10st 8lb 0
,, Kebrevo's grey *Volnay* 11st 6lb 0
,, Troy's black *Roland Cashel* 11st 12lb... 0
,, Troy's grey *Martin Forster* 11st 6lb ... 0
,, Voisin's skewbald *Pastel* 10st 8lb 0
,, Rheubrick's black *Black Rod* 11st 12lb 0
,, Bill's bay *Sea Swallow* 10st 10lb..... 0
,, John Peel's spotted *Aiken Drum* 11st 0lb 0
,, Godolphin's black *Black Thorn* 11st 0lb 0
,, Sach's grey *Daümling* 10st 2lb..... 0
The Fhairshon's grey *Ghillie* 11st 0lb..... 0

The field of fourteen non-winners that started for this race made a very pretty sight at the post, but as might had been expected, there was little or no speculation as to the result, *Black Thorn* being, however, favorite. At starting he took the lead, but the race was anywhere until entering the straight, when *Flambeau*, who had taken the lead from *Black Thorn*, had to give place to *Mignon* opposite the Grand Stand, and beaten by about a length and-a-half. *Bonito* finishing third. Time, 2m. 10s.

7.—The Hurdle Race.—A Sweepstakes for Tls. 10 each, with Tls. 100 added.—For all China Ponies.—Four Ponies to start, from *bonâ fide* opposing stables, or no race.—Weight for inches as per scale, with 7lbs. extra.—To be run on the inside Course, over eight flights of hurdles.—*About One Mile and a Quarter.*

Mr. Hochstroem's dun *Schwalbe* 11st 4lb... 1
,, Rheubrick's grey *Light Brigade* 11st 12lb. 2
,, Morriss' chesnut *Greenhorn* 11st 11lb ... 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Furore* 11st 11lb 0
,, Bill's grey *Sea Bird* 11st 11lb 0
,, Hinckley's chesnut *Choctaw* 10st 12lb. 0

The hurdle race, like the Hunt Handicap of yesterday, admits of but little description. *Furore* and *Light Brigade* went away first, though with but a slight lead; but at the first hurdles it was apparent that refusals would be more plentiful than jumps, and so the result proved. There was in fact, no race, except between *Schwalbe* and *Light Brigade* towards the finish, and that resulted in a comparatively easy win for *Schwalbe*, the rest straggling about the course.

This brought the second day's programme to a finish, at about six o'clock, and the Course was speedily cleared of its visitors.

Third Day,

Wednesday, 5th May, 1875.

The sport to-day presented several features of less interest than yesterday and the previous day. At the commencement, the weather was dull, and throughout the afternoon the company on the Grand Stand and the number of outside spectators were much fewer than on the former days. The events on the card were the same in number, but interest had evidently waned; and there is really nothing special to notice in the programme of the afternoon's sport, for the simple reason that the entries included only the ponies whose prowess had been tried on the previous two days, and whose capabilities were therefore pretty well known.

Shortly after noon, the bell rang for

1.—The Great Northern Handicap.—Value, Tls. 150.—A Handicap for all China Ponies that have run at this Meeting.—To be handicapped by the Stewards after the Second Day's Races.—Entrance, Tls. 10.—*One Mile and a Half.*

Mr. Hinckley's chestnut *Choctaw* 10st 10lb. 1
,, Gore's grey *Caprice* 10st 7lb..... 2
,, Blackridge's grey *Oceola* 3
,, Voisin's cream *Tourterelle* 10st 11lb..... 0
,, Kushan's grey *Sceptic* 10st 3lb..... 0

Choctaw was favourite at starting, with *Caprice* and *Oceola* for place. On passing the Grand Stand, *Tourterelle* was in front, *Choctaw* second, *Sceptic* third, *Oceola* fourth, and *Caprice* last. There was no change until approaching the Garden, when *Sceptic* fell back, and *Choctaw* drawing on *Tourterelle*, the pair raced together past the Monument, but on entering the straight *Choctaw* came away and won easily by several lengths. *Caprice* finished second, with some unnecessary flogging, and *Oceola* third. Time, 3m. 21½s.

2.—The Taotai's Cup.—Value, Tls. 75.—Presented by H. E. the Taotai.—For all China Ponies.—Weight, 12st.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*One Mile.*

Mr. D. Brand's grey *Andante* 1
,, Godolphin's grey *Pendarves* 2
,, Bill's dun *Sea King* 3
,, Kebrevo's white *Weisslack* 0
,, Rheubrick's grey *Furore* 0
,, Do. grey *Grindstone* 0
,, Hooper's grey *Strathmore*..... 0
,, Kushan's grey *Caractacus*..... 0

Weisslack carried 13st. 9lb., and *Andante* 12st. 6lb. Very little description suffices for this race. After a couple of attempts, *Caractacus* went away with a slight lead, the rest in a cluster. *Andante* shortly showed in front, followed by *Pendarves*, *Sea King* soon after taking third place. On entering the straight, the same order was maintained, *Andante* passing the post two lengths in front, *Pendarves* finishing in front of *Sea King* by about the same distance, *Strathmore* last. Time, 2m. 16s.

3.—The Ladies' Purse.—Value, £33.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Three-quarters of a Mile.*

Mr. O'Leary's chesnut *Ravenscote* 10st 11lb 1
,, Zirom's grey *Mignon* 10st 5lb 2
,, Ten Broeck's grey *Wild Oats* 10st 8lb.. 3
,, Jos. Dawson's grey *Louis d'Or* 10st 8lb 0
,, Morriss' white *Shawandasee* 10st 5lb... 0
,, Seer's black *Pepin* 10st 13lb..... 0
,, John Peel's spotted *Aiken Drum* 10st 5lb 0
,, Granite's grey *Pulveriser* 10st 8lb 0
Graf v. Luxemburg's grey *Blücher* 10st 10lb 0
The Fhairshon's grey *Ghillie* 10st 5lb..... 0

This race afforded very little sport, being almost a foregone conclusion for *Ravenscote*, who, after two false starts, went away with the lead; *Ghillie* second, and *Pepin* third. Between the half-mile and the Garden, the position was almost unchanged; but on entering the straight, *Mignon* passed *Ghillie*, who shortly afterwards gave place to *Wild Oats*, *Ghillie* being beaten off. *Ravenscote* was never headed, and won easily by three or four lengths, the rest nowhere. Time, 1m. 32s.

At the termination of the race, the Purse was presented to the winner by Miss Smith, who, as representing the ladies' of Shanghai, congratulated the winner on his success, and expressed the pleasure she felt at being deputed to make the presentation; hoping that on many future occasions a similar pleasure would be felt by other ladies.—Mr. Waller briefly but suitably responded, thanking the ladies of Shanghai, not only for himself, but also on behalf of the Race Club and Stewards of the Meeting for the interest they had evinced in the races. He concluded by presenting Miss Smith with a superb bouquet.

4.—THE BROKERS' CUP.—Value, $160.—Presented by the Brokers of Shanghai, added to a Sweepstakes of Tls. 5 each.—For all China Ponies, Griffins at date of entry.—Weight for inches as per scale.—*Two Miles.*

Mr.	Zirom's grey *Gladiateur* 13st 2lb	1
,,	Granite's dun *Stone Crusher* 10st 8lb	2
,,	Bill's bay *Sea Swallow* 10st 6lb	3
,,	Hooper's grey *Strathmore* 10st 11lb	0
,,	Forbe's grey *Galopin* 10st 9lb	0
,,	Fungus' grey *Flambeau* 10st 5lb	0
,,	Troy's grey *Martin Forster* 10st 9lb	0
,,	Jos. Dawson's grey *Louis-d'Or* 10st 9lb	0
,,	Bill's grey *Sea Foam* 10st 12lb	0
,,	Sach's grey *Daümling* 9st 13lb	0

Starting in a cluster, there was no perceptible change until coming to the turn into the straight, when *Gladiateur* showed in front, followed by *Daümling*, with *Flambeau* third. No effort was made until approaching the Monument the second time, when *Stone Crusher* and *Sea Swallow* went into second and third places. The race was now virtually over, for the two raced away from the others, *Gladiateur* winning by a length and-a-half, hands down; *Stone Crusher* finishing about the same distance in front of *Sea Swallow*. Time, 4m. 35s.

5.—THE CONSOLATION CUP.—Value, Tls. 100.—Second Pony, Tls. 25.—For all beaten Ponies at this Meeting.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Once round.*

Mr.	Zirom's grey *Favori* 10st 5lb	1
,,	Seer's black *Pepin* 10st 5lb	2
,,	Jos. Dawson's grey *Piastre* 10st 11lb	3
,,	Kebrevo's grey *Volnay* 10st 10lb	0
,,	Major's grey *Silver Eagle* 10st 11lb	0
,,	Troy's black *Roland Cashel* 10st 11lb	0
,,	Vossin's grey *Flageolet* 10st 5lb	0
,,	Do. cream *Tourterelle* 9st 13lb	0
,,	Rheubrick's grey *Bonito* 10st 8lb	0
,,	John Peel's spotted *Aiken Drum* 10st 9lb	0
Graf v. Luxemburg's	grey *Blücher* 10st 9lb.	0
Mr.	Mustard's spotted *Scrambler* 10st 11lb.	0
,,	Godolphin's black *Black Thorn* 10st 8lb	0
The Fhairshon's	grey *Ghillie* 10st 6lb	0

This was certainly the most open race of the meeting, although *Favori* started favourite, and was looked upon as certain to win, an amount of confidence that he did not disappoint. *Piastre*, the second favorite, did not belie his backers either, so far as being placed went, but he stood very little chance of a win. At starting *Favori* obtained a slight lead, with *Ghillie* in close attendance, the field being so close as to defy distinction. The race was, however, so closely contested, that it was not until passing the Monument that it was considered a certainty for *Favori*. At Belle Vue, he was seen coming out of the cluster, and won easily, *Pipon* second by about two lengths. Time, 2m. 42s.

6.—THE CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.—A forced entry for all winners; optional for the winner of the Members' Plate, and all other Ponies that have run at this Meeting, Tls. 15 each.—Winners of two or more Races at this Meeting, Tls. 25.—Weight for inches as per scale.—*One Mile and a Quarter.*

Teen Kwang 10st 5lb	1
Ravenshoe 10st 7lb	2
Andante 10st 11lb	3
Ravenscote 10st 11lb	0
Gladiateur 10st 11lb	0
Wild Oats 10st 5lb	0
Mignon 10st 5lb	0
Favori 10st 5lb	0
Benachie 10st 8lb	0

This was *Teen Kwang's* race throughout, and although a pretty spin ensued between him and *Ravenshoe*, the latter succeeded in obtaining only a fair second place, *Andante* finishing third. Time, 2m. 41s.

7.—THE STEEPLECHASE CUP.—Value, Tls. 200.—For all China Ponies.—Weight for inches as per scale with 14lbs. extra.—Entrance, Tls. 5.—*Twice round a Course selected by the Stewards.*

Mr.	Rheubrick's grey *Furore* 11st 8lb	1
,,	Do. grey *Light Brigade* 11st 12lb	2
,,	Hochstoem's dun *Schwalbe* 11st 11lb	3
,,	Morriss' grey *Southdown* 11st 5lb	0
,,	Rheubrick's grey *Spondulick* 11st 12lb	0
,,	Bill's grey *Sea Horse* 11st 4lb	0
,,	Hinckley's chesnut *Choctaw* 11st 5lb	0
,,	Godolphin's grey *Pendarves* 12st 5lb	0

This, the last race of the meeting, brought a field of only eight out of fourteen entrants to the post. There was really no interest in the affair, *Furore* being too well known to admit of any competition as a jumper and he walked in a winner, *Light Brigade* second, the rest nowhere.

This brought the Spring Meeting to an end; but for the "off day" there are several arrangements made which will doubtless fill up a good afternoon's sport. Among them are The Teen Kwang Cup, value Tls. 250, for all China ponies, *Teen Kwang* excluded, a handicap race, $5 entrance, to go to second;—the Campo Cup, of $200, for all beaten ponies, entrance $5; some matches, and the usual Mafoos' race. Owing to the heavy rain which fell during Wednesday night and Thursday morning, these races were obliged to be postponed, and the Stewards have fixed Monday for the events.

THE A. D. C. PERFORMANCE.

As there is nothing pleasanter to a well-disposed critic than to be able to bestow hearty and deserved praise, so nothing is less agreeable than to have to pronounce an unfavourable verdict, especially in those cases where there has been no lack of talent, zeal, and industry to command it; and where the blame of failure lies only in the misapplication and misdirection of the elements which would in happier circumstances have sufficed to ensure success. It is rarely that the performances of the A. D. C. of Shanghai call for aught but praise, but exceptions are to be found to every rule, and strict regard for truth compels us to pronounce the theatricals on Wednesday evening an exception to the general rule of excellence which has happily characterised the great majority of past performances. This is the more curious, as something uncommonly good was anticipated by those in the confidence of the veterans who witnessed and supervised the rehearsals. But events frequently belie the most learned prognostications, and the most knowing member of the A. D. C. is as likely to make a bad shot in theatrical matters, as are the *White Legs*, the *Owl Eyes*, and other noted prophets of the Turf in sporting matters. Contrary to the usual practice here, the longer and more pretentious piece was given first. "Payable on Demand" is styled in the programme an Original Domestic Drama. It is certainly the work of a practised playwright, but we fail to see anything very original in it. It abounds in hackneyed dialogue and conventional situations, while the most effective bits in the piece are stagey, and melodramatic. The curtain rose on a well-painted interior in the Flemish style, and here we may observe that the scenery and mounting of both pieces were altogether unexceptionable. The earlier portions of the play were as usual lost to the audience, partly through the hubbub and noise created by late arrivals, partly owing to the fact that some of the actors spoke no louder than they would have done in an ordinary drawing-room. Messrs. Griffin and Honeycomb know how to suit their organs to stage requirements, but of the other performers in the first act there is not one to whom the charge of indistinctness and inaudibility does not more or less apply. Miss Castor, whose acting throughout the whole piece was one of the brightest features of the evening, has an unfortunate habit of "running in" her words, of uttering, in fact, some three or four separate vocables as if they formed one compound word, whereby a considerable part of what she said was lost to the audience. We would recommend her at her next appearance to count one, mentally, between every word she utters.

Mr. Doolittle, whose voice is admirably adapted to the stage, and who is ordinarily heard well enough, seemed on this occasion to share the general defect. Perhaps he thought it unbecoming in a French Marquis of the Ancien Régime to raise his voice too much above that of his interlocutors. The first act was received coldly, almost chillingly, by the audience. The not ineffective *tableau* with which it concluded (somewhat marred by the eccentricities of the red curtain) alone elicited any demonstration of satisfaction. The action dragged, and the acting—with the conspicuous exceptions of Mr. Griffin and Miss Castor—was below the average. We ought not perhaps to omit here all notice of the sentry who paraded outside *Goldsched's* house, and whose military appearance and commendable punctuality in his successive reappearances interested us almost as much as the imperfectly heard dialogue of the act.

The second act was rather more lively, and was accordingly received with somewhat more favour. But the cast was far from good. Mr. Doolittle was not successful as the *Marquis de St. Cast* in the first act; he was still more unsuccessful as the Marquis's son, Victor, in the second act. A *rôle* in which manly dignity and quiet strength form the prominent requisites, is sure to find an adequate representative in Mr. Doolittle. Romeo. His manner is too stiff and conscious; he has not the spontaneity, the impulse, the *naiveté*, which the expression of the tenderer emotions demands. Mr Ricochet (we take the names in their order in the programme) was likewise out of place as *Lyons*. We do not know the nationality of M. Lyons; but the manner, accent, and "get-up" of the actor, suggested the traditional comic stage Irishman more than anything else. If this was Mr. Tom Taylor's idea in writing the part, we only regret it was not entrusted to a genuine Milesian. On the whole, we have seen Mr Ricochet to more advantage in smaller parts. Mr. Tintinnabulum was not so much out of place in the part of *Bricabrac*, as is the part of *Bricabrac* out of place in the piece. It is introduced and spun out most artificially, and evidently as a sort of diversion, to relieve the pervading sombreness of the situation. Mr. Tintinnabulum made the most of his part—that is to say, he made too much of it. Three-fourths of it might have been omitted with

advantage to the artistic unity and keeping of the piece. In the hands of a dull actor this would perhaps have escaped notice, but Mr. Tintinnabulum's demonstrativeness contrasted so forcibly with the general tameness, as to bring into undue relief a part worthless in itself and quite out of harmony with the prevailing tone of its surroundings.

We merely echo the general verdict, when we say that the piece was badly chosen, and the actors badly chosen for their parts in it. It was only the fine acting of the two leading players, Mr. Griffin and Miss Castor, that saved it from proving a disastrous failure. The lady did the daughter in the second act better than she did the mother in the first act. Pathos is not her line, as was evident from her comparatively unimpressive delivery of the fine Andromache-like burst where she tries to touch her husband's heart by reminding him of all she had sacrificed for him, of the ties of home and kindred which she had given up for his sake. Only one exception can be taken to Mr. Griffin's reading of *Reuben Goldshched*, and that is that he did not quite attain the high standard of excellence which his many conspicuous triumphs have led us, rather unreasonably indeed, to expect on all occasions from him.

As we have had to speak unfavourably of the Comedy, we would gladly balance this page of our critical ledger by speaking favourably of the Farce which followed. But this we cannot honestly do. Had the former been done full justice to, the overflow of our admiration would probably have swam the minor piece; after a full meal of enjoyment we should not have been too nice about the *dessert*. If good in itself, and well put on, so much the better; if not, we should have been resigned, and said, with the philosopher, "Vixi" for the day. As it was, "Cool as a cucumber" had to form the chief staple of the evening's enjoyment, and it proved hardly more satisfying to the mental appetite than a cucumber salad would to the stomach of a hungry man who had found his joint too tough to dine off. The piece is intrinsically poor, its sole *raison d'etre* having been, indeed, to show off Charles Mathews in his favourite line of comedy. The actor who undertakes the leading character, must expect to be confronted at the outset with the crushing criticism that Mr. *Plumper* was one of Charles Mathews' best parts. There is no getting over this, and the unhappy *tyro* must bear the severity of the comment with all the equanimity he can muster. For ourselves, never having seen Mathews in the part, we took Mr. Hawk's version of it on its own merits, and we are happy to say that he fully justified the high expectations raised by his remarkable success as *Goldworthy* in "Kind to a dramatic season opened. The great end of a farce, after all, is amusement, and so long as Mr. Hawk was on the stage he kept his audience in roars of laughter. The only weak point we could detect was a certain awkwardness in stage business, which experience may be trusted to remove. It is perhaps hardly fair to criticise the minor actors in a *pièce de genre* of this sort, in which they are introduced simply to serve as foils to the chief one. None of them rose above mediocrity. Mr. Tintinnabulum's gestures were certainly comical, the most amusing being an upward and downward motion of the arms half extended—a gesture meant to convey the notion of intense rage, but which rather suggested to our minds the preliminary course of brachial gymnastics, which Icarus and the late Mr. de Groof may be supposed to have gone through, when first they essayed the noble art of flying. This gentleman, however, possesses undeniable dramatic talent, and will show to more advantage when a better opportunity presents itself. Mr. Montressor's impersonation of *Frederick Barkins* is one of those things which we do not profess to understand. It is possible that he had some intelligent conception of the character himself, but he failed to provide the audience with any clew to it. Mr. Montressor acted so creditably in the "Heir at Law," the other day, that we are surprised at his making such a poor hand of the very simple part of *Frederick Barkins*. Miss Edmunds looked prepossessing, and she was very funny as *Jennie Honiton*, but she must learn to talk louder. Her gait and carriage are perfection—in a farce.

If we have been a little hard in our comments on these theatricals, it is because we know the A. D. C. can and will do much better things. The three previous performances this year were as good probably as any ever seen on these boards. With equally good intentions, and practically the same actors, the fourth night turns out a comparative failure. There is doubtless an element of luck and chance in theatrical undertakings, as there is in all sublunary things. For our own part, we do not pretend to explain the *why* of the things which went wrong on this occasion, but we have thought it incumbent on us to point out the things themselves; and our sole object, we need hardly say, is the welfare of the Dramatic Society. We attach as little authoritativeness to our remarks as any of our readers possibly can do, but honest criticism, no matter how imperfect, may always hope to be of some service.

An excellent band of musicians, both stringed and wind, occupied the Orchestra, and enlivened the intervals between the pieces by their playing.

Miscellaneous.

FIRE IN THE MALOO.

A destructive fire broke out in a Chinese medicine shop in the Maloo about 8.15 on Saturday evening, and spread with alarming rapidity to the houses on either hand. It was first perceived by a foreign constable, breaking through an upper window of the medicine shop, and he hastened to give alarm at the Louza Police Station. Almost simultaneously, the alarm was given at the Central Station, and telegraphed to Hongkew, while the alarm-bells were set in motion, and in a few minutes the various fire brigades, the Hook and Ladder Company, a strong body of police, and detachments of seamen and marines from the various ships of war in harbour, were hurrying to the scene of disaster. Inspector Wilson was first on the spot, and endeavoured with an extincteur to put out the flames, but after to descend owing to the intense heat. In less than a quarter of an hour after discovery, the flames had complete mastery of the house, and had caught those on each side. The several engines and hose reels were posted in the most advantageous positions for action, the water-well at the corner of Maloo and Shanse road being first started with. There were, however, owing to neap tides, only about three feet or four of water in it, and these were soon exhausted, having had no perceptible effect on the fire, which now began to work backwards among the dense mass of Chinese dwellings lying between the Maloo and Kiukiang road. The six wells at the junction of Ningpo and Shanse roads were also brought into use as speedily as possible, but their distance from the fire rendered it necessary to pass the water from one engine to another before the flames could be reached, and three engines were occupied in performing this operation, some time being lost before the stream could be brought to bear. Water was also obtained from the well at the corner of Hankow and Shantung roads, and other places, but we are informed that the whole supply was inadequate to check the flames, house after house catching fire, until sixteen were ablaze at one time, and burning like matchwood. Fortunately, there was little or no wind, or the consequences would have been still more disastrous. The heat was so intense, that the houses on the opposite side of the Maloo began to show signs of ignition, and the occupants were seen at their upper windows pouring water from basins and buckets on the smoking wood-work of which the houses are built. In one place, flames actually burst out, and, but for the speedy turning-on of a hose, would have led to a second conflagration. Property and shop-goods of all kinds were thrown into the roadway, only to be trampled to pieces, soaked with water and oil, or stolen. In fact, the scene for hundreds of yards was one of perfect wreck.

It at length became apparent that the efforts of the firemen were useless to stop the progress of the flames, and preparations were accordingly made for demolishing the houses adjoining those to which the fire had now extended. Hooks, grapples, and axes were soon engaged in the necessary work of destruction; but it was not until three houses were destroyed that the flames could be stayed. That object having been accomplished, the engines continued playing on the burning rubbish until all chance of further out-break was at an end. The fire was conquered at as nearly as possible 10.45, but the last of the engines did not retire until past two a.m., a strong body of firemen and police remaining some hours longer, in case of further emergency, and coolies were employed pouring water on the smouldering ruins until late on Sunday forenoon.

The next premises to the medicine shop in which the fire broke out, were used as a general store, and in this, it was said, was kept a large quantity of oil contained in the usual paper-lined baskets, which would account for the fierceness of the flames and their rapid spreading.

There are two theories as to the origin of the disaster,—one, that a man in the employ of the medicine dealer, who was in bed, sick, in trying to light a pipe, set fire to the bed-curtains; the other, that another man was occupied in boiling medicine in a pot on a small Chinese stove, the heat from which set a partition close at hand on fire. It is impossible to give an idea of the value of the property destroyed, damaged, and stolen, but it must have been very great, for the Police Stations were full of native thieves awaiting an interview with the authorities at the Mixed Court next morning, and we regret to add that there are one or two foreigners also implicated, one of them being a man-of-war's man. How many pilferers were undetected cannot be known. So disastrous a fire has not occurred in the Maloo for upwards of ten years, and a view of the ruins creates a feeling of surprise that the flames did not burn their way through into the Kiukiang road.

FIRE IN FOHKIEN AND TAEWAN ROADS.

About half-past eight on Tuesday evening, the Settlement was again aroused by an alarm of fire, and in a few minutes an intense glare in the sky showed the locality to be among the mass of Chinese houses at the upper end of the Fohkien road close to the Taewan and Tientsin roads. As in the fire in the Maloo on Saturday night, the flames fanned by a light breeze spread with awful rapidity, house after house falling a prey to them before the fire-brigades could reach the spot. The scene presented in less than twenty minutes almost defies description. The

heat was so intense that it was only at great risk the firemen could pass along the thoroughfare to station their engines. Before water could be brought into effective use, one large block of houses was entirely consumed, and the flames had reached across the road and set fire to another block, which at ten o'clock was burning fiercely. At another part of the Fohkien road the opposite houses also caught, and for some minutes blazed with such fierceness as threatened them too with destruction; but fortunately the fire on the other side having burnt itself out, the flames at this point were put out with extincteurs. The fire, however, rolled along the second block with such speed as to mock the efforts to extinguish it, house following house again with a rapidity that imagination would almost fail to conceive. The scene throughout the district was heartrending, hundreds of the poor burnt out people, men, women, and children, were running to and fro in the adjacent narrow thoroughfares, in a bewildered manner, and endeavouring to save their property, which was thrown from the windows until it lay in heaps in the streets. The fire brigades generally worked with a will, and were energetically assisted by a strong detachment of marines and seamen from H.M.S. *Midge;* but it was not until an enormous length of hose had been run out, and led to a large pond in the rear of the Racket Court, and to the Soochow Creek, that an adequate supply of water was obtained; but by this time the fire had got complete mastery of the second block, rendering it necessary to pull down about a score of dwellings in the effort to stop its further progress. We learn that the fire broke out in a general store, close to a medicine shop, and that a man employed in the former went up stairs to smoke his pipe, and incautiously throwing a lighted piece of paper on the matting of the floor, on which some straw was strewed, set fire to the premises. These, being of wood, were soon ablaze, and communicating with the next, an ordinary Chinese dwelling, occupied as a *samshu* shop, led to the rapid spread of the flames. Altogether no fewer than 116 houses were destroyed,—97 burnt, and 19 pulled down to prevent the spread of the fire. The value of the property lost cannot be ascertained, as among the business premises that suffered was a noted pawnshop, in which were stored a large quantity of goods of all descriptions, besides other depositories of valuable property.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE P. AND O. STEAMER "GWALIOR."

By Hongkong papers received on the 2nd instant, we are placed in possession of full particulars of the accident which befell the Mail steamer *Gwalior*. The *Mail* says:—It appears that the *Gwalior* had got within half a day's steaming of Hongkong when, on the 16th, one of her cylinder covers either blew off or got fractured, and so rendered the engine useless. A valve in the ship's bottom (most probably one connected with the condenser) was unfortunately open at the time of the accident; and this very nearly brought about a catastrophe compared with which the present mishap is a comparatively insignificant delay. As the water rushed in like a sluice, and all efforts to keep it back seemed unavailing, the boats were launched and preparations made for abandoning the vessel, there being at one time as much as 18 feet (?) of water in the engine-room. This fact appears fortunately to have been the means of saving the ship, as the body of water thus taken on board, pressing outwards, by its own weight seems to have very opportunely closed the valve and stopped the leak. On the discovery of this lucky circumstance, hope revived, and everything was done for which English officers under similar circumstances are noted. All the side valves having been seen to and thoroughly secured, and that which had been so providentially shut having been made as water-tight as handy means would allow, the attention of crew and passengers was immediately turned to the pumps, and soon the ship being clear, all idea of abandonment or immediate danger was happily given up. Every attempt was then made to reach Hongkong under sail, but, as might be expected at this season, the *Gwalior* was drifted by the current in a westerly direction until, after three days' unavailing effort, she was discovered to be dangerously near the Coast of Hainan. To prevent probable disaster, she was anchored (on the 19th,) and the long-boat was sent to obtain assistance. Our advices from Macao state that the boat was altogether five days on her adventurous cruise. Be this as it may, the Chinese Coast pirates made an attack upon the almost defenceless boat's crew, and well-nigh frustrated their errand of distress. Against two well-equipped piratical craft, the boat's crew could merely beg to be allowed to proceed; which, after having been stripped of nearly everything of value, they were permitted to do. In this dejected condition they arrived in Macao, and reported the double plight—of their disabled vessel and their own misfortunes. With commendable promptitude, steps were at once taken by the agents and the Governor of Macao; and while the steamer *Poyang* was at once despatched to Hongkong with the intelligence, the Portuguese war-vessel *Tejo* was promptly sent out to lend what assistance she could to the crippled vessel. The Hainan Coast is not a particularly enviable place for any disabled vessel, even though she be a well-manned and ably commanded P. & O. steamer; and it is an additional assurance for the safety of all concerned that the friendly action of the Macao authorities took the form of sending a war-steamer. H. M. S. *Hornet* has also been despatched to the scene of the breakdown.

The *Hongkong Times*, says—Besides the boat's crew that came from the *Gwalior* there were six passengers, three Greeks and three Austrians, who volunteered to come up with the second officer, Mr. Seymour. Too much praise cannot be given to these men, and we think that something should be done for them as they were robbed of all they possessed by the pirates.

THE ATTACK ON COLONEL BROWNE'S EXPEDITION.

The following account of the murder of Mr. Margary and the attack on the expedition has been furnished to the London *Times*, and has been [illegible] our disposal by a member of the party:—

On the 6th of February, 1875, we took up our quarters at Tse-kaw, a village situated on the left bank of the River Ta-pêng. It consists of one long street,—the Eastern half of which is inhabited by Chinese, and the other half by the Burmese, and surrounded by a bamboo palisade as a protection againg Kakhyengs and tigers, both of whom occasionally prove unpleasant neighbours. Our party, which was composed at this time of Colonel Browne, Dr. Anderson, Messrs. Fforde, Allen and Margary, 2 Chinese writers, 15 Sikhs and servants of all descriptions, was lodged outside the town in a kyoung or priest's house, which was nothing more than a two-roomed frame building with mat walls and a bamboo floor raised on piles to a height of some six feet above the ground. A subordinate officer sent by the Woon of Bhamo, and entitled Tsa-re-dawgyee, was supposed to protect us with the body of 150 men under his orders. Most of these soldiers were only raw peasants called in from the neighbourhood without the least experience in warfare, and armed with weapons varying from the *dah* or cutlass, which every one in these regions carries, to the matchlock, or flint fowling piece by Manton & Co., gunmakers to the King. From the 6th to the 15th, the Colonel was occupied in receiving a succession of Tsawbwas and Pawmines, (chiefs and sub-chiefs or village head men,) who came to make arrangements for our transport, and to receive the customary presents which they exact from all who pass through their hills. Some of these gentry were the most repulsive specimens of human nature that it has ever been our lot to behold. Their persons and their clothes were filthy beyond description. One individual in particular, the Tsawbwa of Ponline, was a man whose appearance it is not easy to forget. He had very small eyes, even for a Mongolian, an enormous mouth stained with the inevitable betel nut, and a nose with no bridge whatever to it. His beauty was further improved by his wearing a ragged Chinese cap with a brass button, such as is worn by a lictor in a mandarin's Yamen, or by a public executioner in China.

On the 15th we were told that all arrangements had at length been concluded. The mules—so many from each Kakhyeng village—to carry our luggage, had been collected; the hostages, who were the Ponline Tsawbwa and his son, the son of the Tsarai Tsawbwa and the son of the Ponsee Pawmine, were taken charge of by Burmese officials at Tsekaw, and so we finished our final packing and prepared to start at daylight on the following morning. No Burman can, however, be trusted to be punctual, nor is it easy to satisfy the grasping demands of their wild neighbours; thus, though the European portion of our party was ready at the appointed time, we found that there was plenty to be done before we could hope to get off. From six a.m. to 4 p.m. the Tsa-re-dawyee was coming to Colonel Browne at intervals of a few minutes, to say how that this Tsawbwa wanted to be paid all his mule hire in advance, and then that this Pawmine was discontented about something else; but at the last mentioned hour we actually did get under weigh, although we only accomplished a short march of four miles that afternoon. Our road lay across a fertile rice-bearing plain, which slopes imperceptibly from the banks of the Ta Peng to the Man Wung Lake, a broad but shallow sheet of water surrounded by reeds and jungle, in which wild fowl and barking deer are found in considerable numbers. The fields are covered by a regular carpet of pretty but tasteless wild strawberries. We halted for the night in a zyat or guest-house in the village of Sehit, a picturesque spot at the very foot of the Kakhyeng [illegible] hardly be termed a road, ran at first up the side of a steep range covered with a tolerably dense tree jungle. We passed through Ponline, and after fifteen miles of very rough travelling reached the fourth of the guard houses which the Burmese Government have established along the road. Here the first report of trouble reached us. Travellers coming from Momein stated that a force of 400 Chinese was about to dispute our passage near Manwyne. The Tsa-re-daw-gyee now declared that it was positively necessary to send on scouts to ascertain what truth there was in this report, and the arrangement arrived at was that we should march on the morrow to the next guard house, and that Margary, having been over the ground before, should go on to Manwyne with a few men if the road was clear, but that if it was not, he was to return at once and tell us. On the 18th a march of 3 miles took us to the fifth guard-house, in a lovely valley, through which

the Nanpêng, a clear mountain stream, runs, dividing China from Burmah at this point. News was brought to us here that two of our hostages, the son of the Tsarai Tsawbwa and the son of the Pontsee Pawmine had made their escape. This was confirmed the next day, and as the Ponsee Pawmine himself was with us, it was decided that he was to become hostage in the place of his son, to which he had to consent, and he was at once sent back to Tsekaw. The following morning Margary started accompanied by his Chinese attendants, namely his writer—who was a polite and pleasant Christian Chinaman, much liked by us all and nicknamed 'Goggles' on account of his huge spectacles—a boy, an official messenger, a cook and groom. A Kakhyeng, the Pawmine of Tshan-poon, with a few men, was the guide of the party. No apprehension whatever was felt by any of us for their safety. We all supposed that if any armed Chinese had collected it was for the purpose of protecting us, not of attacking us, and no one was surer of this than Margary himself, who went off, declaring that he would occupy his spare time at Manwyne in writing up his journal, and asking us whether he had not better go on to Momein if we were more than a month in overtaking him. That evening we received a note from him written from Tsarai, to say that the road was perfectly clear, and that the Kakhyens were laughing at the timidity and caution of our friend the Tsa-re-dawg-yee. He further mentioned that he was going to press on to Manwyne that evening.

We had the usual difficulty in getting our mules started on the 20th, but by twelve o'clock that day we were off, and accomplished a march of about eight miles. The path was terribly steep, and was up hill nearly the whole of the way. We encamped that evening in the open on a plateau on the West side of the Pontsee Hill, at a height of some 5,500 feet above the sea. As this plateau was the scene of our fight with the Chinese, a short description of it will be necessary. The part on which we encamped was nearly circular in shape, and about 100 yards in diameter. To the North of us was a spur of the hill, at the foot of which lay the road to Tsarai, and to the North West a wooded knoll. To the East of us was the Pontsee Hill, forming a sharp ridge some 500 feet above us, along the top of which a road to Pontsee ran. On the West the ground sloped away abruptly down to the Nanpêng valley; on the South of us was a mountain brook, on the other side of which the road by which we came spread out into a small plateau, which was bounded by another spur of the hill covered with thick jungle. At the point where the path ascended this spur, the road ran between two high banks, the mouth of this little defile being some 200 yards from our camp. That evening more rumours reached us of the Chinese attacking force increasing with each successive report. Still we passed an undisturbed night, and prepared to resume our march on the 21st. Finding it hopeless to persuade the Burmans and Kakhyengs to start, Colonel Browne and the other Europeans attended by the Sikh guard set off first, leaving the luggage to be brought on in charge of the Burmese contingent. We arrived at Tsarai, eight miles off, without misadventure, and went to the Tsawbwa to consult him. This chief we found in his house, which was a curious wooden building some 200 feet in length, with a tiled roof. It consisted of one long passage running the whole length of the house, with a row of small rooms on the right hand side, and in the centre an open fire place. There was but little light, and everything in the house was filthily dirty and begrimed with the smoke, which made its escape as best it could through holes in the roof and through the doors, for there were no windows. The Tsawbwa informed us that Margary had passed safely through, and that the road to Manywne was open, and offered, if the Burmans would not take us, to guide us there himself, and further promised to carry a note to Margary from the Colonel that afternoon. Still his manner was very strange. He was a long time in appearing, gave many evasive answers to our questions, and from time to time held whispered conversations with other Kakhyengs who came in and out, though he was polite after his fashion, and gave us refreshment in the shape of eggs and sheroo, a not unpalatable liquor made of fermented rice. His behaviour finally determined Colonel Browne to return to our camp that afternoon and bring up our luggage the next day. Just before we started, the Tsawbwa told the Colonel that he must not be alarmed if he saw a large body of Chinese approaching, because they had nothing but friendly intentions towards us. That evening two men were observed on the top of the Pontsee Hill, watching us with much attention, which put our Burmese guard into a state of great excitement, but no one molested us further that night.

On the 22nd, at about 8 o'clock in the morning, a servant came in with a vague report that Margary and his servants had been murdered, and positive assertion that 3000 Chinese troops from Momein, in conjunction with the Tsarai and Pontsee clans were coming to attack us, and that they were close behind. In a few minutes we could see them passing along the crest of the hill above us. No time was lost in making preparations to defend ourselves. Some of the Burmans were placed as an outpost on the Northern spur, a few on the road to Tsarai, and some more on the wooded knoll to the N.W. where the Tsa-re-dawgyee stayed. The main body was posted to defend the Tsekaw road, and a little lower down our Sikhs were stationed behind a line of rock which formed an excellent breast-work. By the time we were in position, the enemy began the attack. Their men filled the jungle on the southern spur, and many of them came rushing out of the narrow road on to the open space in front, yelling and waving spears and tridents, and shouting to the Burmans that they did not want to fight them, but only to kill the foreign devils The steady fire of our Sikhs soon made this amusement too exciting for them, and they dodged behind trees and stones, only venturing from time to time to raise their heads or brandish their weapons, any such exhibition being promptly followed by a shot from our side. Even this was too much for them, and after about an hour of this work, a regular stampede of them ensued. They all rushed to escape by the narrow road, and as they were getting away the Sikhs gave them a volley with great effect, and we could see that many were wounded, and that one corpse was left behind on the path. Burmans led by the Khyoung Oke, a Burman Shan village headman, ran out to secure the head, which they cut off with their *dahs* and brought into camp. Having performed a most extraordinary war dance round it, they hung it on a tree, the Khyoung Oke shouting out to the Chinese to come on, and share their comrade's fate, "for the Burmans here," cried he, "are none of your ordinary fellows, but servants of His Majesty the King of Burmah." All this time the Chinese were firing on us from the jungle; luckily neither their aim nor their arms were very good, and they did little execution. A Burman wounded in the neck, and an Indian servant who was grazed by a bullet which afterwards lodged in the leather of the cook's shoe, were the only two on our side who were hit. After a while we could see a considerable reinforcement of the enemy arrive, but none of them would venture very close to us, after their experience in the morning. While the fight was going on, the Tsawbwa of Won Kaw came up and significantly informed Colonel Browne that the Tsawbwa of Tsarai had promised him 500 rupees if he would join him and the Chinese. Colonel Browne at once offered him 10,000 rupees, if he would aid us and convey our baggage safely to Tsekaw. It took some time to make this barbarian understand what ten thousand rupees meant, but when it was explained to him that it was ten baskets of silver he promptly closed with the offer. He set his men to work to burn the jungle, and as the wind was favourable and the long grass as dry as tinder there was soon a magnificent blaze, and the Chinese then retreated as fast as they could, completely routed. As they went along the top of the hill we got plenty of shots at them with the 800 yards sight up, and notwithstanding the distance one or two of them were seen to fall. At four o'clock all firing, even from the guard stationed on the northern spur, died away; the mules were brought up from the lower part of the hill where they had been placed during the fight, and loaded faster than they had ever been before, and in half an hour we all started in good order, our trusty Sikhs bringing up the rear guard. As a parting insult to the enemy, the Khyoung Oke and one or two more of the Burmese officers executed a second war dance, and solemnly challenged their foes to come on from each point of the compass. We must say a good word here in behalf of our Burman allies. Notwithstanding their inferior weapons they stood by us and fired steadily and pluckily. The Tsa-re-daw-gyee himself fired one shot into the jungle, where it was impossible to see anything, but he stoutly asserted that he had hit a man in the arm. On reaching the village of Tse-te, some three miles from our camp, the Burmans proposed to stay there for the night, but the Colonel would not listen to the proposal for an instant, as the place was utterly undefended, and surrounded by jungle coming up to the very doors of the houses, so that the Chinese would be enabled to creep up close to us, and pick us off deliberately. We therefore chose a few mules to carry our beds and a few provisions, and continued our march back to Nan Peng, which we reached at ten o'clock that night, having left the Wong Kaw Tsawbwa to earn his ten thousand rupees by bringing on the luggage as best he could. The following morning he brought us word that the Chinese were following us up in force, and that we must leave everything behind us, if we hoped to outmarch them. He further brought a letter from the Burmese Resident at Manwyne to the Tsa-re-daw-gyee, to inform him of the opposition of the Chinese, and of the massacre of Margary and his servants in cold blood by them, and to advise him to throw the Europeans over and look to his own safety. We had to be off, and never expecting to see an article of baggage again, we set our faces for Tsekaw, 22 miles off. The road by which we travelled was not the one by which we had come, but one that passed through the village of Won Kaw, and joined the main road again at the third guard house. We met with no opposition or trouble, and slept that night in comparative safety at Tsekaw. Contrary to our expectations, our luggage was not seized by the Chinese, but was brought down to us in two instalments. The Kakhyengs, however, managed to pilfer a good deal. The uniforms of Colonel Browne and Dr. Anderson were both stolen, and now probably decorate some filthy savage chief, or are hung up in his house as an ornament. We remained two days and a half in Tsekaw, waiting, in much discomfort, for our beds, and clothes, and other appliances of civilization. We noticed there that the Chinese of the village, who had previously been on very familiar terms with us, now avoided us like a pestilence, never shewing themselve near the Kyoung in which

we lived, if they could help it. From Tsekaw we went back to Bhamo, to which place steamers run from Lower Burmah, and so we are supposed to be once more in a settled and civilized town.

Since leaving the Kakhyeng hills we have by degrees received what we may fairly suppose to be an authentic account of what took place on the other side. From these it appears that a force of 3,000 men was sent from Momein and the districts thereabouts, of which a portion, under the command of a mandarin named Fung, was to oppose us on the Sawuddy route, and another portion under Li Ssū, a Hsieh Tai, or officer of the second military rank, if we came by the Mainsee road. Orders were issued that the whole of our party, English, Indian, Burmese, and Chinese, were to be killed. It is said that these orders were issued by the Sub-Prefect of Momein, but as this officer is anything but a mandarin of high rank, we must infer that he was acting under a pressure either of his superiors or possibly of the populace. We sometimes see in China a man of influence in a district putting himself apparently above the reach of the law, and all the officials about him not venturing to move hand or foot to interfere. There is not the least doubt that the notorious Chen Kwo-jui was the instigator of the Tientsin massacre, and that Chung How himself, though Imperial Commissioner, was powerless or at least afraid to stop him. Again, only last year, the Vice-President of one of the Six Boards came down to Nankin and other places in the Kiangsu province, and ordered a number of persons to be executed in defiance of the wishes of the Provincial authorities. So in this case it may well be that some official, full of a rabid hatred against foreigners, has taken it on himself to disregard the Treaty, and the passports issued to the Mission by the Imperial Government itself, and to have attempted our destruction at all hazards. Margary arrived safely at Manwyne on the evening of the 19th of February, and took up his quarters in the khyong of that town, and spent the next day and most of the 21st in walking about, conversing with people, with whom he ing of the 21st, some of the Chinese offered to shew him some hot springs in the neighbourhood, and as he was in the act of mounting his pony to go with them, they struck him down from behind and despatched him with their swords and lances. They then massacred all his Chinese servants, with the exception of the cook, who is believed to have escaped, and afterwards removed the heads from the corpses and stuck them up on the walls of the town. Her Majesty's Consular Service loses a most valuable officer in Margary. He had been for some eight years in China, and was a very promising Chinese scholar. In the summer of 1871 he, together with Mr. Dodd, an English merchant of Formosa, obtained the Albert Medal, and the Medal of the Royal Humane Society, for his gallantry in swimming off and saving the crews of three ships, which were being driven out on the rocks of Kelung harbour during a typhoon. He had just successfully completed his journey overland from Shanghai to Burmah, having been the first European to do this feat since the time of Marco Polo. He appears to have been on the best of terms with all the officials and people along the route. The Governor-General of Yunnan and Kweichow deputed a civil and military mandarin to take charge of him to the frontier, the local officials received and lodged him hospitably, and even the coolies who carried his sedan chair volunteered to accompany him to Bhamo. Li Ssü, whom he met at Momein, behaved to him with great politeness, and Margary often expressed to us the pleasure that he would have in meeting him again. His loss will be much felt by all his brother officers and his many friends in China.

The fate of two others of our party is still a mystery. When we went to Tsarai on the 21st of February, we were accompanied by two Chinese. One was named Mong-yu. He claimed to be a British subject, and was employed as our interpreter, caterer and so on, as he spoke Chinese and Burmese. The other was a native of Shanghai, named Shih Yü-tien, hired by Mr. Allen as a writer. These two stayed behind at Tsarai, and from that time nothing more has been heard of them. A Burman brought back word that one Chinaman was murdered at Tsarai, and that the other escaped to Pontsee and was murdered there, which account is confirmed by one of the Yunnan merchants living at Bhamo, but no further particulars have reached us. Mong Yu was a relation of Li Ssü, and so it is just within the bounds of possibility that he has been able to get away and lie hid until the excitement has blown over. But we shall never hear the full details until the negotiations at Peking, which it may be inferred will be the next step, are completed.

The following documents are important evidence as to the origin of the attack :—

Translation of letters written by the King of Upper Burma's Cotton Agents at Manwaing to the Bhamo Tsare-dow-gyee.

First letter.—The Madai-de Won Customs Officer, Ne-myo-thee-rie-raza-kyaw-hteng, Seller of the Royal Cotton, Oo Oon, and other officials send greeting to the Bhamo Tsare-daw-gyee.

On the 15th Latshan Tabodwai 1236 (20th February 1875), the Englishman Margary arrived at Man-Wien, and on the 1st Labyee-gyaw (21st February 1875) the Chinese killed him, as also three Canton Chinamen and two others—altogether six of them.

As for ourselves, the Chinese officials suspect us, and we have great reason to be afraid.

Second letter.—From the same to the Mumyeing,—viz., Bhwa Tsheng-tsheng-Shoon, Tsheng-tsheng, and Lyo Tsheng-tsheng—have told us to write to you urgently to say that on the 3rd Labyee-gyaw of Tabodwai 1236 (23rd February 1875) you must not remain with the English Koolas whom you are escorting : you must either leave them and return, or you must stay in some place a mile or two miles from them. If you do not do so, and if in consequence thereof any of your men are wounded or killed, you must not blame the Chinese. As they have told us, so we write.

As soon as you receive this, write quickly to say whether you will remain or retreat. The Chinese said that if the Koolas follow you, you are not to receive them.

The attack will be made at night on the 3rd Labyee-gyaw Tobodwai 1236.

Above 3,000 and about 4,000 men are collecting and surrounding you. We think it will be wise for you to retreat.

Translation of a statement of Gna Hmaw, a Burman Scout who was sent with Mr. Margary to Man-wien—dated 5th Labyee-gyaw of Tabodwai 1236 (25th February, 1875.)

I was sent from the fifth guard-house, with Gna Lwon and the Laya Pawmaing Maran to see what was going on in Manwien. We arrived on the 14th Latshan (19th February) at the Tsarai Tsawbwa's house. We slept there, and the next day we went to Man-wien. On the 1st Labyee-gyaw Tabodwai (21st February), the Chinese officers killed Mr. Margary and five Chinese. The Chinese officers said to Gna Hpo Moung and Gna Oon—"You must send some one to tell the Burmans to separate from the Koolas;" and Gna Hpo Moung and Gna Oon accordingly gave me and Gna Lwon a letter to give to the Tsare-daw-gyee. We left Man-wein on the 2nd Labyee-gyaw (22nd February). At Tsarai we met Yoon-tseen-lweng and Yoon-tsheng-tsheng, and the latter asked me if I would tell the Burmans to separate from the Koolas. I said I would.

Some Kakhyengs of Tsarai and the Chinamen wanted to kill me, because they said I had come from Man-wien; but Yoon-tsheng-tsheng ordered me to go at once and tell the Burmans to separate from the Koolas, so I ran away.

On the road I met the Chinese officer, Shouk-goon, who said he was coming back from the fight between the Kakhyengs and Chinese and the English. I ran away, and came up with the Burmese force at Tsalee.

Translation from a statement of Nga Hmoon, a Burman of Bhamo, lately residing at Manwaing,—dated the 1st March, 1875.

I resided at Manwaing on business connected with the King's cotton. I think it was about the 11th Latshan (16th Feb.) that I first heard rumours of Chinamen being collected to go on the hills. On the 1st Labyee-gyaw (21st February), I saw Mr. Margary in Manwaing. I saw him several times. He was going about the town, sometimes accompanied by Chinamen, and sometimes alone. Two officials, Lyo Tsheng-tsheng and Shoon Tsheng-tsheng, came down from Momyeing. It was said they had a force of between 3,000 and 4,000 men. These men were not allowed inside the town, but we heard the noise made by them outside the town at night. On the evening of the 1st Labyee-gyaw, I heard that Mr. Margary and his men had all been killed. Mr. Margary was said to have been asked to go and see some hot springs, and when he got on his pony they knocked him off and killed him. His men were killed in the khyoung in which they were staying. The hpoon-gyee was very angry at this being done. It was done, not by any local Shans or Chinese, but by order of the men from Momyeing. One of Mr. Margary's men—a cook—is said to have escaped: they did not spare him, but I heard that he managed to escape. We Burmans were concealed by people of the place. On the 3rd Labyee-gyaw (23rd February), one of the Chinese officers said,—"These Burmans have joined the English, and have cut off the head of one of our officers. Many Chinamen and Kakhyengs have been killed by them, and they danced in front of the English when they opposed us. They ought to be killed."

The Shans advised us to fly, so I fled at night, and, going through the hills by by-paths, avoiding villages, I reached Bhamo on the 6th Labyee-gyaw (26th February). I believe about six Burmans have not escaped from Manwaing. Maung Oon, a Chinese official, to get on a pony and go towards Tsanda

I heard that the heads of Mr. Margary and the Chinamen who were killed were taken up to Momyeng after being exposed in the town.

Correspondence.

THE MURDER OF MR. MARGARY.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—The murder of Mr. Margary continues to engage the attention of British subjects in China, and in fact all Foreigners, as it is instinctively felt that the action to be taken by the English authorities, must affect, either for good or evil, every Foreign resident in China. Mr. Wade is now among us, and not isolated at Peking as he usually is.

It seems to me very important that the British Minister should be impressed with what his countrymen expect of him in the position in which he is now placed. If the unprovoked murder of Mr. Margary is unavenged, no man's life can be safe in this country, and, in case of a row, I would not give much for Mr. Wade's own life at Peking, unless our prestige is supported. It is the only protection we have, when out of gunshot of our men-of-war, and if we give up that we are poor indeed.

It is desirable under the circumstances to take a retrospective view of our experience with Chinese authorities. Without going back to the treacheries, poisonings, &c., of the first war in 1841, I would recall to mind that there are two cases nearly parallel to that of poor Margary—viz., the seizure, under a flag of truce, of Sir H. Parkes and his escort by order of *Sang-ko-lin-sin*, and the brutal torture and murder of all except Parkes and Loch. The authors of this outrage were never punished. The second was the Tientsin Massacre, where the French Consul went to the yamên of Chung How for protection and assistance. He was not murdered in the *yamên*, but outside, to save appearances, just as in Margary's case. Which of the mandarins were punished in that instance? None! A few coolies were beheaded for form's sake and their heads sewn on again.

This murder of Margary is a natural sequence to that cruel massacre. How can Mr. Wade expect the Chinese Government to punish their authorities for obeying their own orders? It would be absurd to expect them to do so.

If the murderers of Margary are to expiate their offence, *we* must punish them, by sending an armed force to the spot, where the murder was committed. Every feeling of honour and justice calls upon the English as a nation to punish the murderers; and if Mr. Wade allows himself to be cajoled by the Chinese authorities, he will have a heavy account to render to his country.

All eyes are now anxiously fixed, to see what he will do. Any armed interference must come from India, as it is impossible to reach them from this side. The fleet is too remote.

Redressing an outrage on the spot does not, and never did, involve a war with China. The local authorities should in all cases be held responsible, as it is according to Chinese law and custom.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A British Subject.

Shanghai, 29th April, 1875.

TORPEDOES AT TIENTSIN.

To the Editor of the
North-China Herald.

Sir,—Some time ago, I think about last diplomatic arrangement, which was in progression between General Raasloff, the Danish Envoy, and Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of this Province, to the effect that the former had agreed to procure for the latter from Denmark two torpedo engineer officers to instruct the Chinese officers of Li Hung-chang's Southern Legion, as the corps is commonly called, the way to make and fire torpedoes. My informant was a military man, and quite likely to know accurately about what he was stating; and as his information was shortly afterwards corroborated by the account of other Chinese people, I naturally placed full credence in the several reports of the different parties. I did not, however, at that time, consider it necessary to publicly mention them, as the subject had then no particular interest for my Government. The position of affairs having since then, however, undergone a great change, with your permission I beg to allude to the affair publicly, and more particularly as I have observed that your correspondent Puritan has never once noticed the business in any of his weekly letters to your paper.

On the 22nd March, the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Shantung* brought to this port two Danish torpedo engineer officers, and four large and twenty small torpedoes—the torpedoes being intended chiefly as musters to shew to the Viceroy and his military officers, and to explode before them to prove their destructiveness. And, on the 4th instant, the steamer *Leeyuen*, belonging to the Chinese Merchants' Company, brought to the Taku anchorage from Shanghai, the Danish explosive materials to load these torpedoes. The torpedoes shortly after being received here were sent down to Taku. The two Danish officers on their arrival, at once took up their quarters on board the Chinese gunboat *Chinhai*, which was then lying moored in this harbor, where they stayed for a week; during which time they saw His Excellency Li Hung-chang at his residence in the city; and visited besides the Government Foundry at the Temple known as the Treaty Temple. On the 29th March, the gunboat *Chinhai* left her anchorage at Tientsin for Taku and Peitang, the two Danish officers going in her for the purpose, I was told at the time, of immediately commencing their occupation of instructing the Chinese officers of the Southern Legion, who are stationed at the forts there, to load and fire torpedoes in the Taku and Peitang waters. On the 19th instant, the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Millêt*, used as a lighter on the river, conveyed from Tientsin, Captain Hoskioer of the Royal Danish Engineers, and some employés of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, together with a quantity of telegraph poles and other telegraph materials, to erect a telegraphic line between the Sin-ching, Taku and Peitang forts; so that the Chinese Government might, in time of war, be able to keep up a telegraphic communication between the Sin-ching forts, where the General-in-chief would be stationed, and the Taku and Peitang forts. Captain Hoskioer, during his stay of a week at Taku, likewise superintended, in the presence of a number of Chinese officers, the loading of some of the torpedoes. General Raasloff had been, we were also told, expected to have been present in company with the Viceroy, Li Hung-chang, but for some cause he did not put in an appearance.

Had there not lately arisen a difficulty between the Governments of Great Britain and China in consequence of the assassination of Mr. Margary, in a Chinese yamên, in the province of Yunnan, it is very probable that I should never have deemed it necessary to mention these torpedoe arrangements. As, however, a war may ere long unfortunately break out between Great Britain and China, through the Chinese Government failing to do justice in the Yunnan case; and as British gunboats, British officers and blue jackets may have to run the risk of being destroyed by these torpedoes being laid in the Taku and Peitang waters, it naturally becomes the duty of every Englishman who may be cognizant of the above mentioned facts, at this early period, to give them publicity; so that the attention of the Government (British) may be directed to the warlike measures which are being adopted by the Viceroy of Chihli at Taku and Peitang, that it may lose no time in taking steps on its side to meet events in case war should break out.

The Governments of America, France, Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, Denmark, &c., are very unlikely to go to war with China, at least for the present; so they are not particularly interested in this torpedo question; and as the Russian Government would go to war with China on the Mongolian side of the Empire, it also does not feel any danger arising in the establishing of these torpedo arrangements to make it apprehensive for the lives of Russian officers and seamen. The case, however, is quite different in regard to Great Britain, so it is important that her officials should be alive to these hostile measures on the side of Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Chihli.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A Home Volunteer.

Tientsin, 27th April.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, April 30th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

H. de Bony *v.* J. H. Hatfield.

This was a claim for $2.50, balance of account for harness work done in the early part of 1874. The total amount due was $9.50, but of this the defendant had paid two instalments, leaving the balance claimed.

Defendant said his sole reason for not paying was that some of the work was done on his account for another person, and that he could not charge that person his proportion, because the plaintiff would not make out an account showing the charge for each item of work done. In consequence of that refusal, he had not been able to send in his own account to the other person for the portion of work done for him.

Plaintiff denied that he was ever applied to for a detailed account, and said it was not his custom to detail every item in such a small matter.

Defendant, in reply to his Honour, said he had told defendant's shroff to tell the plaintiff to send in a detailed account and he would pay the balance.

His Honour said it was useless telling a shroff anything of the kind. They were simply sent to collect money. Defendant should have asked the plaintiff personally for a detailed account.

Defendant replied that he had done so, but could not get one.

Plaintiff said he had applied twenty times for payment, and defendant must have been satisfied with the charges. On Saturday last he wrote and told him if the balance were not paid he should summon him on Monday, but defendant took no notice.

Defendant admitted receiving the letter, but on the following day plaintiff's shroff came and he again told him to tell his master to make out a proper account.

His Honour said whether it was or was not the fact as plaintiff said, that he had not been applied to by the defendant for a bill of items, it was admitted the latter did not apply for one when he received the letter announcing plaintiff's intention to proceed against him. His Honour was sorry that the costs in the case should exceed the amount of the claim, the claim being admitted; but defendant should have communicated with plaintiff, either persually or by letter, on Saturday, giving his reason for not paying. If his business was hampered through not getting such a bill as he wanted, that was all the more reason why he should have applied personally for one. The objection that the bill was not made out item by item was not a proper communication to make to a shroff who understands only two things—payment and non-payment. Defendant must pay the amount sued for, $2.50, and $3 costs.

The money was at once paid.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 30th April.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. *v.* James Campbell.

Defendant is an able seaman, belonging to the British ship *Storm King*, and was brought up on three charges, first, of drunkenness and breaking a water jug, part of a toilet set, in the shop of Ching-chong, Hongkew; the second, of being absent from his ship without leave; and the third, the more serious one of

stealing from the above named ship 115-lbs. of old canvas and 135-lbs. of old rope, value £1.15, the property of H. C. Kean, the master.

Mr. Stripling said the prisoner was arrested on the first charge, at the shop of the complainant, when the stolen property was found in his possession. The captain had since seen and identified it.

Prisoner, on being asked if he broke the jug, said he supposed he did, as he heard something break in the shop, but he did not do it wilfully. He was drunk at the time.

Sergeant Skinner deposed that the value of the jug was $2, and it was part of a toilet set worth $6. The Chinaman had, however, said he would be content with $2.

His Worship asked the Chinaman if that amount would satisfy him, and on his saying it would, ordered the prisoner to pay it.

The Captain paid the money for him.

The charge of theft was next proceeded with, the prisoner saying he was guilty, and having no excuse to offer, except that he was intoxicated on Wednesday night, when it happened.

The Captain deposed that the property was stolen during Wednesday night, and the prisoner must have left the ship with it in his possession. He was not on board to turn to with the rest of the men at 6 o'clock or Thursday morning, and he (the Captain) came on shore to optain a warrant for his apprehension for being absent without leave, when he found the prisoner had been arrested in the meantime on the first charge. Prisoner was on board, sober, at 7.30 on Wednesday night, the ship being in the stream.

Sergeant Skinner said it was 8.45 on Thursday morning when he apprehended the prisoner in Ching-chong's shop. There were two coolies outside with the canvas and rope, and on being asked as to its possession, prisoner said he was the boatswain of the *Storm King*, that it was his property, and that the Captain had given it him.

His Worship said the prisoner had told a different story to the Sergeant to what he now said. The Captain had said he was on board sober at 7.30 on Wednesday evening, at what time did he go ashore?

Prisoner said he was not perfectly sober at that time, and went ashore about 8 o'clock. He hoped the offence would be overlooked this time, for if it had not been for the drink he would not have committed it.

His Worship asked the Captain if he wished the charge of being absent without leave gone into?

The Captain replied that he wished the prisoner to be punished for it, or he would not have a man left on board to do the work of the ship. They must not be allowed to come and go just when they pleased. The prisoner had been on board two months, and was a very good man generally.

His Worship asked the prisoner how he obtained the drink on board on the Wednesday night?

Prisoner replied that he got it from a boat that was passing by. In reply to another question, he said he spent the remainder of Wednesday night on the landing stage, and when he came on shore he brought the canvas and rope with him.

The Captain said he would like to know what the prisoner gave the boatman for the liquor.

Prisoner said he gave a pair of shoes for it.

His Worship said he must endeavour to prevent anything of this kind happening again. Pilfering from ships could not be allowed, and prisoner must be made an example of. Such conduct as he had been guilty of could not be permitted to pass unpunished. There was another charge against the prisoner, of being absent without leave, but his Worship would not take that separately, but would deal with it in connection with the charge of theft. Prisoner must go to gaol for four weeks, with hard labour, and if the ship sailed before the expiration of that time, he would be put on board.

May 3rd.

R. *v.* William Stevens, A.B. of the steamer *Ocean*.

Theft.

Defendant was charged with stealing five pieces of fur, one pair Chinese stockings, and a pewter ornament, from the fire in the Nanking Road, on Saturday evening last.

Prisoner denied the charge.

Sergeant Skinner, sworn, deposed—On Saturday night there was a fire in the Nanking Road. At 9.45 I saw the accused in a back room of a house, No. 673. He had a pewter ornament [produced] in his hand. I asked him what he was doing. At first he said "nothing;" then he said that he was there with a man-of-war's man assisting to pull the house down. I asked him what he had in his coat pocket, which was projecting. He made no answer. I took one of the pieces of fur [produced] out. I took him into the street and then searched him. I found four more pieces of fur inside the waistband of his trousers. He then lifted his cap and the stockings, fell to the ground. I picked them up. He said, "You are not going to lock me up for this are you." I said assuredly I was; as he had stolen them from the fire. He then muttered something about having "no intention of stealing." I said that it appeared so, as he had the articles concealed about his person. I then got the assistance of another Sergeant and took him to the Station.

Prisoner said that he was assisting to pull down the house. He had the fur in his pocket and not in his trousers, as the officer stated. With regard to the stockings, he could only account for them by saying that the man-of-war's men were throwing clothes and things, about in all directions, and he thought that it must have been them that knocked his cap off.

Sergeant Skinner reiterated his statement, and was quite sure that the stockings were in prisoner's cap, and that it was in the street that he lifted his cap and let the stockings fall out of it to the ground. There were no man-of-war's men within some distance. One piece of fur was in his right hand pocket, the rest inside the waistband of his trousers.

Heng Peng Foong, a tailor, testified that the furs belonged to him, and identified the pieces by the chop upon them. The value of the five pieces would be $1.

Prisoner said he was struck in the face with the pieces of fur, while he was pulling a rope with the other men, and it was some time before the Sergeant arrested him. It was some time after this that he went into the house. It was merely thoughtlessness on his part that he put the fur into his pocket. He had no intention of stealing. He had been paid off from the str. *Ocean*.

Mr. Stripling said that, on Saturday evening he had reason to believe that a great deal of looting was going on. It was a matter of great difficulty to keep civilians away. The men-of-war's men were supposed to be under the control of their officers, and not to be allowed to straggle about as they did on Saturday.

Sergeant Bird, stated—I was on duty on the night of the fire. I saw the accused there. I and Sergeant Skinner searched him in the street. Prisoner lifted his cap and the stockings fell to the ground, and I picked them up. I called out to the Sergeant. He and I then searched prisoner, and found four pieces of fur tied under his jacket and inside the trousers.

His Worship said that from the first he had no doubt of the prisoner's guilt. He had given him the opportunity of calling the witness, but as all the circumstances were against the prisoner's statement, he would deal with him severely. His language on the point, too, proved that he knew that he was acting unlawfully. He must undergo four weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 6th May.

Before the Chinese Magistrate Chen and Dr. Yates, U. S. Assessor.

Pilfering at the Fire.

There was a considerable amount of pilfering detected at the fire in the Fohkien road on Tuesday night, and this morning twelve of the thieves were brought up by the police for examination. They had all been taken in the act of robbery or in possession of the stolen property, which consisted for the most part of wearing apparel, bedding and other household goods. Several of the accused were known thieves, and these were dealt with severely; indeed, Chen was very liberal with the bamboo on this occasion, the number of blows awarded ranging from 200 downwards, some of the old thieves being cangued as well.

Extracts.

THE SHANGHAI "DEFENCE TAX."

Translation of Leading Article in the "Shun-pao" of 1st May.

When the Haikwan Taotai of Tientsin endeavoured recently to revise the regulations pertaining to the collection of the native Custom House duties, merchants designated the proceeding as "an increase of duty." The fact is the old tariff was never altered, but at the same time the term applied to this move of the Taotai by the merchants, although nominally wrong, was *de facto* correct. Wherefore so? Because, where the collection of a tax has for a long period been suffered to remain in partial abeyance, any sudden attempt to rigorously re-establish an effete regulation, whereby the Government receipts in a locality are to be increased several fold, amounts to all intents and purposes to an increase of taxation. Hence it follows that such acts of the Government will invariably be viewed by merchants in this light; and officials must not be taken by surprise at such an interpretation being put on such procdedings, as also at the natural discontent arising therefrom.

Thus has it arisen in regard to the circular of instruction issued by the Taotai of Shanghai to the Canton merchants, in reference to the collection of the Defence Tax, of which we printed a copy in yesterday's issue. The establishment of rates and taxes is a matter resting with the Government; their collection falls to the duty of the various officials concerned, and the adoption of stringent and effective measures to carry into effect the regulations laid down is but the conscientious fulfilment by the official in question of the charge deputed to him. As regards the people, it also behoves them to obey Government orders, and, even where the collections fixed by the Crown are excessive, there is but one course open—*i.e.*, that of submitting with fortitude to the exactions required. In no case can open opposition be justified.

But, whereas the duty of collection rests with the officials, so also is the right to make known their grievances left to the people; and in this spirit we proceed to set forth in the name of the merchants the apparent injustice of the Defence tax.

The Defence tax was formerly inaugurated when the rebels were threatening Shanghai. After the rebels were overcome, the tax was not stopped, and in the whole of China nowhere does this import exist, but in the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai. One step over to the Chinese boundary and the tax no further exists. And is it, we would ask, just that we, the Chinese inhabitants of the Foreign Settlements, should be marked out for special legislation of so invidious a character? By reference to previous numbers of the *Shunpau*, it will be seen that this is not the first occasion on which we have animadverted on this subject. The taxes imposed on the residents of the Foreign Settlements are of a most multiform and oppressive character, and quite unprecedented in other parts of China. Firstly, the Land tax is double that of any native quarter. Lekin levies are collected as elsewhere, and to these are added Municipal taxes, are expended on the police and general administration of the Settlements, and Chinese officials are thus relieved of expenses relating thereto. Therefore, is it fair that the Settlements should be singled out further for this special impost, the Defence tax?

We would now go on to ask what is the meaning of the two characters 籌防? (*Chen-fang*—Defence.) The original signification we take to be protection of the Foreign Settlements. But when Shanghai was but recently likely to be threatened by the Japanese, what protectionary measures, we would venture to ask, were then adopted by the Shanghai officials? We will answer the query. From the time that the Formosan question was first mooted, up to the date when the Japanese agreed to withdraw their troops, Shanghai stood conspicuous as the only large port where no defensive steps were taken. Thus, Shanghai has been singled out to contribute yearly a Defence tax, and is further singled out to be left unprotected when an emergency arises. But this is not the only singular feature. Our former Taotai, after it was manifestly too late to act, devised the

scheme of purchasing from England the ironclad—*Iron Duke*; and how did he propose obtaining the enormous sum required? Why, he wished to collect it from the Shanghai people, who have been heretofore enjoying for years the solitary distinction of paying a contribution called the Defence tax, without knowing to what purpose it has been applied. Verily, the Shanghai Settlements appear to be looked upon as a bottomless source, whence Government requisites can be extracted without limit. And here we would bring forward a little episode which was enacting at Peking, and which throws a peculiar complexion on this demand from Shanghai for the funds to purchase an ironclad, as also on the exaction of the Defence tax. While the danger of collision with Japan was at its highest, the Foreign Ministers were, on behalf of the Tsung-li-yamên, negociating with the Japanese, with a view to place all the Treaty Ports under the category of Neutral Ports. This information we have recently obtained by the perusal of a printed copy of the English Minister, His Excellency Mr. Wade's, despatch to the English Foreign Office. Although the negociation was not concluded, there is reason to believe that, had war taken place, the arrangement would have been completed. Under all the circumstances here narrated, we would then again ask, is there any special ground for continuing to subject the Shanghai Settlement alone to this exceptional impost, the Defence tax? and if the money must be collected would it not be in better keeping to give up the misnomer and unreservedly ter'm it the "Foreign Settlement special impost'?

In the Taotai's circular of instruction, it is mentioned "that the falling off in the receipts of the Defence tax is not from the dullness of trade, but from the increase of smuggling and all sorts of evasions." But, as far as we remember, for the last ten years merchants have been in the habit of making use of the assistance of Foreign names to avoid the tax, and we are not aware that evasions and smuggling have specially increased of late. We would be disposed to impute the deficiency rather to the action of the tax runners and to the real falling off of the trade caused by the heavy burdens of the merchants. To this latter regrettable feature, we imagine, the notices "To Let," to be seen on house after house, all through the settlement, bear ample testimony. Ningpo, Chinkeang and such Ports are not subject to the same heavy exactions as Shanghai, and it is but a natural consequence that the Sugar, Chow-chow, and other trades should gradually be attracted thither, to the detriment of Shanghai. Shanghai is essentially a distributing mart. But if all goods arriving here, in addition to paying *Loh-ti-chuen* 落捐地 (arrival tax) have further to pay Defence tax, which is fixed at about half the Customs Import Duty, is it possible that when sent to other places they can compete with shipments from elsewhere? Really, the present action of the officials is tantamount to devising measures to kill the trade of Shanghai.

The circular of instruction further states certain ferries give a large and, exported by quantity returned is but trifling." This is no doubt the case, but it is only a repetition of what has steadily taken place from the commencement, and we feel thoroughly convinced that, had the condition of things been different, and Chinese merchants had conscientiously paid Defence tax on all their Imports and Exports, the trade of Shanghai would long since have been diverted elsewhere. Therefore, seeing that the tax has never been effectively collected, any vigorous action designed now to collect it in full is equivalent to an increase of taxation in the Shanghai Settlements. The measures taken to carry through the collection in full are in themselves sufficient to account for the present alarm existing amongst merchants; for it is reported that spies have been sent round to the different Hongs, who, while negociating a purchase, take the opportunity to pry into the account books and then lodge their information.

It is but a few months ago that a Censor memorialised the Throne on the necessity of reducing everywhere the Lekin dues. Since then, the people have been in high expectation of witnessing some remedial changes, but how have their expectations been fulfilled? An attempt has simply been made at Tientsin and Shanghai—two places—to take more stringent measures to carry into effect tax regulations, or in other words to increase the taxation; and this forsooth, it would seem, is what the people are to understand by decrease of taxation! We know not what the officials may think of such action, but would it not seem to amount to trifling with the affairs of the people?

It is but recently that a similar attempt at rigorously carrying out old regulations was attempted at Tientsin. The result was a complete stoppage of trade, and failure in carrying the scheme; and we cannot but think that our local officials, in endeavouring to repeat the trial, before even barely a month has elapsed, have, to say the least of it, not been happy in their choice of time for putting into force this new scheme.

THE FRENCH AND COCHIN CHINA.

China Mail.

The Court of Hué seems to be giving the French some trouble. Despite the silence observed regarding the progress of the negociations between the two parties regarding the ratification of the Treaty, and the date of opening the Tonquinese ports to foreign trade, there are, says the *Independant* of Saigon, certain rumours afloat regarding the difficulties encountered. It would appear that the S.S. *Antilope*, which left Saigon on the 4th March, with an agent of the French Government on board, was prohibited from approaching Hué, and was accordingly compelled to return to Saigon for instructions. On the 19th she again left for a fresh attempt. "Do we," says the journal above quoted, "need a fresh example to convince us of the duplicity of the Court of Hué? Is this new fact necessary to open our eyes to the inanity—uselessness—of the treaties concluded with people who take every means of violating them as soon as they are signed?" The answer to these questions is as straightforward as need be. If a Government like that of France is so silly as to make "treaties" with people who never yet, save under compulsion, kept faith in their lives, they must abide the consequences of their misplaced confidence. The plain fact is that, as between Europeans and Asiatics, the old-fashioned "treaty" has of late years been put to a new use. In its original acceptation it implied a certain amount of independent status on the part of both contracting powers. But now-a-days no sooner has the Asiatic been thrashed within an inch of his life than his conqueror concludes a "treaty" with him, and is virtuously indignant if the weaker party regards it as something to be got out of at the first convenient moment. Had the Saigon Government simply said to the King of Annam, "You will comply with these conditions as to certain matters under penalty of a fresh invasion," its conduct would have been intelligible. But to go through the form of a treaty with officials scarcely more elevated in morals or intelligence than the Papuans of [illegible] performing a farce. We are not guiltless ourselves in this matter. Nothing delights the British diplomatist more than, with the aid of troops, to knock his black or yellow brother down until he howls for mercy, and then to tell him that he is a "High Contracting Party," and that his "assent" to this, that and the other is needed before things can be made straight. And if the said brother is found relapsing into original "Topsydom," straightway a perfect chorus of indignation arises about "broken faith," "want of honourable feeling," &c. We are sick of these pretences which serve no purpose save to make the "No. 2 High Contracting Party" mistake his position. When Treaty shams cease to be, we shall have much less trouble. Substitute the word "agreement" for the misused term "Treaty," and if the weaker party breaks it, let him perfectly understand that he does so at his peril. We shall have less work for negociators, but not half as much trouble as to infractions of Article So-and-so. The French have as a rule been commendably straightforward in this respect, and it is new to find them adopting the rôle of treaty-makers with a government which cannot by the most sanguine be deemed likely to keep faith.

THE ENGLISH MAIL STR. "GWALIOR."

(Hongkong Times.)

Shortly after the arrival of the news on Sunday, the 25th, by the S.S. *Poyang* from Macao, the P. and O. S.S. *Bombay* was ordered to get ready and start at midnight to find the *Gwalior*. The weather was so thick at midnight that the steamer did not get under weigh until three o'clock. At one o'clock, H.M.S. *Hornet* left the harbour, and at half-past five was passed off Lintin Island. The *Bombay* had a head wind going round by St. John's Island, as the Captain of the *Gwalior* had said that if he could get the engines to work he would come that way, so Captain Davies, of the *Bombay*, thought it very possible that she might have got under weigh and he would meet her. The second officer of the *Gwalior*, the crew of the boat, and the Italians returned in the *Bombay*, the quartermaster being left at Macao, on board the Portuguese gun-boat *Tejo*, which left at midnight on Monday, to the assistance of the *Gwalior*, receiving instructions that if she picked the *Gwalior* up first, she was to take her in tow and bring her to Hongkong. The *Bombay* made a splendid run down, sighting the mail steamer at six o'clock on Tuesday morning, and got abreast of her at half-past seven; she was anchored about 12 miles from Hainan, in 35 fathoms of water, and about 240 miles from Hongkong in Lat. 19.46 N., Long. 111.12 E. The two steamers laid close to one another for about four hours, whilst provisions, &c., were being sent on board. Then the *Bombay* took the *Gwalior* in tow, and whilst making preparations for doing so, the Portuguese gun-boat *Tejo* came in sight and ran close under the *Gwalior's* stern, asking if she needed assistance. An officer was sent on board from the *Tejo* and he was requested to state that their assistance was not required but that they felt greatly obliged to them. The *Tejo* kept in company for several hours, and then running across the *Gwalior's* stern, bade a pleasant and safe voyage, and steamed away. The wind was blowing from the S.W. during afternoon of Tuesday, and the ship making 5½ knots. In the evening it died away, but about midnight it came on to blow pretty fresh from the N. E., reducing the speed of the ship to two knots. At noon on Wednesday the distance run was 88 miles. After the *Hornet* was passed at Lintin nothing more was seen of her. It is a pity H. M.'s Government do not take a lesson from the Portuguese, and be a little more energetic. Wednesday morning, the wind was blowing heavily from the N.W., and increased towards evening with a rising sea; and at 9 p.m. a heavy gale was blowing with very heavy sea and frequent rain squalls. About midnight, the wind moderated, and by 9 a.m. only a fresh breeze was blowing, and at that time the *Mandarin Cap* was passed, the vessel going at the rate of four knots. At noon the sails were set on both ships, the wind being on the port bow, increasing the speed of the ship to 5½ knots. The distance run during the two days was 148 miles. At 2 p.m., spoke the British barque *Divina* of Liverpool, bound to Hongkong. At three o'clock, took in sails, the ship making 5¼ knots without them. A British ship, supposed to be the *Champion of the Seas*, was seen in the Lamma Channel making for Hongkong. The breeze moderated towards evening, and there being only a slight swell, the *Bombay* was towing at the rate of 6 and 6½ knots, which she continued to do until Hongkong was sighted at 6.30 on the 30th April, the mails leaving the ship at 9.30. Captain Davies of the S.S. *Bombay* deserves great credit for the perseverance which he showed in towing the *Gwalior*, which is a very heavy ship, through the heavy weather which was experienced. Mr. Seymour, the second officer of the *Gwalior*, is acting chief of the S.S. *Bombay*, and sincerely do we hope that he will be allowed to keep the position which he thoroughly deserves. One of the Italians, we hear, who so gallantly offered his services in the hour of emergency, has been made a quartermaster in the P. & O. service. We hope that the S.S. *Gwalior*, under the able superintendence of Mr. Green, will be repaired as quickly, in comparison, as the *Orissa* was, when she broke down outside of the Ly-ee-moon Pass some short time ago. The greatest amount of praise ought to be bestowed upon Captain Haselwood and those under him, for the cool manner in which they acted throughout. Great praise is also due to

the stewardess and passengers,—the stewardess for the way she behaved in keeping up the ladies spirits, and the passengers for the strenuous manner in which they worked at the pumps when the ship was waterlogged.

Clippings.

We are authorised to say that the statement made in the supplement of the *Jornal de Macau* of the 15th April, as to the return of an official despatch lately sent by the Governor to the Viceroy of Canton, is completely destitute of foundation.

The Saigon *Indépendant* contains a prospectus of the Indo-Chinese Bank, setting forth its constitution, rules, and objects. The head office is established at Paris for 20 years, dating from the 21st January, 1875, and two agencies will at first be established, one at Saigon and one at Pondicherry. The bank may at a future time constitute other agencies at any place in the East, where there are some banks already established and regulated by French legislation. Under the same rules it will also be competent for the bank to establish agencies in the ports of China, Japan, and India. The capital, consisting of 8,000,000 francs, is divided into sixteen thousand shares of 500 francs each.

The *New York Times* reports that Mr. Yung Wing, of Canton, chief of of the Chinese Educational Commission now at Hartford, was married to Miss Mary L. Kellog, at the residence of her father, B. S. Kellog, in Avon, the ceremony being performed by Rev. J. H. Twitchell, of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford, a very particular friend of the bridegroom. The bride wore a dress of white crape, imported expressly for this occasion from China, and elaborately trimmed with floss silk embroidery. Her brother and sister attended as groomsman and bridesmaid. After the ceremony, a collation was served, in which Chinese delicacies were mingled with more substantial dishes of American style. Messrs. Yo Shu Tung, manager, and Yung Yun Foo, teacher of the commission at Hartford, were present in national costume, but the groom, who long since adopted our style, appeared in full evening dress. The bridal presents were numerous and costly. Mr. and Mrs Wing left on the evening train for New York on a short wedding trip.

For the possible benefit of some of our readers, and, perchance, the amusement of others, we *(Foochow Herald)* have been tempted to reproduce *in extenso*, an interesting article entitled "*Should Christians use Tobacco.*" We are not in a position to assert that the writer of the article in question intended to be humourous; but we cannot resist saying that there is something truly comic (to our mind) in the following passage:—

"A moderate consumer of tobacco will use no less than 1 lb. per month, which will cost not less than four shillings. Now this amount would purchase 8 Bibles, or 24 Testaments, or about 5,000 Gospel Tracts, and each of these may be used as an instrument for converting a soul to God. Let every one who desires to be a true Christian take this matter to the Lord in earnest prayer, let him ask God by the aid of the Holy Spirit in view of the worth of souls and the Judgment day, if it is pleasing to Him that they should use tobacco."

Now, it occurs to us rather forcibly that if the amount of coin requisite to purchase 1lb. of tobacco represents the value of 8 Bibles, or 5,000 Gospel Tracts—what number of Bibles or Tracts could be purchased with the sum or sums of money needlessly devoted to indulgence in such vanities as superfine black cloth coats, silk dresses, &c., &c.? Only think of the number of souls that might be saved from eternal perdition if our friend's peculiar views were carried to a logical conclusion!

The interest felt here in the progress of the Gaikwar's trial has for the moment been overpowered by the disastrous tidings of what has befallen the Bhamo Expedition, which started from Mandalay under such promising auspices. That the interpreter to Colonel Browne's party should have been foully murdered, so soon after his successful journey across China, a feat in these days unparalleled by any European, would of itself have been a deplorable event. But if it be true that Mr. Margary was treacherously attacked at Manwine by Chinese troops sent out by the Chinese Government of Momein, and that Col. Browne's party were driven back with some loss by the same assailants, it is clear that somebody whom we must hold responsible instigated this outrage on a British Mission, duly armed with passports and credentials to the Chinese authorities. It seems, indeed, to be a question whether we have to reckon with one Government only, or with two. The previous despatch of a Burmese Mission to Peking may have had nothing to do with the subsequent outrage; but the suspicion of some direct connection between the two incidents comes naturally enough to those who remember the charges brought by Major Sladen against Burmese officials in the case of his own journey to Momein, and who could point to many instances of Burmese treachery before and since that event. It is to be hoped that the Indian Government will leave no stone unturned to ascertain the real authors of so gross an outrage.

Apart from the indignation which is felt in China towards the Government on account of the murder of Mr. Margary by one of its officials, there seems to be a feeling of profound grief at the loss of one so highly esteemed. His ardent temperament led him to engage eagerly in the manly pursuits so much favoured by the youth of Shanghai, while his irreproachable life and genial nature caused him to be welcome at every fireside. His attainments as a Chinese scholar and his grasp and maturity of judgment pointed him out for early prominence in the Consular Service. He was generous and intrepid. The Royal Humane Society never conferred its gold medal for a more gallant deed than when it awarded that mark of distinction to Mr. Margary for plunging into the sea and rescuing a number of ship-wrecked mariners on the coast of Formosa. In his late journey up the Yangtsze and through Yunnan to British Burmah, he accomplished a feat worthy in itself of the highest honour which the Royal Geographical Society can bestow, and, had he returned, its gold medal would assuredly have been awarded him. His personal friends refer to domestic ties which it is not permitted to us to touch upon, save by saying that he was the idol of many hearts to whom this calamity will come with crushing force and a terrible bitterness. When time has done something to mitigate their sorrow, they may find some consolation in knowing that to his death the future historian of our relations with China will refer as a turning-point in our intercourse with that country. He was not slain by a mob, but murdered by an official of rank, and his country will be justified in demanding as much reparation for his death as if she had expended treasure and life on a warlike expedition.—*Japan Mail.*

We were a short time ago witness to a curious ceremony which was being performed at the neighbouring Shinto temple of Ikuta. A priestess, a woman apparently on the sunny side of 40, clothed in a white robe, was the chief performer, the only other being an old man in plain clothes, who sat beating a small drum. In front of a small temple with open sides stood five large iron boilers, similar in shape to those which are commonly used for boiling rice. Three of these *kama* were full of apparently boiling water, and under these fires had been lighted. Four black poles, connected with straw ropes, from which were hung festoons of white paper, were erected near the pots. The priestess held in each of her hands a bunch of green leaves, resembling those of the ginger plant. These bunches she kept dipping into the steaming water and rapidly switching them on to her back, keeping up all the time a high stepping motion not unlike that which is proverbially said to be made by a "cat on hot bricks," in unison with the tom-tomming of the drum. The water must have been very hot, for this novel flagellation gave out clouds of steam, which before we got near we took to be clouds of incense. When the back of her dress had become well saturated, and her skin, as we should imagine, as red as that of a patient who had undergone twenty minutes of mustard plaster, the priestess threw over her shoulders a wrapper of dark blue silk, and mounting the platform of the little temple,—which latter was also hung with fresh festoons of white paper,—took a bunch of bells, somewhat resembling those of a child's coral, only so much larger, rapidly turned round and round, jingling the bells as she did so. This done, she stepped down and handed to a blushing damsel, who, with two or three women, were the only native spectators, a folded paper, probably a *mamori* or amulet. She then turned to the old servitor, and in the most matter-of-fact way told him to put the fires out, and retired to her dwelling-house hard by.—*Hiogo News.*

From the *Osaka-Nichi Shimbun* we extract the following highly romantic and thoroughly Japanese love story. A few nights ago a young girl threw herself from the Nakatsu bashi. Some junkmen who were coming up the river in their vessel, saw the body floating past and hauled it on board. Seeing, as they thought, some signs of life, the sailors made vigorous efforts to restore animation. At last they succeeded, and as soon as the girl had recovered her senses, she told them her name and address. Her father is a tea merchant in the Shinmachi, and he having been sent for, came and warmly expressed his gratitude to those who had saved his child's life. It appears that the girl is only sixteen years of age, and has always been modest and well-conducted, so much so that she was poetically described as the lotus flower which grows in a mud-bank, (Shinmachi being the reverse of a virtuous neighbourhood). A young man who heard of her, thought how nice it would be to effect a secret marriage with a girl who had hitherto repelled all admirers. He accordingly engaged the service of a go-between, whose cunning tongue, after several trials, at last induced the damsel to listen to her suitor's vows. But in Japan, as in Europe, the old proverb about "The course of true love, &c." would seem to hold equally true. One day the poor girl was at a house where she overheard an acquaintance say that a certain girl, who was voted for her prudery, had caught a lover and was all day teasing him to marry her, whilst he on the other hand was scheming how to avoid doing so publicly. Hearing this, the listener ran home and wrote three letters, one of contrition to her father and two of reproach to her deceivers—the go-between and his employer. This done, she attempted to commit suicide, with the result above related. The lover was overjoyed at hearing of his mistress's escape, and thereupon registered a vow that he would forsake the society of all other girls and be true to her alone. He wanted to reward her rescuers, but this the father would not allow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

March 16th. Mr. Wait asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether it was the intention of the Government to demand the punishment of the perpetrators of the treacherous massacre of Mr. Margary and his five servants at Consular service, and what directions, if any, had been given on the subject.

Mr. Disraeli: We sent instructions to Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's Minister at Peking and Her Majesty's most able Minister at Peking, for it would be impossible to speak too highly of his qualifications—to call upon the Chinese Government to make a strict investigation into all the circumstances connected with the deplorable affair, and until we receive his report it will of course be out of our power to decide upon the steps we will take. The death of Mr. Margary is a public calamity. He was the son of an officer in Her Majesty's service, and he was a young man of great promise and ability, who had displayed all those qualities which were suitable to the eminent career which I have no doubt awaited him had his life been spared. This unhappy event occurred in a district in which it is doubtful whether the power of the Imperial Government was clearly established, and which is inhabited by a mixed population of Shangs and Chinese. The moment the Government receive from Mr. Wade the result of his appeal to the Imperial Government, I shall have, I hope, to make a further communication to the House.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MAY 7TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—The London mails of 19th March last per steamship *Lombardy*, and the steamship *Bombay* with the *Gwalior's* mail of 5th idem; also, the steamship *Russia*, from London.

Telegrams.—London, 4th May.—*Lead*, W.B., £23 5s., and *Iron*, £9 10s. per ton; *Cotton* and *Cotton Goods* markets unchanged.

PIECE GOODS.—Business has scarcely attempted to keep pace with the more exciting events of the week closing last night. Whilst the outward mail of 1st instant was under dispatch, there was some little animation in the market, but it subsided with her departure, and quietness has ruled ever since. This has not been caused by the Races, which have just passed away; nor has the proclamation of the Shanghai Taotai—who is seeking notoriety and riches after the late example of his brother official in the North—had anything to do with the lull that has taken place. The proclamation does not affect the Piece Goods traders—as yet—but they may be drawn into the quarrel, if his Worship continues obstinate. At present, his attentions are directed towards China produce only, and the hongs interested therein are all closed, or are being closed by way of remonstrance. No; the real truth is that the dealers have had few orders in hand, and, the desired articles being very scarce, they have considerately refrained from interrupting the harmony of the Race meeting. Moreover, in these times of scarcity, bargains, in such goods as are wanted, are rarely to be met with. Besides, the prospects for such as are in ample stock, are not bright enough to encourage speculation; and these facts have been powerfully influential in keeping buyers within their own homes. Amongst the former articles, *Heavy Grey Shirtings*, *T-Cloths* of all but the very best makes, fine to finest *White Shirtings*, good 14-lbs. *Drills* in first hands. *English Sheetings* and *Camlets* still find a place, and continue saleable, some of them at better rates than were current last week. *Chintzes* also and *Long Ells* for the like reason—their scarcity—cannot now be bought at the quotations of 30th ultimo. But 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, and most other imports not mentioned above, and of which supplies are abundant, unless when a special enquiry has operated, have been very difficult and slow of sale, and the market for such is very much weaker than it was. The business reported since the date of last Report comprehends the following sales:—

10,000 pieces of *Heavy Grey Shirtings* "to arrive" in 8 to 12 weeks—private terms.
5,000 ,, *do.* "to arrive" in two or three days, at Tls. 2.70 and Tls. 2.90 per piece, the latter for Dewhursts' Eagles.
Sundry small parcels of 9 *a* 9½-lbs. at Tls. 2.10 *a* 2.45 per piece.
6,000 pieces of Dewhursts' *Eagle* 8¼-lbs. at Tls. 1.98 and Tls. 1.99 per piece—special sales—and
8,500 ,, of common chops at Tls. 1.64 *a* 1.66 per piece. Medium qualities can scarcely be given away—so to speak.
7,000 ,, of ordinary 7-lbs. at Tls. 1.44 *a* 1.46½ per piece.
6-lbs.—Dewhursts' *Red Pheasants*—are wanted, but there are none in stock.
17,000 pieces of common 7-lb. T-Cloths, "to arrive shortly," at Tls. 1.33 *a* 1.34 per piece.
12,000 ,, of ordinary Mexican 7-lbs., likewise afloat, and shortly expected, at Tls. 1.42 *a* 1.45 per piece; and a few of the better descriptions on the spot, at Tls. 1.46 *a* 1.50 per piece. Of 8-lbs. the sales have been very small, entirely because there are not many here, and not many unsold on the way. Quotations, however, do not rise with the occasion. *White Shirtings.*—Some 2,200 pieces of good 64s. and 72s. at Tls. 2.00 and Tls. 2.55 *a* 2.72 cover the transactions in this cloth; and, excepting a trifling sale of Americans, at Tls. 3.37½ per piece, there has been nothing worth recording done by importers in *Drills*. They still hold on to the few 14-lbs. *English* and *Dutch* that are on hand, and this firmness is enabling native speculators to get rid of their stocks at the prices of last week. 15-lbs. continue neglected. *Jeans* have received no notice whatever, and the demand for *Sheetings* has not resulted in any sales—beyond 300 pieces at Tls. 3.02 per piece—owing to the absence of supplies. There are some, however, close at hand, and, doubtless, they will be settled at full rates immediately on arrival—if not before. *Chintzes* of special designs, and fanciful assortment, have been enquired after for Japan, but the Japanese taste has proved too particular. Indeed, it cannot be suited at the price. Some common 22-in. *Velvets* have changed hands for that market at Tls. 0.18 *a* 0.18½ per yard, and a sale of best for the Hankow trade, at Tls. 0.19½ per yard, has transpired, the market closing with a strong enquiry. 440 pieces of 52 yard printed *Cashmeres* at Tls. 3.80 per piece; and, of 5,600 pieces *Victoria Lawns*, which were imported by natives in the last *Costa Rica* from Hiogo, three-fourths of them have been disposed of at remunerative rates. The cost laid down here is said to be a little over 7 mace per piece, against a selling price of Tls. 0.82½. The balance is held for 8 mace. *Turkey Reds* of the lighter weights, and inferior chops, figure for 1,000 pieces at Tls. 1.70 and 1.78 per piece, and *Handkerchiefs* to extent of 3,000 doz. at Tls. 0.52 *a* 0.54 per doz.

Woollens.—Another weekly Auction of sound goods has been inaugurated, and it will be fed chiefly by C.P.H. chops. At that—the first, held on Tuesday last 4th instant—there were placed, 480 pieces of *Camlets* at the average price of Tls. 13.92½ per piece; 1,000 pieces Scarlet *Long Ells* at Tls. 7.11 *a* 7.12 per piece, and 120 assorted averaging Tls. 6.90 per piece; 312 pieces *Spanish Stripes* assorted at Tls. 0.6.0 per yard, and 96 pieces Scarlet—*Stork*—at Tls. 0.57.1 *a* 0.57.2 per yard; 30 pieces Black *Medium Cloths*, fine, at Tls. 1.13¾ and, 30 pieces assorted *Scarlet* and *Gentain* at Tls. 0.8.7¼ per yard. Of Cotton goods there were also sold 200 pieces *Mahommedan Cloths* at Tls. 0.13.4 per yard; 300 pieces *Grey Domestics* at Tls. 0.62 *a* 0.64 per yard; 500 pieces 6-lb. *Peacock Grey Shirtings* at Tls. 1.34; 2,750 pieces 7-lbs. at Tls. 1.43¼ *a* 1.4.4; and 2,500 pieces 8¼-lbs. at Tls. 1.64¼ per piece. In Woollens, otherwise than at the auctions, further particulars whereof are given below, there has been little done. *Camlets* have been in some request, but buyers are somewhat fastidious as to chops, and are not willing to pay the advanced demands of holders. Stocks are becoming reduced. No. 2 *Crape Lastings.*—In these there have been moderate transactions at Tls. 4.00 *a* 4.10 per piece, and there has also been business to a fair extent pieces—of assorted *Long* patterns current last week—a particularly fine article, silk finish, realising Tls. 4.80 per piece. A few—500 [illegible] Woollens, the market for which closes weak, and prices inclining to favour buyers.

From the Outports the advices to hand from time to time, have been uninteresting. Very little business going on anywhere.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.3.0	14.4.5	14.2.0	13.3.0	13.8.5	...	...	12.6.0	13.1.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.1.2	7.0.0	6.3.0	7.0.0	7.0.0	...	...	7.1.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.0¼	0.5.7	0.5.8	0.6.1	0.6.2	0.6.2	0.5.6	0.5.8	0.5.7	0.5 6

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 6TH MAY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve.	Brown.
C.P.H. Camlets p. pce. Tls.	13.77½/13.80	13.42½	13.87½/13.90	13.27½	13.85	...	15.30	12.57½	12.85	...	...
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.70/13.75	13.27½/13.32½	13.67½/13.80	13.10/13.15	13.75	...	14.75/15.37½	12.42½	12.72½/12.80	13.27½	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.60¼/0.60¾	0.57¼	0.57¾	0.62	.....	0.65	0.57	0.60	0.57½	...	0.58

Sales.—*Camlets*, G.G.M., 200 pcs., av. Tls. 13.72 per piece.
,, S.S.G., 600 pcs., av. Tls. 13.60 per piece.
Spanish Stripes, T.T.B., 252 pcs., av. Tls. 0.58¾ per yard.
8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*, C.P.H., Peacock, 2,500 pcs., at Tls. 1.63¾ per piece.

		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...	₩ pc.	1.3.4 to	1.3.8
7lbs.	,,	1.4.3 ,,	1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.3¾ ,,	2.0.0
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.	,,	2.7.5 ,,	2.9.0
Tun Sin	,,	3.1.5 ,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₩ pc.	1.6.2½ ,,	1.7.0
60 reed	,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,,	,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.5
Best	,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs.		...3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs.		...2.3.5 ,,	2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,,		...2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.		...2.3.0 ,,	2.4.0
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb		...2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs		...1.8.3 ,,	1.9.3
American ,, ,, ,,		...2.7.5 ,,	.....
SHEETINGS—			
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs.		...3.7.0 ,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs.		...2.7.5 ,,	2.9.5
T-CLOTHS—			
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.1.5 ,,	1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p.	pc.	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.8 ,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,,	,,	1.4.3 ,,	1.6.0
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.6.5 ,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX		1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in.	₩ dz.	0.4.5 ,,	0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White	₩ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.6.5
BROCADES—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.0
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.4.5
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds.		...2.0.0 ,,	.....
50/52 ,,		...3.7.0 ,,	4.9.0
T. REDS, 24yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in.		,, 1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8½ ,,	0.1.9½
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3½ ,,	0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.1
BLUE DENIMS	,,	0.0.5 ,,	0.0.6½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5 ,,	1.5.5
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0 ,,	0.9.5
CAMLETS, English, S S	,, ,,	13.2.0 ,,	14.0.0
G G	,, ,,	13.7.0 ,,	.....
S S G	,, ,,	13.6.0 ,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	₩ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.5.6 ,,	0.5.8
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.9 ,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1 ,,	.....
LONG ELLS—			
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H	₩ pc.	7.1.0 ,,	.. ...
,, C P H .....nom.	,,	7.1.2 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,, ,,	6.7.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H	,, ,,	6.8.0 ,,	.....
,, G G	,, ,,	6.6.5 ,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0 ,,	12.6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES	,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black	,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—No farther sales reported. Quotations weak at those given underneath. *Lead.*—Business continues on the most trifling scale, the natives buying from hand to mouth only. They are making strenuous efforts to keep prices down, at least this is the inference from their offering to sell L.B. at Tls. 5.90 *a* 5.95 per picul, and their inability to conclude a sale when called upon. Few foreign holders will sell at Tls. 6.05 *a* 6.10 per picul, which is to-day's nominal quotation. *Steel.*—There has been a little more enquiry for this metal, and the commoner brands are about 2 mace per tub higher. In *Copper*, there is no change to note. There are buyers in the market at Tls. 18.20 for best *Slab*, but the article requires a good five mace per picul over that to cover cost. *Tin.*—No business to report. *Tin Plates.*—In limited request at quotations.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	115.0.0 *a* 120.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0 *a* 6.2.0
Small ,, ...	,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ...	no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23	,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	,,	19.6.0 *a* 19.8.0
Fok Chok .....nom....	,,	19.0.0 *a* 19.2.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a* .....
STEEL	per Tub	3.5.0 *a* 3.6.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.0.0 *a* 18.5.0
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	..... *a* .....
HOOP IRON	,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	27.0.0 *a* .....
NAILROD IRON—		
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.1.0 *a* 3.1.5
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,, ...	,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.0
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.2.5 *a* 2.3.5
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.7.0 *a* 2.7.5
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.0.5 *a* 6.1.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... . *a* .....
COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.2.0 *a* 8.4.0
,, Medium	,,	9.0.0 *a* 9.4.0
,, Best.....	,,	9.8.0 *a* 10.4.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	8.4.0 *a* 8.5.0
—White	,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.2

COTTON.—The position of this article is unchanged. At present the country people are too busy in their Rice fields to bring in supplies. At the same time the demand for export is almost nihil. Thus, short receipts are counterbalanced, and quotations remain nominally the as they were quoted in last Report

EXCHANGE.—Sterling rates remain firm at last week's quotations. Bank bills are to be had at 5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. Private paper cannot be placed under 5s. 9⅜d. There is a demand for Merchants' paper, deliverable towards the end of this month at 5s. 10d. On India, no transactions reported during the week. There are sellers at an advance of ½ to 1 Rupee on last quotations. On Hongkong, Bank bills are obtainable at 27⅜, but there is very little demand.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7⅛d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9⅜d.	,,
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.33¾	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35	,,
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, ...	Rs. 307½	₩ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...	Rs. 306½	₩ 100 ,,

ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 27¼ *a* 27⅜ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27⅜ per cent. disc.

INTEREST.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.125 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.02 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 172½ Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,590 per Tael.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 5th May, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 95 @ 100, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	3,150	5,950	2,700	39,100	1,850	20,807	...	...	...	250	4,550	...	100	3,000
T-Cloths .... ,,	1,380	3,400	1,485	8,664	2,050	18,350	...	...	...	...	750	...	500	6,000
White Shirtings .... ,,	100	200	200	4,700	600	7,799	...	...	300	100	300	...	...	2,000
Drills .... ,,	30	...	...	2,190	780	5,745	...	...	45	180	...	...	120	400
Jeans .... ,,	30	...	...	680	60	2,500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Sheetings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	1,460	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	200	200	...	...	...	100	500	...	...	...
Spots, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White .... ,,	...	...	...	50	50	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
,, Dyed .... ,,	50	50	50	50	350	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	200	160	240	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Chintzes .... ,,	...	...	100	600	220	1,827	...	...	96	...	2,060	...	...	840
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	50	50	...	200	415	1,426	...	...	...	150	340	...	...	...
Velvets .... ,,	...	...	...	654	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Velveteens .... ,,	...	...	...	174	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	...	840	950	1,150	...	...	...	...	1,600	...	...	...	...	1,400
Muslins ....Pcs.	...	...	...	300	...	2,280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dimities .... ,,	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	...	24	36	252	24	138	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	204
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	6	16	60	407	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Camlets .... ,,	30	120	80	620	20	320	...	...	...	10	160	...	...	150
Long Ells .... ,,	40	60	100	1,340	...	40	...	...	...	...	440	...	...	60
Lastings .... ,,	20	20	20	280	60	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crape Lastings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	...	...
,, Figured .... ,,	230	300	60	210	930	1,720	...	...	60	...	478	...	...	500
,, Crape .... ,,	...	50	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ....Pcls.	...	...	...	252	...	...	...	...	...	252	143	...	...	...
Pig Lead .... ,,	334	...	1,090	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	211	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 7/5/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	81,457	1,405,863	3,880	1,207,363	1,024,415	680,000
T-Cloths .... ,,	42,579	842,548	3,500	459,981	222,993	735,000
White Shirtings .... ,,	16,299	138,721	1,770	238,025	95,128	30,000
Drills .... ,,	9,490	186,794	5,340	112,269	169,425	417,500
Jeans .... ,,	3,380	114,655	.....	118,996	32,901	55,300
Sheetings .... ,,	1,460	25,970	.....	27,880	3,590	39,200
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	1,000	15,865	.....	21,653	8,638	.....
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	149	.....	1,982	2,333	2,100
,, Dyed .... ,,	.....	900	.....	800	?	.....
Brocades, White .... ,,	450	6,700	.....	5,783	1,248	.....
,, Dyed .... ,,	900	16,866	.....	13,740	25,944	22,500
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	680	6,283	.....	6,400	7,207	4,600
Chintzes .... ,,	5,743	63,651	60	29,854	54,877	85,000
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	2,631	34,946	100	36,896	28,266	12,900
Velvets .... ,,	864	14,510	.....	17,687	10,875	18,700
Velveteens .... ,,	222	3,671	.....	5,205	2,024	2,200
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	5,940	66,709	1,270	29,292	35,363	78,200
Muslins ....Pcs.	2,680	14,926	5,600	9,768	5,942	19,000
Dimities .... ,,	100	6,790	.....	2,330	10,260	9,300
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	702	15,276	.....	14,375	9,853	27,300
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	603	7,452	1,760	8,701	11,689	18,700
Camlets .... ,,	1,510	28,893	100	23,473	16,710	14,200
Long Ells .... ,,	2,080	25,060	.....	21,720	5,672	12,500
Lastings .... ,,	680	12,798	.....	9,770	9,382	3,400
Crape Lastings .... ,,	80	3,890	.....	3,319	9,599	2,500
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	500	5,490	.....	6,009	4,569	15,200
,, Figured .... ,,	4,488	54,216	.....	23,211	97,524	112,000
,, Crape .... ,,	200	8,205	.....	4,239	17,154	7,800
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	1,635	35,947	.....	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	647	44,010	9,240	69,794	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Pera, Cawdor Castle, Gordon Castle, Glenfalloch, Nestor, Sindh, Ægean, Lombardy, Bombay, Russia, Messenger,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

MAY 8, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—None other than Coasters.

DEPARTURES.—(Not reported above.)—May 5th, British ship *Sir Lancelot*, for New York ; 6th, British steamer *Nestor*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Sindh* takes 91 bales of SILK.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9⅛d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9¾d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 307. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 308. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅜ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.15 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

SHARES.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 8th May :—

H. & S. Banks.—Although various quotations have been rumoured, no transactions appear to have taken place since the 28th ultimo. The closing quotation of 22 % dis. is a nominal one.

S. S. N. Co.—Immediately after our last report, a sale was made at Tls. 73 for 15th instant. Several transactions have since taken place at Tls. 73 for cash, at which the market closes firm.

Fire Insurance.—*Victorias* have steadily advanced, in consequence of the proposal to wind up the Company, and a considerable business has been done at $150 and $155. No shares are now obtainable even at $155. *Chinas* have also advanced, having been placed to-day at $142.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* shew a further fall, having been placed at Tls. 555. *China & Japans* have been placed at Tls. 80, at which few are now obtainable.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 98, at which shares are still on offer.

Other Stocks remain unchanged.

The WEATHER has been fine, with the exception of twelve hours on Thursday morning. Heavy rain began to fall shortly after midnight, and continued till shortly after noon. The wind changed to the North at night, and blew strongly from that quarter on Friday morning. The thermometer has ranged from 52 to 72.

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1874.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hongkong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	27,985	30,312	3,725	1,754	63,776	..	63,776
Subsequent Shipments	1,272	1,260	799	118	3,449	..	3,449
Total....	29,257	31,572	4,524	1,872	67,225	..	67,225

COTTON.

	Cleared	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Transhipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total as per last Report..		138,861.71	..	..	271,593.13	..	..	79,990.21	..	..	490,445.05
Subsequent Shipments		7,901.45	..	..	26,657.14	..	..	7,916.80	..	..	42,475.39
Total....		146,763.16	..	..	298,250.27	..	..	87,907.01	..	..	532,920.44

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR 5 DAYS ENDED 30TH APRIL, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	14	14.00	..	..	..	..	2	2.00
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	14	14.00	..	..	..	..	2	2.00
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore.....	41½	41.50	66	79.20	25	30.00	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa.....	90	90.00	14	14.00	8½	8.50	44	44.00	57	57.00	5	5.00	30	30.00	..	..	..	..	248½	248.50
Patna.....	38	45.60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	7.20	25	30.00	..	..	69	82.80
Benares	10	12.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.20	..	..	..	..	11	13.20
Persian	3	3.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	4	4.00	..	..	9	9.00
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	141	150.60	14	14.00	8½	8.50	44	44.00	59	59.00	5	5.00	37	38.40	29	34.00	..	..	337½	353.50

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn.	$ 125	4 p. c.	22 ½ dis. nomi.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	73 cash
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 65
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.ah	220
Footung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	88
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 139
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 555
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 187
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	430
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	155 Ex. 72½
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	142 ,,
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	1 p. c.	93
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£99 10s. Ex. 5/7

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅝

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per M.B. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Fajard and child, Mr. J. H. Hunt; 3 Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. W. H. Shaw; 5 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Mrs. Bergman, child and servant; 2 Chinese in steerage. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. How. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and child, Miss Hudson, Mrs. Lang and child, Messrs. L. R. Goldsmith, M. Robins, J. Cruikshank, H. P. Hansen; 15 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Winn and two children, Mrs. Denison, the Misses Bingham (2), Mrs. H. Evans, Miss Evans, Mrs. A. Austin, Messrs. J. C. Major, J. B. Hogarth, T. Moorehead, E. S. Hanbury, J. R. Wasson, U.S.A., G. Hurliman, A. Winstanley, J. Anderson, 21 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco—Mr. W. S. Hall. Per M. B. str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. F. Carlionin. For Hiogo—Mrs. Birt and 3 children, Mrs. Deslandes, 2 children and servant, Miss Martin, Messrs. A. Steele, F. Wheeler, J. Bell Irving, and J. H. Vail. Per str. *Hankow*, for Hankow—Messrs. A. J. Little, M. P. Evans, C. Lucas, E. O. Arbuthnot, J. Findlay, H. S. B. Usill, J. G. B. Dillon, W. Jaffray, J. R. Bromley, W. Watson, J. M. Ringer, Pereria, and M. Hawtrey. For Kiukiang—Messrs. R. Anderson and R. Nichol. Per str. *Shingking*, for Tientsin—Dr. Macartney, Messrs. E. T. Sheppard, U. S. Consul, B. Christiensson, Vice-Consul for Sweden and Norway, Hutchings and Moore.

Arrived.—Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—Messrs. H. Bush, Edmond S. Hanbury; 88 Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Jones (2); 72 Chinese. Per str. *Huining*, from Tientsin—Lieut. Shultze; 12 Chinese. Per P. & O. str. *Lombardy*, from Southampton—Messrs. O. Percival, and N. Smith. From Venice—Mr. R. Hough. From Brindisi—Mr. and Mrs. Youd, Messrs. J. M. Ringer, A. L. Peary, G. D. Fearon, R. Bourke and servant. From Hongkong—Mrs. Piron, Mrs. Frossard, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and 2 servants, Hon. P. Ryrie and servant, Mr. Firth, and 1 A.B., Mrs. Maclean's servant; 50 Chinese. Per str. *Fychow*, from Hankow—Mr. W. Nemchinoff. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Huffam and Kingsmill. Per str. *Ichang*, from Hankow—Messrs. Cruikshank and Hall. Per P. & O. str. *Bombay*—Miss E. Finch, Miss M. Valentine, Messrs. Johnsford, Nelson, R. Anderson, R. Nichol, C. J. Allen and 2 servants; 14 Chinese. Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkeang—Messrs. Eckfeldt, Sheppard and David.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Sindh*, for Hongkong—Captain J. P. Roberts and Mr. Lemann. For Marseilles—Messrs. H. Relph, E. J. Pereira, C. C. Kendall, E. Voigt Teillot. For Saigon—Two French seamen.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
May	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
1	30.150	59.0	68.5	49.0	60.0	53.0	4	S. S. W.	..
2	30 050	60.5	73.0	54.0	63.0	59.5	2	S. W.	..
3	30.152	63.5	69.5	56.0	63.5	58.0	3	S. S. W.	..
4	30.104	60.5	73.5	58.5	62.5	58.0	4	S. S. E.	..
5	30.100	65.0	75 0	58.0	66.0	63.5	3	S. E.	.37
6	29.850	66.5	72 5	62.5	65.0	64.0	1	S. W.	.10
7	29.852	60.5	67.5	55.0	60.0	52.0	8	N. W.	..

Explanation.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

Advertisement.

JUST OUT.

A

TRANSLATION

OF THE

PEKING GAZETTE

FOR

1874.

THE work is immensely improved this year, by a very full and complete Index.

By the kind permission of the Editor of the *China Review*, an able article on the "Peking Gazette," by W. F. Mayers, Esq., Chinese Secretary to H. B. M. Legation, forms an interesting and appropriate introduction.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of another of those useful compilations issued of late years by the *North-China Herald* office, under the title of "Translations from the *Peking Gazette* for 1874." We have already on a previous occasion drawn attention to the extremely valuable nature of the record thus presented to the public, and to the chief features of the highly interesting matter to be found within the covers of the volumes in question. The present issue contains two novel features, which will we imagine greatly enhance its value to both the general public and to students—viz. a complete index, and a reprint of the article from the pen of Mr. W. F. Mayers, published some time since in the *China Review*. As regards the former, it possesses but one defect—that of not being arranged alphabetically. The reprinted article, on the other hand, furnishes most useful information, and though readers of the *China Review* will be familiar with its contents, we may be pardoned if, for the sake of others, we note one of the facts it mentions as to the antiquity of the "father of newspapers." It would appear that "Court announcements," as such the *Peking Gazette* of the present day virtually is, were issued in the eighth century, as a record of the appointment of one Han Yih appeared in this form not later than the year A.D. 741. The *Gazette* (we need hardly say that the English title is not a literal translation of the original, which should be "Metropolitan Announcements") would therefore appear to be at least over 1130 years old. This as times go is respectable; and as its circle of readers must, at the received calculation, be directly and indirectly somewhat about six millions, it can probably claim a circulation before which even that of the leading penny paper must pale. But fancy what possibilities would present themselves to Western enterprize with thirty millions of people able to read, and only one journal which published official news at first hand. The particulars given as to the printing, &c., of the *Gazette* are very interesting, and the proprietors of the volume under notice have done wisely in reprinting Mr Mayers' article. Such a work if continued will some day be of incalculable value to historians; while the issues already published contain even light reading enough to amuse those to whom Chinese matters are as a rule "caviare."—*China Mail.*

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the "translation of the *Peking Gazette* for 1874," issued from the *N.-C. Herald* office. This work is a reprint of the translations which have been published by the *N.-C. Daily News*, and is the third volume of the series. The one before us has, however, a noticeable improvement on its predecessors, consisting of a copious index which will materially enhance its value. The index is divided into six chief headings, and these are sub-divided into others, rendering it easy to trace any important edict or memorial. An article on the status of the *Gazette*, published last year in the *China Review*, forms an appropriate preface to the volume. It will prove a handy book of reference to all who are interested in watching the progress of China.—*Daily Press.*

We acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the Translation of the *Peking Gazette* for 1874, printed in a neat and compact form, with an appropriate yellow cover. The publishers of the *North-China Herald* could hardly have issued a more valuable little book, in its way, than this. It contains, in addition to the ordinary edicts, proclamations and memorials, an article from the pen of Mr. Mayers, on the status of the *Gazette*, which will be read with interest by those who wish to be throughly acquainted with the true position of this, so long the solitary representative of periodical literature in China. To one who desires progress for this country in this direction, the *Peking Gazette* will always be interesting as a curiosity, a fossil, probably the last remant of its species; and to the admirer or student of Chinese character and history, past and present, it affords the best starting point possible for investigation of the peculiarities of Chinese official customs, ideas and polity generally. The Index prefixed to the Translation will be extremely useful to all who consult its pages for the native records of the events of 1874. Its classification and general completeness render it an easy matter to find any edict or memorial that may be wanted; and will suffice to make the publication a work of ordinary reference for all those who are interested in the official life and history of the land.—*Shanghai Courier.*

The "Translation of the Peking Gazette for 1874," just issued from this office, is, as usual, a reprint of the translations published from week to week in the *N.-C. Herald*. This is the third volume of the series, and has the advantage over its predecessors of an elaborate index, which will immeasurably increase its value for reference. The index is divided into six chief heads—such as Court Affairs, Judicial and Revenue, External Relations, &c., &c.; and these again are sub-divided under minor heads, such as Audiences, Appeals, Corea, &c; so that any important edict or memorial can be easily traced. An article on the status of the Gazette, published last autumn in the *China Review*, forms an appropriate preface.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

Price, $2.00 per Copy.

To be had at the *N.-C. Herald* Office, at Messrs. Kelly & Co., Hall & Holtz, and Lane, Crawford & Co., Shanghai; Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., Hongkong; Messrs. Trubner & Co., Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

29th March, 1875.

7, Hankow Road. tf 2828

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 418. SHANGHAI, MAY 15, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

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England,	Apr. 2	Hankow,	May 11
San Francisco,	Mar. 20	Yokohama,	Apr. 30
Hongkong,	May 10	Nagasaki,	May 12
Tientsin,	„ 8	Foochow,	„ 5

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Feb. 25 } Received 29th March.
Shanghai, ... „ 19 }

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 10th May, the wife of Mr. D. C. JANSEN, of a daughter.

On the 24th March, at 69, Hamilton-drive, Glasgow, the wife of G. A. MONRO, of Shanghai, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th March, at St. Luke's Cheltenham, by the Rev. — Ashton, HENRY THOMSON, third son of the late George THOMSON, of Boynes Mill, Aberdeenshire, to EDITH ALMA, daughter of Capt. H. Reynell, late H.E.I.C.S.

On the 20th April, at St. Jose Church, Singapore, by the Revd. I. Pinto, JACOB J. AROOZOO of Shanghai, China, to AGNES JULIA, youngest daughter of C. J. Klaassen, of Malacca.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
May	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
8	30.000	62.5	75.0	52.0	65.0	57.5	0	Z.	..
9	30 050	65.0	74.0	60.0	66.5	63.0	0	Z.	..
10	30.000	65.0	71.5	58.5	65.5	61.5	5	South	..
11	29.950	65.5	69.5	60.0	62.0	61.5	6	S. E.	.14
12	29.800	67.5	81.0	62.0	70.0	68.0	1	S. S. W.	.03
13	29.752	70.0	85.5	63.0	63.0	62.0	5	N. N. E.	.38
14	29.904	64.0	80.0	58.0	64.0	60.0	6	N. E.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China* 1A, Canton Road. Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

PRICE OF THE *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.*—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance.* Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received, and Single Copies Sold, by GEORGE STREET,
30 Cornhill.
LONDON *(E.C.)*

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.30 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1875.

AT intervals in his great work, Marco Polo tells of the presence of Nestorian Christians in China; but notwithstanding that these remarks point to a Church which, if at no place very flourishing, yet prevailed tolerably widely over the North of China, Chinese records have hitherto been searched without throwing additional light on the subject. The tablet at Singan-foo is indeed in existence, but remaining as a solitary record, it throws little light on the history of the Church, and missed that authority which, as forming one of a series of records, it might lay claim to. To the Archimandrite Palladius, in the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal* for March-April last, we are indebted for the first clear notice from Chinese records regarding the position of Christianity in China during the 13th century. The communication is of the more importance that it adds another to the many proofs already existing, of the trustworthiness of the great mediæval traveller. The Archimandrite quotes three Chinese authorities—a Buddhist tract, the "Pien-wei-lu;" the dynastic history of the Mongols, the "Yuen-shi;" and a description of Chinkeang-foo, written between the years 1330-1332, the "Chi-shun Chinkeang Chi." The Buddhist tract, written for controversial purposes, describes how a contest took place at the camp of the Emperor Mangu, between themselves and the Taouists, ending, as they boasted, in their own complete triumph. The Emperor, according to this authority, gave the following judgment:—"The ing is the highest; the 'Siu-tsai' that Confucianism is the first; the 'Tie-sie' (Christians), honouring 'Mi-shi-ho,' (Messiah) trust to celestial abodes; and the 'Tashi-man' (Mahomedans), praying to. Heaven, thank it for its gracious deeds. If all three religions are thoroughly studied, not one can be compared to Buddhism." The word "Tie-sie," used for Christians, did not have a long existence. It had been derived from the Mahomedans, and seems soon to have given way to the title "Ye-li-ko-wen," originally meaning a person in holy orders, but bye-and-bye transferred as a general title to all professing Christians. The earlier Mongol Emperors were entirely favourable to Christianity. Khublai's mother was herself a Christian, and her image after her death was preserved in the Monastery of the Cross, in the present province of Kansuh. Khubilai himself founded at Peking, in the year 1289, a Christian Consistory, the "Chung-fu-sze," which subsequently was raised, in 1315, to the still higher dignity of a "Yuen," and invested with the superintendence of the Nestorian bishops and chorepiscops, not only in China but throughout the Asiatic dominions of the Khan. This extension of its powers not working satisfactorily, it was again, in 1320, reduced to a "Sze," with jurisdiction only within the limits of the Chinese dominions of the Khan.

Of still greater interest are, however, the records relating to Chinkeang. Our knowledge of Christianity there, during the thirteenth century, has hitherto been confined to the few words told us by Marco Polo. "There are in the city," he says, "two churches of Nestorian Christians, which were established in the year 1278; and I will tell you how that happened. You see, in the year just named, the Great Khan sent a baron of his, whose name was Mar Sarghis, a Nestorian Christian, to be governor of this city for three years; and during the three years that he abode there, he caused these two Christian churches to be built, and since then there they are. But before his time there was no church, neither were there any Christians." The book already referred to, the old edition of the "Chinkeang fu chi," gives us further information regarding these temples. "The temple Ta-hing-kwo-sze stands in Chinkeang fu, in the quarter called Kie-tao-hiang (夾道巷); it was built in the 18th year of Chi-yuen, 1281, by the Sub-darugachi Sie-li-ki-sze (Sergius). Liang Siang, teacher in the Confucian tomb, wrote a tablet for him." The coincidence in dates is not a little remarkable, as showing the general trustworthiness of Marco Polo. The tablet states that Sergius received, in the year 1277, a "tiger" tablet of authority and an honorary title, and was appointed Intendant-general (總管府) of the Circuit, 路 of Chinkeang. If, therefore, he arrived in the succeding year, the date would perfectly agree with that given by the Venetian; and the temple would have of office. The tablet went on to say:— "It happened once that in the day-time he dreamed that the Seven Heavens had opened, and two saints said to him, 'You must build seven temples;' and they gave him in remembrance of the fact something of a white colour. After awakening, he felt touched, and soon after left the service and devoted himself to the building of temples. Next he gave up his house near the gate T'ie-wen-men, and built there the temple, Pa-shi humula (chief cathedral) Ta-hing-kwo-sze (大興國寺). After this he acquired the hill Shu-t'u-shan (竪土山) near Si-tsin (西津), and erected there two temples, Ta-shi humula Yün-shan-sze (雲山寺) and Tu-ta-urh humula Kü-ming-shan-sze (聚明山寺). Beneath these two temples a free cemetery was laid out for Christians. Further in the district of Tant'u at K'ei-sha (闕沙), he built the temple Talui humula Sze-tow-an-sze (四瀆安寺), outside the Teng-yün gate. On the hill Hwang-shan, the temple Tilen haiyu humula, Kao-an-sze (高安寺) was built; near the Ta-hing-kwo-sze (apparently in the city, and the second of Polo's temfples) the temple Mali-kie-wa-li-ki-sze humula, Kan-t'suan-sze was erected. In Hangchow, near the Tsien-kiaou gate Sergius founded the temple Yangi humula Ta-pu-hing-sze (大普興寺). These seven temples had been erected in fact by the intention (zeal) of this man. His devotedness to the Emperor, and his attachment to the Empire could find no other expression than in the foundation of temples." Max Sergius' good works were not destined long to survive. So, early as 1308, orders were received to desecrate the two temples outside the city, and which apparently were situated on the hill overlooking the present British Consulate, and to hand over their property to the Buddhist Monastery at Kinshan. On a tablet recording this was stated: "In the 16th year of Chiyuen (A. D. 1279), the Christian Ma Sielikisze, who governed the department of Chinkeang, relying on his power, had taken possession of the best place on the elevated shore of the river, and built a temple on top, which was called Yin-shan-sze (銀山寺); and on the adjacent uncultivated land he laid out a cemetery for his fellow-believers;" but nothing is said in the book of the fate of the other temples. Other Christians are named in the old "Fu-chi," some of whom occupied high posts during the time of the Mongol dominion. The Archimandrite adds that ancient descriptions of many other places besides Chinkeang still exist; and that there can be little doubt that interesting accounts of the state of Christianity in China during those early times could be unearthed, were those in search. A few of these descriptions are published, but the greater portion are kept in the Imperial or in private libraries. We have given the extracts relating to Chinkeang at greater length than we otherwise should, because they seem sufficiently definite to allow of the identification of the localities. The sites are readily accessible, and we trust, now that attention has been drawn to them that some of the residents or visitors to the port will supplement the researches of the Archimandrite by investigations on the spot. We believe some few traces of the cemetery still remain; the churches will most likely be found to have occupied the sites of the present temples. Even of these traces in the way of insciptions, may still exist. The destruction of the district about Chinkeang during the Taiping rebellion was so complete, that little beyond the merest fragments need now be looked for. Still, even the merest fragments may aid in the investigation into the records of a time when Christianity seemed to have a fair chance of establishing itself in the Empire of China. The Christian officers sent to Chinkeang by the Mongol Emperor seem for the most part to have earned the good wishes of the people; but, probably Christianity got to be associated with the foreign rule of the Mongol Princes, and shared in the universal detestation which preceded the downfall of the house of Kublai. The Buddhists curiously enough appear in the, to them, strange rôle of a persecuting Church, and doubtless they carefully fostered this sentiment. It is otherwise difficult to account for the almost utter absence of records relating to the Eastern branch of the Nestorian Church. Were it not for the notices in Marco Polo, and in one or two other writers, it is unlikely that a subject so carefully shrouded by the Chinese historians would have met the light of day.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 26th March arrived on the 10th instant, by the M. M. str. *Anadyr*.

The English mail of the 2nd April arrived yesterday morning, by the P. & O. str. *Hindostan*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by P. & O. str. *Lombardy*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

The Ex-Confederate General Rifley goes to China to superintend the construction of defensive works on the Chinese Coasts and Rivers.

The steamship *Schiller*, with the homeward Australian and New Zealand mails, (*viâ* San Francisco), and over 260 passengers, has been totally wrecked off the Scilly Islands; only a few of those on board were saved.

The *Berlin Post* considers the Belgian Note to be meaningless and unsatisfactory.

Sir Stafford Northcote's Budget resolutions have been adopted.

Mr. Disraeli's visit to Paris and the result of his interview is anxiously awaited.

Mr. Bourke announced that the British Government had received entirely satisfactory assurances from Berlin. The Government considered that there was no cause to apprehend a disturbance of peace.

The *Schiller* went ashore in a fog. 311 persons perished and 44 were saved. Portions of the mails were also saved.

There is an active demand for money in London.

The island of Saghalien has been ceded by Japan to Russia.

A conspiracy to assassinate Bismarck and Falk has been discovered.

We mentioned last week that the fourth day's racing had to be postponed on account on the rain. The day fixed this time proved fine, though the weather only just held up till the close. Half an hour after the spectators had left, rain began to fall.

A cricket match was to have been played on Tuesday, between 11 members of the Club, having initials A to K, and 11 L to Z, but the rain necessitated its postponement.

Shooting in the S. V. C. Rifle competition began on Tuesday, in most unfavourable weather. The second day was better, but Thursday was again wet. A full report of proceedings will be found elsewhere.

A Flower Show has been often talked about in Shanghai, but one has never yet been held. The first exhibition of the

kind is to be held on the 24th and 25th instant, in the British Consulate Compound. It is hoped that the contributors of specimens of flowers, fruits, and vegetables will be numerous, so as to make the show a successful one, and give encouragement in future years.

It has been known for some time that the National Bank of India purposed opening a branch at Shanghai. The Bank was opened yesterday for business, at the premises on the Bund formerly occupied by the Deutsche Bank.

A meeting to discuss a proposal to wind up the Victoria Fire Insurance Company, is to be held in Hongkong on the 24th instant.

It has been found necessary, as we anticipated last week, to postpone the Ratepayers' meeting, which now stands fixed for the 18th instant.—The postponement was necessitated by various causes. 1°.—The Report had not been circulated. 2°.—The revised Land Regulations are not even yet ready for circulation, and the Ratepayers must certainly have some days to consider these, before they are asked to vote them. But the ordinary meeting might have been quite well held on the 11th, and discussion on the Land Regulations postponed, if the Report had been printed in time.—Then a rather startling proposition was, we hear, received at the last moment from the General Hospital Trustees. They propose asking the Ratepayers to sanction the issue of debentures for Tls. 35,000, to build a hospital on the new site which they have bought for some Tls. 13,000 in Hongkew. The Council have, we unforward the proposal officially, and we suspect the Ratepayers will think the case is hardly one for the Municipality to take up—at any rate on its present basis. The Trustees offer to pledge the property and income of the Hospital as security; but these would be rather a white elephant, if it should not prove remunerative. The Municipality would be then placed in the unpleasant dilemma of having to close the institution, or work it themselves at a loss.—The only measures, so far as we hear, that the Council purpose bringing forward, are a Water Scheme; a resolution to enable the Council to assess Unassessed Property, and to hear and decide appeals in such cases; and a resolution regarding W. H. Fogg's Land Tax. The circumstances of this case, as brought out in the late trial at the U. S. Consulate, will be fresh in the recollection of our readers. It will be for the Ratepayers to decide whether the abatement claimed shall be allowed.

The Taotai's attempt to introduce more rigour into the Defence Tax has excited discussion on the whole question of local taxation; and it is urged that, taking Sir Edmund Hornby's late judgment as a standpoint, the Chamber of Commerce should move the Foreign Consuls to oppose the whole mass of illegal squeezes that are now levied in the Settlement.

In connection with this question, we reprint a list that was brought to notice by Mr. Hanbury some years ago, of rates levied by the Taotai on various British manufactures, when delivered from the Foreign godowns to Chinese shopkeepers in the Settlement, and which we believe holds very nearly good, at the present day:—

			Sh. Tls.
Grey Shirtings,	per bale of	50 pieces,	2.31
White ,,	per case of	,,	2.43
T-Cloths,	per bale of	50 pieces,	1.62
Drills, ,,	,,	30 ,,	1.72
,, ,,	,,	15 ,,	1.05
Fig. Orleans,	per case of	50 ,,	5.75
Camlets,	per bale of	10 ,,	4.14
Long Ells, ,,		20 ,,	3.00
Medium Cloths,		6 ,,	2.76
Chintz,	per case of	50 ,,	1.87

A correspondent signing himself Viator, imagines difficulties in the way of proving the squeezes, and questions whether any real advantage would ensue from their abolition. It seems to us that he answers his own question. He askes us to inform him how the Chamber of Commerce and Foreign merchants are to collect facts about local squeezes—and proceeds to give a series of those facts in the shape of a tariff of taxation. We are not at all surprised to learn that no shopkeeper would venture to give evidence in a Court of Enquiry, as a witness, against the existing squeezes. But neither is it necessary that he should do so. If the Chamber of Commerce can satisfy themselves by private enquiry—as Viator has done, and as we have done—that the tariff he gives represents approximately a system of local taxation indulged in by the Taotai, it will be sufficient for them to state the fact with the weight of their authority, to the Foreign Consuls. The Consuls would, we presume, feel justified in conveying that representation to the Taotai with an expression of opinion that The Taotai will then be committed to one of two courses. Either he must deny the existence of the taxes, in which case every Chinese tax-gatherer found in the Settlement can be arrested as a thief; or he must admit and strive to defend the legality of the taxes—which he will find it exceedingly difficult to do. If there is no object in reducing taxation, that is another matter; it is almost surprising, in that case, that so much outcry is made about the imposition of barrier dues in excess of the stipulated transit due But we hardly think Foreign merchants will agree with Viator's conclusion, in that respect. It may be that the abolition of the tax would not enable the merchant to sell his goods higher, but it would cheapen them to the consumer; and that is generally held to be an advantage, with a view to extension of trade. We cannot see why taxation of any kind, beyond the stipulated import duty on goods sold within the limits of the port, should not be rigidly opposed and prevented.

The Taotai has issued a proclamation recalling his former order about the "Defence Tax," and has thus made the resemblance to the Tientsin episode complete. The Native merchants will resume business forthwith.

An important meeting of merchants was held in London on the 25th February, to consider the Bill of Lading question. Resolutions were passed objecting to the clauses introduced, exempting shipowners from loss occasioned to the cargo by persons in their employ; and in favour of asking the President of the Board of Trade "to insert in the Merchant Shipping Act a provision which shall render inoperative these unreasonable clauses." It was objected by the Chairman (Mr. Hubbard) that it was against all custom and usage of trade, that a contract tendered by one and accepted and signed by another should be held invalid. A Mr. Hanson put the matter in a simple form, in suggesting that Shipowners should be put on the same footing as Railway Companies and other public carriers, and made liable for the negligence of their servants. The matter does not seem an easy one to adjust, but from the earnest way in which it seems to be now taken up at Home, we have no doubt a solution will be arrived at. The Shanghai Insurance Offices circulated last year a pamphlet entitled "Eastern Trade Bill of Lading," which had been prepared to promote the more general use of that form, it being deemed, said the Circular, "essential in the interests of both Merchants and Underwriters that an uniform Bill of Lading should be adopted, properly defining the voyage contemplated, and the ports of call, and free from exceptions introduced with a view to protect the Shipowner from responsibility connected with the safe custody and carriage of the goods, properly devolving upon him." And in order, it went on to say, "that Merchants making use of the form of Bill of Lading so recommended might be enabled to arrive at a distinct understanding as to the risks referred to therein which the Underwriters are content to bear, the following clauses will be attached to the Policy:"—

that the terms of this policy shall apply to the following sea-perils therein referred to in addition to such risks as are already hereby covered:—

1.—All deviation of voyage provided for in the said Bill of Lading, with any risk of land carriage incidental to the voyage.

2.—Sailing with or without pilots, and any act, neglect, or default whatsoever of pilots, master or crew, in the management or navigation of the ship, improper stowage excepted.

3.—All risks attending the goods by reason of their discharge into, retention at, and delivery from, any quarantine depôt, afloat or ashore.

4.—In case of the goods being carried on to a more distant port through stress of weather, or because they cannot be found, the marine risk of the additional voyage, as well as of the return voyage, to their destined port, the assured agreeing to pay for such extra risk such premium as may be agreed upon.

The Taotai has assented to Mr. Medhurst's proposition that a joint investigation should be held into the circumstances of the Quinsan riot; and the two prisoners were handed over to the City authorities on Saturday. The Tipao of the village has been ordered down, and on his arrival the case will be tried.

It is officially notified that a wrought-iron screw-pile Lighthouse will shortly be erected near the Lismore wreck, on the port side of the channel, at the entrance to the Woosung River. The work has been undertaken by Messrs. Farnham & Co., and we understand that the *Kwa-shing*, towing their pile-driver, started yesterday morning for Woosung, with the Engineer-in-Chief and Mr. Blethen on board. After the erection of a temporary stage close to the Lismore wreck, the work of erecting the wrought

iron screw-pile tower will be proceeded with. The illuminating apparatus will be *fixed* Dioptric, of the Sixth Order, showing a *red* light visible all round, and this will involve an alteration in the Woosung Light. On the exhibition of the above wreck light, the *red* sector of light now shown on the port side of the channel from the Woosung Lighthouse will be replaced by a white one, but no other change will be made.

The absence of the *Berwick Walls*, in dock, enables us to realise what an advantage it would be to have the opium hulks moved altogether from their present anchorage. The scenery on the Pootung shore is not remarkably beautiful, but a clear open view of water and trees is very much preferable to the unsightly hulls which now block in the Bund.

The house going up on the site of the old Hongkong Bank is being built considerably within the former walls. The Council have, we believe, arranged for the surrender of 6ft. of the frontage to the Nanking Road.

We hear that four of the Manila lottery tickets for the May drawing, sold by Messrs. Kelly & Co. in Shanghai, have drawn good prizes. The $15,000 and one $1,000 dollar prize have been won by Foreigners, and a $3,000 and a $500 by Chinese.

The steamer *Conquest*, while on her way down the Peiho river on the 4th inst., bound to Nagasaki viâ Chefoo, met with an accident to her machinery. Endeavours were made to proceed to Chefoo, but after several attempts she was obliged to return to Taku, where she will be detained until the damaged portion of the machinery can be repaired at this port

Messrs. Crofts and Sewjee held their usual sale of racing ponies and griffins at the Horse Bazaar on Wednesday afternoon. There was a good attendance of buyers, and some fair prices were realised, but in several instances the animals offered, although presenting attractive points, were knocked out at a low figure. Reserve prices were placed on *Gladiateur*, *Favori* and *Mignon*, and the bids made for them were Tls. 400, Tls. 200, and Tls. 80 respectively, which did not reach the reserve in either instance, and they were withdrawn, the auctioneer announcing that they would be offered for sale privately. A large Cream Griffin, a fine up-standing animal, was bought in at Tls. 110, but was afterwards put up for sale without reserve, and realised Tls. 105. *Spondulick* was withdrawn from the catalogue. The following were the prices realised in taels :—Bonito, 200 ; Bonanza, (griffin) 150 ; Crumbs, 150 ; Holy Friar, 150 ; a large Cream Griffin, 105 ; Flambeau, 75 ; Furore, 70 ; Black Rod, 70 ; Blackthorn, 70 ; Seapoy, (griffin) 65 ; Sinecure, 55 ; Light Brigade, 55 ; Daumling, 55 ; Sea Swallow, 55 ; Grindstone, 50 ; Altair (a good harness pony and a first class back) 50 ; Sacrepont (griffin) 50 ; Sea King, 50 ; Radical, 45 ; Sequin, 45 ; Ghillie, 45 ; Scrambler, 40 ; Pendarves, 40 ; Blitz, 40 ; Eclipse, 35 ; Goshawk (very good paper hunter) 35 ; Pastel, 35 ; King Midas (griffin) 35 ; Blucher, 35 ; Weisslack, 30 ; Poyferre, 30 ; Duncan Grey, 30 ; Galopin, 30 ; McTavish, 30 ; Feimah, 30 ; Hughie Graham, 25 ; No Cure, 25 ; Sea Horse, (griffin) 25 ; Alone, 20 ; Martin Forster, 20 ; Aiken Drum, 20 ; Sea Cock (griffin) 20 ; Sea Star (griffin) 20 ; cream griffin, 10 ; grey griffin, 10.

We take pleasure in noticing a new publication in Chinese, of which the first number is just at hand. It is a neatly got up illustrated sheet called *The Child's Paper—Monthly*. It is difficult to overestimate the value of work among and for the benefit of children, whom it is far easier to improve than the grown-up Chinese. The utter absence, as we understand, of all such literature among the Chinese, gives additional interest to this effort. The publisher expresses a hope that he will be able to illustrate the articles with original engravings, with Chinese costume and surroundings. In the present number, there is a specimen of this kind of work which, though inferior, will perhaps be more attractive to a Chinese child than the better executed foreign prints. We wish the enterprise success. The Rev. Mr. Farnham makes himself responsible for it, though it will need the co-operation of all interested to make it a success. It is in an easy classic style, that it may be used in all parts of the Empire, and the child may the more readily get it read to him if unable to read for himself.

The lecture on Food, delivered by Dr. Jamieson before the Temperance Society, has been printed as a pamphlet, and is for sale at Messrs. Kelly & Co. Dr. Jamieson set himself no easy task in undertaking to compress, within the limit of an hour's lecture, the amount of information conveyed in these pages, but the paper will probably be better appreciated by the reader than it can have been by the listener, and it will well repay perusal. The subject is one on which the majority of mankind are supremely ignorant. They know that food is necessary to support life, and they know roughly by experience that some things agree with them better than others. But of the why of this, and of the relative values and properties of different kinds of food, the prevalent impression is, to say the least, vague. Dr. Jamieson has condensed a great deal of information on the subject into his lecture, and most of us can gather some useful hints from its perusal. We shall not attempt to review it at length, because we can say no more in a column than we have said in these few lines. It is condensed beyond the possibility of further condensation. We might extract passages, but it all hangs so much together that we prefer commending it to our readers as a whole. We shall content ourselves with the sole passage in the lecture which has bearing upon the occasion of its delivery :

"There is a distinction to be drawn, however, between alcohol by itself and alcoholic beverages containing in addition to alcohol many other important constituents. Thus, malt liquors are rich in saccharine and extractive matters which possess nourishing properties. The various wines, again, at least those of the best quality, contain volatile oils and ethereal products to which are in the main due the exhilarating and stomachic qualities of wine taken in moderation. There can therefore be no resonable doubt that the man who abjures a certain class of fluids merely because they are wines, acts as foolishly though of course not as criminally as a man who goes to excess in consuming them."

A Newchwang correspondent writes :—The s.s. *Foochow* left for Swatow direct on the 1st instant. The *Courier* was about leaving for Nagasaki, but calling at Chefoo with light freight, treasure and passengers. Produce rising, and quoted

Beancake.....	Tls. 3.30	per	10 pcs.
Peas	,, 2.22	,,	300 catties.
Oil.....	,, 2.25	,,	picul.

Messrs. Spencer & Wolff write from Chinkeang on the 12th May :—There is little or no change to report in our market for Piece Goods. Small lots are moved off daily at quotations, but if any attempt were made to press sales, lower prices would have to be accepted.

The Kiuking tea market was opened on the 9th inst.; six chops have been settled at prices varying from Tls. 40¼ to Tls. 50, which is about the same as last year, but the quality is said to be not quite so good. On the 11th, 30 musters had been received.

Messrs. Gordon Bros. write from Hankow :—"The season 1875-76 is the earliest ever known at this port, nine chops of Hankow Tea having arrived here on the 8th instant, and muster chests representing eight chops of Ningchow on the 9th idem. No musters have as yet been placed on the market, teamen waiting anxiously for the arrival of Shanghai buyers. Samples will probably be offered on the 13th instant, by which time our stock will be considerably increased. We do not offer any opinion as to the quality of the crop, the few musters we have seen being evidently specially prepared, and the reports circulated by teamen being quite unreliable. There is no doubt the price paid for leaf up-country average quite 10 % under last year's. Foreign hands during the period under review scarcely amount to one-third of those reported during the same time last year. This is accounted for by the small direct Imports to this port, and the greater facilities offered by Native Banks and the various Steamer Companies in Shanghai, to dealers purchasing in that market.—Stocks of Raw Cotton are reduced to 10,000 bales of all kinds. Quotations are Tls. 9.80 *a* 10.80 per picul. Season nearly closed."

An Amoy correspondent of the *China Mail* says :—The works for the small Light-house on Tsing-seu have been commenced, but as yet have not got beyond the stage of levelling the side of the hill where the tower is to be built.

Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s Canton Market Report, dated 6th May, says :—

In continuing our Tea advices from the 22nd ultimo, we have now to announce the opening of the New Season for Scented Teas, and the prices for the few purchases made on market are, if correctly reported, much above what would appear to be warranted by the intrinsic merit of the Teas, keeping in view the present currency in London for such descriptions. —As far as an opinion can be formed from the various musters shown on market, the present crop of Scented Teas is decidedly inferior. The Orange Pekoes are in every respect deficient in merit, and there is an undoubted scarcity of fine. Capers are nearly all more or less mixed with old leaf, wanting in scent, and in appearance and style very defective. The weather for the past ten days has been very unfavourable for the scenting flower, and subsequent musters may in course show an improvement in the scenting.

Editorial Selections.

THE YUNNAN OUTRAGE.

WE have, now, all the information that is obtainable regarding the Yunnan outrage, until enquiry on the spot can throw more light on the origin of the crime. What we know, however, makes the tale all too complete, and furnishes circumstantial evidence against the Chinese, of weighty importance. Subsequent information has confirmed the main features of the reports which first reached us, of the actual facts of the case, while adding details that enable us to gain a clearer idea of the circumstances. Between Burmah proper and China proper there intervene some 150 miles of hill country inhabited by Kahkyen and Shan tribes, who resemble more nearly the Burmese or Chinese, and are more under Burmese or Chinese influence, according as they live nearer to Burmah or China. Almost directly on entering the hills, vague rumours were heard of opposition awaiting the Expedition on the Chinese side, but it was not till they had reached the Fifth Guard-house,—near which is the boundary line between China and Burmah—within 20 miles of Manwein, that these assumed sufficient form to induce Mr. Margary to go ahead and reconnoitre. He encountered no obstacle, and pushed on to Manwein, writing back to say the road was clear. Colonel Browne accordingly advanced, and camped on the 20th February within twelve miles of the latter town. Still morning, and hitch apparent in the forward to the village of Tsarai, within 6 miles of Manwein, to again reconnoitre. He was civilly received by the Tsawbwa, but somehow derived an impression that all was not right, and fell back to the camp instead of riding on to Manwein as he had first intended. His retreat evidently saved his life, for Margary was killed the same day, and Colonel Browne's fate would have been sealed had he advanced into the same trap. He subsequently ascertained that, even while in Tsarai, he had been in imminent peril. The Tsawbwa's house was full of armed Kakhyens, and there is reason to believe a number of armed Chinese were also concealed there. The presence of the Sikh guard, standing to their arms outside the house, probably saved the party. On the following morning, a line of Chinese soldiers was observed defiling towards the rear of the camp; and, almost at the same time, a man arrived with the intelligence that Margary had been murdered; that a force of 4000 men had been assembled by the Chinese officials to annihilate the Expedition, and that the men now in view were the advanced guard of that force. The fighting which followed, and the eventual safe retreat of the party to Bhamo, are vividly narrated in the letter we published last week. It was on the day following these events that the letter subjoined to that narrative was received from the Burmese King's agents in Manwein, relating the murder of Margary and the arrival of a force from Momein for the purpose of attacking the Expedition.

What interests us now, is to see how far the prime movers in the attack are indicated by the facts before us; and we cannot but think these bring home the guilt directly to the officials of Momein. Manwein appears to be considered the Chinese frontier town, and was evidently the focus of intrigue between the Chinese and the hill-men, and the *point de départ* of the attacking force; and it is in its testimony on this head, that the Burmese agents' letter is important. It not only describes Margary's murder,—which appears to have taken place in the temple where he was stopping, instead of in a yamên as at first related,—but it relates the arrival of the troops from Momein on the eve the crime, and warns the Burmese official who is with Colonel Browne to absent himself from the party on the 23rd February, as the Chinese purpose attacking on that day. Neither is the warning given casually, as proceeding from hearsay, but at the request of the officials sent by the Magistrate of Momein. If the warning is neglected and "if in consequence any of your "men are killed, you must not blame "the Chinese. As they have told us, "so we write. As soon as you receive "this, write quickly to say whether "you will remain or retreat. The "Chinese say that if the Foreigners "The attack will be made on the night "of the 23rd February. Above 3,000 "and about 4,000 men are collecting "and surrounding you." We have seen that this letter reached the camp on the morning of the 23rd February, in time for the warning to be obeyed, if the original design had been carried out; but for some cause—probably Colonel Browne's return from Tsarai and prolonged halt, the attack was made prematurely, and the tables were turned on the assailants, of whom about a score (16 Chinese and 4 Kakhyens) are believed to have been killed. A man who was found dead on the road along which the British retreated, was unmistakably Chinese, and the Burmese official pointed this out to Colonel Browne as a proof that it was the Chinese, and not Shans or Kakhyens, who were opposing the party. Neither must we overlook the evidence of another Burman who was living in Manwein, who testifies to the arrival of two officials from Momein with a force of between three and four thousand men, and to the circumstances of the murder "by order of the men from Momein."

The impression in India is strong, that the King of Burmah was the chief instigator of the outrage; and it is quite likely that collusion may be proved between him and the Yunnan officials; but, however much he may be implicated, the guilt of preparation and attack remain with the Chinese. It was no explosion of savagery on the part of semi-barbarous wild men; it was no sudden outbreak by the mob of a Chinese city. Mr. Margary was deliberately murdered in the Chinese frontier town of Manwein, and Colonel Browne was attacked by a Chinese force sent down from Momein, and of which a nephew of Li-su, the Chinese Military commandant of the district, was one of the leaders. It is in the highest degree likely that the whole affair was plotted between Li Su and the Burmese. But the complicity of the latter cannot overshadow the guilt of the former. At any rate, with so strong a clue, the British Government can hardly fail to trace up the guilt to its source. If the Burmese King's complicity can be proved, so much the better. His deposition and the advance of the British frontier to the borders of Yunnan would be a great political gain. But whether or not the instigation can be traced to Mandalay or Peking, it is clear that Chinese officials, for whom the Peking Government are responsible, were the chief actors in the outrage. It is by Chinese that a British officer travelling under Imperial passport has been murdered, and it is by Chinese that a British Expedition, similarly protected, has been attacked. It may well be that the whole affair was planned between Momein and Mandalay, that the Yunnan authorities committed the outrage on their own responsibility, and that the Peking Government knew nothing of the project. That conclusion would intensify the guilt of the officials, but would detract nothing from the responsibility of the Central Government for the acts of its subordinates.

MR. ELIAS' JOURNEY.

WE have seen now what befel the main body of the Yunnan Expedition. It remains to set down what we have been able to learn of Mr. Elias' adventures. Mr. Elias, it will be remembered, did not accompany Colonel Browne from Bhamo, but started without any guard to explore a southern route to Momein *viâ* Sawadee and Maingmaw, with instructions to rejoin the main body at Momein or Yungchang. He succeeded in crossing the hills to Maingmaw, which he reached on the 15th February; but here he too was brought to a standstill, by the firm but polite resistance of the redoubtable Li-su in person. This officer received him with perfect courtesy, but insisted that the road from Maingmaw to Momein was unsafe, and that he would not be able to hire carriage or guides to take him there. The road to Yungchang was preferable, and that one had better be taken. This was the result of one day's talk. And now, having given Mr. Elias clearly to understand on the first day that the road he most wished to follow was

impracticable, he went on at a second interview to close the second also. The road from Maingmaw to Sefan—the first stage of the journey to Yungchang—was also declared to be impracticable, on account of a feud between the Maingmaw and Sefan Tsawbwaships, and Mr. Elias could not be allowed to proceed that way either, with any regard for his safety. The Tsawbwa of Maingmaw was more blunt, when Mr. Elias was urging his point, on the same afternoon. "Passport or no passport," said the chief, "you cannot enter China, but must go back to Bhamo the way you came." Mr. Elias went again to Li, insisted on his possession of the Imperial passport, and asked again why he was not allowed to proceed. "The only reason," he answered, "is the risk to your safety in getting from here to Sefan." He admitted that there was no fighting going on; but there was a feud, and it would be impossible to induce the Shans to cross the border. He had urged the Tsawbwa, but to no effect. The only way would be for Mr. Elias to go to the Burmese Tsawbwaship of Namkhan, and enter Sefan from thence. Constrained to acquiesce, Mr. Elias did so; and arrangements were made for his journey to Namkhan. At leave-taking, Li assured him there would be no difficulty by this road, promised to write to the Sefan authorities on his behalf, and completed his civility by kneeling to Mr. Elias at parting.

Namkhan was not reached till the 19th; and on the following day Mr. Elias applied to the Tsawbwa for assistance in hiring animals to go to Sefan. The latter promised to see what could be done, and accepted presents, which were however returned on the following day, with an intimation that Mr. Elias could not be allowed to go on—1st, because the Khakyens on the road were dangerous and the Tsawbwa could spare no guard; 2nd, that he had no pass from the King of Burma. It was to no purpose that Mr. Elias insisted he was one of Colonel Browne's party, and that Colonel Browne had full authority from the King for the whole Mission to go through. The Tsawbwa evaded that point, and again insisted on dangers from the Kakhyens, who were actually threatening the town, so that he could not spare a guard. He would not even furnish a single guide. Finding it impossible to get on, Mr. Elias extracted from him a written statement that the danger from the Kakhyens made it impossible from him to proceed—along a route, it will be noted, which Li had especially advised him to take as safe and practicable—and retreated to a place called Kutlung, with the design of communicating with Bhamo, and trying to join Colonel Browne by some other route, when he could get news of his progress.

We have already heard how instructions were sent to recall Mr. Elias, directly the attack on Colonel Browne was known, and that he returned to Bhamo in safety. Some money and presents were stolen during his stay in Maingmaw, and what was more important, his note-book containing a survey of his journey from Bhamo; otherwise he had the good fortune to come off scatheless. It is likely that he was fortunate in finding Li at Maingwang, for, though there is good reason to look on this official as the Chen Kwo-jui of the outrage, it may be assumed that he was too astute to allow a British officer, having an Imperial passport, to be murdered in his neighbourhood. It is interesting to notice the presence of this man Li-su, throughout the whole adventures of the Mission. Mr. Margary was received by him with perfect courtesy on his way across to Bhamo. It was no part of his plan to murder, on Chinese territory, a man who would surely fall into his hands under more convenient circumstances, later on. He was perfectly courteous to Mr. Elias, but prevented him quietly from accomplishing his journey. Violence was unnecessary, in the case of a man travelling alone, and would have needlessly implicated him. But it is interesting to know that Mr. Elias was overtaken between Maingwang and Namkhan by two Maingwang officials, who told his people that their Tsawbwa was not responsible for stopping him; it was the doing of Li and the Burmese Government, who had conspired to prevent the Mission entering China; and two Burmese had actually come down with Li to Maingmaw. Li appears, throughout the report of Major Sladen's expedition. At that time he seems to have been looked on as a sort of partisan leader, fighting for the Imperialists. We find him garrisoning a place called Mauphoo, in the way of Major Sladen's approach to Momein, and attacked and driven out by the Mahomedans to open communication with the latter; and the impression on Major Sladen's mind seems to have clearly been that he was bent on hindering the expedition by every means in his power. Li seems now to be Commandant of the district, and a man of considerable power and influence. Everything points to the supposition that he was a moving spirit in the hostility which the present Expedition encountered.

LOCAL SQUEEZES.

We agree with our correspondent "Shanghai Settlement," that the so-called Defence Tax is an illegal levy, and that Foreign support should be given to the Native merchants in resisting it. We go farther, and say that the moment is opportune to stir up the whole question of local taxation, and insist on the treaty being observed at least in Shanghai, if we fail to reach barriers and cities which are less under our hand. The nature of the Defence Tax was clearly explained in the article which we translated on the 3rd instant from the *Shunpao*. It is a 2½ per cent. tax on Native cargo, charged in addition to the regular import duty, in addition to 2½ per cent. which is levied on every article that passes into consumption in Shanghai, and is not only peculiar to Shanghai but to the Foreign Settlements. We do not purpose entering now into the elaborate argument against the tax that might be founded on Rule 1 of the addenda to the Tientsin treaty, because we wish to impugn the whole system of local exactions. Suffice it to say that the tax is so monstrously unjust in its incidence, that the Chinese have themselves rebelled against the infliction, and compelled the Taotai to withdraw the order lately issued for its more rigorous collection. It has, we believe, for several years now been gathered under compromise. That is to say, the merchants interested have compounded for 30 or 40 per cent. less than the fixed amount, and even the reduced sum has been slackly paid. Recent incumbents would seem in fact to have recognised that the tax was an anomaly, and that they had better be content with how small a sum soever they could get hold of. It would be in the fitness of things if the present Taotai's action led to abolition of the squeeze. It has unwisely called attention to a tax whose very name is a condemnation, and we should not be surprised if the stone recoiled heavily.

But the Defence Tax, though important in principle, is are irregular taxes levied in Shanghai, of greater importance to Foreign trade than that which the Taotai has seen fit to revive on Native produce. We believe it to be a fact within the knowledge of most merchants, that opium is by no means the only article subjected to illegal taxation within the Foreign Settlement. Merchants know that tax-collectors stand at the very doors of their hongs, and stamp every bale of goods that passes out into the hands of Native buyers. And we believe we are accurate in saying that a tax of about 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on every article so purchased, whether it goes into a Chinese retail shop in Honan Road or the Maloo, or whether it goes inland to Soochow or some other native city. A bale of 8¼-lb. Shirtings for instance, bought by a Shanghai shopkeeper, has to pay Tls. 2.31, which at Tls. 1.80 per piece amounts as nearly as possible to the 2½ per cent. that ought only to be paid on transit into the interior. We pointed out, at the time, that Sir Edmund Hornby's able judgment in the late opium case had a far wider range than the opium trade. If there is any meaning in an import tax, it must mean that goods which have paid it are at least freed by it within the limits of the port. If goods that have paid 5 per cent. import duty are to pay 2½

per cent. transit duty for the privilege of passing 100 yards inland from the Bund, the distinction between articles XXVI and XXVIII of the Tientsin treaty becomes a farce, and the whole 7½ per cent. might as well have been made leviable in a lump, under the first article. It is so obvious, on the contrary, what was the intent, that it seems absurd to labour the point. Clause 1 of Rule V of the rules appended to the Treaty lays down that "opium shall henceforth pay thirty taels per picul import duty. The importer will sell it only at the port." What other meaning can these words have, but that the payment of thirty taels frees it within the limits of the port? And so of Shirtings or other manufactured goods. Article X of the Nanking Treaty, on which Art. XXVIII of the Tientsin Treaty is founded, says:—"When British merchandise shall have once paid at any of the said ports the regulated customs and dues, such merchandise may be conveyed by Chinese merchants to any province or city in the interior of the empire of China on payment of a further amount as transit dues, which shall not exceed——(subsequently fixed at 2½) per cent. on the tariff value of such goods."

If it were possible to argue that the distinction between duties to be paid at the port of entry and duties to be paid on transit "to any province or city in the interior" meant nothing, the language of Rule V in regard to opium might be brought in as collateral evidence. But there can be no doubt; clear that it is absurd to labour so point; and it is time the whole subject should be raised afresh and fought out with the local authorities. The onus of the initiative lies on the Chamber of Commerce. It is for the Chamber to collect facts, and lay these facts before the Treaty Consuls. It will be for the Consuls to insist on the discontinuance of levies which are evidently in contravention of the Treaty. We believe it will be found that the Foreign Consuls are well disposed to fight the question, if facts are supplied them on which to work. It needs only that an argument well founded and carefully reasoned should be drawn up, to ensure their support. It is for merchants to collect these facts, because they come in contact with the native dealers and can more easily ascertain them, and because they are naturally expected to move when they have a grievance to redress. There can be no doubt that taxes in contravention of the Treaty are levied upon Foreign merchandise generally, as well as upon Native goods and opium; and we repeat that the time is opportune for insisting that every article which has paid duty according to the treaty tariff is entitled to be sold, free of further tax, at any point within the limits of the Foreign Settlement or the Native city of Shanghai. If this be the ruling of the Treaty Consuls—and we cannot see how they should rule otherwise,—it will be for the Council also to change the rôle of the Police. Instead of helping the Chinese in their extortion, by helping their Tax-collectors to arrest any victim they elect to squeeze, it will be for the Police to arrest the Tax-collectors themselves, as men guilty of an illegal action, and hand them over to the Chinese authorities for punishment. They might not be punished, but they would be worried and hindered to such an extent as would very materially check their action.

FIRES AND CHINESE HOUSES.

THE two recent fires amongst the Chinese houses in the Settlement, show how much more stringent regulations are needed to arrest the progress of a conflagration which has once gained head-way. The unusual dryness of the weather rendered the wooden houses an easy prey, when once the first block had caught, while the unfortunate want of water in the quarter of the Settlement where the later fire took place, compelled resort to the more destructive method of stopping the flames by pulling down those buildings which were likely to carry them on. It was entirely owing to these measures that the fire, east and west, in the Fuhkien Road was eventually prevented from becoming one of the most serious, if not the most serious, calamities which has befallen the Settlement since its formation. Both fires threw light on one curious point. With little or no wind, and with no actual contact of flame or sparks, the wooden buildings at the Fuhkien Roads became ignited. The Chinese occupiers in the former were able to overcome the flames; but in the latter case, it seemed almost inevitable that the fire would spread into the crowded district lying east of the Fuhkien Road. The fire extinguishers used by the Municipal Police were however punctually at hand; and it was curious to observe the men standing in the street between the two fires, able with those small instruments to keep down the progress of the flames in the already charred and burning fronts. At the Taiwan Road, the exertions of the Brigade were not so fortunate, and the flames, having taken hold of the houses at the opposite side, one block, containing property of considerable value, was destroyed. In dry weather such as we have been having lately, the experience of the last two fires goes to prove that the intervention of a street lined with wooden houses is of comparatively little effect in stopping the course of a fire. The streets allow means of access; and of course, with a good supply of water, it would be impossible for any fire to cross a street 30 feet wide. But there is not a good supply of water, though we are glad to see that projects for such a supply are beginning to assume a practical shape.

In the meanwhile, however, much can be done. Although streets, lined with wooden houses, can as we have stated above, be overleaped by a fire such as that of Tuesday night, a fire in Chinese buildings seldom penetrates through even the slightest brick and plaster wall. It causes very little additional expense, in building, to divide rows of Chinese houses by these walls. At present, though these so-called fire-walls are made use of to a large extent in the rows of houses facing the roads, they seldom or never penetrate the cook-houses and sheds at the back, which thus are able to carry on the flame and outflank the wall. The backs of the cook-houses themselves are seldom protected by brick walls, and hence fire is conveyed from one block to another. Were the Ratepayers to insist on proper fire-walls, entirely surrounding the block it is intended to protect, being erected at a distance not exceeding, say, five houses apart, risk of the fire spreading beyond these limits would be almost taken away. In new foreign-owned properties, such precautions are usually taken, as experience has shown the various fire insurance companies the advisability of enquiring into these particulars. The fire at the Fuhkien Road originated in a block of Chinese-owned houses, and spread along what, before the occupation of the settlements by Foreigners, had been a considerable village. To the present day, this quarter of the Settlement has remained in a most unsatisfactory condition. The Chinese have shown not the slightest disposition to improve their properties, and have out, even when tempted by the fancy prices sometimes offered in moments of inflation by foreign investors. Pressure has scarcely yet been brought to bear in the way of opening up roads, and the consequence was that, even after the engines had been got to play, the narrow and tortuous lanes hindered their action. We hope that the Council will take the opportunity afforded by the fire of Tuesday night, to effect some improvements in a district which has proved itself to be a standing danger in the Settlement.

MUNICIPAL.

The Municipal Report, covering 171 pages, was circulated among the Ratepayers on Friday morning. The total expenditure for the year has been Tls. 244,137, against an income of Tls. 244,2 5. These figures show an increase over the estimated income under several heads; and this increase, together with the avoidance of several items of expenditure sanctioned but not incurred, has enabled the current expenditure of the year to be met without recourse to the debentures which the Council were authorised to raise at the last Ratepayers' meeting. The following *precis* of accounts gives details of the variation:—

Reviewing the detailed statement of Receipts and Expenditure appended, we find under the former head that the revenue from

the following sources has exceeded the original estimate, and for the reasons set against them as under :—

General Municipal Rate—Native—owing to number of new houses erected.

Dues on Merchandize—owing to heavy shipments of Silk.

Wheelbarrow Fees—in consequence of increased number plying for hire.

Local Post Office—by sale of stamps and postage on loose letters.

Stud Branch—by sale of Council's Stud not allowed for in framing Budget.

Municipal Stock and Stores—sales casual and therefore not considered prudent to rely on receipts from this source in framing Budget.

	Tls.	
The Expenditure amounts per detailed statement to	244,137.12	
The Budget 1874-1875 allowed	237,160.99	
The Budget has therefore been exceeded by..		6,976.13
But in the amount ... are included items which the Council were authorised to meet by the issue of debentures.	244,137.12	
Bridge—Honan Road—Soochow Creek	5,000.00	
Bunding—Whangpoo—Heard's Wharf to Pacific Mail S. S. Co.'s premises..	1,287.08	
Hongkew Creek—West Side, Whampoo to Iron Bridge..	2,691 20	
North side Soochow Creek, Will's Bridge to Honan Road	6,000.00	
Roads—Widening ...	3,185.91	
		18,164.19
Leaving the Expenditure ...	225,972.93	
Or in other words on the Budget figure of....	237,160.99	
A *Saving* of...	11,888.06	
This, together with Increase in Revenue from various sources ...	7,054.61	
Shows surplus funds placed at disposal of the Council during the year ...	18,942.67	
Which it was thought advisable to apply to the above works without plunging the Municipality further into debt	18,164.19	
Leaving the surplus for the year ...	78.48	

The great saving on the Budget arises from the fact of the monies voted for—

	Tls.
Yang-King-Pang Iron Bridge	5,000
Seward Road Bridge	2,000
Seward Road Extension	2,000
Purchase of Land outside Settlement for deposit of Garbage	500
	9,500

not having been required for those purposes.

The Municipal income for 1875-6 is estimated at Tls. 233,699, and the ex- shows a minute nicety of calculation that can hardly be realised in practice. It is likely the revenue will prove larger than it is put down at, but the Council are wise in keeping well within bounds, as they have allowed no margin on expenditure. One indicated source of possible extra receipt is the Taotai's contribution of Wharfage Dues, which he has been asked to increase. We quite agree that the present contribution is very insufficient, but we dislike these applications to the Taotai for contributions to Municipal expenditure, because they simply afford an excuse for local taxation. The Taotai can say : if you ask me to help out your revenue, you must expect me to recoup myself. A far more satisfactory plan would be to give up the commutation altogether, and collect the tax ourselves. Say to the Taotai, we want nothing from you, but neither shall you take anything from us. Practically, it is likely that the year will consist of nine months, and the budget has been framed with this view—separate estimates being given for the last nine months of 1875, and the first three months of 1876. The change will be a convenient one, and will allow time for preparation of the report and accounts, and their circulation some time before the meeting, instead of the hurry and inconvenience now involved in the annual effort to get the Ratepayers' meeting over, before tea and silk and hot weather distract attention too much from Municipal business.

The Water Works scheme suggested by the Municipal Council is based on taking the Soochow Creek as a source of supply. The estimated cost is Tls. 256,200, which would be raised by debentures at 8 per cent. The yearly outlay is estimated at Tls. 43,496 (Tls. 20,496 interest on loan, and Tls. 23,000 working expenses), and the yearly income at Tls. 44,600, derived from a rate of 2 per cent. on foreign houses (Tls. 9,600) and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on Chinese houses (Tls. 30,000) plus certain extra sales of water, and Tls. 2,000 saving in cost of watering roads. In case the Loong-hwa site should be preferred, an addition will have to be made to the cost, of Tls. 107,000. But an additional income, more than sufficient to cover the interest on this sum, would then be derived from sale of water in the city. No account is taken of saving in the expenses of the Fire Brigade, which, as the scheme provides for hydrants throughout the Settlement, each capable of throwing three streams of water 60 feet high, and from which the engines could be supplied, would probably be material. No special site for the reservoir is indicated, but that is a matter of detail. A scheme suggested by a Ratepayer for utilising the Defence Creek, is quoted, but the Municipal Engineer objects that it would be more convenient to concentrate the works, than to have long straggling works such as that plan would involve. Further details will be best gathered from the report itself. We cannot but regret that this was not issued a month ago. To-morrow, being mail day, is practically a *dies non*, so that Ratepayers have only four days, including Sunday, to consider a scheme involving an outlay of a quarter of a million taels. We much fear that this change will involve postponement of a matter which the community are nevertheless anxious to see dealt with. The questions, for instance, whence the supply shall be drawn, and how a Water-rate should be raised, are open to much discussion. It is possible that Loonghwa or the Yangtzepoo may be preferred to the Soochow Creek, and that hydrants from which water could be bought, may be preferred to a fixed tax.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

I hear of no news. The weather has become a little warmer, but we still have occasional gales. Rain is very much wanted by the peasants.—The Emperor appears to be visiting the Kwang-teh-teen every third day ; he must be a very religious child for 4 years old. He last went there on the 30th ultimo, as per Peking *Gazette*.—On the same day, Maouchang-he was called to the Council Room with the Ministers of State, on business. Maouchang-he is not a member of the Council, but is a chief of the Tsung-li-yamên.

4th May.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 2nd May, we find the announcement that Chung How had presented his thanks to the Throne for having had the honor to be appointed acting Right Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office. I may mention that he holds the position of Left Vice-President of the Board of War, and is a Member of the Tsung-le Yamên. He was formerly Superintendent of Foreign affairs for the North of China. Further on, in the same *Gazette*, we read that Chung How had been summoned, in conjunction with the Ministers of State, to the Cabinet Council Room.

In the *Gazette* of the 3rd May, we find the announcement that Tsung Kwo-tseuen (brother of the celebrated statesman Tseng Kwo-fan), lately appointed Governor-General of the Yellow River works, had an audience to pay his respects to the Throne, before taking his departure for his post. Further on, in the same *Gazette*, we read that Tsung Kwo-tseuen had been summoned, in conjunction with the Cabinet Ministers, to a Cabinet Council.

In the *Gazette* of the 3rd May, we find an Edict appointing Tso Tsung-tang, who holds the position of Governor-General of the provinces of Shen-se and Kan-suh, Imperial Commissioner for the Settlement of Military affairs in Sin Keang—meaning *The New Frontier*, and hitherto known to foreigners as *Turkestan*, the region conquered by the Emperors Kang-he and Keen-lung. The same edict also appoints Kin-shun (金順) Assistant Imperial Commisioner in the same Commission with Tso Tsung-tang (左宗棠). From the appointing of this Commission, I am led to suppose that something of national importance has lately occurred in the Eastern Turkestan region, demanding the greatest attention on the part of the Chinese Government. In the *Gazette* of the 4th May, we read that King-leen, a General of the Chinese Manchu White Banner, had been appointed to succeed Kin-shun as General at Oroumtse, a town in Soungaria.

From Peking, I just now learn "that the German and Danish Ministers had reached the metropolis safely, and that there was nothing 'rotten in the State of Denmark,' but that there was undoubtedly much rotten in the State of China."

Here in Tientsin, the weather keeps cold for the time of the year. Last night we had a heavy fall of rain, which will do the crops much good.—Thung.

PURITAN.

6th May.

FOOCHOW.

A correspondent informs the *Herald* that the teaplant is now under pretty extensive cultivation in the Yuen-foo district.—It is reported that orders have been received from Peking to disband the gingal and bow-and-arrow-men at present in garrison, and substitute foreign drilled troops.—It is understood that the Great Northern Telegraph Company's negotiations with the Provincial Government are proceeding most favourably, and that there is every prospect of the construction of the line to Amoy being resumed shortly.—The str. *Hai-loong*, chartered by the Government to convey troops to Taiwan-foo, was detained in port for several days, owing to the reluctance of the soldiers to embark in wet weather. Says the *Herald* : "If these valiant Celestials were equipped in the same manner as a body of troops that we popped upon, a few weeks ago, at the Pagoda Anchorage (armed to the teeth with *umbrellas* and *fans!*) it is difficult to account for their squeamish objections to the weather."—The native authorities are very reticent with regard to Formosan affairs ; but there is no doubt that the aborigines are quite able to hold their own against the motley crowd of Chinese soldiery opposed to them. We believe that in all the recent engagements the Imperial troops have been badly beaten.

AMOY.

Information has been received in Amoy that an agreement was entered into last week between Mr. Dreyer, on behalf of

the "Great Northern Telegraph Company," and a Mandarin deputed by the Peking Government, for the construction of the telegraph line from Foochow to Amoy, at the expense of the Chinese Government. And the Government is to pay the Company for destruction of property and for damage by detention up to the time when the new contract was entered into. Mr. Delano, U. S. Consul at Foochow, was selected as an adviser or mediator. If the rumour be true, I hope the Chinese are not getting the enterprise into their own hands for the purpose of destroying it whenever they think proper.—*Hongkong Times.*

3rd May.

SWATOW.

Trade seems rather brisk at this port, if we may judge from the numerous arrivals and sailings. We have no less than sixteen sailing vessels and three steamers in port at present. The weather has been very unsettled this last week or so. Just now it is blowing a strong breeze from the north-east, the barometer standing high, and the themometer rather low, considering it is the first of May. We hear that since Fong's return from Canton, he has been very active in getting sections of Forts built on Fishermen's Island, and has had the *Chen-to* out firing at them two or three times already. We learn that she has fired over thirty rounds of shot and shell at them from her 7-inch Armstrong gun, but so far as can be seen when passing the Butts (or sections), some 200 or 300 yards away from them, they do not seem to have received very much damage. The gallant commander of the *Chen-to* and her chief engineer, have each received from General Fong a gold medal, a reward we believe they well deserved for energetic assistance they rendered to Fong some two or three years ago, whilst he was bringing under Imperial subjection the numerous rebellious villages in the surrounding district.—*China Mail.*

CANTON.

The *Chinese Mail* says that the soldiers forming the body-guard of the Viceroy have rendered themselves obnoxious to the inhabitants of Canton. They frequently bought things of the hawkers and refused to pay for the same. A soldier was the other day paraded through the streets with a cangue on his neck. He had been tyranising over peaceable hawkers and using violence to them, thinking no doubt that his position on the guard of the highest mandarin in the Province would secure him from consequences. But he was mistaken, for as soon as H. E. heard of his peccadilloes, he ordered him to be at once taken before the Namhoi Magistrate, who ordered him to be flogged 150 blows, and to be paraded through the streets with a cangue, as a warning to the other soldiers. —On the 26th ultimo, while a passage boat was coming from Sunwui to Canton, a sudden gust of wind came over and capsized it before the sails could be taken down. There were a good many passengers on board at the time, more than ten of whom were drowned. The gust seems to have been felt with disastrous results within a certain radius. A boat coming from Shuntak on the 26th, reported that at a place called Kom Chuk, wrecks of all kinds were seen floating about on the water there, and that several bodies were seen floating past. It is also reported that a cruiser junk was also capsized, but whether any lives were lost has not been ascertained.

HONGKONG.

A meeting of shareholders in the Victoria Fire Insurance Co., is to be held on the 24th instant, to take into consideration a proposition for voluntarily winding up the Company.—At a meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., it was resolved to work the Company in future by a paid secretary and agents, instead of through the agency of a firm. The business of the Company was stated to be prospering. They had $120,000 on fixed deposit in the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, about $28,000 invested in Chinese Bonds, about $45,000 on current account in the Bank, and had paid $25,000 on account of the steamer which was being built. The Chairman added that before parting he should like to say a few words as to the part which the late General Agents had taken in the affairs of the Company. The Company was started in bad times, and was by them carried well and successfully through opposition to its present state of prosperity; he begged to propose a vote of sincere thanks to the members of the late firm of Augustine Heard & Co. This was seconded by Captain Sands, and carried *nem. con.*—The *Daily Press* of May 6th says:—At the Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Russell, Mr. A. F. Chambers was again brought up and charged (1) with unlawfully obtaining the sum of $43,000 or thereabouts, the money of complainant (the Hon. J. Whittall), during July, 1873, and at different times thereafter; and (2) with feloniously embezzling at various times during 1873, 1874, and 1875, the sum of $17,850, the property of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., managers of the Canton Insurance Company. The hearing was again conducted in private, but we understand that the result of it was that the accused was committed for trial on both charges. Bail refused.—Amongst the passengers arrived in the *Yangtsze*, are two divers, who are engaged to work on the wreck of the S. S. *Japan*.—Referring to the Indian telegrams which will be found among our mail news, the *Mail* says the Government seem determined not to let the King of Burmah forget that he is under surveillance. A man of war has been telegraphed for and artillery has been ordered to be in readiness to sail from Madras immediately. Furthermore, a detachment of Fusiliers now serving in the Andamans has been ordered to rejoin its head-quarters in Burmah forthwith. All these movements are of course primarily connected with the difficulty which Sir Douglas Forsyth has been deputed to arrange; but they come in very conveniently for the investigation yet to be held as to the King's complicity in the Yunnan outrage. Profound peace is scarcely likely to reign in Ava for some months to come.

The *Mail* renews its protest against the appointment of Sung Pao-hwa, even with the knowledge that he is not to be a member of the Commission but only an escort to the foreigners. "Not even an Imperial edict will induce the Chinese to regard the positions of the foreign and native officials forming the party, in their true light. It is all very well to say that the Native Government is quite sincere in admitting that the British officials form the Commission, and that Sung is a mere guide and escort. In Chinese eyes, Sung will be the commissioner, and Messrs. Grosvenor and Baber will be merely his companions, appointed to report on what he may discover. It is so obvious on the face of it, they will urge, that British officials can have no possible power over the Yunnan officials, that Sung *must* be the really powerful man of the party: and this once accepted as gospel, it is easy to see what mischief may ensue. The Chinese are already remarking in this Colony on the proof afforded by Sung's appointment, that the Peking Cabinet does not deem the matter of very great importance, and this feeling will shortly become universal. Nor is the manner of Sung's nomination more satisfactory. It appears that he is not appointed by the Tsungli Yamen at all, but by Li Hung Chang, the Viceroy of Chihli, in his capacity as Commissioner of Foreign Affairs. This we hold to be a grave mistake. In a matter so important, no authority, save that of the Imperial Government itself, should be recognized, and it should be called upon not merely to appoint a delegate itself but to select one of high rank."—It is reported that the new customs Taotai at Tientsin, Lai Chiu Tong, will start in a day or two for his post. He has been ill since his appointment, hence the delay in his departure.—H. M. S. *Hornet* has returned after an unsuccessful search for the *Gwalior*, which is fast being restored to a condition that would have qualified her to go in search of her intending helper. The gunboat it appears ran short of coal, and had to put into Haining, whence she obtained a sufficient supply of wood to bring her over.

HIOGO.

The Annual Athletic Sports were held on the 24th ultimo, and the afternoon was to have afforded a general holiday, but the pleasure was marred by a soaking downpour of rain, it being the first time, says the *News*, that the Club's gala day has turned out a wet one. Twelve "events" were nevertheless got off, a flat race of 100 yards being won by J. Henson, M. T. B. Macpherson, 2; A. C. Sim, 3. Time, 10¾ sec.; putting the shot (16-lbs.); A. C. Sim (scratch) 34 ft., M. T. B. Macpherson (2 ft. 10 in.) 32 ft. 8 in.; high jump, M. T. B. Macpherson (scratch) 5 ft. 1 in., A. C. Sim (4 in.) 4 ft. 10 in.; flat race, quarter mile, dead heat between J. Henson (scratch) and A. C. Sim (50 yards' start), two others ran, handicapped 60 and 70 yards respectively, but were beaten off. Time, 52 secs. The heat was not run off; throwing cricket ball, H. J. Gorman (6 yards) 89 yards, F. Low (6 yards) 88 yards; M. T. B. Macpherson (scratch) 84½ yards; hurdle race, 100 yards, 8 flights, B. Macpherson, the former winning the deciding heat in 15 seconds; F. Low won the long jump, clearing 15 ft. 6 in., A. C. Sim being second, with 15 ft. 4 in.; a hurdle race of 300 yards was won by J. Henson, who received 5 yards' start from M. T. B. Macpherson, second. Time, 41½ secs.; throwing the hammer, F. Walsh (9 feet) 86ft., R. Wilson (scratch) 82ft. 11in.; two other flat races of half-a-mile and mile were won by M. T. B. Macpherson, respectively in 2m. 18s., and 5m. 35s.; and a "sprint" of 100 yards by J. Henson.—The Kobe Cricket Club has been reorganised, Messrs. Lucas, Groom and Sim being appointed a committee, and half a dozen names entered, at a meeting held on the 30th ult.—The *Parana* fell in, on the 26th ult., eight miles from the Isumi light-house, with some shipwrecked Japanese, floating on a capsized boat. Two men and a woman were rescued, and one man, quite dead, left behind. From the state they were in, they must have been exposed for some time, two of three saved shewing symptoms of insanity, and all being too weak to move.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Mail* says, "The China papers report that Mr. Wade will demand $150,000 of the Chinese Government for the murder of Mr. Margary," and adds an emphatic protest against any such dealing with the affair, utterly objecting to assessing the lives of Englishmen at any number of thousands of dollars. "Let Lord Northbrook send a couple of regiments to Manwyne, institute an investigation into the affair, punish the responsible mandarins, hold the place for one year, and let the Chinese pay the expense of the occupation."—The

native journals are, according to the same paper, engaged in a warm discussion upon the women's rights question; many writers are anxious to raise the status of the wife to an equality with that of the husband, and it is said that public opinion is gathering force in its favour.—The *Advertiser* says that it was reported that the Loo-chooan Mission, now in Yedo, had, from patriotic motives, refused to accept $100,000 of the compensation paid by the Chinese Government, and that the Japanese Government had decided to present them with a steamer fully equipped in lieu of this sum; but as the Loochooan question is likely to turn up again in an embarrassing form, this decision will it is thought be modified.—The *Gazette* records an unfortunate accident which happened on board H. M. S. *Thalia*, on the afternoon of the 22nd ultimo, while getting underweigh for Hongkong. When catting the anchor, the purchase carried away, and the leading-block flying round struck three of the men at the capstan. Two of them, John Hickey and Francis Hill, were hurt so severely that signals were made for H. M. S. *Challenger* to send a boat to take them to the Royal Naval Hospital, where it was found that each had sustained a fracture of the left leg. The third man received only a few bruises.—Two shocks of earthquake were felt on the 21st ult., the second being a severe one, though fortunately no damage was done. On the 26th, another severe shock was experienced, and on the night of the 29th ult., a fourth, but not so severe.—A terrific thunderstorm passed over the Settlement on Sunday morning, the 25th ultimo. During the early part of the previous evening, heavy showers fell, and, about 2 A.M. on Sunday morning, thunder commenced to roll and lightning to flash in a way seldom seen in these latitudes, heavy rain falling incessantly.—A native official who, whilst in Switzerland, witnessed the operation of a machine for working up waste silk, is about to construct a similar one for use in Japan.—The fishermen of Vries Island have recently captured a crab which measured 11 ft. 6 in. from one extreme point to the other. It was brought to and was exhibited at the Pier Tavern.—Benjamin Taylor, a seaman of the U.S. gunboat *Monocacy*, who committed a wanton assault on G. Giles, a marine belonging to H. M. S. *Frolic*, by smashing an empty bottle in his face and severely cutting it, was ordered to be tried on board his ship.—In H. B. M.'s Provincial Court, on the 28th ult., Charles Adds, owner of the three-masted schooner *Iris*, and George Withers, late master of the same vessel, were placed in the dock for preliminary examination, charged with being implicated in the late robbery from the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris. Withers was discharged without blame, but Adds was committed for trial. The total amount of the defalcations of the deceased, Messrs. Swaby and Cantelli, was stated by the manager of the bank to be $67,775.—The Amateur Athletic Sports, announced to take place on the 30th ult. had to be postponed, on account of bad weather.—The *Herald* says the Rev. Mr. Syle has retired from the pastoral charge of Yokohama.—Burglaries and house robberies have been again plentiful in Yokohama and neighbourhood, and very few, if any, of the marauders have been captured.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 18th.—(1) An edict, in reply to a memorial from Shao Heng-i, Footai of Shensi, setting forth the result of an investigation into the condition of distressed districts in the province of Shensi, and praying that arrears of land tax and grain contributions be remitted partially or entirely; or the collection deferred, as called for by the circumstances of the respective localities. The vast tracts of unreclaimed land, lying waste since the devastations of the late civil war, and the length of time required for the people to recover their normal state of prosperity, are laid down in the edict, as reasons sufficient to call for special leniency in respect to old arrears; and over fifty districts are enumerated, in separate lists, as cases for special mark of Imperial clemency. The arrears are sub-divided according to the different years to which they pertain, extending from various dates—*i.e.* from 11th year of Tungchi, downwards. The majority are remitted in *toto*, others are allowed to remain over till the gathering of the wheat harvest, in the present 1st year of Kwangsu; while the remission in a few districts of well watered rice land is disallowed. The Footai is commanded to proclaim forthwith this act of grace, on yellow placards, throughout the localities concerned, and to take precautions against nefarious attempts at extortion on the part of the yamên clerks. "Let our extreme commiseration for the sufferings of our people be made fully manifest on this occasion."

(2) Edict, appointing Chen-ming to the acting post of Brigadier-General of the Yellow Bordered Chinese force.

(3) The Footai of Shantung, Ting Pao-chen, memorializes the Throne in reference to the trial and award of a case of re-appeal, by one Sung Pao-shan. During the 12th moon of the 9th year of Tungchi (beginning of 1870), the appellant's father, Sung Wei-tien, was introduced by a friend to a farmer, Hwang Tun-li, to act in the capacity of laborer. Hwang, finding by interrogation that the man knew little of husbandry, and seeing that he was, further, advanced in years, refused to employ him. Sung Wei-tien was much disappointed, and being ashamed to return home, committed suicide on the farmer's premises by cutting himself in the abdomen. The son, Sung Pao-shan, refused to believe that his father would seek death by such means, and accordingly accused some of the farmer's that they would be supplanted by his father. The case was tried in several Courts, one after another, always in favor of the accused, and assuming each time larger proportions, until a host of relations and yamên runners were dragged in as accomplices and connivers. The Footai adjudges the appellant to be guilty of false accusation, actuated by the design of extorting money, and the parties attempted to be implicated being over ten in number, and the consequence being death to the accused if convicted, the crime, while too grave to benefit by the Act of grace of 15th of 11th Moon of 13th Year of Tungchi (1874) should be dealt with by the utmost severity of the law. The sentence arrived at, therefore, is that the appellant be conveyed to the border to serve in the Army as a felon. [The Board of Punishment is commanded to consider and report.]

April 19th.—(1) Several minor official promotions, retirements of deputy officers owing to mourning, and honorary distinctions are gazetted.

(2) The Governor of Shansi memorializes respecting the appointment of Teh-pou to the post of Sub-Prefect over the Manchu population of Tai-yuen-foo, the provincial town of Shansi.

(3) Shui-lieu, Commander of Sheng-ching (the birth-place of the present dynasty), reports to the Throne on the apprehension and examination of certain culprits, who had plotted together to extort money from the farmers and settlers on the Imperial hunting grounds at Jehol. Grants of these lands have from time to time been made for the purpose of cultivation; and re-surveys, with a view to taxation, are periodically made. The present conspirators falsely represented themselves to be petty officials and runners invested with authority, and were in league with one Lien-tsiang, who represents himself to be a clerk in one of the Boards at Peking.—Rescript: Let those prisoners at present at large be at once apprehended and brought to justice; and let the case of Lien-tsiang be investigated.

(4) The foregoing official reports on the examination, according to rule, after the expiration of one year, of two Manchu officers placed under his jurisdiction. A full account of their antecedents is given, and both officers are represented to be deserving of being retained on the list of expectants for full appointments.

April 20th.—(1) Court Circular. Certain officials are deputed to officiate at the ceremonies of the "Advent of Summer" term, on the 1st of the 4th moon, and at the ordinary prayer-offering for rain on the 10th of the same month. Other officers are also nominated, to present the libations required on the two occasions.

(2) The Governor of Canton, Chang Chau-tung, addresses the Throne, in reply to a circular of instruction from the Criminal Board, to report on the expediency or not of carrying into effect, in the province of Canton, the Censor Feng Ching-ling's representation that, in view of the whole country having been brought round to its normal state of quietude, the execution of robbers, bandits, and all criminals should be regulated by rules formerly existing. The Governor expresses himself as deeply impressed with the feelings of humanity which prompt the present enquiries of the Imperial Government. A retrospect of the reasons for the suspension hitherto of the necessity to submit to the Board all cases before dealing out the extreme penalty of the law, is given; the rifeness of robbery by armed bands, and the desirability of dealing out prompt and dread warning, in order to check the turbulent feeling existing, are adduced; while, at the same time, no undue precipitation is represented to have been shown in executive proceedings. The memorial concludes by stating that cases of kidnapping decreased; that these can now be dealt with in the ordinary course; but that insubordination throughout certain classes of the Province is still prevalent, and that a great element of danger exists from the extreme number of disbanded and disqualified braves. If the inmates of the prisons were allowed to accumulate too much, serious consequences might result; and the Imperial assent is craved to allow all cases of robbery by violence and sedition to be reported to the nearest Taotai or Prefect; and for prisoners to be executed on the spot, after receipt of instructions therefrom. As regards the Kwang-chen-foo—the provincial capital Fou—the culprits can be forwarded, as heretofore, to Canton for trial and award.—Rescript: Let the Criminal Board take note.

(3) Liu-shu, a member of the Imperial family, reports that the King of Corea had, on the 18th of 10th moon of last year, sent forward two Chinese to be handed over to the commandant of Fung-hwang district, with a letter stating that the men were Shantung traders, that their boat had met with bad weather, and been blown towards the coast of Corea; and that they had been taken in hand, clothed, fed, and returned in charge of an officer to their native country. From the King's letter, it does not appear that the boat was wrecked; for it was found anchored off the coast; but what was done with the craft is not stated. Liu-shiu finds that, in the 20th year of Tau Kwang, a similar instance occured, when the sum of Tls. 30 was presented to the Corean officer in charge of the refugees. He therefore prays that the Imperial generosity be made equally manifest on this occasion, and that Tls. 30 be paid from the Sheng-ching

盛京 exchequer to the present Corean messenger.—Rescript: Noted. Respect this.

(4) Several official movements are reported.

21st April.—Edict. Ting Pau-chun, Governor of Shantung, reports that, while supervising the filling up of certain breaches in the River at Chia-chwang in Shantung, manifestations of divine assistance from the River Deities were repeatedly met with, and works of a most dangerous and difficult nature were finally accomplished, owing to the divine help thus offered. By record, it is found that the posthumous title of Queen of Heaven was, in the 23rd year of Kangshi, added to the dignities of the "Golden Dragon King" deity, but in regard to further honors to be conferred on the "Yellow Great King" and several others, the Board of Rites is commanded to confer and report. A special temple is also ordered to be erected in memory of the Lih Ta-wang.

(2) An Edict in reference to repairs to certain Imperial graves.

(3) The Court of Censorate at Peking reports as to the revision of the constabulary regulations in the Capital. An increase of the force is urgently called for, but the low financial condition of the Board's exchequer renders such course inexpedient, while an increase of taxation would be too burdensome to the people. A rigid revision of the police regulations is therefore resorted to as the only alteration. These are submitted *in extenso;* and among many reforms mentioned, which are probably but a reiteration in fresh words of old existing rules, may be mentioned a recommendation that the police runners should be paid their wages of five mace per month in full, without any deduction from the underling clerks; also, that the clandestine opening of Opium-smoking shops, which are considered to offer but meeting places for thieves and vagabonds, should be visited with severe punishment.

22nd April.—(1) A very lengthy Edict in reference to various misdemeanours and light by several Censors, in separate tablets to rials, and revealed in part by an appeal case by Chang-sz chen, a graduate by purchase, and others. An official, Kwang-chen, was specially deputed from the Capital, to enquire into the state of affairs; and sentences based on his report are passed on several of the *literati* guilty of extortion, and who had been previously stripped of their degrees, varying from 50 blows of bamboo upwards to transportation. Several officials are also referred to the Civil Board for punishment. One or two *likin* and examination stations are ordered to be closed, and the expediency of removing others is to be considered. The appeal by Chang-sz-chen, arising out of an alleged case of extortion by military travelling accommodation station keepers, is adjudged to have been prompted by private motives—*i.e.*, he had borrowed money from a station and was exasperated at being pressed for its repayment; but, although his particular charge is unfounded, malpractices are found to have been long going on. These stations, as well as horse and coolie stations (夫馬局) for Government use throughout seventy six departments and sub-departments, are announced to have been already closed by a single order; and the Governor-General is commanded to instruct all his subordinate officials in the remaining sixty-five departments, to close the military constabulary stations and retain certain horse and coolie stations, in accordance with a list drawn up. Public notifications are to be also issued informing the people of the steps taken.

(2) A decree in reference to the repair of the Government granaries and to the sale of surplus wheat on store.

(3) A decree. Yang Yuh-ping, former Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, petitions to the effect that his two parents are old and suffering from ill-health; and he again prays to be allowed to repair to his native place to attend upon them during their last years. Yang Yuh-ping's request is prompted by filial duty and is to be commended. Being experienced in naval affairs, he is commended to act jointly with Peng-yu-lin in inspecting annually the naval stations on the Yangtsze, and in taking measures to increase the efficiency of the service. The funds required for this purpose will be supplied by the Governor-General of the Two Kiang and of Hupeh and Honan. During the intervals of his labour, Yang Yuh-ping will be allowed to visit his family.

(4) A petition that the period for distribution of Congeé Rice from two charitable institutions in the capital be prolonged. A donation of 200 *shih* of rice from the Imperial Granary, and of Tls. 400 from Duty receipts are craved.

The remainder of the *Gazette* is taken up by reports on the conduct and character of certain expectant officials, in pursuance with a regulation requiring an examination after one year from their arrival in the Province in question.

April 23rd.—(1) Decree, allowing the period for the charitable distribution of rice in the Capital to be prolonged.

(2) The Governor-General of Hu-peh and Hu-nan, and Governor of Hu-peh, jointly report on the trial of a suit lodged by deputy at the Capital by Li Kwang-chau (a former Compradore to a Foreign firm at Hankow before referred to). The appellant undertook the embankment and reclamation of certain land on the Han river, and situated on the Han-yang side. The scheme was reported to and originally allowed by the Che-shien, and the land proprietors to be benefited thereby were to contribute two strings of cash for each *sheh* of rice producible. The undertaking was subsequently appealed against by other landowners as interfering with the recession of flood water, and, after a survey by the higher authorities the embankment was accuses certain persons ma Li Kwang-chau statements, and thereby interfering with his undertaking. The finding is that the embankment was made to serve the interest of the appellant, while acting to the prejudice of others, and interfering with the flow of the Han River. As Li Kwang-chau is awaiting in prison the sentence of decapitation for false statements in regard to timber offered for Imperial use, his guilt in this case need not be passed sentence upon. In regard to the deputy, Liu Ta-yung, he was probably ignorant of the untenableness of the charge, and no punishment need be dealt out to him.

Reports on the character of Expectant officials follow.

April 24th.—(1) A Decree. Chang Chan-tung, Governor of Kwangtung, impeaches the conduct of certain officials on the Expectant list. Let the Expectant Sub-Prefect, Chen-shuen, whose mode of life is reported to be ill becoming his position, while his discharge of official duties shows ignorance and neglect; as also another officer named, be both deprived of their rank and never allowed to again take office, as a warning to others. The remaining officers mentioned may be dealt with as suggested.

(2) The Minister Wen-siang, on his knees, memorializes the Throne, stating that he has not recovered from his previous indisposition, and imploring that he may be allowed to retire from office. "Your slave was impelled by sickness to repeatedly apply to his departed Majesty for leave of absence; and words are inadequate to depict the deep gratitude to which he was moved by the Royal regard so frequently shown. Your slave was in hopes that, by medical attention, he would partially recover, and immediately return to his duties; but, alas! on the 5th of the 12th moon of last year, news of the great calamity came upon him with a shock that rendered him insensible for a considerable period. After coming to, struggling with his weakness, he hastened to the Palace, and with wails of lamentation, prostrated himself to the ground. But the trial was too great; fresh symptoms manifested themselves, and the next day his strength was insufficient to enable him to re-attend. From that time there has been no alleviation of his sickness." The statesman further goes on to say that his illness has now extended over a year, and the symptoms become daily more unfavorable. He has been burning with anxiety to improve in health, to enable him to requite one ten-thousandth part of the deep favors of which he has been the recipient: but in vain; and he has no recourse but to implore that his post be filled up by another, and that he be left to seek the reward of quietude in his native home during the declining years of his life. According to rescript previously Gazetted, Wen-tsiang was permitted to absent himself to attend to his health, but his post was left vacant.

(3) The Imperial Commissioner to Formosa, Shun Pao-chun, memorializes respecting the death of Colonel Wang Kai-sün, who was recently surprised and killed in an ambuscade by the "Lion head" wild tribe of Formosa. The bravey displayed by this officer on the present as well as on former occasions is expatiated upon, and posthumous honor is prayed to be accorded to him as if he had held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Marks of sympathy are also desired for an attendant officer and 93 soldiers who also fell on the occasion. A rescript has already appeared granting the request.

(4 and 5) Wen Liu-kwei, newly appointed to the Inspectorate of the Customs of Wei-an 淮安 in Kiangsu, reports taking over the seals of office; and the Inspector relieved reports giving over his seals. The latter states that, during his tenure of office, 2 years and 26 days—Tls. 11,430 which he purposes conveying himself to the Board of Revenue.

(6) The Governor of Kiangsu reports having taken over the acting post of Governor-General of the Two Kiangs on the 6th of 2nd Moon. The importance of the post is dwelt upon, and salt administration, river works, and Imperial grain supply are instanced as among the first of the multifarious duties to be attended to. The Acting Governor-General also declares his intention of inspecting the new forts erected.

Amusements.

THE S. V. C. RIFLE COMPETITION.

First Day, Tuesday, May 11th.

The Spring competition of the S. V. C. began this morning, in the midst of high wind and incessant rain. The early hour of 6.30 was fixed for the commencement of the shooting, and although the weather was so deterrent, some dozen riflemen put in an appearance at the range. The deary aspect of the scene around,—heavy leaden-looking clouds fleeting fast across the sky, the rain and wind beating in gusts, and everything dripping and muddy,—at first rendered it unlikely that the competition would be proceeded with in such weather, and the plucky ones huddled together beneath the mat-constructed refreshment tent, the picture of indecision and disconsolate repentance at turning out under such untoward circumstances. The wind blew so strongly across the range that it was a matter of speculation what allowance in aim would have to be made to ensure hitting the target even at the

shorter ranges, to say nothing of bull's eyes and centres at the longer ones. Half an hour was spent in lamentation, and the squad were about coming to the right about turn for the homeward march, in the hope of "better luck next time," when the officer appointed to take charge of the range arrived, and it being impossible to get more thoroughly soaked, a commencement was decided upon, and the men went to work.

The Competitions were made later this year, because weather in April had hitherto been generally very unfavourable, whereas when the match against Hongkong was shot off last year in May, it was all that could be desired. The arrangement has however turned out unfortunately, for Tuesday was as bad for shooting as it could possibly be.

Only two prizes were on the programme, the Chaasze and Municipal Cups, and as will be found recorded in the appended scores, the shooting, taken as a whole, was above the average that might have been expected under such unfavourable surroundings, and admits an opportunity for a word of commendation, as showing the result of much early morning practice. The tie for the Chaasze Cup, between Privates Wyatt and Sharp, has not been yet shot off, owing to Private Wyatt's absence from Shanghai. The Municipal Cup was won by Private Andrews, with a score of 37, which, in the unexpected absence of the scoring-sheets at the muster of the afternoon squad, at one o'clock, was magnified by rumour to 47—so high a figure as to make the entire squad (as was afterwards complained of by all of them) less careful in their shooting for this prize than they would have been had the real fact been known. It was generally felt that it would have been preferable to have postponed the competition, rather than have proceeded with it under such exceptionally unfavourable circumstances, which tended to make it both unpleasant and unsatisfactory.

The weather in the afternoon was but little different to that of the morning, and only five competitors put in an appearance. The wind was not quite so boisterous, but soil was by this time converted into a sticky morass, over which it was difficult to walk from range to range. The shooting was not concluded until nearly four o'clock.

It should be mentioned that, by one of the conditions, several Volunteers, who were likely to be unavoidably absent from Shanghai from the 11th to the 13th instant, shot in the more favourable weather of the 26th April, for the Chaasze Cup; and also for the Souvenir Cup and Consolation Prizes, included in the second and third days' programmes respectively.

The following were the scores :—

I.—The Chaasze Cup, value Tls.—presented by the Chaaszes of Shanghai. Ranges, 400, 500 and 600 yards; 5 shots at each. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees.

	400 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Priv. Sharp	14	18	13	45*
,, Wyatt	19	16	10	†45*
Capt. Tucker	19	10	14	43
Priv. Hawtrey	19	12	9	40†
,, Carnie	13	16	9	38
Sergt. Dunman	18	8	10	36
Priv. Hall	18	8	9	35
Sergt. Bishop	11	15	8	34
,, Rogerson	16	12	6	34
,, Ulrich	14	13	6	33
Priv. Macbean	14	12	7	33
Lieut. Sim	13	12	6	31
Priv. Holmes	8	8	11	27
,, Burrows	11	5	6	22
Capt. Cann	7	11	2	20
Priv. Dillon	13	3	4	20†
,, Hohn	5	3	4	12
,, Andrew	4	3	5	12
,, Pandorf	2	3	6	11

* Ties.

† These scores were made on 26th April.

II.—The Municipal Cup, value Tls. 50. Presented by the Municipal Council of Shanghai. Ranges, 200, 500, 800 yards; 5 Shots at each. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	800 yds.	Total.
Priv. Andrew	13	17	7	37
,, Hawtrey	11	11	14	36*
,, Wyatt	13	16	6	35*
Capt. Tucker	13	10	10	33
Sergt. Rogerson	12	12	9	33
Priv. Sharp	6	17	8	31
Sergt. Bishop	11	9	8	28
Lieut. Sim	10	12	5	27
Priv. Hall	16	11	0	27
Capt. Cann	9	11	6	26
Sergt. Dunman	13	3	9	25
Priv. Carnie	14	8	0	22
,, Holmes	13	6	3	22
Sergt. Ulrich	16	5	0	21
Priv. Milsom	8	10	3	21
,, Dillon	8	10	3	21*
,, Macbean	5	0	9	14
,, Pandorf	9	0	0	9
,, Hohn	4	0	0	4

* These scores were made on 26th April.

Second Day, Wednesday, May 12th.

The muster this morning was again at the early hour of 6.30, but the firing did not begin until nearly seven. The competitors were favoured with much more favourable weather, there being almost a dead calm, though the sky was cloudy, and nearly up to the time of commencing, a heavy fog obscured everything around, including the target. It fortunately cleared off just in time, and the morning became all that could be desired for rifle shooting, both as regards light and absence of wind. As time wore on, however, the clouds began to disperse, patches of blue being perceptible in places, and the sun showing in faint gleams at intervals across the landscape. This, however pleasant to an admirer of nature's beauties, was not the sort of thing for rifle competition, because it caused a shifting light to prevail, militating greatly against accurate sighting. But this untoward aspect of affairs did not last long, for in the course of an hour or so the sky cleared sufficiently to give a steady though somewhat glaring light, and under this the competitions were shot off.

The afternoon was brilliant, too much so in fact, for the sun poured down upon the range so hotly, and with such vividness, as to be almost as deterrent of good shooting as was the morning's unsteadiness of light. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, which, as all riflemen know, interfered materially with the shooting, and necessitated considerable changes of elevation, the scoring generally showed an improvement.

The most interesting feature of the day was the aggregate scoring for the Gold Cross of Championship. For this, Private Wyatt, the winner last autumn, had made on 26th and 27th April the good score of 156 or 2.60 points per shot. At the close of the shooting for the Salvage Cup, it became evident that Private Sharp, of No. 1 Company, was the only man who had a chance of reaching this figure, to do which he required to make 40 points in 15 shots. At 400 and 600 yards he shot with great steadiness, making 18 and 17 out of a possible 20 in each case. This left him with 7 points to score at 800 yards; in his first 4 shots he made 6, and his last shot being a centre he won the Gold Cross by two points. Private Wyatt receives a Silver Cross as the best shot of the Mih-ho-loong Company. The other Companies, No. 2 and 3, had not a sufficient number of men entered to entitle them to Silver Crosses.

The following were the scores :—

III.—The Salvage Cup, value Tls. —. Presented by the late Salvage Corps of Shanghai. Ranges, 200, 500 and 700 yards; 5 shots at each. Second Prize, three-fourths of the Entrance Fees.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	700 yds.	Total.
Sergt. Bishop	14	17	16	47
Priv. Hall	16	17	13	46
,, Andrew	12	16	17	45
Sergt. Dunman	14	11	16	41
Priv. Macbean	15	18	8	41
Capt. Tucker	14	14	12	40
Sergt. Rogerson	14	13	12	39
Priv. Sharp	12	11	15	38
,, Wyatt	13	15	9	37
,, Carnie	13	13	10	36
,, Hawtrey	15	6	14	35
Sergt. Ulrich	14	16	5	35
Lieut. Sim	15	15	3	33
Priv. Milsom	14	9	8	31
Capt. Cann	13	5	7	25
Lieut. Yeo	7	12	6	25
Priv. Burrows	7	7	8	22
,, Dillon	8	7	7	22
,, Holmes	14	5	...	19
,, Pandorf	9	3	5	17

IV.—A Souvenir Cup, value Tls. 50. Presented by F. B. Forbes, Esq. Open to Members of the four Infantry Companies. Ranges, 400, 600 and 800 yards; 5 shots at each. Second Prize, three-fourths of Entrance Fees.

	400 yds.	600 yds.	800 yds.	Total
Priv. Sharp	18	17	9	44
Sergt. Ulrich	15	12	15	42
Priv. Dillon	14	14	11	39
,, Wyatt	17	14	8	39
Sergt. Rogerson	17	10	9	36
Priv. Hall	16	11	9	36
,, Carnie	17	11	5	33
,, Andrews	18	8	7	33
Capt. Tucker	16	3	13	32
Priv. Holmes	15	7	10	32
,, Macbean	16	9	7	32
,, Hawtrey	13	13	6	32
Sergt. Bishop	15	9	4	28
,, Dunman	15	11	2	28
Lieut. Yeo	13	5	8	26
Capt. Cann	12	5	6	23
Priv. Milsom	8	6	9	23
Lieut. Sim	7	3	9	19
Priv. Pandorf	10	6	0	16

Third Day, Thursday, 13th May.

The weather this morning was a close imitation of that of Tuesday, thick with cloud and a drizzling rain falling. The wind, however, had gone half round the compass, and now blew south-west, as on the previous days. Notwithstanding this repetition of discomfort, four of the English and three of the Scotch team had put in an appearance by seven o'clock, to compete for the International prize. It was impossible, however, then to commence the competition, the target being invisible owing to the falling drizzle, and it was in consequence thought by several that the target was not there, for the loom of the butt could be seen plainly enough, and one of the squad went to see if it was in its place. This difficulty having been solved satisfactorily, it only remained to wait for clearer weather, and fortunately the demand on patience was but short, for at about eight o'clock the weather cleared sufficiently to enable the shooting to begin. In the meantime, messengers had been sent for the missing men, and at the time named, shooting began with five English and four of the Scotch on the ground. As the missing Scotchman, Private Glass, had not appeared when the others had finished the first range, Lieut. Sim, who was looking after the scoring, shot as a substitute for him.

At the first range, as will be seen, the English led by 4 points, the practice all round being fair. At 500 yards, however, the shooting of the Scotch team improved, while that of the English fell off considerably; some very good scores were made here, Sharp making 18 out of a possible 20, and Carnie and Sim 17 each on the Scotch side, while for England, Bishop reached 17 and Tucker 15. The Scotch gained 14 points at this range, placing them 10 in front.

At 600, the English shot very well, the leading scorers being Tucker and

Sharp, 15 each for their respective teams. Judging from the closeness of the contest, it would seem to have been impossible to have chosen more equal sides —the English losing by one point only, although one of their number, Private Holmes, of No. 1 Company, had not, we are told, previously engaged in any rifle competition. If he could only have scored, at the same ranges, as he afterwards did for the Consolation Prizes, when he made 32, with 15 at 200, and 17 at 500 yards, the English team would have won easily. The shooting on both sides was, however, somewhat better than that of last Spring, when the victors, the Scotch again, succeeded in placing 179—the present losing score—on the register; the English making 169.

The Consolation, open to all members of the Corps, who had won no prize at this meeting, was also better contested as regards shooting, than at either the Spring or Autumn Meeting of last year, when the highest scores made were 29 and 31 respectively. The number of entrants this time was smaller, but as two or three crack shots, whose names will be distinguished below, were among the competitors for comfort on the present occasion, it is not to be wondered at that the shooting was better.

Taken altogether, the meeting has not been so successful as on former occasions, but for this falling-off no doubt the bad weather is in a great degree accountable Still there does not seem to be that amount of interest taken in these competitions by the Corps generally, as might reasonably be expected. To find less than a score competitors, out of a total strength of some 300 men, is not what ought to be; and it is certainly to be hoped that in future seasons the list will include, in addition to the "old familiar faces," at least as many fresh ones.

Subjoined are the scores of the day's shooting :—

V.—THE INTERNATIONAL MATCH. To be shot for by Teams consisting each of Five Men of any Nationality. Entrance, $25 per 5 shots at each.

SCOTCH.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Priv. Sharp	9	18	15	42
,, Carnie	11	17	11	39
,, Hall	14	11	10	35
Lieut. Sim	14	17	3	34
Priv. Andrew	14	6	10	30
	62	69	49	180

ENGLISH.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Capt. Tucker	14	15	15	44
Sergt. Bishop	12	17	12	41
,, Rogerson	13	12	13	38
,, Dunman	15	7	11	33
Priv. Holmes	12	4	7	23
	66	55	58	179

VI.—The CONSOLATION PRIZES. A Subscription of $3 from each Winner of a First Prize, and $2 from each Winner of a Second Prize, added to three-fourths of the Entrance Fees. Two thirds of the whole to be taken by the highest score; one-third by the second. Opens to all Members of the Corps who have won no Prize at this Meeting. Rangers, 200 and 500 yards; 5 Shots at each.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total.
Lieut. Sim	15	17	32*
Priv. Holmes	15	17	32*
Capt. Tucker	15	13	28
Priv. Glass	15	12	27
,, Wyatt	14	12	26†
Sergt. Dunman	16	5	21
Priv. Hawtrey	8	13	21†
,, Dillon	8	8	16†
Sergt. Rogerson	11	4	15

* Tie.
† Shot on 28th April.

In shooting off the tie, Lieut. Sim made a bull's eye and Private Holmes a centre, the latter thus losing the first prize by one point only.

This brought the competition to a close.

The following is the completed Prize List of the Meeting :—

CHAASZE CUP.

Priv. Sharp, No. 1 Co. } Tie for 1st
,, Wyatt, M.H.L. Co. } and 2nd.

MUNICIPAL CUP.

Priv. Andrew, M.H.L. Co. ..... 1st.
,, Hawtrey, do. ..... 2nd.

SALVAGE CUP.

Sergt. Bishop, No. 1 Co. ..... 1st.
Priv. Hall, do ..... 2nd.

SOUVENIR CUP.

Priv. Sharp, No. 1 Co ..... 1st.
Sergt. Ulrich, No. 2 Co ..... 2nd.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

Scotch Team ..... 1st.
Priv. Sharp, No. 1 Co.
,, Carnie, ,,
,, Hall, ,,
Lieut. Sim, ,,
Priv. Andrew, M.H.L. Co.

CONSOLATION PRIZES.

Lieut. Sim, No. 1 Co ..... 1st.
Priv. Holmes, ,, ... 2nd.

GOLD CROSS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

Priv. Sharp, ...No. 1 Co.

SILVER CROSS FOR BEST SHOT OF A Co.

Priv. Wyatt, ...M.H.L. Co.

RACKETS.

Mr. J. H. Scott (Class B) having challenged Mr. Robinson for his position in Class A, the following match was played on Tuesday :—

Scott	15	15	4	15
Robinson	6	11	15	12

Mr. Scott therefore supplants Mr. Robinson in the A class.

THE SHANGHAI RACES.

Stewards:—C. J. KING, Esq., F. D. HITCH, Esq., R. FERGUSSON, Esq., E. G. LOW, Esq., F. H. BELL, Esq., A. MCLEOD, Esq., BARNES DALLAS, Esq., *Clerk of the Course.*

FOURTH DAY.

Monday, 10th May, 1875.

The "off-day" of our Spring meeting, held to-day in consequence of a postponement from Thursday last on account of wet weather, afforded some good sport. The weather was dull and windy, but delightfully cool, indeed too cool for some, who lamented the absence of overcoats when compelled to remain still. The afternoon was essentially a sporting one, but of spectators there was a great deficiency as compared with the three regular days of the meeting. The Grand Stand was but thinly attended, and only three or four ladies occupied the balcony. The Committee of the Race Club obtained, by the courtesy of the Captain and officers, the services of the band of H.I.R.M. corvette *Vsanick*, who played frequently during the afternoon in admirable style. There is little to notice in regard to the races, beyond the description of each appended to the subjoined return, with the exception of the match between *Teen Kwang* and *Gladiateur*, with reference to which it may be presumed that, with even weight, the result would not have been so wide. A difference of 2 stone, over a long course, is simply crushing. At half-past two, the saddling bell rang for

THE CRAMPO CUP.—Presented.—Value, $100; added to a Sweepstakes of $5 each, less $25 to go to the Second Pony.—For all China Ponies that have run at this Meeting, Winners excluded.—Weight for inches as per scale.—Distance, two miles and a-half. —Post Entries.

Caprice 10st 5lb 1
Furore 10st 10lb 2
Stone Crusher 10st 11lb 3
Sinecure 11st 9lb 0
Sir W. Wallace 10st 13lb 0
Sea Swallow 10st 5lb 0
Galopin 10st 9lb 0

A capital start was effected at the first attempt, *Stone Crusher* leading, *Sinecure* second, the rest close behind. At the Stables' corner, *Furore* drew slightly on the leading pair, passed them, and at the Garden was a long way ahead, *Sinecure* going into second place. Entering the straight the first time, *Furore* was still leading, the other positions being also maintained. Passing the Stables the second time, *Stone Crusher* began to make running, and taking second place, drew on *Furore*, and was level with him opposite the Stand, *Sinecure*, beaten, dropping into last place. At the Garden, *Furore*, going easy, still kept his lead, but *Caprice*, who had hitherto held but a subordinate place, was now seen coming up at a pace that betokened evil to the leaders, and soon after entering the straight for home collared *Furore*, and heading him, passed the post a winner by three-quarters of a length, *Stone Crusher* third; the rest finishing well, except *Sinecure*, who was last. Time, 5m. 50¼s.

MATCH.—$50, Once Round, weight for inches.

Favori 1
Pepin 2

Won easily, *Favori* having the race in hand throughout, and winning with the slightest spurt on the post.

THE TEEN KWANG CUP. — Presented.—Value, Tls. 250.—Handicap for all China Ponies that have run at this Meeting, *Teen Kwang* excluded.—Entrance fee, $5 each, to go to the Second Pony.—Distance, one mile and a-half.

Argument 10st 10lb 1
Wild Oats 10st 8lb 2
Bonito 10st 10lb 3
Flageolet 9st 12lb 4
Mignon 11st 4lb 5

Out of ten entries, only half the number came to the post. A good start was effected with the lead, *Wild Oats* and *Flageolet* going away with *Mignon* and *Argument* being last. There was no change rounding the bottom turn, but on approaching the Stables, *Wild Oats* went up, followed by *Bonito*, the latter closing with *Flageolet*, and *Mignon* falling behind, the weight evidently being too much for him. At the Monument, *Wild Oats*, increasing his speed, assumed first place, and *Argument* following suit, was soon second, with *Bonito* third. A good race ensued between the three, *Flageolet* and *Mignon* being hopelessly in the rear. On coming into the straight, *Argument* rushed into first place, *Wild Oats* and *Bonito* racing for second place, the former taking it, and in this order the race was finished; *Argument* winning easily by several lengths. Time, 3m. 20s.

THE GRAND STAND SELLING STAKES of $5 each.—For all Griffins entered at the Meeting and not placed in any Race. The Winner to be sold by Auction immediately after the Race. *Weights.*—11 Stone, if entered to be sold for Tls. 100, and 4 lbs. more or less for every 10 Tls. over or under that sum. The 2nd Pony to receive 75 %, and the 3rd, 25 % of any Surplus the Winner fetches over his entered price. Native Jockeys allowed to ride. Distance—Once Round.

Volnay, 9st. 8lb. 1
Black Thorn, 8st. 12lb. 2
Pastel, 8st. 6lb. 3
Martin Forster, 9st. 8lb 0
Holy Friar, 9st. 8lb. 0
Black Rod, 9st. 12lb. 0
Flambeau, 9st. 4lb. 0
Sequin, 9st. 0
Blitz, 10st. 2lb. 0
Retrenchment, 9st. 8lb. 0
Eclipse, 8lb. 6lb. 0

All native riders. At the post *Blitz* and *Pastel* became restive, and on the word to go being given, darted off so much in front, that the lot were recalled. The two named, however, could not be held. *Pastel* was ultimately pulled up on the far side of the course, and walked slowly back. *Blitz* continued his career, and raced right round the course. While waiting for *Pastel*, he darted off again, and succeeding in throwing his rider, gallopped back to the Stand where, the gatekeeper obligingly opening the gate for him, he went into the paddock, and was there captured and remounted. After another false start, when *Blitz* took the opportunity of making another short bolt, the lot went off well together, *Pastel*, *Flambeau* and *Black Thorn* in front. *Flambeau* shortly fell into third place, and there was no change until nearing the Monument, when *Volnay* gallopped through the others, and took up the running, *Black Thorn* second, *Pastel* third. The same order was maintained to the finish, *Volnay* winning easily; *Blitz* last, but still pulling hard, and still going on till he had succeeded in throwing his jockey for the second time some 200 yards beyond the post. Time, 2m. 40½s.

The winner was sold to Mr. Yuill, of Foochow, for Tls. 105.

Match—Two and a half miles, catch weights.

Gladiateur, 13h. 2in. 8s. 3lbs (The Flea) 1
Tween Kwang, 13h. 0in. 9s. 12lbs (Cheedah) 2

Gladiateur went away with a strong lead, but *Teen Kwang* soon drew up, and the two raced easily till nearing the ¾ mile post on the second round, when *Teen-Kwang* was evidently beaten and was shortly afterwards pulled in, leaving *Gladiateur* to win as he liked. Time, 5m. 38s.

First Mafoos' Race.—Post Entries.—Once round. For all China ponies that have run at this meeting, winners excluded. Weight 9st 7lb. Entrance $5. Native riders. Stakes to be handed to the riders,—winner 5/8; second 2/8, third 1/8.

Piastre.....(The Horse) 1
Bonito.....(Chifney) 2
Aiken Drum.....(Tom Jones) 0
Argument.....(Joe) 0
Tourterelle.....(Chopin) 0
Le Pauvre Diable.....(School) 0
Sea Foam.....(Layell) 0
Ghillie.....(John Scott) 0

This was an easy win for *Piastre*. *Tourterelle* led to the Stables, when the winner passed him, was never headed, and won easily by several lengths, *Bonito* and *Furore* also passing *Tourterelle* between the Garden and Monument, and finishing second and third respectively. Time, 2m. 40s.

Second Mafoos' Race.—Post Entries. Winners admitted. Once round. For all China ponies, the property of members of the Shanghai Race Club. Weight 9st. 7lbs. Entrance $5. Native Riders. Winner to receive 5/8 of the Stakes, second 2/8, and third 1/8.

Favori.....(The Flea) 1
Crumbs.....(Cheedah) 2
Wild Oats.....(Chifney) 3
Blücher.....(The Horse) 4

There is nothing to describe in this race, *Favori* winning easily. *Crumbs* was a good second, the others beaten off. Time, 2m. 39s.

Steeplechase, to take the wall at start. Entrance $5. Once round. Catch weights.

Light Brigade..... 1
Goshawk..... 0
Petit Maitre..... 0

Light Brigade led at starting, *Goshawk* second. *Petit Maitre* fell at the wall, but was remounted; but falling again at the second jump, gave up the race. *Light Brigade* refused once at the double jump, and was passed by *Goshawk*, but opposite the Stand on the far side, the latter's pace was not good enough, and *Light Brigade* passing him, and taking all his remaining leaps in good style, came past the post alone. Time, not given.

This brought the afternoon's sport to a conclusion, at 6.30, and rain coming on immediately afterwards, the course was soon cleared of visitors.

THE NAGASAKI REGATTA.

(*Rising Sun & Nagasaki Express.*)

The Annual Spring Meeting of the Nagasaki Regatta Club this year has been unusually attractive owing to the influx of visitors, a number of competitors from Shanghai and Kobe, and a good programme. It was indeed a happy suggestion that induced the committee to challenge the Shanghai and Kobe Clubs to a friendly trial of strength and skill on the water.

The weather at Nagasaki at this particular time of the year is generally so salubrious and suitable for holding such meetings as the present, that it is not surprising the residents of Shanghai and Kobe should readily accept the challenge thrown out to them, especially when we couple with it the fact of low fares prevailing on the steamboats. There is just a probability that the exorbitant rates hitherto charged by the Pacific Mail S. S. Company have had a great deal to do with preventing such friendly gatherings between the foreign residents of China and Japan; however, if this is the first of the kind it may not be the last.

For many days past the chief topic of conversation has been "The Regatta." The committee have been busily engaged making preparations for the grand event of the season—and, in fact the only really general holiday in which our community in dulges—and, in addition to an attractive racing programme, a Duck Hunt, always an amusing event, and a Greased Pole for any venturesome person or persons to walk, were advertised to take place at the close of the proceedings.

The weather on Wednesday indicated that rain would set in before the races were completed on Thursday. The morning broke dull and cloudy, and about nine o'clock a light shower fell, but after that it cleared up and expectations of a fine day were general; but these anticipations were doomed to be blighted, for about two o'clock in the afternoon it commenced to rain slowly, but gradually increased until at length it was deemed advisable to postpone the remainder of the races until next day.

The first race on the programme was for sailing boats, and punctual to time the competitors drew up alongside the P. M. barge *Shamrock*, which was the starting place. The American launch was the favorite for this race, and would undoubtedly have won it but for her capsizing about a mile and a half from Papenberg on her return. A stiff breeze was blowing at the time, and in tacking she went over and thereby lost all chance of winning the race, though she was nearly a mile ahead of the second boat when the accident occurred. A similar fate nearly overtook the *Curlew's* first cutter, but she contrived to weather the breeze.

The uncertainty as to the time when the chief event of the day would come off, took a trifle away from the interest manifested previously in the race; as it was, the race was started and won before some knew anything about it. The result was rather a take in for those who profess to be possessors of the art of prophesying. The general impression before starting was that the Shanghai crew would win, with the Kobe boat a good second, while the Nagasaki boat was not to be in the race. These prognostications, however, proved to be adrift, for the Kobe boat won, with Nagasaki a good second and Shanghai nowhere. The reason assigned for the Shanghai crew being last is very feasible indeed. The *Whangpoo* is built for smooth water rowing, and on account of the roughness of the water yesterday, the crew were prevented from putting out their strength, for the boat was so low in the water as to prevent the free use of the oars.

In the canoe race, Kobe had it all their own way. Mr. Brown, who won the canoe race last year, did not seem to be up to rowing mark. His little canoe was too small for such rough water, and to make matters worse the frail bark capsized. Subjoined is an account of the different events which came off during the day:—

1.—Sailing Race.—Tankosha Prize.—Kindly presented by the Tankosha Mining Company.—For all open boats. Entrance fee $5.—A 1st Prize and a 2nd Prize.—Course.—To start from the *Shamrock*, leave Papenberg on the starboard hand, round the Hirase Rocks, with option as to turning; leaving Papenberg on the starboard hand in returning, and winning between the Flag Boats on the inside of Papenberg.

Curlew's No. 1 Cutter—Red flag.
Do. No. 2 Cutter—Blue flag.
Ashuelot's Launch.—White with blue cross.
Mr. Hallien's *Frachtwagen*.—German flag.
,, Russell's *Anna*.—Chinese rig, Danish flag.

Owing to the course having been altered after the entry of the *Frachtwagen*, her owner withdrew from the contest at the last moment. About nine o'clock the four contending boats came up to the starting place, and took their position stern on to a line drawn from the *Ariel* to the P. M. barge *Shamrock*, all sail down. Upon the gun being fired, sails were hoisted as speedily as possible, and the little *Anna* was the first to make a move. A very light but fair breeze prevailed, and the boats soon tailed off, the *Anna* taking a strong lead, with the *Curlew's* 2nd cutter second, and 1st cutter third, the American launch bringing up the rear, and it was very evident that with such a light wind she would be out-sailed. The *Curlew's* 1st cutter was piloted by the 1st Lieut. and the launch by Mr. Callender. After rounding the point, a stiff breeze sprang up, and the *Ashuelot's* launch began to overhaul the others and succeeded in establishing a strong lead in the first tack for home, which she increased rapidly. At this stage in the race the boats ran thus: *Ashuelot's* launch first, *Curlew's* 2nd cutter second, with the first cutter third, and Mr. Russell's little boat bringing up the rear. Unfortunately for the launch, in tacking she went over and precipitated her crew into the water, from which involuntary bath they were rescued by some sampans. Capt. Church also dispatched two of the *Curlew's* gigs to the scene of disaster. The boat was raised and an attempt made to bail her out, when she went over the second time. The *Curlew's* No. 2 cutter passed the winning post first at 12 m., beating cutter No. 1 by 15 minutes, though she experienced some difficulty in passing the goal on account of a strong head wind. Time, about two hours and three quarters.

2.—Regatta Cup.—Open to all Club Visitors.—To be rowed in Four Oared Out-riggers, according to the Rules of the Nagasaki Rowing Club. Distance, 1½ miles. No entrance fee. Valued, $100. Straight Race.

Kobe Club.

Leven.	*Red White and Blue.*
M. T. B. Macpherson	151 lbs.
J. Henson	152 ,,
W. Mackenzie	195 ,,
A. C. Sim *(stroke)*	161 ,,
B. B. Lewis *(Cox)*	143 ,,
	802 ,,

NAGASAKI CLUB.

Bashful Maiden.	*Light Blue and Gold*
A. B. Glover	155 lbs.
F. Dittmer	177 ,,
A. Wright	180 ,,
H. Gribble *(stroke)*	146 ,,
F. Ringer *(cox)*	139 ,,
	797 ,,

SHANGHAI CLUB.

Whangpoo.	*Dark Blue and Gold*
O. M. Wyatt	164 lbs.
Sir W. Johnston	183 ,,
R. Mackenzie	201 ,,
D. Glass *(stroke)*	175 ,,
J. M. Cory *(cox)*	140 ,,
	863 ,,

This was *the* race of the day, and the result took the majority of spectators by surprise. The *Whangpoo* was first favorite for this race, and the *Leven* ranked next. The result was another illustration that favorites are not always to be relied upon. On starting, the *Bashful Maiden* dashed away with the lead, followed closely by the *Leven*, and she held the lead for three quarters of a mile, when her crew began to evince signs of fatigue, and the Kobeites crept up and finally passed her, winning by about 2 lengths, the *Whangpoo* being about the same distance behind the *Bashful Maiden*. The water was very rough at the time this race came off, or no doubt the gentlemen from Shanghai would have held a different position. No correct time was taken, but it is said it was a very quick race.

3.—PULLING RACE—Custom House Cup.—Kindly presented by the Commissioner and Officers of the Nagasaki Imperial Custom House. For all men-of-war Cutters and barges pulling 10 Oars and upwards.—Distance 3 miles.—Time allowance 10 seconds per Oar—Entrance fee $1 per Thwart.

Ashuelot 1st Cutter, 12 oars.—Red, white star.
Do. 2nd Cutter, 10 oars.—Blue, white star.

This race was rather a tame affair, owing [illegible] and only two boats 2nd cutter made a show, but finally fell off, and her competitor passed the post 40 seconds ahead.

4.—CANOE RACE.—Propelled by Europeans. Distance, ½ mile. Entrance fee $2. Prize, $20.

Mr. A. C. Sim's *Rob Roy*.—Rob Roy tartan.
,, C. Brown's *Ida*.—Light blue and white.
,, Mackenzie's *Flora*.—Red and black.
,, Rohr's *Ethel*.—Red.
,, Vischer's *Telegraph*.—Yellow.

Considerable interest was felt in this race on account of two strangers competing. It was generally thought the race would lay between Mr. Brown and Mr. Sim, and so far as Mr. Sim was concerned, favorable anticipations proved to be correct, as he came in first, closely followed by Mr. Mackenzie, the others being nowhere.

5.—CLUB RACE.—LADIES' CUP.—Presented by the Ladies of Nagasaki.—To be rowed in Four Oared Out-riggers, according to the Rules of the Nagasaki Club.—Distance, 1 mile.—Entrance, $10.

CLUB NO. 1 BOAT.
Blue with White Cross.
White Swan.
A. B. Glover.
F. Dittmer.
F. A. Potter.
J. C. Smith *(stroke.)*
F. Ringer *(cox.)*

CLUB NO. 2 BOAT.
White with Red Cross.
Black Swan.
A. Vischer.
V. Whittall.
A. Wright.
H. Gribble *(stroke.)*
Y. Deur *(cox.)*

A good start was effected, and for a short distance the *Black Swan* held the lead, but was finally compelled to relinquish it. The race was well contested throughout, and the *Black Swan* would have been closer had not Mr. Vischer's oar slipped out of the rowlock.

6.—PULLING RACE.—Nagasaki Ken Cup.—Kindly presented by H. E. the Governor of Nagasaki.—For men-of-war and Ships' Gigs, pulling Four or Five Oars. Distance 1½ mile.—Entrance fee, $5.—Clipper Gigs or House Boats not admitted.—A first and second Prize.

Curlew's Gig No. 1.—Red flag.
Curlew's Gig No. 2.—Blue, white cross.
D. N. Deboo-kan's Gig.—Japanese flag.
Do. Gig No. 2.—Blue.
Ashuelot's Gig No. 2, *Violet*.—White, red star.

This was one of the best races of the day, and again proved that it is dangerous to depend upon favorites, for it was thought the *Ashuelot's* gig was to be the winning boat, but instead of taking the lead she drove the rest in. A smart race took place between two of the *Curlew's* boats, which came in respectively 1st. and 2nd. The crew of the *Teboo-kan's* little gig pulled well and made a very good show.

All the other races were postponed on account of the rain, which by the time the race for the Nagasaki Ken Cup was concluded, was falling heavily and there were indications of a blow.

Correspondence.

THE "DEFENCE TAX."

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I read the translation given by you last week, of a leading article from the *Shunpau* on the Defence Tax in Shanghai; and, without purposing to go into the question of the present stoppage of Chinese trade caused by the Taotai's recent action, I wish to confine my remarks to the subject of a special impost having been allowed to be collected in the Foreign Settlement, without any remonstrance from those en—our Foreign Consuls. It is the custom now-a-days—not formerly, if I remember rightly—to say that any taxation of native articles collected from the Chinese has no concern with Foreigners, but in reference to this policy I should like to put a few questions, *i.e.*—

1.—For what reason were duties fixed on all native articles by the framers of the Tientsin Treaties; and, in view of the tariff drawn up, would the Chinese authorities be permitted to increase the duties at will in the case of native shippers?

2.—Was the above treaty designed or not to open out a carrying trade for Foreign vessels: and, seeing that our ships are limited to calling at the Treaty Ports, would it be in the spirit of its meaning to hamper cargo so bought by *special* taxation, before allowing it to reach the interior?

3.—Is not such action on the part of the Chinese calculated to divert the carrying trade from the treaty Ports to native boats, which can convey merchandise to native ports where no such special imposts exist?

4.—Is not the purchase of land supposed to convey with it vested rights, and are these vested rights of Foreign holders of property in the Foreign Settlements being done justice to, by allowing the Chinese Authorities to single out the inhabitants of the Shanghai Settlements as victims for a special levy?

I put forward these queries for the solution of your readers generally, and think that it cannot but become apparent to all that the collection of a tax in the Foreign Settlements, which exists not elsewhere, is a direct contravention of the spirit of the Tientsin Treaty. If so, it is the duty of our Consuls to stop its further collection. Shipping agents and property holders are those most interested in the questions; but, inasmuch as all residents, as well as their servants, are more or less daily buyers of some articles of native produce, prices of which are enhanced by the tax under discussion, it will be seen that the subject affects indirectly every Foreigner in Shanghai. I therefore trust to see an influential address to the Consuls, requesting them to take action in this matter; and, vested as they are with the protection of Foreign interests, it would seem to me that they will be clearly neglecting their duty if the obnoxious tax is suffered to continue. As regards the Municipal Council, it would also seem to be desirable that, before affording protection and even assistance to native tax collectors, it should first make enquiries as to the nature of the tax it is backing up.

SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

Shanghai, 6th May.

LOCAL TAXATION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—In your article to-day on the "Defence Tax," you say it is for the Chamber of Commerce and the Foreign merchants to collect facts, &c., &c. Will you kindly go one step farther, and point out to them the manner in which this is to to be done

"Would you be surprised to learn" that not one of those shopkeepers, nor one of those natives, who are interested in the Foreign goods trade, dares to give the required information? And most certainly not one of them has the courage to appear before any Court of enquiry as a witness against the existing squeezes.

Surreptitiously, I have procured the Tariff now attempted to be enforced, and I send it to you herewith, for publication. It differs slightly from that furnished in times past to Mr Hanbury; and, inasmuch as many an article embraced in it has materially declined since those days, the tax acts all the more prejudicially upon alone who is the sufferer. In confirmation of this, I submit the following illustration, sincerely hoping that the disclosure—if it may be dignified by such a term—may not be made the occasion for a strict investigation into the practice by the Powers—Native—that be:—

A bale of Shirtings—no matter what its weight or cost—in addition to what is required by the importer and his employés, pays Tls. 2.3.1, if carried whole as a bale from a Foreign godown into a Native shop in the Maloo, or elsewhere in the Foreign Settlement.

If broken up and apportioned amongst a community of buyers before being so transported, the squeeze is evaded; the collectors either cannot take cognizance of the apportionment, or it is that by reason of the trouble in collection from each actor, they wink at the evasion.

And as is the case with Grey Shirtings, so is it with almost every article of Foreign manufacture consumed within the limits of our so-called Foreign Concessions.

But mark! This evasion does not in any way redound to the profit of the Foreign seller. He would not get a cent higher for his goods, were every bale that passes through his hands apportioned in like manner—no more than he would do were the impost altogether removed. Trust the heathen Chinee for that. At all events, such has been the experience of the past.

Therefore, any enquiry that may be instituted by the sufferers, must be conducted on purely philanthropic principles, having for its sole object the benefit of the man, or men, or class of people, who lack the courage openly to seek for redress, and who deem it preferable

to resort to smuggling—as it is familiarly called—in order to compass their ends.

I am not writing in defence of the tax. On the other hand, I should be glad to see it abolished. But I question whether its removal would be beneficial, and whether some more irksome squeeze, and one more difficult of evasion, would not take its place. At present, the tax does not press so very heavily upon the traders, for I am assured by interested natives that little more than fifty per cent., all round, of the impost is exacted from them (*i. e.*, what they actually pay does not exceed that per centage), and this they pay—"contented with the ills that are."

Yours obediently,

VIATOR.

Tariff of local taxation on Cotton and Woollen manufactures :—

		Arbitrary and unchanged. Pcs.	Tls.		Tls.
Grey Shirtings per bale of		50	2.31	on a valuation of	1.85
White Shirtings per case of		50	2.43	,,	1.95
White Brocades		50	3.00	,,	2.40
White Spots		50	1.80	,,	2.25
Dyed Brocades		50	3.75	,,	3.00
Dyed Spots and Gentian Shirtings		50	3.00	,,	2.40
Chintzes		50	1.87½	,,	1.50
Dyed Damasks		40	4.00	,,	4.00
Velvets or Velveteens		24	2.52	,,	5.00
Turkey Reds		50	3.00	,,	2.40
Muslins		100	3.00	,,	1.20
Dimities		100	3.75	,,	1.50
Blue Mottles		60	3.45	,,	2.30
Handkerchiefs	dozen	200	2.50	,,	0.50
T-Cloths		50	1.62½	,,	1.30
Sheetings		30	1.87½	,,	2.50
Jeans		30	1.57½	,,	2.10
Drills, American		15	1.05	,,	2.80
Do. English		30	1.72½	,,	2.30
Spanish Stripes and Medium Cloths		6	2.76	,,	20.00
Dutch Camlets		10	4.60	,,	20.00
English do.		10	4.15	,,	18.00
Long Ells		20	2.76	,,	6 00
Lastings		20	5.52	,,	12.00
Lustres, Figured, Plain, &c.		50	5.75	,,	5.00

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—I am pleased to see the position you take in your leader of this morning, with reference to the system of squeezes practiced upon us by the Chinese. Six or eight years ago, my attention was called to it by having a bale of Drills stopped on the Bund by one of these *Squeezers*. When he found the goods belonged to a foreigner he apologized, and said, "It is all right." I replied it was not *right* for him to forcibly stop persons on the street, and was so simple-minded as to suppose that if this highway robber (?) were dragged before the Police Court he would be punished. But, subsequently, I saw in the reports of the Mixed Court that such cases were tried, and the offender was simply reproved for letting the "foreign devil" discover his trade, and "cautioned"—that is, was told not to allow himself to be caught again. It is time that we knew the Chinese officials have never kept a single clause in the Treaty except when it suited their convenience, and they never will unless compelled.

This double government and double system of taxation is ruinous, and according to the first principles of government, we are bound to protect those residing within the Settlement from further taxation, or cease to levy taxes upon them ourselves. No people should be subjected to two systems of government and two systems of taxation at the same time.

I was told by a lumber dealer that the squeeze the Taotai's minion sought to get from him, on a certain bill of lumber sold to me, *was no definite sum; he would get all he could!* And the Taotai's prison, and tortures such as the inquisition vainly sought to copy, are used to enforce and collect this simple and equitable (!) tax (!) Good heavens, is this a *tax*, is this a *Government?* And the collectors of these taxes (!) walk our streets, stand in the merchant's doors checking his sales, thick everywhere, guarding every avenue of trade, sucking the life-blood and cutting the very sinews of commerce. "It is no definite sum, but whatever they can get," said the lumber dealer; yet such a good honest man as Mr. Hanbury was induced to believe and publish certain fixed rates *à la* Foreigner. They may prevail in certain small transactions, but such a custom is contrary to the genius of the Chinese Government, and is not likely to be general. Let not your readers suppose that the squeeze the native meets at almost every mile in the country round Shanghai, that is paid on every *cash* worth of produce that comes across the river, or is landed upon the bank of any creek near here, affects the Chinese only. It affects the interests of every man living in Shanghai. The tendency of this squeeze is to ruin the place, and if not repelled, it will cause grass to grow in the streets of Shanghai Foreign Settlement.

Yours truly,

M.

Shanghai, 11th May.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, May 10th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

AUGUSTUS CHARRIER *v.* C. H. NAIL.

This was an action to recover Tls. 62.20 for hire of and damage to a pony.

Defendant said he was satisfied with the charge for hire Tls. 2.20, but disputed the amount charged for the damage. The affair was purely accidental.

Plaintiff said the defendant on the 2nd instant hired a pony and trap from him. He returned at about nine o'clock, and brought them back. The pony's two knees were broken, there was a bruise on its chest, and some damage to a hind leg. Next day, the manager sent to him to let him know the pony was injured, and later in the day also sent the pony, so that he might see the damage. Defendant wrote a letter saying he would call the next day, but he did not come. He (plaintiff) therefore went to him, when defendant said the accident arose through there being an opening, made right to show it; it was nine o'clock, and the pony was going at such a speed that when he came upon the opening, he could not stop in time, and the pony went into it. The injuries were, the defendant had said, only mere scratches, the fact being that the skin was torn off both knees. The value of the pony was Tls. 60, and it would take about twenty days to cure it. If defendant did not take the pony, he (plaintiff) would charge Tls. 20 for injury and loss of time. There was a mafoo sent with the trap.

Defendant said the opening in the road was at the junction of the Rue du Consulat with the Bund. There was no light to show it, and he drove right into it. The side was sloping, and the pony did not fall on it knees. Defendant believed the injuries were inflicted on the animal by the mafoo, in getting it out. There was no shock when they drove into the opening. Defendant did not consider he was responsible, because there was no kind of protection to the opening afforded by the French Municipal Council, whose workmen had made it. He thought that in ten or fifteen days the pony would be fit for work. Both lamps of the trap were lighted, and defendant and a friend who was with him, were quite sober. They took all possible care in getting the pony out of the shafts, by unfastening the traces. Defendant and his friend got the trap out of the cutting, and the mafoo extricated the pony.

CHRISTIAN HARRY KAHLER, who was in defendant's company at the time in question, gave confirmatory evidence. He did not see the opening in the road, as there were no lamps near, and he was sitting on the side of the trap away from it. There was a lamp, not a street lamp, close to the Hotel d'Europe. They were driving at a medium pace, and did not know of the existence of the cutting, as at starting they went in a different direction.

Plaintiff's mafoo was next called, and stated, through Heding, that as they were driving up the Rue du Consulat, the trap came in contact with a lamp, smashing it. Immediately afterwards the pony and trap went into the cutting. When the trap struck, witness stood up, and saw it was against a lamp. There was no light in it then. It was a Chinese glass lamp, and when witness saw it, the light was extinguished. There was a post and horizontal beam from which the lamp had been suspended. He told the driver then to take care, as there was an opening near. He said, "Look out; take care; one hole." He saw the cutting only a moment before they were in it. The cutting was about 100 feet in length, and running east and west. There was a lamp, also, at the Whangpoo end, burning, and a man in charge of it. He was a Chinaman, and was standing by the lamp. There were no street lamps about the place—it was dark but for the lamp at the cutting. They were not driving too fast at the time. Defendant drove very well going to Sicawei, but not so well coming home.

By Defendant—The lamp I first spoke about, was, I inferred, suspended from the beam, but I cannot say certainly. As I was getting the pony out of the cutting, the watchman from the other end came to us.

Defendant said there was a lamp, near the the Hotel d'Europe, fully 100 yards from the head of the cutting; it was burning very dimly. It was suspended from an upright bamboo to which a cross-piece was attached. The cross-piece extended further out into the road. He went to the right to avoid it, but the splash-board caught the end of the cross-piece and threw the lamp down.

His HONOUR said he must have some more evidence as to the lamp, and the distance it was from the cutting, and also as to the absence of barricades. He could scarcely believe the lamp was so far off as a hundred yards. At such a distance, it would be of no use as a warning against the cutting. Did it not occur to the defendant, from the fact of a lamp being placed in such a position, that very careful driving was necessary there?

Defendant said it did not occur to him to drive more carefully than he was driving, because the lamp was so far away from the cutting that he did not imagine there was anything obstructive beyond it.

The case was adjourned until Wednesday.

May 12th.

AUGUSTE CHARRIER *v.* C. H. NAIL.

This was an adjourned hearing from Monday, the suit being to recover Tls. 62.20, for damage to and hire of a pony. Defendant admitted the charge for hire, Tls. 2.20; and the question to be decided was as to his liability to pay the damage. The case was adjourned for the production of further evidence.

Plaintiff produced a copy in French of the report of the accident made to M. Barbe, by the policeman on duty at the time. Neither M. Percebois, Surveyor to the French Municipal Council, nor M. Barbe were able to be present.

His HONOUR read the report, which was to the following effect:—"At twenty minutes to ten o'clock, a carriage, with one horse, containing two Europeans, upset a barrier placed near the Consulate-General, broke the lantern which marked the obstacle, and afterwards got into a cutting opened a little higher up the road, for drainage-works. No one was hurt, but the carriage was damaged."—His Honour went on to say that it was certainly not twenty minutes to ten, nor was the carriage injured. He had been to look at the place, and now knew something more of the matter. At the time the case was being heard, he had forgotten there was a side street leading into the Rue du Consulat, but not across it, and he also now knew where the Hotel d'Europe was. The distance from the Hotel d'Europe, at the corner of that side street, to the Bund, was about 120 yards, and it was at the junction of the side street with the Rue du Consulat that the barrier and light seemed to have been placed. How long did the defendant suppose the cutting was?

Defendant replied that he should think it was about two-thirds the length of the Court-room, and near the Bund end of the Rue du Consulat.

His HONOUR went on to say that he could understand the reason for placing the lamp at the point near the Hotel d'Europe. It was to indicate that some work was being done beyond, which could not well be passed—in fact, to tell persons to turn down the side street. When he first heard the case, he thought from both plaintiff's and defendant's statements that defendant was not liable, and that he had done all that was required—had exercised all the care that he was bound to exercise—and he was likewise under the impression that there was no barrier or light near. A person who hires a trap in no sense insured its safety, and was not reponsible for any damage that may be done to it, provided it could be shown that proper care was taken at the time of the occurrence. He mentioned that, because he thought the plaintiff seemed to be of opinion that the defendant was liable under any circumstances.

Plaintiff said he knew what his Honour had stated was the case.

His HONOUR went on to say that up to the time of hearing the plaintiff's and defendant's statements, he did not think the defendant was responsible, and considered that the plaintiff could not charge him with the damage. But after hearing the mafoo's account, that there was a lamp, and that the defendant knocked it down and broke it, the case was altered, because a prudent person could not have imagined the lamp was put there for no reason whatever. The inference in any person's mind would be that there was some obstacle further along the road, and that more than ordinary care would be required to pass by it. It seemed to him that the defendant should have walked the pony until he got to the end of the street. If that had been done, this accident would not have happened.

Defendant said the lamp was more than half across the street, and he did not think it implied that the road was closed.

His HONOUR said it did not, but its existence there suggested to any ordinary mind that there was something out of the common, and consequently more than common care was required. On the contrary, it appeared that after defendant had capsized the lamp, he did not alter his pace at all, but kept on as fast as he was going previously. He ought clearly by saying that under the circumstances [illegible] believed a jury would say that defendant had not acted as a prudent man would with his own property, and was therefore liable to pay the damage. He was, however, liable only because it had been proved there was a light put up to warn persons of the obstacle beyond.

Plaintiff in reply to His Honor, said he could not accept less than Tls. 20, and had he not known that a barrier had been erected at the place, he would not have brought the action.

His HONOUR supposed the defendant did not wish to take the pony?

Defendant said the pony was of no use to him.

His HONOUR then entered judgment for plaintiff for Tls. 20 for the damage, and Tls. 2.20 for the hire.

No other evidence was called in the case than that heard on the first day, but a witness who had been subpœnaed on behalf of the defendant, now stated that on Sunday night about a quarter to nine, he was walking along the Rue du Consulat towards the Bund; there were no lights at that time, at the place named, and only a slight upright with a cross piece reaching partly across the road; while a bamboo fence on the right hand side of the Rue du Consulat, obscured the light of a lamp at the corner of the Bund, throwing the cutting, of the existence of which he did not know, into shadow, and he was nearly walking into it. He also visited the place on Monday night, and there was again no light.

His HONOUR said there was, however, something there as a barrier (and also a light when the defendant passed), which should have shown passers by that more than ordinary care was required, which the defendant did not take, and therefore he was liable. If the defendant was not satisfied with the decision, he could take the Chief Judge's opinion on it.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 7th May.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* A. MURRAY, J. A. SAMUELSON, JOHN CARLSON and RICHARD WILLIAMS.

Desertion.

Murray is an able seaman, the other defendants being ordinary seamen, who had entered and signed articles for the British ship *Sir Lancelot*, and were now charged with desertion. They gave themselves up at Hongkew Police Station on Thursday night. Murray had been ashore since the 24th of April, the others from the 27th. The ship sailed for New York on Wednesday last.

Mr. BOWEN, Superintendent of the Sailors' Home, said, in reply to the Court, that the prisoners reported themselves to the constable of the Home, who brought them to him, but he told them he could do nothing in the matter, and that they must report themselves as deserters to the proper authorities.

Police Sergeant Malcolm, who had the case in charge, said the prisoners, since deserting the ship, had all been living among the natives, below the Yangtszepoo Creek.

Williams said he had been ill-treated on board, and had summoned the second mate for assaulting him. On the night of the day the case was heard, he returned on board, when a cork fender was thrown at him by some one, and struck him heavily on the back. He was afraid to remain on board, and came ashore the same night, putting his clothes in a boat alongside. About £5 in wages were due to him.

Murray's excuse was, that he came ashore on leave, got drunk, and was in consequence detained in the Police Station for two days. On being released, he heard there was a warrant out against him for desertion, and believing that he would in consequence lose all the wages due to him and be forced to work the voyage for nothing, he determined to remain on shore. Betweeen £4 and £5 wages were due to him, and he had left most of his clothing on board, having sold some of the remainder to buy food. The clothing he had sold was brought on shore by another man who was paid off from the ship, but he (prisoner) did not tell him to bring them.

Samuelson said he was afraid to go in the ship, in consequence of being threatened by the work on board," and he had besides been beaten every day.

His WORSHIP asked prisoner why he did not complain to the authorities if he was so ill-used?

Prisoner replied that he also summoned the second mate for assaulting him. He had brought none of his clothes on shore, and there were about £4 wages due to him.

Carson's excuse was similar. The wages due to him were between £3 and £4. He had summoned the Captain for an assault upon him, and he was ordered to pay the costs.

His WORSHIP said he could not overlook cases of this kind. If seamen had any complaints to make, they should come to Court to make them. They would then be enquired into, and what was right would be done. Prisoners had all put themselves in the wrong by their conduct, for there was plenty of time between their going on board after the hearing of the former cases, and the ship sailing, to come to Court again. If their statements were true, they would not have been put back on board the ship, and so would have obtained their object in a much simpler way. As it was, they had got themselves into trouble. With regard to Murray, his Worship did not think he could have really believed that, because he was two days absent—in fact, only one, he having been on leave the first day, and his absence on the second day being due to the fact of his being locked up for drunkenness—his wages would be forfeited, and that he would have to work the voyage for nothing. There was no sense in such a belief. What caused some little doubt to arise in his Worship's mind in Murray's case, was the circumstance that some of his clothes were taken ashore by the other man, which made it appear that he (Murray) did not mean to go back. How would the man have brought the clothes on shore, unless prisoner had told him to do so? It was not a very bad case, however, against the prisoners, but still their conduct was wrong. They had all lost the wages due to them, and in addition they must all go to prison for a week, with hard labour.

8th May.

R. *v.* J. ALLEN.

Furious driving in Broadway, Hongkew.

Defendant, in answer to his Worship, admitted that he was the worse for liquor, but denied that the charge of furious driving was correct. The pony was one that would not trot, but galloped.

Mr. STRIPLING said that it was rather an aggravated case, as defendant had beaten the mafoo and driven him away.

P. C. No. 18, J. STEIN, sworn, deposed—At about 7 p.m. yesterday, I saw defendant driving furiously down the Broadway. I called to him, but he did not take any notice. After going towards the Hongkew Wharf, he turned back, still at the same pace. I got up behind the trap, and took the reins from him and pulled the pony up. There were a great many people about, as is usually the case about that time in the evening.

Mr. STRIPLING said that during the afternoon, the defendant had been warned by the police, the trap having been capsized into a ditch on the Sicawei Road.

Defendant denied the assertion that he had beaten the coolie, and said that during the afternoon, as the pony would not trot, the mafoo was asked to drive, which he did. On arriving in town, he (defendant) unfortunately got a glass too much, and wished to drive the pony home, hence this trouble. He was very sorry, as it was the first time in his life that he had been in such a position, and felt it keenly, having a wife and eight children at home.

His WORSHIP—What wages do you receive here?

Defendant—£17 per month, or $110. I send $50 a month home.

His WORSHIP—Under the Land Regulations a fine of $10 is inflicted for all such offences, and under the circumstances, you having been twice warned, I cannot do otherwise than inflict the full penalty upon you.

The fine was paid at once.

R. (AH-RE) *v.* W. TOZER, (AH-NAY) *v.* W. TOZER, (WEI POW) *v.* C. KETCHIE.

Assault.

[illegible] plainants servants at the Sailors' Home, and the former were charged with being drunk and assaulting the servants on Friday morning.

Defendants were brought up on Friday afternoon, and after hearing the facts of the case, his Worship remanded them until to-day.

His WORSHIP now said, with regard to Ketchie, as he had been before him on a previous occasion on a similar charge, he should take care that he did not offend again, and sentenced him to ten days' imprisonment with hard labour, and to be deported.

Mr. BOWEN said, in reply to the Court, that the defendant Tozer was a quiet man when sober, but very violent when drunk.

TOZER said he was very sorry, but that the first complainant had made him angry by carelessly upsetting some hot tea over him at the table.

His WORSHIP said, according to the complainant's statement, the assaults did not take place at the table, but in the passage some time afterwards. Although Mr. Bowen had given him a good character when sober, he could not allow such conduct to pass unpunished, as he had used great violence to the two Chinese, who had several teeth loosened by the violence of his blows. He therefore sentenced him to two weeks hard labor for each offence.

10th May.

R. (JOHN MCKENZIE) *v.* WILLIAM FLETCHER.

Assault and Wounding.

Prisoner who was brought up in custody of P. C. Boyson, is a fireman of the steamer *Bengal*, and was charged with assaulting the complainant, boatswain of the same ship, by striking and cutting him in the face with an iron ladle.

Complainant, whose right cheek was plaistered up, deposed—I am the boatswain of the *Bengal*. On Saturday evening I was in my berth with a few friends. A fireman came

by and asked for a light. He came in, and I gave him a light. He said "You don't mind a fireman coming inside." I said, not for a short time. Some one outside heard this, went down below, and brought up five other firemen. The prisoner was among them. I cannot say if he was drunk. I shut the door to prevent them coming in. They burst the door open, and I stood in the doorway, and threatened that I would knock the first man down who came in. Immediately upon that the prisoner struck me on the right cheek with an iron pitch ladle, inflicting a severe wound, and breaking the ladle from the handle. My cheek bled a great deal, and the wound gave me much pain. It was about half past nine o'clock. I went to the Hongkew Police Station, where the wound was dressed by Mr. Stripling.

Inspector Stripling described the wound as being three-quarters of an inch in length, the cheek bone being laid bare for a quarter of an inch in width.

Prisoner said he had been drinking all the afternoon, and if he had not been the worse for drink, it would not have happened. He was very sorry for doing it, and would never do such a thing again. It was the first time he had committed himself in such a manner. He had a good character for twelve months from his last ship.

The Chief Officer of the *Bengal*, in answer to the Court, gave the prisoner a bad character for insolence and insubordination, and further stated that at the same time he struck the boatswain, he also wounded another man, a fireman, with the same implement, inflicting a much more severe wound. The fireman, who refused to appear against him, had merely said prisoner ought not to have struck the boatswain.

His Worship said he was sorry the prisoner's assertion as to his good character was not borne out by the statement of the Chief Officer; and the plea of drunkenness was no excuse for the commission of an offence, for it did not make the pain or the inconvenience the person injured suffered any the less. He should sentence the prisoner to two months' hard labour.

Extracts.

[illegible] "Gwalior"

The following account of the disaster to the *Gwalior* has been placed at our disposal by a passenger:—

The *Gwalior* left Bombay for China on the 23rd March. On the 25th, she was forced to stop for a few hours to adjust part of the engine, but notwithstanding that, completed her journey to Galle by the evening of the 27th. She waited outside the harbour for a pilot, but when this functionary came on board it was found impossible to start the engines. The anchor was therefore dropped, and the necessary repairs executed. She came into Galle harbour on the 31st, and left again the same day after the engines had been duly passed by the surveyors. On the 2nd of April another break-down ensued, which occasioned a further delay of 32 hours. Penang was reached on the 7th and Singapore on the 9th, but at neither of these places was any additional survey considered necessary. The *Gwalior* left the latter place at 10 a.m. on the 10th, and met with no misadventure until the 16th. All the time there was a slight escape of steam from the top of the high pressure cylinder, but very fair time was made, especially as there was a head wind for nearly two days. Early on the morning of Friday, the 16th, the weather began to look very dirty. A sharp thunderstorm came up, and the sea began to rise. At about 5 a.m., when we were by dead reckoning about 130 miles from Hongkong, the cover of the high pressure cylinder split into about half a dozen separate pieces, with a crash that woke most of us. The steamer pitched and rolled about very uncomfortably all that day, while the engineers tried to repair damages. The sea, now very rough, and the clouds and rain completely prevented any sights being taken. We knew that we were drifting away from Hongkong, but it was impossible to ascertain the set or the speed of the current.

At 1 a.m. on the following morning, an attempt was made to start the engines, the broken cylinder cover having been secured, but it was of no use for the steam could not be held. The engineers then covered the top with layers of canvas and portland cement, and fastened down the lid on the top of this, lashing and securing it with chains and massive blocks of wood, and at about three in the afternoon started the engines. The steam was still too strong for them. It escaped in clouds, bespattering the engine room and upper deck with the cement, and the engines had therefore to be stopped again. We were all looking on and wondering what we should have to do next, when the order was given to lower away the boats as the ship was sinking. It appears that by some inexplicable carelessness the circulating pumps were opened below, while the discharge valve was unclosed. The latter was thus jammed open, and the sea came pouring in like a cataract. Fortunately there was no confusion. The boats were in perfect order, and they were at once supplied with food and water and safely lowered; neither crew or passengers lost their heads, and every one was placed in the boats without any accident occurring, and the greatest credit is due to the Captain and officers for the perfection of the arrangements on this trying occasion. An officer or quarter-master was placed in charge of each boat, and orders were given to push off from the ship and wait, while the Captain, engineers, and some of the officers tried what could be done to save the ship. If the steamer sank, all the boats were to hang on to a kedge until the gale moderated, and then we were to make our way to the nearest land, which we presumed to be Hainan. Hoi How or Hai K'ou was the port which we hoped to fetch. A very high sea was running, the waves being so large that as we sunk down in the hollows we lost sight of the hull of the ship, and it may be imagined that this was a most anxious time; for the boats, especially the second life boat, were much crowded, and most of us felt that we should be very fortunate if we got safely to shore. We had not been waiting long when to our most intense relief we were ordered back to the steamer as the leak had been stopped. This was effected by a bracket being broken away, and the spindle of the valve knocked down thus closing the aperture. As the boats were getting back, the jolly boat was swamped in turning round, and two of the persons in her were drowned. One was the serang of the boat and the other a Chinese deck passenger, who is believed [illegible] about him. This was the only loss of life, for the transfer of the people in the other boats was effected without accident and with very little damage to the boats themselves.

We had now something like 700 tons of water in the steamer, which meant about 17 feet in the stoke hole and engine rooms. The sight of the water rushing backwards and forwards in these two places as the ship rolled, and the noise made by it, were quite appalling. Every one was at once set to work to clear the water out, every pump in the ship was rigged and gangs told off to each. Among the deck passengers on board were seven Italian sailors who made themselves particularly useful, and worked without ceasing at the pump which was connected with the engine room, but there was no reason to complain of shirking on the part of any one. Perhaps the most useful person on board the ship at this crisis was Mrs. Stokes, the stewardess. Her presence of mind was an example to all, and every passenger on board will acknowledge her kindness and helpfulness.

About 12 o'clock at night there was a further alarm, when it was found that there was 7ft. 6in. of water in the after hold. It was feared that there must be a further leak somewhere and that the water was gaining on us.

We trusted that *Gwalior* would remain afloat until daybreak, but every one was very anxious, until it was discovered that there an escape from the engine room into the after-hold, and that we were absolutely gaining on the water actually in the ship. On Saturday morning, in addition to the pumps a large cask was rigged on a whip, leading down into the stoke-hole, by which means we were enabled to discharge about a ton of water every three minutes, but it was four o'clock on the afternoon of Monday the 19th, before the water was sufficiently reduced to allow the furnaces of the donkey boiler to be lighted. As soon as this was done the steam pump quickly finished the work for us. The gale died out on Sunday, and was followed by fine bright weather, and we were thus able to get sights. These shewed that we had drifted down close to the Taya islands near the coast of Hainan. We tried to get the steamer under sail and bring her before the wind, but though the foresails were braced round and a hawser passed over the stern, she would not come round a point, and we were forced to let her drift as she would. When we were safe inside the islands and at about twelve miles from the coast of Hainan, the anchor was dropped in 35 fathoms, and we made up our minds to stay till assistance should reach us, unless the screw could be moved by means of the low pressure cylinder working singly.

On Tuesday evening Captain Haselwood despatched one of the life boats in charge of Mr. Seymour the 2nd officer, with instructions to go to Macao or Hongkong and procure assistance, and on the following night a junk which passed us was chartered, and sent on a similar errand. We calculated that unless the life boat had bad weather assistance ought to reach us on the evening of the 25th.

On Saturday, the 24th, as fresh provisions were running short, a party of us went in the cutter with the 4th officer and the purser to see if we could buy anything to eat in Hainan. We landed in a lovely little cove at the back of the Toncon promontory. Here we found a few wretched huts inhabited by stalwart looking fishermen. The oldest of these at once demanded a squeeze from us for landing where we did. This we declined to pay, but we offered to pay one of them who could come with us as guide, and this offer was, after some demur, accepted. He told us that we were in the district of Wén Ch'ang (文昌), and there was a town at some miles distance. We had no time to go thither, but contented ourselves with foraging at the farm houses about. We were, however, unsuccessful, for though we saw plenty of live stock, the country people flatly refused to sell us anything except two fowls, for which they demanded the modest sum of two dollars. It was very tantalizing to see the bullocks and cows grazing all round us and not to be able to get a single one of them, but we had no help for it, and were forced to return to the ship empty-handed. The country where we landed [illegible] a succession of cocoa and groves on the rising ground, and on the low ground paddyfields.

Early on the morning of the 27th, the *Bombay* hove in sight, to our great joy, and the first person to board us from her was Mr. Seymour, whose adventures are already known to our readers. Six of the seven Italian sailors mentioned before, accompanied him on his voyage. He says that their services were invaluable, and that they worked hard long after the Chinese crew were exhausted. About two hours after the *Bombay* had arrived, H. M. F. M.'s gunboat *Tejo* also came up and kindly offered to assist us. We hear that H. M. S. *Hornet* was also in search of us, but we have not seen any signs of her. We were taken in tow by the *Bombay* and started at the rate of 5 or 6 knots. Unfortunately it came on to blow hard again on the 28th, and our speed was reduced to a little over 2 knots. It would have been less had the engineers not succeeded in disconnecting the shaft. However it lulled again on the 29th, and as this is being written on the 30th, we are in sight of Pokfoolum, and so we trust that we are safely at our journey's end, and very thankful we are that this is the case.

While we readily and gratefully acknowledge our obligations to Captain Haselwood and his officers for the discipline and good order prevailing on board, and for the care taken of us in a time of great difficulty and danger, we think that there are two points of which we have a right to complain. The first is the construction of the ship and engines. Is it right that compound engines should be used which become utterly helpless so soon as one of the cylinders is disabled? And what can one say of a ship which cannot be brought before the wind, so as to use her sails, although an anchor is let go astern, and the foresails set. Again, it seems a mistake that the donkey boiler should be below. Would it not be possible to have it on deck without inconvenience? The second cause of complaint is that the *Gwalior* was allowed to

leave Singapore with her engines in such a doubtful condition. It is all very well to say that we were going over ten knots when we reached that port, but in coming up the China Sea we were liable to be exposed to the force of the monsoon, in which case the chance of accident would be greatly increased, as the event shewed. We trust that these points will be brought to the notice of the Company, in order that any more disasters of this kind may be avoided in future.

Engineer's Statement, (from Hongkong Times.)

The S. S. *Gwalior* left Bombay on the 23rd March with engines and all in complete working order, which continued until the 25th of March at 10 minutes to eleven, when the engines were eased and stopped at eleven o'clock, owing to a heavy knock on the high pressure cylinder. The high pressure piston was raised at twenty minutes past five, and the ship proceeded at full speed with the engines working satisfactorily which they continued to do until ten minutes past five a.m. on the 27th March, when they were stopped, in order to receive a pilot to enter Galle harbour. At five minutes past twelve the engines were tried, but would not move, the fires were banked and steam blown off, the high pressure cylinder cover was raised, and it was found that a portion of the piston had carried away. The same was repaired, and on Monday the 29th March, at twenty minutes past two a.m., the engines were tried again, but would not move. The fires were again banked and steam blown off. At half past six a.m. took out the high pressure slide valve and found that one of the steam ports for giving the engines steam, on top of the piston, had carried away. The same was repaired by a quarter to eleven on the 31st, and the ship proceeded slowly into Galle harbor on the same day, at a quarter past eleven, when the engines were stopped and moved ahead or astern as was required, until half-past eleven : the fires were banked and the same day the steamer left Galle, and after discharging the pilot the engines went at full speed and all worked well until the 2nd of April, at half-past four a.m., when the engines were again stopped owing to another heavy knock on the high pressure cylinder cover, which was raised, when it was found that a portion of junk ring on the 3rd of April by ten minutes past one a.m. when the engines proceeded at full speed. Arrived at Penang at half-past seven on the 7th, and left again the same day with boiler and engines working well. Arrived at Singapore on April the 9th, and left at noon on the 10th. On the 16th, at 5.20 a.m., the engines were stopped again, and it was found that the high pressure cylinder cover was broken into six pieces, and another portion of the junk ring carried away, also a core plug in cylinder cover dropped out. On the 17th, 2.25 p.m., tried the engines again two or three times ; they made two revolutions and then they were stopped for an examination of the circulating pump to be made, but the ship commenced to make water rapidly, which was not stopped until half-past three. At four o'clock, all hands turned to at the pumps, and pumped all Saturday night, Sunday, Sunday night, and up till Monday at 1.40 p.m. when the water was sufficiently abated to allow the donkey to be lighted which before had been under water, and at 4 p.m. commenced to use pumps in connection with the steam winch. At 4.30 p.m. engine room donkey put to pump out engines. On the 20th, at six o'clock, all hands were engaged in the engineering department in clearing the stoke hole bilges of coal, and at half-past ten a.m. the third officer and some deck hands gave assistance in the same occupation. At six o'clock the bilges were moderately clear, and stoke hole plates were laid about 8.30 p.m. On the 21st, at a quarter to two, the engines were again tried but without success, and after that repeated trials were made but still with the same effect.

BILLS OF LADING.

A crowded meeting of merchants and others was held on February 25th, at the Baltic Sale-rooms, Threadneedle-street, under the Presidency of the Right Hon. Gillibrand Hubbard, M.P., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present unsatisfactory state of Bills of Lading. The Chairman was supported by members of the most eminent Shipping firms in London.—The Chairman, in introducing the business of the meeting, said that, as upon many other occasions, he was very pleased to place his services at the disposal of the gentlemen who desired to discuss or ventilate any great public question or grievance. As to the question at issue, he candidly confessed he knew little, and his duty would be simply to see that every speaker had fair play.—Mr. Miles Coventry moved the following resolution :—"That the special clauses introduced into Bills of Lading for the purpose of protecting Shipowners from the defaults and negligence of themselves and their servants, by relieving them from all responsibility which properly attaches to them as carriers, are unfair to Merchants and contrary to public policy." He said that in Bills of Lading a clause was inserted which exempted the owners of vessels from loss occasioned to the cargo by the negligence of the persons in their employ, and this clause was generally printed in type so small that it almost required a microscope to read it. The Bill now before Parliament for regulating Shipping appeared to offer a fair opportunity for obtaining redress. What was asked was that Shipowners should not be relieved from the consequences of bad conduct and neglect on the part of their servants, and this appeared so reasonable that he thought there was every reason to believe a clause might be inserted in the Act of Parliament remedying the grievance complained of.—Mr. Reginald Hanson seconded the resolution, and said the object was to ask Parliament to place Shipowners on the same footing as Railway Companies and other public carriers, and make them liable for negligence and defaults of their servants. He pointed out that some years ago the Bill of Lading was simply a receipt for the goods delivered to the Shipowner, but now clauses were introduced which were all in favour of the Shipowners and to the disadvantage of the Shippers of cargo. Again, if the Shippers of cargo refused to sign the Bill of Lading, the Owner refused to carry the cargo, and, therefore, the Shipper had really no alternative.—Mr. E. Phillip Maxted, of Hull, thought that they should go back to the old conservative Bill of Lading. It was difficult to determine what the respective duties of Merchants and Shipowners were. He thought the great point which came from the other side of the water, and were presented to those for signature who were powerless. It was a difficult question to deal with, and he scarcely knew where legislation was to begin and end. The Shipowner was entitled to some consideration. It would hardly be fair to make the Shipowner liable to the extent of his whole fortune. In a case which had recently come under his notice, an Engineer, in a hurry to get ashore, left a tap open, and in the morning it was found that there were eight feet of water in the hold, and the whole cargo was damaged.—The motion was then put, and carried unanimously. —Mr. W. S. Kenene said they had met as practical men to do a practical work. As chairman of the provisional committee he had sent the resolutions to his friend Mr. Paul, the Chairman of the Corn Trade Association in Liverpool, who had written to him in reply, enclosing a resolution passed at a meeting held in that seaport, approving the action taken in London, and in his letter Mr. Paul said the Bills of Lading at present in vogue were an outrage upon business propriety and offered a premium upon fraud. (Loud cheers). He moved the following resolution :—"That a committee be appointed to obtain the assistance of members of Parliament, and to wait upon the President of the Board of Trade to induce him to insert in the new Merchant Shipping Amendment Act a provision which shall render inoperative such unreasonable clauses."—Mr. John Walker seconded the motion.—Mr. Craven, as a Shipowner, contended that, as a rule, all Shipowners were ready to meet all reasonable claims ; but from long experience, he felt bound to say that, when goods arrived to a bad market, the claims of Merchants upon the Shipowners were much heavier.—Mr. Alderman Cotton, M.P., supported the resolution, and disagreed with the previous speaker. Merchants and Brokers were in the habit of making advances upon Bills of Lading pretty nearly up to the full value of the goods shipped ; and, if there was to be no remedy against Shipowners if those goods were not delivered in good condition and in the quantities mentioned, the result must be very vexatious. He thought the Bills was formed more in the interest of the Shipowners than of the Merchants.—The resolution was put and carried unanimously. A committee was appointed.—The Chairman said that what he gathered from the discussion was, that though in his early days sea risks were ordinarily covered by a Policy of Insurance, yet within the past quarter of a century one clause after another had been introduced into the Bills of Lading, which entirely altered the complexion of affairs, by introducing a new element of risks, against which it was found impossible to insure, and introduced an element of insecurity which did not previously exist. His experience was that a general reason to deal with a particular difficulty generally resulted in failure. To his mind it was no argument to adduce the low rates of freight, because those rates were fixed by the Shipowners. The remedy proposed was that a clause should be introduced into a Bill declaring all such clauses null and void ; but it seemed to him that it was against all custom and usage of trade that contracts tendered by one, and agreed to, accepted, and signed by another should be held invalid. There were difficulties surrounding the question, but they were not insuperable, and he would promise that any measure having for its object the giving of the relief sought, should have his most earnest consideration. The proceedings then terminated.

Clippings.

The U. S. S. *Saco*, which arrived from Manila on Monday, was towed to the quarantine ground in the evening, by the steam-tug *Rose*, as there was reported to be cholera on board.—*Hongkong Times.*

Sir Douglas Forsyth, with Colonel Horrace Brown, has left Calcutta for Simla, where Sir Douglas Forsyth will receive his final instructions from the Viceroy direct. The Mission to Mandalay is not likely to start till the beginning of May.—*Indian Daily News.*

A daring case of abduction is reported from [illegible] of the city with a marriageable daughter, who was much admired for her beauty. On the 23rd ultimo, the widow had occasion to go out, leaving the girl in sole charge of the house. Some vagabonds in the neighbourhood became aware of this, and at once planned to carry her away. Six or seven of them visited the house, and had no difficulty in having the poor girl tied, gagged and placed in a sedan. All this was managed so quietly that none of her neighbours knew of it. They carried her through the city, and when about a mile from the village, the gag became loosened. She was therefore able to raise an alarm. It happened that a party of hawkers were returning home. They heard the outcry and came to her rescue. The kidnappers were beaten off, and the girl was restored to her mother, who knew not how to express her delight and gratitude.—*China Mail.*

The news from Kiukiang is up to 6th inst., and reports on new Teas as follows :—"Musters of three chops Li-kü Teas were to be placed on the market on the 7th inst. The quality said to be fair and consequently the market was likely to be opened at once." We are indebted to the courtesy of a correspondent for the following particulars of the Kiukiang outrage :—The Ur-foo and another official visited the placed a day or two ago to settle up the affair, and have agreed to all the requests made by the sufferers, namely to restore the chapel, schools and buildings to their former condition, and to punish the offenders severely ; that the Chen-t'ai and the Tao-t'ai should issue a joint proclamation, warning the people and declaring that all such wild stories as tearing out eyes, etc., are false ; and that those who continue to spread them will be summarily dealt with. No other difficulty has occurred, and on a missionary visiting the chapel on Sunday he found that the Hsien had closed the doors and windows to prevent robbery.—*Shanghai Courier and China Gazette.*

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MAY 14TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—From Liverpool the s.s. *Deucalion*, from London the s.s. *Glenearn;* and from Marseilles the M.M. s.s. *Anadyr*, bringing the London mails of 26th March last; also the P. & O. str. *Hindostan* with the London mails of 2nd ultimo.

Telegrams.—London, 7th May.—*Cotton Mid. Or.* 8⅜d. 8¼-lbs.; *Eagle Grey Shirtings* 9/10½; *Iron* £9/10 and W. B. *Lead* £23/5.

Piece Goods.—Business has not increased, neither have the wants of the trade materially altered since last mail day. The articles in favor, then, have been asked for throughout, and are in some request at the close. But 14 lb. *Drills* only have improved; *Camlets*, although in very fair demand for the upper Yangtsze districts, having actually receded in value, and the decline is attributable directly to the Auctions. There were nearly 3,000 pieces disposed of at the last four sales, and that quantity, together with what has been offering privately, has proved too much for the market.

Grey Shirtings—A few—under 7,000 pieces in all—of common 6 *a* 7-lbs. have changed hands on the basis of Tls. 1.36 *a* 1.37 for the former, and Tls. 1.46 *a* 1.47 for the latter. For 8¼-lbs. there has scarcely been any enquiry, and quotations, excepting in so far as they have been established by the auctions, are purely nominal, Dewhurst's *Eagle* being almost the only other chop for which a rate can be given, and in regard to that, it is enough to say that last week's prices have just been maintained. Medium chops have been going a begging at the following figures—viz., *Red Pheasant;* Tls. 1.81 *a* 1.82; Collies, No. 1 *Lion*, at Tls. 1.84 *a* 1.85, and other fair to good 15 × 16, counts at Tls. 1.70 *a* 1.78 per piece; C.P.H. *Peacock* has dropped to Tls. 1.62 per piece. Dealers are expecting some *Mildews* ex the *Ulysses*, the greater portion of whose cargo has been brought on by the *Deucalion*. *Heavy Shirtings* for immediate delivery still command extreme rates, but the enquiry for distant arrival has rather slackened. Buyers, ex *Ulysses*, are somewhat disappointed that so large a portion of their purchases were sold at Jeddah. For Dewhurst's Eagle, "on the spot," Tls. 2.84 *a* 2.90 per piece has been paid.

White Shirtings.—The general market has been very dull, and the only notable event under this heading is the sale "to arrive" of some special chop, 64 *a* 66 Reeds, at Tls. 1.90, Tls. 2.00, Tls. 2.15 and Tls. 2.28 per piece.

T-Cloths.—The nature of the demand for these has not changed yet. Common counts of 6 and 7-lbs. and the ordinary to fair Mexicans of 7 and 8-lbs. still engross the attentions of the dealers, who, or rather the speculative portion of whom, have been making satisfactory progress with the supplies brought on by recent steamers. The reported transactions from first hands show the following totals:—viz, 14,000 pieces Common and 1,100 pieces Mexicans 6-lbs. at Tls. 1.16 *a* 1.20 and Tls. 1.30 per piece; 12,500 pieces Common 7-lbs. at Tls. 1.34 *a* 1.36, and 26,000 pieces Mexicans—chiefly to arrive—at Tls. 1.42 *a* 1.48 for Ordinary to Good, and Tls. 1.57 for a small lot of Dewhurst's best M.T.; and 9,000 pieces of 8-lbs at Tls. 1.68 *a* 1.76 for fair makes; and Tls. 1.95 per piece for Mendel's *Crown*. The market for 8-lbs. is not quite so strong at the close, but the enquiry for 6 and 7-lbs. of the desired qualities continues, although it is scarcely so buoyant as it was.

Drills.—*English* and *Dutch* 14-lbs. have taken a start, and their scarcity has at last begun to influence 15-lbs. Recent sales embrace 14-lbs. Dutch at Tls. 2.34 *a* 2.40 per piece; 14-lbs. English at Tls. 2.38 *a* 2.42½ per piece; and 15 lbs. at Tls. 2.44 *a* 2.48 per piece, a small parcel of the latter weight—very fine—having realized Tls. 3 per piece. Mendel's *Pillar*, 14-lbs. [illegible] that telegraphic orders have gone home for both Dutch and English 14-lbs., to arrive here within 2 to 3 months hence, prices being based on present currencies.

Jeans & Sheetings.—No business in either worth noting. In the former, because there has been absolutely no demand, and in the latter, because there are none in stock.

Fancy Cottons.—Velvets, 22in.—The enquiry, noted at the close of last week, resulted in sales aggregating over 3,000 pieces, and one or two of the chops brought ¼ *a* ½ cand. per yard higher than the rates then ruling. Quietness again prevails. 500 pieces of good *Gentian Shirtings* have been sold at Tls. 2.55 per piece, and through a continuance of the desire for *Chintzes*, *Printed Twills* and *Handkerchiefs*, the following business has been booked:—*Chintzes—blue*, to arrive, 5,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.30 *a* 1.35 per piece; *Assorted*, 2,300 pieces, at Tls. 1.35 *a* 1.40 per piece; *Printed Twills—Cashmeres*—1,050 pieces, 2,550 yards, at Tls. 1.92½, and 3.85 per piece, and 5,000 doz. *Blue Handkerchiefs* at Tls, 0.51 *a* 0.53 per doz.

Woollens in general seem to have fallen in value. The sales of *Camlets*, *Long Ells*, and *Spanish Stripes*, as noted below, compare unfavorably with the rates realized at the Auctions of the 4th and 6th instant, and almost every other article has had to be forced off as it were. Foreign shippers have good accounts of their *Camlet* and *Long Ell* shipments to Hankow, and the Native merchants are as well pleased with their recent transactions for that market. But notwithstanding these favorable indications, the Native, helped by the Auctions, has gained a decided advantage here since last mail day. Of *Long Ells*, the few in private hands—and by private, I mean those which are not to be auctioned—are very firmly held, and there is great firmness also amongst the private holders of *Camlets*. Moreover, the latter have effected small sales at rather better figures than were obtainable a fortnight ago, while the former have made progress at the old rate of Tls. 7 per piece for U.U. scarlet. *Figured Orleans.*—The same unsatisfactory business goes on in these, and it is a matter of great difficulty to quote any chop. No. 2 *Crape Lastings* move off heavily, the latest sales of *Horse Head* chop shewing a decline of 1 mace per piece. To-day the sale of over 1,000 pieces Woman chop *Crapes* is reported. The rate is Tls. 4.00 per piece, the last valuation of those goods was Tls. 4.15 per piece. In the other kinds of Woollen goods there is no noticeable alteration.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.1.0	14.3.5	14.1.0	13.1.0	13.9.0	...	...	12.5.0	13.0.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	7.1.0	7.0.0	6.3.0	7.0.0	6 9.0	...	...	7.1.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.6.0⅓	0.5.6½	0.5.8	0.6.1	0.5.8	0.6.2	0.5.6	0.5.6½	0.5.7	0.5.6

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 11TH AND 13TH MAY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve	Brown
C.P.H. Camlets p. pce. Tls.	.....	.....	14.07½/14.10	.....	.....	...	14.97½/15.00	.....	13.00	...	...
G.G.M. ,, ,, ,,	13.50 /13.52½	13.37½	13.55	12.90	13.90	...	14.85	.....	12.45	13.40	...
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.42½/13.47½	13.20/13.35	13.47½/13.57½	12.80/12.90	13.90	...	14.85	12.40	12.40/12.45	13.30	...
G.P.H. Long Ells ,, ,,	7.09/7.10	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...
C.P.H. Sp. Stripes p. yd. ,,	0.60½/0.60¾	.....	.....	0.61/0.61¼	0.58	...	.....	0.56¾/0.57¼	0.57	...	.57/.59
T.T.B. ,, ,, ,,	0.60/0.60¼	0.56½/0.56¾	0.56¼/0.56½	0.61½	.....	62½	0.57	0.58	0.57	...	0.57
C.P.H. Med. Cloths ,, ,,	0.88	.....	0.84¾/0.85¼	.....	.....	...	.....	... ..	1.12¾/1.13	...	...

SALES.

Camlets—C. P. H.	150 pieces	av.	Tls.	14.00 per piece.
—G. G.	200 ,,		,,	13.50 ,,
—S. S. G.	1,000 ,,		,,	13.40 ,,
Long Ells—C. P. H.	1,000 ,,	Scarlet	,,	7.09 *a* 7.10 per piece.
Spanish Stripes—C. P. H.	408 ,,	av.	,,	0.59 4/10 per yard.
—T. T. B.	252 ,,		,,	0.58¼ per yard.
—Peacock	120 ,,	Scarlet	,,	0.56½ *a* 0.56¾ per piece.
Medium Cloth—C. P. H.	60 ,,	as above.		
Mahomedan Cloth	240 ,,		,,	0.13 per yard.
Drills—15-lbs. Peacock	300 ,,		,,	2.40 *a* 2.44 per piece.
Grey Domestics	280 ,,		,,	0.0.61½ *a* 0.0.63¾ per yard.
T-Cloths—7th Crown	500 ,,		,,	1.36½ per piece.
—8th ,,	250 ,,		,,	1.69¼ ,,
Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs. Peacock	6,500 ,,		,,	1.61¾ *a* 1.62¼ per piece.
—9.2-lbs. Common	750 ,,		,,	1.71 per piece.
—8¼-lbs. Peacock—(mildewed)	1,500 ,,		,,	1.61 ,,

	T.m.c.	*T.m.c.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...₩ pc.	1.3.4 to	1.3.8
7lbs. ,,	1.4.3 ,,	1.5.8
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ,,	1.6.2 ,,	1.9.8
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.4.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ,,	2.7.5 ,,	2.9.0
Tun Sin ,,	3.1.0 ,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.6.2½,,	1.7.0
60 reed ,,	1.7.3 ,,	1.9.0
64 ,, ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.0
68 @ 80 reed ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.5
Best ,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5 ,,	3.5.0
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs. ...	2.3.7 ,,	2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs. ...	2.3.5 ,,	2.4.0
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.2 ,,	1.9.0
American ,, ,, nom. ...	2.7.5 ,,	.....
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs. ...	3.7.0 ,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs. ...	2.8 5 ,,	3.0.2
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.6 ,,	1.2.2
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.3.2 ,,	1.3.6
6-lbs. Mex. ,,	1.2.8 ,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,, ,,	1.4.3 ,,	1.5.8
8 to 8¼-lbs. ,,	1.6.5 ,,	1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.8 ,,	0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,,	0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.6.5
BROCADES—White, 40yds. ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed... ,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ... ,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.6.0
CHINTZ—Assorted ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...	1.9.2½,,	.....
50/52 ,, ...	3.7.0 ,,	4.9.0
T. REDS, 24 yds. 2½ *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in... ₩ yd.	0.1.8½,,	0.1.9½
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,	0.1.3½,,	0.1.4½
26 in. ,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.1
BLUE DENIMS ,,	0.0.5 ,,	0.0.6½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in...₩ pc.	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
41 in. ,,	1.4.5 ,,	1.5.5
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml. ,,	0.8.0 ,,	0.9.5
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,	13.0.0 ,,	14.0.0
G G ,, ,,	13.5 0 ,,	.....
S S G ,, ,,	13.4.0 ,,	.....
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ₩ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ,,	0.5.5½,,	0.5.7½
,, T. T.-B ,,	0.5.8¼,,	.....
,, H.H. ,,	0.6.1 ,,	.....
LONG ELLS—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H ...₩ pc.	7.1.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ,,	7.1.0 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H ,,	6.7.0 ,,	.....
,, C P H ,,	6.8.0 ,,	6.9.0
,, G G ,,	6.6.5 ,,	.....
LASTINGS, 30 yds ,,	10.0.0 ,,	12 6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
PLAIN—Do. Black ,,	3.7.5 ,,	3.9.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

METALS.—A very trifling business has been done in *Nail Rods*, only one lot of 900 bundles, M.M. Crown, at Tls. 2.70, having changed hands during the last week. Arrivals of common brands have been considerable, and consequently lower quotations for these are has been for the Ningpo market, and prices have favoured sellers, Tls. 6.10 per picul cash, free of brokerage having been given for L.B. *Tin.*—A further decline in the value of this metal has been established, and it can be bought to-day at quotations. *Copper.*—Best *slab* is now nominally worth Tls. 18.50 per picul. There is little in stock, and holders are firm. *Quicksilver* is nominally quoted Tls. 1.10 for English, without enquiry.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.			*Tls. m. c.*
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	110.0.0 *a*	COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.4.0 *a* 8.6.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0 *a* 6.2.0	,, Medium	,,	9.2.0 *a* 9.6.0
Small ,, ...	,,	....	,, Best	,,	10.0.0 *a* 10.6.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
18 ... nominal	,,	7.0.0 *a*	,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
19/23 no demand.	,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	,,	19.0.0 *a* 19.3.0	Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
Fok Chok .....nom....	,,	18.4.0 *a* 18.6.0	,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a*	,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
STEEL	per Tub	3.5.0 *a* 3.6.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0	Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a*	,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	..... *a* 18.5.0	,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	..... *a*	PEPPER—Black	,,	8.4.0 *a* 8.5.0
HOOP IRON	,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0	—White	,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	25.0.0 *a* 26.0.0	RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
NAILROD IRON—			—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0 0 *a* 3.1.0	—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,, ...	,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.0	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.2.5 *a* 2.3.5	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.7.0	SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.5.0 *a* 3.7.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0	Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.0.5 *a* 6.1.0	MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... .. *a*	FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.2

FREIGHTS.—*Bengal*, British steamer, 1,303 tons, Hankow to London, no lay days—private terms; *Alexandra*, British steamer, 287 tons, Chefoo, Newchwang and Swatow, 24 lay days—$3,550 in full; *Europe*, British steamer, 528 tons, Shanghai to Swatow with original Cargo of Beancake from Newchwang, no lay days—£. 0.1.2 per picul; *J. S. Stone*, American barque, 710 tons, Nagasaki and back, 20 lay days—$2.25 per ton, coal.

COTTON.—A demand for Hongkong and Amoy—for which places about 3,000 piculs have been settled—combined with very moderate receipts, has acted on prices, raising them by two mace per picul over the quotations of last week, and the hongs are firm at the advance.

EXCHANGE.—Little alteration to be reported in quotations, although the sterling market is very firm. The business for the week has been small. Remitters seem to be hanging back, hoping to get better rates when the Export season opens. At the same time, there are very few private bills on offer. On India, rates at one time were quoted Rs. 309 *a* 310, but at the close, the best that can be done is Rs. 307 *a* 308 per 100 Tls. On Hongkong, only a trifling demand at 27⅜ % discount.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 7¾d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅞d. *a* 5s. 10d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.22½	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.33¾	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand,	Rs. 308	₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	Rs. 307	₩ 100 ,,

On Hongkong,—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅜ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 27½ per cent. disc.
Interest.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—79.9 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 172 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,590 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stock on 1st May	Malwa,	2,109	Chests.	Patna,	1,445	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	3,372½	,,	,,	511	,,
Total	,,	5,481½	,,	Total ..... ,,	1,956	,,
Deliveries from 1st May	,,	1,131½	,,	,,	405	,,
Present Stock	,,	4,350	,,	,,	1,551	,,

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	6,379,797 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	Excess	2,583,110 ,,
To United States—Black	Excess	1,043,351 ,,
,, ,, —Green	Deficiency	1,059,456 ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	53,254,318 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	24,368,632 ,,
To America (per Steamer)	11,526,490 ,,

There is nothing to report in Black or Green Teas during the fortnight. The unsold stock of the latter is estimated at 3,700 ½-chests.

The Export figures for the past three seasons are as follows :—

To Great Britain—	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
Black	65,092,732 lbs.	58,712,935 lbs.	61,460,385 lbs.
Green	12,530,218 ,,	9,947,108 ,,	11,270,822 ,,
	77,622,950 lbs.	68,660,043 lbs.	72,731,207 lbs.
To United States and Canada—			
Black	1,844,500 lbs.	801,149 lbs.	1,275,964 lbs.
Green	19,087,970 ,,	20,147,426 ,,	22,255,867 ,,
	20,932,470 lbs.	20,948,575 lbs.	23,531,831 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1874-75.	1873-74.	1872-73.
From Shanghai to date	77,622,950 lbs.	68,660,043 lbs.	72,731,207 lbs.
,, Foochow total season	61,581,299 ,,	55,488,663 ,,	52,937,142 ,,
,, Canton total season	19,863,912 ,,	15,775,807 ,,	20,492,303 ,,
	159,068,161 lbs.	139,924,513 lbs.	146,160,652 lbs.

Black Tea.—There is no news from Hankow of the actual opening of the new season for First Crop Congous, but musters of nine chops of Hankow and eight chops of Ningchow Teas had arrived on the 8th and 9th May, and it was expected that the market would be opened on the 13th, by which date many more arrivals of Teas by muster or in bulk would have taken place. It was not possible to report reliably on the quality of the samples shown, but prices paid for the leaf up-country were said to be 10 % under last year's rates.

From Kiukiang we learn that the market was opened on the 9th, at prices varying from Tls. 38 *a* 50; it is said that about 4,000 packages were settled, and that a steady daily business was being transacted. As to the quality of the Teas and other details we must defer our remarks for the present, as the news has only just reached us, and cannot be considered quite trustworthy until our information is more complete.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 12th May, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 101 @ 106, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	10,398	4,250	8,350	51,589	8,450	36,519	26,827	250	200	850	350	...	...	4,550
T-Cloths..... ,,	10,160	3,165	6,635	13,020	7,400	33,310	20,369	950	...	120	...	...	...	3,960
White Shirtings ..... ,,	490	280	400	4,320	800	16,052	2,370	180	...	...	310	...	...	2,340
Drills ..... ,,	210	75	...	7,950	660	7,470	7,800	...	...	...	...	...	...	270
Jeans ..... ,,	60	60	...	1,300	2,210	1,260	2,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	30	1,240	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	150	550	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	97	...	150	600	100	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	150	50	100	200	1,150	350	50	100	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	80	197	398	320	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Chintzes ..... ,,	60	180	90	1,134	300	5,162	300	110	440	...	...	...	...	40
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	50	100	...	650	988	905	75	...	...	...	...	...	...	650
Velvets ..... ,,	...	40	90	618	90	...	293	24	...	60	...	...	...	50
Velveteens..... ,,	...	...	...	72	...	...	780	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	...	...	600	2,800	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Muslins .....Pcs.	200	200	...	280	...	200	800	...	100	...	...	...	...	2,200
Dimities ..... ,,	100	100	...	...	...	100	2,010	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	48	96	36	294	204	384	366	6	...	...	...	...	...	100
Medium and Broad Cloths..... ,,	30	40	22	224	68	74	18	28	6	...	...	...	...	180
Camlets ..... ,,	80	240	300	1,320	110	630	500	10	...	...	...	...	...	72
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	60	80	1,300	60	200	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lastings..... ,,	80	...	20	260	30	590	1,160	40	...	20	...	...	...	40
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	...	...	100	260	80	780	...	...	30	...	...	...	60
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	150	...	...	...	..	...	60	50	...	...	...	...	...	20
,, Figured ..... ,,	448	110	220	2,486	1,868	1,613	2,040	...	110	50	250	...	...	320
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	150	200	200	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Pig Lead .....Pcls.	1,693	1,595	...	84	..	546	...	...	...	222	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 14/5/74.]
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	152,583	1,558,446	111,480	1,318,843	983,300	855,000
T-Cloths ..... ,,	99,089	941,637	75,073	535,054	199,000	710,000
White Shirtings..... ,,	27,542	166,263	26,983	265,008	94,600	39,200
Drills ..... ,,	24,435	211,229	3,631	115,900	148,600	409,500
Jeans ..... ,,	7,710	122,363	13,750	132,746	38,900	61,300
Sheetings..... ,,	1,270	27,240	2,220	30,100	4,500	37,000
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	740	16,605	1,730	23,383	9,600	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	.....	1,982	2,300	2,000
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	?	.....
Brocades, White ..... ,,	1,047	7,807	.....	5,783	200	.....
,, Dyed ..... ,,	2,200	19,066	.....	13,740	23,700	29,300
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	1,035	7,318	.....	6,400	6,200	4,400
Chintzes ..... ,,	8,426	72,077	5,467	35,321	51,900	84,500
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,818	37,764	3,450	40,346	28,900	11,000
Velvets..... ,,	1,311	15,821	924	18,611	10,500	20,000
Velveteens ..... ,,	876	4,547	512	5,777	2,500	9,100
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	6,000	72,709	8,660	37,952	38,000	81,300
Muslins .....Pcs.	2,180	17,106	2,016	11,784	5,800	21,500
Dimities ..... ,,	2,410	9,200	.....	2,330	7,900	8,700
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	1,614	16,890	1,921	16,296	10,200	28,100
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	582	8,034	24	8,725	11,100	19,500
Camlets ..... ,,	3,270	32,163	1,910	25,383	15,400	14,400
Long Ells..... ,,	1,800	26,860	3,600	25,320	3,900	14,200
Lastings ..... ,,	2,270	15,068	1,100	10,870	8,200	3,200
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	1,240	5,130	.....	3,319	7,400	2,300
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	260	5,750	1,000	7,009	5,300	14,300
,, Figured ..... ,,	9,515	63,731	1,140	24,351	89,100	109,700
,, Crape ..... ,,	700	8,905	.....	4,239	16,500	9,600
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	1,117	37,064	.....	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	4,140	48,150	14,599	84,393	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Pera*, *Cawdor Castle*, *Nestor*, *Sindh*, *Ægean*, *Lombardy*, *Bombay*, *Russia*, *Messenger*, *Deucalion*, *Glenearn* and *Anadyr*, several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

May 15, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—None other than Coasters.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—None other than Coasters.

The English mail steamer *Lombardy* takes 5 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9⅛d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅞d. *a* 5s. 10d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 308. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 308. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅜ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27⅞. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.10 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 15th May :—

The market has been unusually dull since our last, and few transactions have taken place.

Banks.—No business reported. Locally, there are neither buyers nor sellers.

S. S. N. Co.—No business reported. Buyers do not offer better than Tls. 71 cash.

Fire Insurance.—A few *Hongkongs* kave been placed at $475 and $470 cash, and a fair number at $475 for 15th June. A few *Victorias* were sold early in the week at $158, but holders generally ask $160 and over. *Chinas* are offered in small lots at $142.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* have fallen to Tls. 550, but there is little demand, and *China & Japans* have been done at Tls. 80, at which they are firm.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—No business reported. At the moment, there are no buyers at anything like quotations.

Imperial Loan Bonds are wanted, but there are no sellers.

The Weather has been very variable. Monday was cool enough for winter clothing ; Wednesday was hot enough for white clothes and punkahs. Rain has fallen on several days. The thermometer has ranged from 55 to 76.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	22 % dis. noml.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	73 noml.
Union Steam Navigation Company	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal
China Coast S. N Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 65
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co			
Footing Dock Co .	„ 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 139
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	875
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 „	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 550
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 80
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 187
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	470
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	158
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	142 „
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. . ..	100	1 p. c.	95 noml.
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£99 10s. Ex. 5/7

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅝

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per str. *Fychow*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Cunningham, Messrs. Reddie, W. W. King, Mayers, Wood, and Campbell. Per str. *Dragon*, for Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. Schomfeld, Messrs. Sheppard, Beebe, Forster, and Yuill. Per str. *Shanghai*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Youd, Messrs. Hawes, Overbeck, Hoppius, Busch, Deville, Tobin, Gouriscsh, Drysdale, Hollingworth, J. Brand. For Chinkiang—Mr. J. Moutrie. Per str. *Nanking*, for Hankow—Messrs. John Brand, Cooper, Hyde, and Walter. Per P. M. str. *Nevada*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. R. Coloshesky, A. S. Tough, J. Main ; 9 Chinese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Mowat, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rennie, Dr. J. Johnston, Messrs. B. A. Valentine, W. Keir, W. B. Pryer ; 10 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama, Messrs. E. Pryer, F. E. Heyden, C. H. Thompson, U. S. N., J. H. Gubbins, W. McGregor, F. E. Feiff, E. Dupuy, C. Bontineff, R. Newman ; 6 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. Schereshewsky and 2 children, Captain A. H. Morse, Messrs. O. B. Bradford, G. F. James, and J. Mackey. Per str. *Taku*, for the North—Lady Howard de Walden, Hon. E. Ellis, and Hon. Miss Ellis.

Arrived.—Per P.M. str. *Nevada*—Mr. and Mrs. Coryell, Mrs. C. L. Jenkins and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Fairbell and child, Miss Colburn, Miss Burnett, Miss Seymour, Dr. E. Henderson, Messrs. Twombly, Lemarchand, Hewlett and servt., Ruse, Tyler and servt., Heemskirk, Müller, David, Slade, Goetz and servant, Solomon, and 3 Japanese ; 3 Europeans and 14 Chinese in the steerage. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong—Mr. T. Ginger ; 78 Chinese. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Messrs. Schmidt, Devenny, Heyden, and H. Dunn ; 48 Chinese. Per M. B. str. *Niigata Maru*, from Japan—Messrs. A. Milsom, J. Bryner, J. H. Goodfellow and servant, J. I. Miller and servant, D. Wisinberger, H. Munzi, Wada, Ishizaki, Tai-chong and servant ; 3 Europeans, 5 Japanese, and 8 Chinese in steerage. Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Lady Howard de Walden, Hon. E. H. Ellis, Miss Ellis. Per str. *Shantung*, from Tientsin—Mr. Startsoff, Capt. Friend. Per M. M. str. *Anadyr*, from Marseilles—Messrs. George Dowdall, Petroff, Geo. Lewis, G. W. Coutts, J. M. Young, J. Brand, Hyde. From Singapore—Mr. Butler. From Saigon—Mr. Gès. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Piel and infant, Messrs. Olyphant, F. F. James, E. Garmnan, Marty, Chuela, and Penter. Per str. *Tunsin*, from Hankow—Mr. Mackay. From Chinkiang—Messrs. Moutrie, and Hewlett. Per str. *Glenearn*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Anderson and Henderson. Per str. *China*, from Hongkong—55 Chinese. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Mr. Printse. Per str. *Europe*, from Newchwang—Mr. Turner ; 4 Chinese. Per str. *Venice*, from Nagasaki—Mr. Glass Per P. & O. str. *Hindostan*, from Southampton—Mr. P. McGregor Grant. From Hongkong—General Moorhead, Mrs. Halliday, Mrs. Maclean, two Misses Maclean and European female servant, Messrs. L. Ogilvie, A. L. Turner, and J. Newman ; 106 Chinese.

Leaving.—Per P. & O. str. *Lombardy*, for Hongkong—Messrs. O. C. Behn, Thomas Jenkins and S. L. Prior. For Venice—Mr. A. R. Hewlett. For Southampton—Mr. and Mrs. Bracegirdle ; four Europeans deck.

DEUTSCHE BANK.

SHANGHAI AGENCY.

THE Offices of this Bank have been removed to-day to the Offices of Messrs. Brand, Brothers & Co.

E. KRUG.

20my 3375 Shanghai, 14th May, 1075.

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

PAID-UP CAPITAL .....£800,000.

Head Office—London.

London Bankers,—
Bank of England.
The City Bank.
National Bank of Scotland.
Agents in Paris,—
Caisse Commerciale de Paris.
Agents in Scotland,—
National Bank of Scotland.

Branches.

Bombay.	Batavia.
Calcutta.	Manila.
Akyab.	Hongkong.
Rangoon.	Shanghai
Singapore.	Hankow.
Penang.	

With Agencies at all the principal Ports in the East, Australia and America.

Shanghai Branch.

THE Corporation are prepared to sell Bills of Exchange on the City Bank and National Bank of Scotland, London, on Paris, Australia, or any of their own Branches ; also to buy Bills, advance upon Securities, grant Credits, and generally transact all manner of Banking business.

Deposits are received on terms which can be learnt on application.

M W. BOYD,
Manager.

o-a 17ju-75 Shanghai, 25th Mar., 1875.
2023

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 419. SHANGHAI, MAY 22, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ℔ AN.

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San Francisco,	„ 3	Yokohama,	„ 7
Hongkong,	May 18	Nagasaki,	„ 18
Tientsin,	„ 12	Foochow,	„ 16

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Mar. 4 } Received 10th April.
Shanghai, ... Feb. 26 }

BIRTHS.

At Hongkew, on the 17th inst., the wife of J. H. BAKER, of a daughter.

On the 4th March, at Hamburg, the wife of WM. PROBST, of a daughter.

On the 28th March, at The Grove, Bedford, the wife of A. R. TILBY, late of Shanghai, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At Swatow, on the 27th April, by H. B. M.'s Consul, assisted by the Rev. H. L. Mackenzie. M.A., WILLIAM POLLOCK, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, to MAGGIE, fourth daughter of Thomas Cowie, Starch Manufacturer, Montrose, Scotland.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 15th instant, ANNIE JOSEPHINE KELLY, aged 16 years and 4 months.

At Yokohama, on the 19th inst., CHARLES YOUNG MACVICAR, aged 35.

On the 24th March, at Rivershill, Cheltenham, JANE MARIA, wife of Henry Reynell, aged 57.

On the 27th March, at 66, Belsize-park, N. W., of diphtheria, JOHN CLYDE GRAHAM, aged two years and six months, the beloved son of David Gilmour, late of Shanghai.

At his residence, Onslow Square. London, on 30th March, after a protracted illness. ROBERT REID, M. P., late of Shanghai, aged 44 years.

CHINA:

1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.

tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1875.

THE entrance to the Yangtsze is not quite so bad as that to the Mississippi, and yet New Orleans contrives to exist. Shipping, however, suffers very serious inconvenience from the number and shallowness of the channels by which the river makes its way to the Gulf of Mexico, and the improvement of the passages, or 'passes' as they are called, has long been a subject of anxious care with the Government. The delta of the Mississippi, projecting as it does far beyond the ordinary coast line of the Gulf of Mexico, and forming as it were an enormous fan, presents many points of peculiarity. Notably, the division of the waters into so many channels diminishes the scour, and aids the deposit of the matter held in suspension on the bars. At some miles from the sea, the river divides into three channels, the one to the north-east dividing into two, and one of these again bifurcating before reaching the sea. These arms are known as the South-west, South, North, North-east, &c., passes. They all flow through the alluvial flat deposited by the river. The mouth of each is partially shoaled by a sand bar; and outside all, in the gulf itself, lie shoals, built up of the solid matter brought down by the river. The outside deposits gradually join on to the delta, and the bars at the mouths of the passes move in accordance, advancing seawards at an uniform rate. The passes, going down the river, so long as they preserve their ordinary width, are of a navigable depth and present few difficulties to navigation. On reaching the outer edge of the delta they widen out; the current, loaded with matter held in suspension, is thus checked, and a deposit formed across the mouth. Outside this line of deposit, the water gradually deepens again, but as accretions grow at the sides of the bars, and the narrow channel is carried out seawards, the bar itself takes part in the onward motion, a deposit in front corresponding with the increased scour behind. Some of those bars have as little as seven feet of water over their surface, but in the south pass the minimum is about seventeen feet.

An ingenious scheme to surmount the difficulties of the entrance to the Mississippi was suggested a few years ago, and reported on favourably by the Government engineers appointed to enquire into it. The scheme was both feasible, we may add, and ingenious, but would have entailed an enormous expenditure of money. As we have said, the delta projects far into the Gulf of Mexico, almost in a fan shape. The stream is thus in many places in closer proximity to the open water at its sides than to the outside mouths of the channels. The project proposed was to cut a canal from one of these channels and form a side outlet into the bay. Of course, if the river were directly turned into this canal, it would only form another "pass," with its regularly advancing bar. It was, therefore, intended to form a lock 500 feet in length, 65 feet wide, and 27 feet deep. In connection with this lock was to be a basin 1000 feet by 2500 feet, and thence the canal was to stretch to the sea in a channel 27 feet deep, 200 feet wide at the bottom, and with side slopes of 2 to 1. This canal would have passed in a straight line through the flats, lagoons, and shoals into deep water, changing from a canal with sloping banks the top of which would be but a little above the sea-level, to a mere channel, dredged out from the shifting alluvial deposit above the head

of the delta. The length of the canal would have been 6½ miles, and the highest land along the route is not more than 3 feet above high tides. As we stated, the Mississippi is in some respects worse than the Yangtze, and the first practical difficulty arises from the nature of the soil. We know what a mass of slush we ourselves are depending on; but the soil to be passed through by the canal consists of a mass of blue mud, into which a pole can easily be thrust by hand to depth of from 5 to 15 feet. It has been bored to a depth of 100 feet, at that depth however—contrary to Shanghai experience—becoming more compact than at the surface. The difficulty, in addition to the shifting nature of the deposit outside, was to persuade such soil to retain the form of the channel, and still more to form a protection for the proposed locks and reservoir. The estimated cost by its promoters was £2,300,000; but, looking at these facts, there was no guarantee what expense might be incurred before these difficulties could be overcome. At this juncture, Captain Eads, the engineer of the great railway bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis, came to the front with another, less daring, but apparently more effective scheme. As stated above, the bars are formed by the spreading of the current at the mouth of the various passes, and the consequent deposit of the silt held in suspension. The water within, where the current is sufficiently powerful to prevent deposit, being 30 feet on an average in depth; while outside are the deep waters of the gulf. Captain Ead's project is to carry out, by dykes or jetties, the uniform width of the channel, from the point where the bottom begins to rise above the 30 feet line, to a similar depth outside, and to confine the current to this artificial channel. The deposit where the current spreads will, therefore, be all laid down without the 5-fathom line, and the inclosed stream, over what is now the bar, will be sufficient to keep open a clear channel to that depth. Two of the passes have been proposed as suitable for improvement in this manner—those known as the South and South-west. The latter is the principal entrance to the river, and is some 1,400 feet in width. The former has shallower water, and is only some 730 feet wide. The difference in expense between the cost of the two is, however, very great—some £1,600,000; so Congress have authorised the carrying out of the smaller scheme, at an estimated outlay of £1,588,000, including a sum of £520,000 being the capitalization of an annual expenditure of £26,000, for works to be kept in progress, to keep up the embankments with the seaward growth of the delta. Captain Eads undertakes, under certain conditions, to carry out the works. He is to be permitted to do so in any manner he thinks fit, provided the navigation of the pass is in the meanwhile not seriously interfered with, and provided he commences the work within a period of eight months after the passing of the Act. If however, within 30 months after the same date, a depth of at least 20 feet be not obtained; and if, therefore, an annual increase of 2 feet be not ensured till a minimum depth of 26 feet is reached, the power accorded by the bill will cease. In consideration of the work being successful, the U. S. Government will pay Captain Eads a sum of $5,250,000; and, thereafter, for maintaining the channel, a further sum of $100,000 for each year that a depth of 30 feet shall be maintained, during a period of 20 years. These sums will come due to the engineer on the completion of the work, except a sum of £200,000, which the U. S. Government will retain as security for the maintenance of the works. They will, however, pay interest on this at the rate of 5 per cent., so long as the channel is kept in proper order; and will repay one half at the end of ten, and the remainder at the expiry of the 20 years for which the contract has been made. Congress has evidently made a tight bargain: but Captain Eads has already distinguished himself by his successful work at St. Louis; and it is to be hoped will prove equally successful in his new undertaking. Though not altogether without precedent, the scheme proposed has many elements of novelty, and certainly seems more feasible than the canal project originally proposed. We are indebted to *Engineering* for the outlines of the scheme. Although we have doubts as to the advisability of such an important work being made the subject of a contract such as that entered into with Captain Eads, the action of Congress is an indication of the intelligent interest taken in matters of the kind by the United States Government.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 9th April arrived yesterday, by the M. M. str. *Djemmah*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the M. M. str. *Anadyr*.

Only the following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

The Peace preservation Bill (Ireland) has been passed.

Dufaure has introduced the Constitutional Bills in the French Assembly and they are referred to Committee.

The Annual Meeting of Ratepayers was held on the 18th instant. Eighty persons, representing 237 votes, were present. Discussion was had upon a variety of subjects. Resolutions were passed in favour of Municipal Water-Works, of lending Municipal money to build a new General Hospital, of excluding Proxies of Resident Ratepayers, of making the Municipal year end with December instead of in March, and various other matters. A full report of proceedings will be found on another page.

A resolution announced by Sir Edmund Hornby, but withdrawn, has been a subject of much private discussion. It is felt that a great deal of work falls upon a Chairman of the Council who gives earnest attention to Municipal Work; and we can see no good reason why the Community should not give a special acknowledgment of those services. A proposal to give a permanent salary would be certainly unpopular. But the alternative of a special vote on expiry of the term of office would probably commend itself to the Ratepayers. There is a great deal to be said, and a great deal has been said, upon the subject; but it is likely that some such recognition as that will bye-and-bye find approval.

At a meeting of the new Municipal Council held Wednesday morning, Mr. Purdon was elected chairman, and Mr. Lemarchand vice-chairman, and the Council resolved itself into the following Committees:—

Defence—Messrs. Purdon, Hart and Kidner.

Finance—Messrs. Lemarchand, Cowie and Krauss.

Watch—Messrs. Kidner, Hart and Heyden.

Works—Messrs. Purdon, Mackenzie and Webb.

A meeting of the Temperance Society was held on Friday evening, at which a number of visitors were present. Admiral Ryder occupied the chair. The Secretary's report and Treasurer's accounts were presented. A sensible address was read by Mr. Martin; several songs were sung; Mr. Iburg played a violin solo which was much appreciated; a congratulatory address was read by the Rev. C. H. Butcher, and the meeting wound up with a vote of thanks to Admiral Ryder for presiding, about 11 p.m

The trial of the suit against the steamer *Ocean* for Tls. 200,000 damages for the loss of the *Fusing*, commenced on Thursday before the Supreme Court, and after occupying the whole of that day and yesterday was adjourned till Tuesday.

It will be remembered that the Consuls referred to Peking, severally, as shown in a printed report of one of their meetings, the question of indemnity for the sufferers in the riot of May 1873. We hear now, incidentally, that no settlement has been arrived at there. It appears that the Ministers look to the French Legation to press the matter, and that the Chinese have not met the latter in a favorable way. The prospect for the sufferers does not seem bright, under these circumstances.

We regret to hear that some apprehension is entertained for the safety of two Shanghai pilots—Messrs. Snowden and MacDonald. We are informed that, on Thursday the 6th of May, at 2 p.m., Mr. Hume spoke the pilot-boat *New York*, outside, having Mr. Snowden, pilot, on board; and at 4 p.m. of same day, a Chinese boat, with Mr. Macdonald on board. At 8 p m. it came on to blow hard from the north-west, and the gale continued to increase until noon of the 7th. No tidings have been since heard of either boat up to this date.

The cathedralisation of Trinity Church has been arranged, and the ceremony will take place to-morrow. Our readers will be glad to learn that Bishop Russell intends

to confer the office of Dean of the new Cathedral on the Rev. Canon Butcher, and that the Rev. T. McClatchie is to be appointed to a Canonry.

H. M. ships *Vigilant* and *Modeste*, with Admiral Ryder and Mr. Wade, returned from their cruise up the Yangtze, on Wednesday.

Viator returns to the charge about local taxation. He really seems to be "retained for the defence." He "furbishes anew every rusty old tool" that has been brandished for the last ten years as a reason to let the Mandarins have their way, and declines utterly to notice the counter-arguments which are patent in the Tientsin treaty. The Chinese Government has a perfect right to tax its own subjects so long as it does not infringe on that Treaty. But, in levying on Foreign imports a tax of 2½ per cent in addition to the import duty—while those imports are still within the limits of the Port—it does infringe the treaty. It is not a question of temporary, fortuitous, or permanent residence of Chinese within the limits of the Foreign Settlement, but of the right of the Chinese Government to tax afresh goods which have already paid the only tax they ought to pay within the limits of the Port. It is likely that reasonable men will hold not only the Foreign Settlements but the Native City to be included within those limits; otherwise the words "Port" and "Interior" can have no distinct meaning. It is not a question as between Governors and Governed; though our impression is that the Chinese people would be very much obliged to any one who will relieve them from the oppressive taxation of their Mandarins. The point foreigners have to go on, is treaty stipulation in regard to imports for which a tariff is laid down in the treaty. And we repeat that we are convinced the Treaty Consuls would feel themselves justified—on a representation from the Chamber of Commerce—in addressing such a remonstrance to the Taotai as would land him in this dilemma. Either he would have to deny the levy of the squeezes—in which case every *Lekin Runner* found in the Settlement must be a thief; or he would have to prove that the said taxes are legal—which he cannot do.

Four very handsome brazen gas-standards, the gift of a friend who desires to be anonymous, have been placed in the Chancel of Trinity Church. They are in strict keeping with the rest of the iron work introduced into the building, and have a very beautiful effect when lighted.

A cricket match between two scratch elevens of the Club was played on the 18th and 19th inst.

Our Chinese contemporary, the *Wei-pao*, announces that its publication will be suspended for a time, in consequence of intended removal of the office to other premises. The Chinese say there is a doubt among the proprietors whether it shall be continued, as it is said not to have been remunerative.

Chinese of the male gender are again compelled to forego the tonsure for a hundred days, only three or four of which have transpired, the weather meanwhile waxing warm. They seem to think they are having too much of a bad thing, and as regards Chinamen who are living in the foreign Settlement, there seems to be a determination to disobey the proclamation, and let those mourn for the late Empress who are obliged to,—those who are within reach of the Yamên. It is between the thirtieth and fiftieth days that the discomfort of leaving the head unshaved is said to be the greatest.

We hear that a few small musters of new Silk were received on Thursday.

The *Deucalion* has been the first steamer to get away with new teas. The was loaded down here, from river steamers. The *Hankow* brought down 4,000 ½-chests in the beginning of the week; after having taken in which she went to Woosung, where she received 13,600 more packages from the *Shanghai*.—The *Deucalion* left Woosung at 2.10 a.m. on the 21st, but had to anchor until daylight, outside the Red Buoy, owing to the thick fog prevailing.

The Agent of the P. & O. Co. announces that the mail steamers will, until further notice, run through from Shanghai to London, viâ the Suez Canal. The arrangement will commence with the *Hindostan*, leaving on the 30th instant. Cargo for Europe and America can be shipped on through Bills of Lading from Hankow, Kiukiang, Chefoo and Tientsin.

Monday forenoon, a person named W. Morris was arrested in Broadway, Hongkew, by a Consular constable from Chefoo, charged with embezzling about $600. He was taken to the Central Police Station and detained in custody, awaiting his return voyage to Chefoo. He only arrived in Shanghai on Friday.

Our report of the PEKING Races comes to hand rather late; but we print it for the benefit of those who may not have yet learned the results.

It is reported at TIENTSIN, that Mr. Hart's recent visit to Li Hung-chang had reference to the method to be pursued in negociating such further loans as the Government or any of its provincial officers may need to make; the object being to centralize borrowing operations in Mr. Hart's hands, or at least in those of the general Government.

It is hinted also that the recent consideration, at Peking, of questions in regard to the construction of telegraphs and railroads, and the opening of mines was so far unfavorable that Li may be obliged to suspend his preparations for mining operations in the South-western part of the province of Chihli. For whatever reason, Li appears to be somewhat unhappy just now. The unfavourable attitude of the Central Government may be one reason for this, but perhaps the condition of his mother's health may be a greater reason. Her demise may happen at any time, and it is altogether likely that the great Viceroy will then be obliged to retire for the customary three years of mourning.

"Massacre fans" have appeared in the Southern parts of the province; they are said to be of the most objectionable sort. The Consuls have been informed, and they are likely to take prompt action to have them suppressed. The first steps in any attempt to raise an excitement against foreigners, ought to be met promptly. Whenever this is done, there is little danger to be apprehended. All or nearly all difficulties result from the efforts of people who conspire to create alarm and to implicate foreigners. Such persons are disconcerted when promptly shown up, and will generally abandon their operations.

Our correspondent reports an insurrection in Manchuria, and the despatch of troops to suppress it. We hear that the trouble is connected with the mines. The Government are perpetually endeavouring to repress an industry which they had better legalise. It is said that the Mandarin who has been deputed to arrange matters, is inclined to report in favour of this view.

A notice has been issued to the effect that the lamps formerly employed at Tunglo-tu, Tantoo, Bethune Point, and Wuhu, in the CHINKEANG district of the Yangtsze, have been replaced by dioptric illuminating apparatus of the Sixth Order, shewing a *fixed white light*.

Messrs. Spencer & Wolff write from Chinkeang, on the 19th May:—Our market for imports at last shews some signs of activity. Nailrod iron and sandalwood have been in good enquiry, and piece goods dealers are again entering the market, although they still act with caution, buying only sufficient for their immediate requirements.

The total settlements in KIUKIANG up to last advices are 11,000½ chests. Two chops have been bought at 54 Kiukiang taels, which is equal to about 3s. 3d. a lb.—A correspondent gives some details of the settlement of the latest missionary trouble.

The HANKOW tea market was opened by the settlement of nine chops, (chiefly Yun lao-tuns) at Tls. 23½ to 30½. These rates are said to be slightly under last year's, but the quality is said to be also rather inferior to last year's. Two chops of Ningchow were also settled at Tls. 48. A large business has since been done at rates which, for the first few days, showed a steady advance. Latterly, however, prices have somewhat given way. 50 chops were bought on the two first days. Tea is being shipped in enormous quantities. It is thought likely that the str. *Bengal* will be first away. Latest advices will be found on our commercial pages. It is reported that Tls. 62½ have been paid for a crack chop—the highest price, we believe, on record. And yet we are told that the prices in the interior are 10 per cent. under last year.—Our correspondent relates the arrival and departure of Admiral Ryder and Mr. Wade, and their visit to the Viceroy at Wuchang.

The *N. C. Daily News* says, "At a meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel it was resolved that £200 per annum be granted towards the support of one or more chaplains at Hankow, the English residents guaranteeing £300 per annum to the society for the ministry of such chaplains to themselves, the chaplains to devote a portion of their time to missionary work."

A. F. Chambers has been tried in HONGKONG for embezzling $43,000, the money of the Hon. J. Whittall, and $17,850, the money of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., managers of the Canton Insurance Company. The prisoner was sentenced to nine years' penal servitude.

Editorial Selections.

THE YUNNAN OUTRAGE.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 10th of April contained a memorial from the Acting-Resident in Thibet, curious in connection with the recent misdeeds in Yunnan. It is unfortunately impossible to arrive at the particulars of the case referred to in the memorial, as probably, in the present position of affairs, the Chinese Government was not desirous of throwing more light than it could possibly avoid on the subject of its policy on the Western frontier. All we can learn is that someone was charged with illicit communication with people beyond the border, and that certain Chinese officials had, in order to procure false evidence, leagued together and administered torture to the witnesses, whether for the prisoner or prosecution we are not informed. The facts of the case would seem, however, to show that at the very moment when the Government at Peking was granting a safe conduct to Mr. Margary, and declaring its willingness to permit the exploration of the border, it was actually pursuing its old and ridiculous policy of using all the influence in its power to prevent intercommunication. We use the term ridiculous advisedly, —not in reference to the results of this policy, but to the childish reason which led to its inauguration and continuance. It may be impossible to convince the Chinese, by reasonable arguments, of the senselessness of the position they have taken up; but if the Government can be brought to see that it is simply rendering itself a subject for ridicule, and that its arguments cannot be accepted as the productions of sensible men, we may have some hope that it will eventually be saved the humiliation of yielding to force what it has steadily refused to grant to reason. Every little incident, so far, goes to prove that the course of conduct which led to the murder of Mr. Margary and the treacherous attack on the Expedition at large, was only in pursuance of a policy dictated from Peking, and for which the Government is as clearly responsible as if it had sent down express orders to murder the party. We have shown the utter uselessness to the Chinese of their present attempts to lock their Western frontier, and now the evil they wish to inflict on others returns with four-fold force upon themselves. There are not wanting men amongst themselves who are able to take this more sensible view of affairs, and who would willingly lend their aid to a vital change; but the party of inaction neither will nor can move of its own accord. It is in a position not unlike that of the mesmerised hen, so intent on gazing at the chalk line marked out in front of her head, that she is willing to forget the external world. We have tried reason to a considerable extent at Peking. The various Ministers have at intervals shown, in plain language, the difficulties the Chinese Government was laying up for itself, but all to no purpose. The chalk line was there, and the foolish bird preferred to keep its beak to the ground. A little ridicule might have perhaps done good, but none of the Ministers seem to have been adepts at the art. In fact, Peking is not a likely place for the shafts of humour to penetrate; the Phaiakian life led by the Foreign residents is little conducive to such an art. The Ministers come and go, like the great ships in the Scherian land, without helmsman or rudder, sail or cordage; and their very silence, like the shake of Lord Burleigh's head, leads the idle spectator to assume that they know the thoughts and the minds of men. Into some such position British interests in China seem to have at present drifted. Both in England and here, the public waits for some expression of opinion, or some sign of action. The mysterious ships go and come; we would fain comprehend their objects and intentions. We hold up our hands from the shore, but no answer comes. Yet the present is not a matter to be treated in a light or hap-hazard manner. Such national crimes cannot be passed over with impunity, without bringing down on both parties eventual discredit and disgrace. Our difficulties in China have increased, owing to the dilettante style we have adopted; and the worst omen for the future is that each difficulty has been more serious than the last. It is of little avail that Mr. Hammond has given up the management of the Foreign Office, and that Sir Rutherford Alcock has been pensioned off, if the spirit which still actuates the relations between Great Britain and China is guided in the same channels as heretofore. We have hope however that the strong hands which are now at the helm of Foreign and Indian affairs, in London and in Calcutta, will impress a new vigour on our policy.

THE RATEPAYERS' MEETING.

Eighty Ratepayers were present at the meeting on Monday, out of 408 qualified voters. Those present, however, held proxies bringing up the total to 237 votes, so that a large majority were represented. The various subjects were very fully discussed, and in most cases a clear decision was arrived at. There was no hesitation in voting the necessary supplies. The Ratepayers were quite clear that they would like to have the Soochow creek cleared out by the Chinese, and that they would like to have a foot bridge constructed over it at the end of Szechuen Road, instead of the present cumbrous "Free Ferry Bridge," which has served its purpose. A large majority were equally clear that they wished the Council to undertake the construction of Water-Works. The minority was considerable, but the vote was clear and decisive.—It was quite otherwise with the question which arose out of the proposal to reduce Mr. Fogg's land-tax. That proposal was rejected, partly because the Ratepayers did not think it well to remit a tax which had become fairly due under existing custom, and which differed not at all in principle, though somewhat in degree, from a hundred other cases in the Settlement; but partly we believe because they intended to pass a resolution later on, providing for a general re-assessment on a different principle, which should remove any charge of unfairness in the future. Elaborate discussion was had, and various proposals to this effect were brought forward—the expressed opinions all tending one way. Yet the matter fell through on a simple question of form. We are singularly deceived in our estimate of the prevalent feeling among the Ratepayers present, if a large majority did not desire a re-assessment of both houses and land, and that that re-assessment should be made on the principle of excluding from taxation land given up to public use. Nearly every speaker admitted the fairness of that principle and the excessive valuation of the present assessment. Throughout the discussion, the opposition turned on points of form. One proposal was out of order; another was too complicated, another imperfect. And the end was that the Ratepayers threw out, on a point of form, a proposal which they wished to see adopted in principle. To reduce the area of taxable land will involve an increased rate of land tax, but that will be preferable to unfair incidence of a lower rate. So convinced are we that a reform of the assessment is generally desired, that we would suggest having a special meeting at an early date, to discuss the subject anew, and to consider the Revised Land Regulations which dropped out of sight in the most peculiar way, on Tuesday. These were brought up seemingly in the wrong place, and subsequently overlooked, or there would have no doubt been a proposal to adjourn the meeting for their future discussion.—In carrying a resolution adverse to the admission of proxies of resident ratepayers, the meeting merely confirmed the opinion expressed last year. A similar resolution was then carried, but rejected by the Treaty Consuls as insufficiently explicit. It is believed that the present resolution will amend that defect.—The Council's proposal to make the financial year end on the 31st December instead of the 31st March, was unanimously approved. We have had sufficient experience, this year, of the inconvenience of the latter date. It involves annual effort and annual failure to bring out the budget before the hot weather and the busy season begin. The change will allow ample leisure.—The only other important subject was the General Hospital scheme. As we remarked before the meeting, there was at the outset a strong

feeling against the proposal put forward by the Trustees. Disapproving the site which had been chosen, looking at the outlay upon it as excessive, and disliking in some measure the constitution of the hospital, people did not feel inclined to saddle the Municipality with a debt of Tls. 35,000 on its account. There was, on the other hand, a keen appreciation of the necessity for a hospital, apparent throughout the discussion to which the proposal gave rise. This discussion enabled the Trustees to understand better what was the public feeling, and led to a material change in the terms of their proposal, which secured its acceptance by the Ratepayers on Tuesday. As laid before the meeting, the resolution gives to the Municipal Council a power which it is fitting they should exercise, in the adoption of site and plan. But it will be right, as suggested by Sir Edmund Hornby, that their voice should extend further, and that they should have an active share in the management of a Hospital which they provide the funds to erect.

SHIP-BUILDING.

THE discussions now going on in England with regard to the strength of ships and their seaworthiness, cannot fail to have in the long run a beneficial effect. Cases like those of the *Mary* and the *Chusan* have drawn attention to the diversities of opinion existing between the builders and the classifiers, and much the same question arises on the moot point of the compulsory marking of a load-line. Recent changes both in storage and in the course of trade have necessitated the construction of ships of very different dimensions from what we were accustomed to, even so lately as fifteen or twenty years ago. It has been calculated that the tension on the upper works of a ship of 3,000 tons is one and-a-half times as great as on a 1,500 ton ship, twice as great as on a 700 ton ship, and five times as great as on a 100 ton vessel. The tendency now-a-days is to construct vessels approaching nearer the former than the latter limit, and as a consequence the question of strains becomes daily of more importance. Hydraulic packing has almost done away with the old style of measurement cargo, and a dead instead of an elastic weight has now generally to be taken into consideration. It was not till within the last few years that the question of strains in ships was really taken into consideration, and it may be said that the first attempts in this direction were made not by shipbuilders or naval architects, but by shore-going civil engineers, who pointed out the resemblance of a ship to a loaded girder. Lately, both shipbuilders and the surveyors for the various classifying offices have occupied themselves much with problems of the same nature; but an inherent defect seems to exist in most of their calculations, namely, too great a tendency to reduce them to a rule of thumb. It is well known that the official calculations for registered tonnage represent very inadequately the real storage capacity of a ship, and that much ingenuity is exercised in building vessels, so that this discrepancy shall be a maximum. It seems at the first blush an easy thing to ascertain the entire contents of a vessel; and, doubtless, were the actual contents made the rule for registry, surveyors would soon light on methods approximating sufficiently near to the truth. At present, hard and fast rules, which give in certain cases an approximation, but in others differ widely in their results from the actual capacity, are made the basis of measurement. Again, with regard to the strength required in the various portions of a ship there will naturally exist difference of opinion between the rules laid down by the classifying officers, and those likely to find favour with the ship-builder. The former will naturally favour rules which he knows from experience will give the requisite strength, even at the expense of a somewhat excessive amount of material, while the latter will endeavour as naturally to reduce the amount of material required to a minimum consistent with his ideas of strength. Were the strains to which a ship is liable, as capable of rigid demonstration as those appertaining to engineering works on shore, the settlement of these differences would be a comparatively easy matter. Unfortunately, naval engineers have not yet decided on the *a b c* of the art, so that calculations of strains are differently applied, and often on mere abstract rules. The ship-builder with justice says that the rules of the classifiers compel him frequently to use a superabundance of material in portions of a ship where strength is not actually needed, and that this extra weight of material is in itself an evil, as actually tending to weaken the vessel as a whole. The classifier says that in some possible cases such may be the fact, but that his rules are the result of a more practical and extended experience than falls to the lot of the ship-builder, and that in any case it is inadvisable when circumstances vary so much to run the risk of too great refinement in calculation. The invariable load-line is again a subject of a dispute of a different nature between the ship-owners and the public. The former resist its being made compulsory, or even introduced as an element, while the latter consider that one of the greatest advances towards safety would thereby be made. As with all other hard and fast rules attempted to be applied to shipping, there would possibly be really little gained in the end. If a ship were to be prevented loading over her load line, the ingenuity of builders would be devoted to reducing her strength above what was needed for this line, to the lowest limits; and to do this the present rules for registered tonnage would probably be found to have a detrimental effect. Against this, it is suggested that the actual displacement of a ship should be taken as the basis for the registration of her tonnage, and that as economy of materials in the case of a girder is frequently sought by increasing its depth, so economy of materials might in this case coincide with greater height of freeboard, and therefore extra safety. Doubtless, height of freeboard is one of the great elements of safety; but the result of making the displacement of a ship the test of her registered tonnage, would be to increase the economic temptations to a reduction in the scantlings of the materials of which she is to be built. Altogether the matter is so beset with difficulties, and the conclusions arrived at for the present are so inconclusive, that we shall probably have to wait many years before any definite action is taken.

THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

The Budget for 1875-6 is not a sensational one, and calls for little comment. The purchase of the Tunsin property has to be completed during the year, but the issue of debentures for the purpose was sanctioned by Resolution XI. passed at the Ratepayers' meeting in May last year. Tls. 76,000 is asked for Public Works, and we believe with the Council that that sum can be well spent. Among the chief proposals are a new bridge across the Defence Creek to the Sinza Road, a new bridge on the Seward road, and ½ cost of a new bridge over the Yang-king-pang at the Bund; Tls. 3,000 bunding Yang-king-pang creek between Shantung and Fohkien roads; a new drain in the Chekiang road, from the Hupeh to the Nanking road; a new iron pontoon, Tls. 2,800; Public Garden, including Tls. 600 for a new pavilion, Tls. 1,500; the extension of the Alpha Farm road to the Jessfield road Tls. 1,100, of the Cemetery road into the Sikaway road near Overweg's bungalow, Tls. 2,000, and of the Seward road Tls. 2,000. Tls. 8,000 Office expenses, and Tls. 29,000 for ordinary repairs to roads, go to make up the total. The purchase of a Gatling gun, instead of the present unwieldy howitzers, is proposed, and will no doubt be sanctioned.

The Report bears so much upon the estimates, that the two need to be taken together. It contains a vast deal of matter (especially correspondence) which has been already published among the Minutes of Meetings; but there is a residue—when one can disentangle it—of considerable interest. It is remarked, for instance, at the outset, that a saving of Tls. 10,000 has been effected on the expenses of the staff since 1873; the fact will be noted with satisfaction, and we believe further effort in the same direction will be welcomed.—The community are indebted to Mr. Thorndike for having built and handed over to the community a foot bridge over the Soochow creek at

the end of Kiangse road.—The decision of the arbitrators in the Yang-king-pang question has been already made public though the minutes of the French Council. In the course of a few weeks, it will probably come out with all the force of novelty in the minutes of some long past meeting of the English Council.—The Defence Committee have a good deal to say that will be of interest to Volunteers; but the question of guns, to which we have already referred, is the only one that calls for special notice. We may remark that, in regretting the small attendance at drill in the early part of the year, a word might have been as well said about the 2,000 members of the community who do not enlist at all, as about the 200 volunteers who give only a partial attendance. No doubt the 200 (or 243, which appears to be the exact number) undertake certain duties which they are bound to fulfil. But there is no special exemption entitling the 2,000 to shirk service altogether. The opportunity is taken of paying the Volunteers a well-deserved compliment for their bearing at the Parade in March last.—The British Post-office wants to be exempt from taxation; the Council see no good reason.—It is recommended that the Finance Committee be empowered to deal with special cases of assessment.—The Fire department have actually succeeded in keeping their expenditure within the sum allotted.—Dr. Macgowan suggests the planting of trees as a sanitary measure, around the ponds and swampy land in Hongkew.—There has been a falling off in the fees derived from pawnshops, owing to a falling off in business.—An offer has been made for a piece of land at Sinza, suitable for a slaughter-house.—The Inspector of Nuisances advises the purchase of a small steam pump to fill water carts. The first cost would be Tls. 1,000; and the subsequent cost of working would be met by saving in labour, &c.—It is curious to learn that the number of cattle slaughtered during the half-year from October to March was—bullocks 2,675, sheep 4,025, calves 280, pigs 109. No trace of cattle disease has been remarked.—76 ponies and 57 carriages are licensed to Native livery stable keepers.

The Superintendent of Police reports that there have been fewer serious crimes during the year. He is of opinion that the inadequacy of punishments inflicted by the Mixed Court is a fruitful cause of crime; that is to say, they are insufficient to deter.

A memorandum by the Health Officer on the proposed constitution of a lock hospital, deserves attention. The scheme is undoubtedly a good one if it can be carried out, and we regret to see the Council do not consider it feasible.—The deaths of 83 foreigners were registered during the year. It is noteworthy that the death rate was lower than it has ever been, and that the per centage shows a steady decrease over a series of years.

In 1870	deaths reg.	103,	mortality	indicated 34.3	per 1000.
,, 1871	do.	99,	do.	33.0	do.
,, 1872	do.	101,	do.	33.6	do.
,, 1873	do.	90,	do.	30.0	do.
,, 1874	do.	83,	do.	27.6	do.

The Health Officer does not believe a statement which has been lately made, that most of the deaths set down to heat apoplexy in Shanghai are attributable to drink poisoning. Without pretending to decide a point where doctors disagree, we have a very clear opinion that the bad liquor sold in Hongkew helps materially to the result, and that the same men would in most cases have escaped, had it not been for the liquor. Four deaths are reported from aneurism, and eleven from drowning. In view of the present agitation about Water-Works, Dr. Henderson's remarks on water supply will be read with interest.—729 children have been vaccinated during the year, at the Council's dispensary in the Ningpo road and at the country branch near Paoshan. We were not before aware that the Council maintained an establishment in the latter district.

The Fire Commission want more fire-wells, and as it must be some time before Water-Works can be brought into play, their recommendation should be attended to. The fire in Fohkien road the other night was a case in point. The purchase of a fire-escape is recommended. The "Deluge" engine is worn out beyond repair. The home Insurance offices continue to derive benefit from the fire organisation, without subscribing towards its support; and we repeat that, if it were not for the loss and suffering entailed on the inmates, we should recommend that buildings insured in home offices be let burn. The Commission estimate the expense of the department for the ensuing nine months at Tls. 5,385, including Tls. 1,000 for new plant.

Bridges seem to be a perpetual source of worry at Shanghai. Hardly have we begun to get round those over the Soochow Creek, than those over the Yang-king-pang come to a deadlock. The long correspondence with the French Council, which is incorporated in the Working Committee's report, has been already published in the paper, so our readers are aware of the dispute about share of cost which threatens to end in those bridges collapsing. However, we think the English Council are quite right in the position they have taken up, and fancy any inconvenience that may ensue will be felt quite as keenly on the South as on the North of the Yang-king-pang. We fully agree with the Council in objecting to narrowing the Soochow Creek to a width of 200 feet. This perpetual bunding out to the edge of mud banks, which are continually re-forming, is an error in dealing with water-courses so sluggish and so charged with deposit as those of Shanghai. We are glad to see it is proposed to ask the Chinese to clear out the creek. If we remember rightly, they offered to do so some time ago, and we were puzzled to know why they were hindered.

We are glad to see the attention the Council has been giving to the widening of roads where practicable. It is to be regretted that previous Councils have neglected the urgent representations made on this head, and so allowed many opportunities to slip. There seems to be a difficulty about the proposed road through the Canton Garden, and Mr. Camajee states his case rather differently from the Council. However, it seems to be mainly a question of compensation, and therefore not insuperable. We regret to see there is a hitch in the extension of the Chekeang road between Kiukiang and Hankow roads. Such letters as Mr. Souper's of the 20th April are hardly likely to smooth away difficulties where such exist. The Council have agreed to pay the land-tax on land surrendered to the Yangtzepoo road. The Taotai collects it from the Tepaos, and the Tepaos demand it from the people. It is not fair the latter should be mulcted; but the tax should be abandoned.

The community are indebted to Mr. Rothwell for the care with which he has managed the public garden during the past year. It is complained that the grant of Tls. 500 per annum is insufficient.—The chief financial features of the report were summarised in the *precis* we published last week.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

In my letter of the evening of the 6th instant, I mentioned that in the Peking *Gazette* of 2nd May, just then received, I had read an announcement that Chung How 崇厚 (formerly Superintendent of Northern ports) had, at an audience, thanked the Imperial Regents for the appointment of Acting Right Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office; and that it was further mentioned in the same *Gazette* that Chung How had been summoned to appear that day at the Council Room of the Cabinet, in conjunction with the Ministers of State, for the transaction of business. In the *Gazette* of the 5th May I now read that Ching-lin 成林 (formerly Superintendent of Customs at Newchwang) Vice-President of one of the Boards (I forget which one at this moment), had been summoned to appear that day at the Council Room with the Ministers of State. And in the *Gazette* of the 7th May, I see that Tih-chun (德椿) (formerly in territorial charge of the Newchwang region and later Superintendent of the Imperial Arsenal at Tientsin), Vice-President of the Colonial Office, had been summoned to appear that day at the Council Room.

Now, as all these officials have been for years past in relation with Foreign officials in the transaction of international business, two of them, Chung How and Ching-lin, being at the present time members of the Tsung-li-yamên, we may take it for granted that the Imperial Regents summoned them to the Council Room to obtain information and their views regarding certain *international* affairs having great importance for the Government at this hour. If we add these facts to the tenor of the Edict which appeared in the *Gazette* of the 3rd May, appointing Tso Tsung-tang 左宗棠, Governor-General of the provinces of Shense and Kansuh, Imperial Commissioner for the superintending of military affairs in Eastern Turkestan (the Kashgar region); and the appointment of General Kin-shun, holding the appointment of Commander-in-chief at Oroumtsi in Soungaria, as Assistant Imperial Commissioner for the superintending of military affairs in Eastern Turkestan, we may reasonably come to the opinion that international affairs of importance are in operation touching Chinese welfare, which demand the earnest consideration and action of the Court of Peking. I have read the London telegram of the 29th April, in the *N.-China Daily New* of the 3rd inst., that—"War

between China and Kashgar is apprehended. Russia is friendly to the latter Power." Tso Tsung-tang's appointment to Eastern Turkestan is connected with the events taking place in Kashgar.

Three days back, I heard from three different quarters that H. E. Li Hung-chang had left Tientsin for Peking, two nights previously, in a very private manner, leaving his yamên on horseback, dressed in plain clothes, in the night-time. The people here invent such false tales, however, about officials, that I cannot place confidence in the story; yet it seems the general belief is that his Excellency is not in Tientsin. The Yamên people say, however, that he is in his yamên. Tseng Kwo-tseuen arrived here on the afternoon of the 9th inst. He called on the different Taotais yesterday. It is not known when he leaves for the Yellow River station.

May 11th.

Since writing to you on the 11th instant, I have heard no Peking political news. Here, during the last four days, the talk has been about a rebellion in Manchuria and the death of a General in command of the Imperial forces in that region. On the 13th instant, we learnt that the Central Government had given orders to Li Hung-chang to immediately despatch a body of troops to Newchwang. Later, we learnt that mandarins had been to the office of the agent of the S. S. N. Company here, to arrange regarding the conveyance thither of a regiment, one thousand strong, of foot soldiers, of men belonging to this province; and that a regiment of horse soldiers, five hundred strong, are to be sent from here by way of the Shan-hae pass to Newchwang. We are told that the soldiers—Foreign drilled men—sent from here to Newchwang some eight or nine years ago, had mutinied and joined the people in rebellion against the Imperial Government.

Li Hung-chang was at his yamên on the 11th instant, so we may take it for granted, I imagine, that he must have been here all along, and that the report of his having gone to Peking on the evening of the 5th instant was incorrect. Tsêng Kwo-tseuen, the Governor-General of the Yellow River, left here on the 12th instant for Paouting-foo.

PURITAN.

15th May.

KIUKIANG.

H.M.S. *Vigilant*, flying the flag of Vice-Admiral Ryder, and with Her Majesty's Minister on board, accompanied by the *Modeste*, arrived here at 4 p.m. on the 14th instant, having left Hankow on the morning of the same day. It is believed that, after a short stay at Nanking, the vessels, with Admiral Ryder and Mr. Wade, will return to Shanghai.

I hear that the native Authorities at Kiukiang have behaved very well in the settlement of the late Missionary difficulty there. They have agreed to put the Chapel building and furniture in good order, and to pay the full amount claimed for sundry losses of the mission servants. I am told also that this result has been reached without the exercise of any great pressure, the native Authorities having met the representations of the United States officials at once, and in a very friendly way.—The weather here is close and lowering.

15th May.

HANKOW.

Admiral Ryder, with Mr. Wade, arrived here on Tuesday last in the *Vigilant* accompanied by the *Modeste*. During their stay in port, the rain did not cease at all, which was a great disappointment to many, as a game of cricket had been arranged to take place between the crew of the *Modeste* and the gentlemen on shore.

Yesterday afternoon, the Admiral with Mr. Wade, and a number of gentlemen from the *Modeste*, as well as Mr. Wade's secretaries, visited the Viceroy at Wu-chang. The *Modeste* took the party up a distance of three miles, off Wuchang, on the other side of the river, when they landed, and were taken to the yamên in chairs. I hear a salute of 15 guns was fired from the *Modeste* when Mr. Wade landed, which we did not hear at Hankow on account of the rain. The Viceroy returned the call at once, on board the *Modeste*, in all the rain, for which he deserves credit, and was also saluted on leaving; after which the *Modeste* returned to Hankow.—The *Vigilant* and *Modeste* both left this morning at daylight for Shanghai.

No one seems to know what, if any, political significance is attached to the visit of the Minister and Admiral to the port. I hear, however, that the Hon. Mr. Grosvenor and Mr. Baber, of the Consular Service, are to proceed at an early day to Yunnan to be present at the trial of the murderers of Mr. Margary.

We have had five days of rain, greatly to the disgust of the Tea people, who are here in great force and eager for the fray. You are doubtless aware that the market has been opened, at a high price.

14th May.

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* says:—The news from Formosa is somewhat conflicting; but from what it can gather, the position of the Imperialists is in no way improved. An irregular kind of warfare prevails, in which the Aborigines (who are fighting for bare life) are almost invariably victorious. The recent execution of an Imperialist officer—for rank cowardice in the face of the enemy—may have a salutary effect on the rest; but we are doubtful.—The Arsenal Authorities are vainly attempting to dredge the river by means of a wretched little machine, worked by steam it is true, but utterly worthless for any practical purpose, short of dredging a creek.—A sad accident occurred at the City Arsenal last week. While proving a smooth bore muzzle loading gun, cast by native workmen, the gun burst at the breech, causing such fearful injuries to the unfortunate man who was firing, that he expired in a few minutes. One large fragment of the gun struck him in the forehead—smashing in the whole of the fore part of his head. Now that a man has been killed, all guns when being proved are to be fired electrically on the Woolwich system.—It is understood that the Prefect of the city will on the 15th instant officially review at the South Camp (weather permitting!) the Bow-and-Arrow-men—horse and foot—of the garrison. The evolutions will, we are informed, embrace the most varied and amusing acrobatic feats, dancing in tigers' skins, &c., &c. It is said these valuable auxiliaries are about to be disbanded.—Mr. Pedder arrived from Amoy, to take charge of the British Consulate, on the 29th April.—A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on the 13th May.—The steamer *Glenfinlas* is expected to load the first teas.—A marked increase is noticeable in the number of the tea plantations in the Pehling district.—In regard to the Amoy telegraph, the *Herald* says H. E. Shen Pao Chen, Imperial Commissioner at the Arsenal, is hourly expected from Formosa. His Excellency is, as our readers are probably aware, the official specially charged with the investigation and settlement of the Great Northern Telegraph Company's claims. During the absence of His Excellency from this port, his powers were delegated to certain officers of the Provincial Government, who having already arrived at a decision (favorable, we believe, to the Company) now only await the Commissioner's return, to make known the result of their deliberations.

FORMOSA.

A correspondent of the *Universal Circulating Herald* says:—

About the beginning of last month, an officer named Chü took fifty bales of cotton and some casks of oil into the region inhabited by the aborigines. He poured the oil on the cotton, which he then set fire to and burned the forests, which abounded in valuable trees. The glowing hue of the conflagration reddened the whole sky, and the reflection could be distinctly seen at Takao. In this way very many valuable trees, useful in the construction of ships and for other purposes, were destroyed.

General Lo Tai Chün operated against the aborigines on the north of the island about the beginning of last month and obtained a complete victory over them. Some 40 of them were killed on the field, and a chief was made prisoner. The aborigines always tried to remove the bodies of their killed or wounded comrades, shewing that they too have a reverence for the dead.

News from Foochow states that Soong Chentai will be sent over to assist in operating against the aborigines, and soldiers are being despatched to reinforce him.

CANTON.

The Provincial authorities at Canton have decided to open the coal mines in the Province. A place called Yeong Kong is known to be very rich in this mineral, and steps have been taken to engage some Chinese who have had some experience of mining operations in America. When they arrive, the experiment will be tried under purely native auspices.—The progress being made towards the fortification of the approaches to Canton is both great and comical. It seems hardly credible that a people which have shewn such an appreciation of foreign artillery, as to order out from Europe the most expensive productions of the Krupp foundry, and who have already adopted the foreign model for their men-of-war, could be guilty of erecting such inane parodies of what the civilized world calls forts. We hope shortly to furnish same acurate details of their construction, but may observe that they appear to be intended as single tier case-mated batteries of very slight strength, as strength goes now-a-days, and admirably calculated to form good targets for the first iron-clad which may be called upon to tackle them.—The *China Mail* quotes a proclamation by the Viceroy of Canton, as a proof that the native Press is assuming an important position in Chinese eyes. On the 1st instant, the *Chinese Mail* published a paragraph complaining of certain amiable weaknesses on the part of the Viceroy's soldiers for taking goods from hawkers without payment, bullying shopkeepers, and generally letting people know that they were under puissant protection. On the 4th it noted with satisfaction that one of these gentry, caught squeezing, had received a sound flogging and a term of cangue. But not satisfied with this, H.E. the Viceroy, on the 5th, issued the proclamation alluded to, in which, while directing that the responsible officers be deprived of their buttons until the offenders are discovered, he makes pointed allusion to the newspaper source of his information. We suspect that the Viceroy's body-guard will in future have a respect for the *Chinese Mail*, which no realisation of its mere literary merits would ever have

impressed upon them.—Piracy is complained of as very rife on the Canton River.—The gambling houses in Canton have been subjected to heavy squeezing, and several have had to close.

HONGKONG.

A meeting of shareholders in the Victoria Fire Insurance Co., called (on the 7th instant) to provide for the future management of the Company, was adjourned *sine die* in view of the second meeting that has been called for the 24th instant, to discuss the winding up of the Company.—The *Hongkong Times* says, on the passage of the German barque *Albatross* through the Carimata Straits, a brig was in sight for two days. On April 8th, after passing Carimata Island, saw a brig, supposed to be the same one as sighted, on Ontario Reef, and could see from aloft that the vessel was a wreck with only a little of the fore part above water. The sails were hanging loose on the yards, showing that she could not have been on the reef long. There was a barque steering down for her to see if she could be of any assistance, and afterwards saw the barque take in her sails and anchor close to the Reef.—The U. S. S. *Saco* came out of quarantine on Saturday, and was towed to the man-of-war ground by the steam-tug *Little Orphan*.—The *China Mail* says, the steamer *Killarney*, about to leave for Cooktown, has been most comfortably fitted up for 800 Chinese passengers to that port. Some 600 are to leave by her on her present voyage. She is under a monthly charter for six months.—The *Mail* congratulates the colony on the progress that is being made with the reconstruction of the boathouse and gymnasium that were destroyed during the typhoon.—At the Peak the maximum temperature recorded in the *Gazette* of Saturday during the previous week was 75.0, the minimum 58.0; at the Harbour-Master's Office, Praya West, the maximum was 83.5 and the minimum 66. The greatest rainfall was on the 4th instant, when 0.08 inch fell.—The *China Mail* says the new Customs Taotai for Tientsin had arrived from Canton, and was to leave for the North by the *Amoy*.—A Chinaman wants to run a small steamer called the *City of Whampoa* in opposition to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam-boat Company. She is to ply between Hongkong and Canton, and will only charge 50 cents each passenger. Some objection is said to be raised by the Colonial Authorities. If the Harbour Master refuses leave to run her, she will, it is thought, start from some place beyond Colonial jurisdiction.—The American barque *Juno* has gone to Canton to be broken up.—A Marine Court of enquiry is being held, to enquire into the circumstances of the grounding of the steamship *Viking* on the Bombay shoal.—Much dissatisfaction is expressed at the terms of a despatch received from Lord Carnarvon on the blockade question, which promises little relief from the annoyance.—The *Hongkong Times* says the Danish diver and his assistant, who have been engaged to recover the treasure from the P. M. S. S. *Japan*, have been at the scene of the wreck for several days past. The strong undercurrent has, however, prevented their operations being very successful. The *Japan*, it will be recollected, lies in about twenty fathoms of water, and it was doubted if anyone could go down to such a depth and remain there any time. Of this, however, there is now no doubt, the diver having been down and examined the wreck. On being brought to the surface he appeared quite fresh, and not to have suffered any physical injury. On the last occasion on which he went down, the undercurrent was less strong, and he was enabled to move about more readily. Great confidence is now expressed as to the recovery of the treasure, which is said to amount to over $300,000.—The American barque *Lizzie and Rosa*, one of the vessels which drove on shore in the late typhoon, has gone to Canton to be broken up.

NAGASAKI.

We have a Nagasaki *Express* of the 14th instant. The U. S. war str. *Kearsage* had arrived from Hongkong.—The regatta was finished on the 8th. Kobe (Sim) won the single sculls, Shanghai (Wyatt and Glass) coming in second and third.—Kobe (Sim and Macpherson) also won the double sculling race, Shanghai (Wyatt and Glass) a good second. The *Express* notes that a day or two after the Deutsche Bank was robbed (in Yokohama,) the Chinese compradore of Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co.'s establishment disappeared, the total amount of his defalcations being estimated at 4,000 dollars.

OSAKA.

On the 6th inst., three rascally traders, having failed to take refuge from their foreign creditor in bankruptcy, got their deserts. Last year they bought a large parcel of cloth from a foreign house at 60 days' credit, and failing to pay, were sued for the amount. Their defence appears to have been one of non-indebtedness, each swearing that the cloth was obtained by another party altogether, and that he alone was liable. The trio were sentenced, one for ten, the others for seven years' hard labour, but whether for fraud or perjury is not known.—Fires recently in Kioto and Takamiya-zai Goshin, have destroyed 260 houses.—A menagerie of foreign animals has also been consumed by fire, through the accidental upsetting of a lamp, and all the unfortunate brutes were burnt.

HIOGO.

There appears to be some obstacle to fusion between the Kobe Cricket Club and the Recreation Ground managers. The *News* believes that the Committee appointed to re-organise the Cricket Club has not as yet been able to settle upon a Ground, owing to some extent to the fact that the question is mixed up with that long-standing one of the Recreation ground. It is generally hoped that the present stay of H. E. Sir H. S. Parkes at this port may lead to the final settlement of this latter much vexed question.—The development of the mimeral wealth of Japan has been long under consideration, and at length a French mining engineer who has been prospecting on behalf of some Japanese for a year or more past has been established in a regular laboratory in Sakai-machi, for the purpose of assaying specimens of copper.—Two slight shocks of earthquake are reported as having been felt here within the week ending the 8th instant.—The steamer *Kuroda*, from Yokohama, brought about two hundred tons of Hakodate ice.—Two British man-of-war's men according to the *Minato Shimbun*, having stolen some rings from a Japanese store, were arrested by the police.—Amongst one of the evidences of the want of civilization mentioned by a writer in the same native paper, the *News* notices the assertion that the notices of bankruptcy are so numerous that they would make a pile higher than Fujiyama, and that it is impossible for a passer-by to remember them all.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Japan Herald* says another Bank robbery has been discovered. The compradore of the Deutsche Bank has made away with 28,000 *yen*. Particulars will be found in another column. The same man appears to have been imprisoned for a similar offence, in Hongkong.

The *Herald* says that the Dramatic Corps gave their fifth performance for the season on the evening of the 6th instant, when the pieces selected were *Milky White* and *Cool as Cucumber*, both of which are said to have been well put on the stage.—A cricket match was played on the 6th between players of the Settlement and H. M. S. *Challenger*, when the tars were beaten by an innings and ten runs.—Messrs. Walsh, Hall and Co.'s compradore is a defaulter to the amount of about $4,000, the firm, however, suffering little if any loss, as the defaulter is largely secured. The employés are chief sufferers, one of them, Mr. Pigult, being said to have had a deposit of $3,000 in the man's hands.—An amateur concert, in aid of the General Hospital, given on the 4th instant, was very successful.—After a postponement, in consequence of bad weather, the Athletic Sports came off on the 4th instant. No fewer than seventeen prizes were offered, the weather was fine and the ground in splendid condition. The band of H.M.S. *Challenger* played a selection of air during the afternoon.—The *Gazette* says that at a meeting of the members of the Y. U. Club, held this afternoon, it was decided by a majority of two that Selling Lotteries on the forthcoming races should not be held.—The Compradore of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris has been given into custody on suspicion of having been implicated in the recent robbery from the Bank. It appears that, after all the books had been examined, the Compradore had failed to account for $5,000. He says that Swaby took the money by cheque, which he afterwards abstracted.—The celebrated Mr. Fukuzawa has erected a lecture hall at Mita, for the good of the town. It was opened on the 1st instant, under the name of "Insetsu Kai-kan," and free lectures are to be given every Saturday.—On the occasion of the visit of H.M. the Mikado to the residence of H.E. Arisgawano-miya, on the 4th instant, several articles of interest were exhibited, amongst which were gas-lamps supplied by gas from a large bag. The Emperor was so pleased that, on his departure, he took the latter receptacle away with him.—The mania for keeping rabbits seems to be on the increase amongst the Japanese. One has been sold for 80 *yen*; another, belonging to a pawnbroker at Asakusa, cost 100 *yen*!—The funeral of Mr. Karl E. Schmid, late First Assistant at the British Consulate, Yokohama, took place on Saturday afternoon, at 5 o'clock. Mr. Consul Robertson, in official uniform, and many members of the diplomatic and consular corps, accompanied the body to the grave.

SAIGON.

We have further news from Tonquin, of an interesting character. The Commission sent to Hué for the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty, returned to Saigon on the 24th. The deepest silence is, however, preserved as to what transpired. The *Duchaffant* remains, as agreed, at Chun Moy. The *Antelope* went up to Hue, but did not go as far as the town itself, there being, it was said, not water enough—though those who know the river assert that there is always sufficient for a vessel of her draft at high tide. She was probably kept back to oblige the Annamese.

The scanty details to hand of the reception of the Commission imply rather high handed conduct on the part of the native authorities. It was accompanied by an escort of 25 marine infantry soldiers and ten sailors, but upon reaching the gates of the city the Annamese refused to allow them to enter with their arms.

The Chief of the Commission therefore consented to disarm his men, and the party entered empty-handed, preceded by two buglers not looking very particularly dignified. It had been agreed that the ratifications should be exchanged with the king "in person," but the sense of this understanding was ingeniously evaded. The Commission had an audience of some one hidden behind a curtain, who might have been the king or might have been a mandarin. The day for opening Tonquin does not as yet appear to have been fixed, and it was stated that this would be delayed until the approved draft of the Commercial Convention annexed to the Treaty is sent out from France. Strict instructions have, however, been sent out to the Governor of Saigon, to proceed with the ratification without waiting for the arrival of the Convention, and to declare the country open as soon afterwards as possible.—*China Mail.*

Public Meetings.

ANNUAL MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

The annual meeting of Ratepayers was held in the Lyceum Theatre, on Tuesday, the 18th May. The following are the names of those present, with the number of votes they represent:—

Ashton, John.....	1	Lavers. E. H. ...	4
Barton, G. K. ...	1	Love, J., Jnr. ...	3
Batt, E. W.	3	Macbean, Jno. ...	1
Bell, F. H. 11		Mackintosh, L. ...	1
Birt, W.	2	MacLeod, Alex...	4
Bisset, J. P. 15		Manson, J. B. ...	3
Blethen, C. P. ...	6	Miller, Rowley...	1
Boyce, R. H. ...	1	Miller, J. I.	1
Brand, David ...	2	Moffat, R. C. D...	2
Camajee, H. D...	2	Morel, E.	1
Corner, G. R.....	2	Morris, Herbert.	1
Coryell, M.	2	Muller, J. W. ...	1
Cowie, G. J. W...14		Mustard, R. W...	1
Drummond, W. V.	1	Myburgh, A.....	1
Encarnação, A....	1	Nissen, F.	2
Ewald, L.	1	Nolting, J.	2
Fisler, L. F.	1	Olyphant, T.	2
Gill, H. S.....	2	Polite, Geo.	1
Groom, F. A. ...	1	Purdon, J. G. ...	4
Gubbay, M. S. ...11		Rees, C. A.	4
Gundry, R. S. ...	2	Seward, Geo. F...	2
Haas, J.....	1	Silverthorne, A...	1
Hart, Jas.	2	Simpson, C. L. ...	1
Henderson, D. M.	2	Smith, F. M.....	1
Henderson, E ...	2	Smith, E. M. ...	1
Hitch, F. D. 12		Steinmetz, A.....	1
Hogg, E. J.	8	Thorne, C.....	4
Hornby, Sir Ed...	2	Thorndike, J. K	1
Iveson, E. 20		Tootal, J. B.	1
Jamieson, R. A...	1	Twombly, J. F...	2
Keswick, Wm. ...22		Wainewright, R. E	2
Kidner, W.....	1	Walsh, F. G.....	1
King, C. J.	4	Webb, S. D.	1
Kingsmill, T. W.	1	Westall, A. C. ...	4
Laughorne, M. B.	1	Wilson, J.	2
Lemarchand, F. W	1	Xavier, J. A. ...	1
Lind, Adam	2	Yates, M. T.	1
Lindsay, G. A. ...	3	Young, J. M.....	1
Little, L. S.	1		

Total, 237 votes.

At 9.25 a.m.,

Mr. PURDON said it was nearly half-an-hour after the time, and although there were few present, he believed there were a good many votes represented, and would suggest that they should now commence business. He proposed

That Mr. Seward take the Chair.

Mr. COWIE seconded the motion, and it was carried.

Mr. SEWARD, having taken the chair, proposed

That Mr. J. A. Pond be appointed Secretary to the meeting.

Mr. PURDON seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN then said the business of the meeting had been duly notified in the *North-China Daily News*, as required by the rules of procedure, and it was not necessary to read it now. The first business was to pass the report and accounts of the Council for the year ending 31st March last.

Mr. PURDON said, before passing the report, it would be as well to refer to the resolutions brought forward at the last general and special meetings. The only one left over from the first, was for the deflection of the Broadway. It had been postponed in order to obtain a better line of road, and it now only remained for the Ratepayers to authorise the Council to carry out the arrangement made. All the others had been carried out. The Bridge over Soochow Creek at Honan Road had been finished and thrown open to the public, and was a great improvement. The purchase of the Tunsin property has been completed as far as possible. The expenditure has been kept well within limits, and it must be a satisfaction to the Ratepayers to see that there has been a saving of Tls. 10,000 per year in the cost of the General Establishment and the work done as well as formerly. The Council had avoided issuing any Debentures, although authorized to do so, as they preferred using money appropriated for works that could not be carried out, to putting the community further into debt. He must say of the Staff of the Council that they had worked well and performed their duties satisfactorily. He had been at the office at nearly all hours, and could testify to their diligence and ability. With regard to the resolutions of the special meeting, there was only one left for the Council to deal with,—the "Amalgamation of the Settlements," and that had been forwarded to the Consuls, but no reply had been yet received. The Committee appointed to revise the Land Regulations had published their report, and doubtless would submit it to the meeting. One other thing he must allude to. There was a letter published in the *North-China Daily News* by Mr. Camajee, the whole of which was misleading, but one part the Council particularly wished to deny. Mr. Camajee said that he was required to sign an agreement without consideration. So far from that being the case, some suggestions that he made were not only listened to by the Council, but the proposed agreement was amended in accordance with them, and when the amended agreement was ready, Mr. Camajee was asked to come round and meet the Chairman of the Council on the subject. He came and took away the statement, and had it twenty-four hours, but came on the following day, and said that after consulting his legal adviser, he had been advised not to sign the agreement. With reference to the stones, they were on the property when he took it, and he had taken them up and thrown them by only lately. That was the way in which Mr. Camajee had treated the Council, and he had treated the Consular Body in the same way. He had applied for a Consular Court to try the case, and three Consuls had been nominated to do so. But that was the last they had heard of the matter. He (Mr. Purdon) had mentioned the subject, in order to set the action of the Council right before the Ratepayers. The Council could never ask a man to sign an agreement without consideration. He would now propose

That the Report and Accounts of the Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai for the year ended 31st March, 1875, be approved and confirmed.

Mr. COWIE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. PURDON apologised for coming before the meeting so often, but he could not induce his colleagues to bring forward any of the resolutions. In the regular routine he had therefore now to offer the following resolution :—

That the Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, North of the Yang-king-pang, be hereby empowered by this Meeting, and in conformity with the provisions contained in Art. IX, pp., 15-17 of the Land Regulations and Bye-Laws of 1870 for the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai, North of the Yang-king-pang, to collect from Foreigners and Chinese residing within the limits abovenamed, the following rates, dues, fees, &c., at the dates set opposite to each, viz :—

LAND TAX—at the rate of 3/10ths of 1 per cent. on the assessed value of land, as assessed in 1873-74, from the renters of land registered in the various Consulates at Shanghai—on 1st April 1875, or as soon after as possible, for 6 months ending 30th September next ; on 1st October 1875, for Quarter ending 31st December 1875 ; on 1st January 1876, for Quarter ending 31st March 1876.

GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE of 6 per cent. on the present assessed rentals of houses inhabited by Foreigners, from the occupants, quarterly in advance, as soon after the 1st April as possible, and subsequent collections to be commenced on the first of the following periods,—July and October, 1875, and January 1876.

DUES ON ALL GOODS passed through the Custom House or landed, shipped, or transhipped, by persons resident within the aforesaid limits—monthly, on the established tariff in force, or as may be hereafter amended, provided said dues shall in no case exceed the amount of one-tenth of one per cent., on the value of the Goods so passed.

All such rates and dues being payable at the time when declared due, and within fourteen days of presentation of Tax Note.

GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE of 8 per cent. on native rentals, from Chinese residing within aforesaid limits—monthly or quarterly as may appear advisable, in advance, as soon after 1st April 1875, as possible.

TELEGRAPH FEES—Taels One Hundred (Tls. 100) per line per annum.—In advance.

CEMETERY FEES.—In advance.

LOCAL POST OFFICE SUBSCRIPTIONS.—In advance.

LICENCES.

For every SHOP or STORE for the sale of Wines, Spirits, Beer, Intoxicating Drugs, Butcher's Meat, Poultry or Game, according to class of Establishment, from $6 to $200 annually, payable in advance.

For every house of ENTERTAINMENT, HOTEL or TAVERN, Foreign or Native, according to class of Establishment, $6 to $200 annually, payable in advance.

Music Hall Theatre Circus	Foreign or Native	According to class of Establishment,

from 10 Mexican cents to $5 for every night open, payable in advance.

DANCING SALOON, according to class of Establishment,—for every Night open from 25 Mexican cents to $5, payable in advance.

BILLIARD or BOWLING SALOON—for every Night open, computed at the rate of $3 per quarter for each Billiard Table or Bowling Alley, payable in advance.

SAMPAN REGISTRATION at one Dollar each for two months, payable in advance.

NATIVE BOATS—Every two months, in advance.

PAWNSHOPS—according to class.

HORSES or PUBLIC VEHICLES from Cash 200 to one Mexican dollar per month for each horse or vehicle, payable in advance.

JIN-RIK-SHAS—400 Cash each Jin-Rik-Sha per month, payable in advance.

PERMITS TO ERECT SUN-SHADES over public thoroughfares—in case of Foreigners, one mace per lineal foot; in the case of Chinese, two Mexican Dollars each house ; in both cases payable in advance.

PERMITS TO CONNECT PRIVATE DRAINS with Municipal Sewers—Tls. 3 each, payable in advance.

Seconded by Mr. LEMARCHAND.

Mr. C. THORNE saw a resolution announced to be brought forward further on, about a re-assessment of land and houses. Did not that affect the present resolution, which authorised the collection of the tax on "existing rates?"

Mr. PURDON said there was a resolution to be brought forward bye-and-bye by a Ratepayer ; but that, if carried, would have to apply hereafter ; it could not affect this year because the Budget was based on the present assessment. Besides, it would take a long time to make the assessment.

The resolution was then put and carried.

Mr. Purdon said the Budget had now been in the hands of the Ratepayers for some time, and did not require any remarks from him. He would simply propose—

That the Estimated Expenditure in the Municipal Budget for the year commenced 1st April, 1875, and ended 31st March, 1876, as proposed by the retiring Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, together with the recommendations attached thereto, be hereby approved and adopted.

Mr. Cowie seconded.

Mr. Kingsmill asked whether the Council were now really prepared to carry through the second road and construct a bridge over the Hongkew Creek, and to come to some arrangement with Mr. Camajee in the matter.

Mr. Purdon said the arrangements to carry out the road were now in a fair train towards completion. The Council were now defining the line along the small extent where it had not been carried out, and everything was prepared to carry it through.

Mr. Kingsmill remembered that, at a meeting held some years ago, Mr. Reid had brought forward a special resolution about the extension through the Canton Garden, and it seemed to him that Mr. Camajee must have taken over the land with a full knowledge of the arrangement proposed by the owner. He could not see how there should be any difficulty on the subject. Mr. Camajee had spoken to him (Mr. K.) on the subject, and he had advised him to come to an arrangement with the Council, who should give him a fair value for his land.

Mr. Purdon had thought Mr. Kingsmill was referring to the extension on the other side of the creek, in reference to which there had been some little delay; that had now been arranged. In regard to the Canton Garden, the Council were prepared to take the steps which they deemed necessary, and which they were glad to find, in the opinion of the Ratepayers, it was proper they should carry through. The Council had never refused to pay compensation, although they believed the former owner had been willing to give it up. They were prepared to submit the matter to arbitration as Mr. Camajee had at first agreed.

Mr. Camajee said when he took the property he did not understand that he had to give some of it up to the Council. He only understood afterwards that the Council expected he should do so; but in that case he would be entitled to compensation. He had received a letter from the Secretary to the Council, saying the land had been given up by the former owner; but the Council must give him some proof of the fact. So far, they had only shown that Mr. Reid was a promoter of the scheme; that was not sufficient. He (Mr. C.) had afterwards applied to Mr. Reid, but had not yet had an answer. He thought when that answer came, it would be to the effect that the Seward Road extension through the Canton Garden had not been arranged; but it had been arranged that if the Council took the creek road, they should give back the Boone Road. If the Council could prove that they had a right over the middle road, he would of course have to give it up.

Mr. Kingsmill said it was not a question of "giving up." No one would derive greater benefit from the proposed road than Mr. Camajee. If he had been owner of the land, he should have done exactly as Mr. Reid had done, and moved every engine to get the road made.

Mr. Purdon said it was only necessary to add that all Mr. Camajee had advanced now, he would have had an opportunity of alleging before the arbitrators.

After some further remarks from Mr. Camajee in reference to the arbitration, the subject dropped.

Mr. Kingsmill wished also to ask what was being done with reference to the continuation of the Chekeang Road from the corner of the Mixed Court. Arrangements with this object had gone a certain length, and he had on behalf of a certain institution made arrangements which he now found himself unable to carry out. He hoped the Council would be able to come to some arrangement for continuing the road. It was an important one, as it opened up a new road through the Settlement from North to South. There was nothing in the Budget regarding it; but he thought it only right to bring it up, as correspondence regarding it had been published in the Report.

Mr. Purdon said there was no mention of the road made in the Budget because, if it were carried out, it could be brought in under the appropriation for new roads. The Council were trying to get the road through in an amicable manner. It was true that, when the matter was first taken up some years ago, the representative of the owner of the property had been absent from Shanghai, and, after some negociations, he had now thought it well, as the Ratepayers were aware by the correspondence, to withhold his assent; but the Council had hopes of being able to carry through the arrangement. The agent of the property acknowledged it would be an improvement, and did not wish to stand in the way.

Mr. Haas noticed an appropriation of Tls. 2,000 for the extension of the Seward Road. He had had to do with the negociations for extending the road, and he believed this sum would not be enough. It would have been enough at the time the boundary stones were placed; but during the two years that had elapsed, several new houses had been built across the line of road. He had lately made a new estimate, with the District Magistrate, and the conclusion had been that at least Tls. 2,500 would now be wanted. There was another point. Since the road had been marked out, several new Chinese graves had been erected on the proposed line. Foreigners set apart special ground for interments; but the Chinese can make graves where they like; would it not be well to have a certain tract set apart for Chinese, also? It was a great inconvenience that they should be allowed to put graves where they liked. And this brought him to another point. He saw Tls. 83 set down in the Budget for taxes on cemeteries. The Chinese custom was not to pay taxes on land occupied by graves; and it might be possible to induce the Taotai to abandon the land tax on the Cemetery.

Mr. Purdon understood that the extension of the Seward Road might probably cost more than was set down, but the difference was so small that there could be no trouble in appropriating the amount. It could be provided out of the appropriation for new roads or contingencies. This would be more convenient than amendment of the Budget. With regard to the burial of Chinese, there were regulations in existence, forbidding the burial of Chinese in the Settlement. In regard to the Cemetery tax, the Council would look into the point suggested by Mr. Haas.

Mr. Iveson said that the Council proposed bye-and-bye to bring forward a resolution authorising the removal of the Free Ferry Bridge. He intended to propose that another bridge should be built there. Would it be necessary to make an amendment on the Budget providing for the outlay?

Mr. Purdon said if the bridge would cost a large amount, it would have to be provided; but if only a foot bridge, costing a small sum, were contemplated, the resolution favouring it could be passed, and an appropriation for it be introduced in the next Budget.

Mr. Iveson said a foot bridge was all that was needed.

Mr. Purdon thought that Mr. Iveson had better get sanction to it in a subsequent motion, as an amendment or rider to the Free Ferry Bridge resolution.

The Budget resolution was then put and carried.

Mr. Purdon said the only resolution left over from the last meeting was one relating to a rectification of the Broadway near Mr. Hayes' house. It was left over at the suggestion of certain Ratepayers, who thought a better road than that suggested could be made. The suggestion had been acted on, and he had now to propose—

That the incoming Council be authorised to enter into the arrangement for the deflection of Broadway as herein provided and shown on the plan exhibited at this Meeting, viz.:—

That Mr. A. A. Hayes shall purchase from Mr. Vincent the strips marked

	m.	*f.*	*l.*	*h.*
E E measuring.....	1	1	7	2
D D ,, ...	0	6	4	3
	1	8	1	5

At the rate of Tls. 500 (five hundred Taels) per mow.....Tls. 907

And surrender them to the Municipality for the purpose of making the road as indicated, receiving as compensation:—

The small portion of Broadway (in front of his house) marked B B, measuring 0 *m.* 8 *f.* 7 *l.* 6 *h.*, at Tls. 500 per mow..... Tls. 438

And also the amount the Council had agreed to pay Mr. Vincent for the portion marked D D, say. 250

———Tls. 688

Mr. Blethen seconded.

Mr. Kingsmill had only one remark to make before the resolution was put. He had been told that the Council would probably find difficulty from the presence of a grave in front of the proposed line, and that some of the owners had said they would not sell their land if the line were altered. As he had been requested to mention this, he did so; but he had told his informant that, in case it were decided the line should go as proposed, he was sure the proprietors would not object to any reasonable proposition.

Mr. Purdon was not aware of any grave being in the way; if there were, it could be removed for a very small sum.

Mr. Kingsmill would add another remark. While the Council were dealing with the Broadway, could they not make some arrangement between the owners of Endicott's and Vincent's lots, to take the excessive crookedness out of the road at these points, by a give and take line?

The Resolution was then put and carried.

Mr. Purdon said the next resolution was brought forward more particularly in deference to a suggestion made by the United States Consul-General, when the case relating to Mr Fogg's taxes was lately decided by him. The Council were also of opinion that in a case of this kind, where so large a portion of land was outside a man's compound and in the use of the Public, it is not fair that the same rate should be levied as on land inside. He would therefore propose—

That the incoming Council be authorised to allow an abatement of one-half of the tax due on that portion of the land owned by W. H. Fogg which is used by the public.

Mr. Kidner seconded.

Mr. Bisset asked, if this resolution were carried, whether it would apply to other properties similarly situated? There were a number of properties along the Yang-king-pang in exactly the same position; if this resolution was passed, would the Council feel authorised to deal with them in the same way?

Mr. Purdon said—No. The resolution applied only to this one case. The Council did not know of any other similar

cases. People similarly aggrieved would do best to follow a similar course.

Mr. BISSET—That is, to resist payment?

Mr. PURDON—Unless an amendment is brought forward empowering the Council to take into consideration all such cases. If the resolution is carried as it stands, the Council will not consider they have a right to deal with other properties, but only with the one in question.

Mr. C. THORNE moved as an amendment, to be added to the original motion—

And also on any other land similarly circumstanced.

Mr. PURDON thought it only right to point out that this opened up the whole Settlement. There was not a property fronting on any road which had not given up land. As Mr. Thorne's was rather an addition than an amendment to the Council's resolution, would it not be better to pass the latter as it stood? If other property-owners were similarly affected, they could also refuse to pay. They need not go to Court; the case could be referred to arbitration. As it was, no one else had refused payment, and the assumption was that no one felt similarly aggrieved.

Mr. HART said, as the matter was under discussion, it would be well to consider whether it would not be expedient to collect the tax only on land within the compound walls. It would become a sore subject in future. Why not deal with it at once? He would propose

That taxes be levied on the property actually contained within the respective compounds, irrespective of the question whether the ground has been surrendered or not.

Mr. PURDON thought this was one of the proposals that sometimes came up at public meetings, which looked more simple that it actually was. Mr. Hart's proposal would virtually conflict with the Budget. It would require a re-survey of the Settlement to see what land was within the compound walls. The amount of land now in use of the Public was over 500 *mow*, and to surrender the tax on this would involve a great difference in revenue. They would have to raise the rate of land tax, and upset the entire Budget. Holding the amendment to have this force, he must hold that it came rather late, as the Budget had been passed.

Mr. HART said a number of departures might be made from the original design, which would alter the symmetry of the Budget; but he could not think that a reason for neglecting a matter which, sooner or later, would have to be dealt with. He was sure the machinery already existing would prove sufficient to deal with it; and he could not see why it should not be taken into consideration.

Mr. PURDON said this year's Budget had been passed. In a future Budget it could be done. He thought the proposal would come up better as an amendment on the resolution which was to be brought up bye-and-bye, in regard to assessment.

Mr. KINGSMILL said the present mode of assessment had become so much a matter of custom in Shanghai, that it was always considered the area of a lot included half the neighbouring roads. This was such a custom that people hardly ever asked the actual area unless in special cases like that of Fogg & Co. On this basis the last assessment had been made, so, if a resolution of this kind were passed, the assessment on property would be reduced by a considerable amount, and would not represent anything like the actual value. So, although the resolution was one which it would be well to keep in mind, and which would have to be adopted in the future, it could not come in under the present assessment without unfairness.

Mr. PURDON said his objection only went to defer the amendment until the subject of assessment came up; it could arise out of a question of assessment, but it could not arise out of the present resolution. He would ask the Chairman's ruling on the point.

The CHAIRMAN asked whether Mr. HART were willing to defer his amendment until Resolution 8 came up? It would come in more naturally there.

Mr. HART—Do you rule that the amendment is out of order here?

The CHAIRMAN said, if Mr. Hart forced him to ruling, he considered that the amendment, in one place or the other, was substantive, and ought to have been made a matter of notice. It went to entirely remodel the principle of assessment. But probably no objection would be taken if it were brought up in connexion with a future resolution.

Mr. HART could see no object in postponing it. If the Council's resolution were carried, and Mr. Fogg were allowed to obtain a return, his amendment would naturally fall in. But if the resolution were not carried, the amendment might still be accepted.

Mr. BISSET seconded Mr. Thorne's amendment.

Mr. KINGSMILL said if Mr. Hart would place his amendment on the ground that such a rule would be an expedient one to adopt in future, it would be a good resolution to adopt as representing the feeling of the meeting as to what should be done for the future. But as it stood, it really upset more than the Budget; it upset the assessment, and would cause serious inconvenience.

The CHAIRMAN understood that Mr Hart's amendment was intended to strike out, and take the place of, the Council's resolution.

Mr. HART assented.

Dr. YATES remarked that the resolution in regard to Mr. Fogg referred to taxes due and past; but the amendment had reference to an assessment for the future. It could not, therefore, properly take the place of the resolution. It would come naturally under Resolution No. 8, and take the place of that.

Mr. PURDON said the resolution in regard to Mr. Fogg did not deal altogether with the past. If it were carried, the Council could only levy in future on the reduced amount. He thought it well for the Council to point out that if Mr. Hart's amendment were carried, it would entail a considerable difference in revenue and would unsettle the taxes. The revenue would be seriously interfered with, and the rate of taxation would have to be raised.

Mr. WESTALL seconded Mr. Hart's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN said if there were no further observations, he would put Mr. Hart's amendment.

A poll was taken, the result being *for* Mr. Hart's amendment, 54; *against*, 94.

The CHAIRMAN said the amendment was therefore lost, and the question now turned on Mr. Thorne's amendment.

Mr. PURDON said the point raised was very indefinite; it threw the whole thing into the hands of the Council, and they did not want the responsibility. The amendment was exceedingly vague, but he merely desired to point that out to the meeting.

Mr. KESWICK said, if he was still in order, he would say it would simplify the matter very much if a resolution by the Chairman of the Municipal Council would deal with it directly, either by affirming or rejecting it. He supposed there would be a special meeting held afterwards, and thought thereat a substantive motion should be brought forward, that all land in the occupation of the public should not be taxed. Such a resolution would simplify matters very much, and by it all would be put on the same footing.

Mr. PURDON said Mr. Keswick's object would be gained if Mr. Thorne's amendment were thrown out; Mr. Keswick's suggestion could then come in under Resolution 8.

The CHAIRMAN then submitted Mr. Thorne's amendment, and it was lost.

The original motion, as proposed by the Council was next put, and was also lost.

The CHAIRMAN said the next resolution was with respect to the Yang-king-pang Bridges.

Mr. PURDON said the resolution was one regarding which everybody had heard, through the correspondence which had been published, and he did not think it necessary to go further into the question now. He therefore proposed—

That no new bridges be built, nor repairs be made to existing bridges across the Yang-king-pang Creek, unless the French Municipality agree to bear half cost of same.

Mr. KIDNER seconded.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion, and a poll was called for, the result of which was 94 *for*, 55 *against*. (Applause.)

The motion was therefore carried.

Mr. KINGSMILL asked how votes were to be taken at this meeting—whether proxy votes were being taken or not? He should have asked the question previously, but it was not too late now; and he reminded them that a resolution was passed at the last annual meeting, that the proxies of persons present in Shanghai should not be taken. He would like to ask how they had been taken to day, or if a resolution passed by the Ratepayers was of no avail?

Mr. PURDON said he did not know that the Council had anything to say about it. If there was any objection to the mode of procedure, it should have been made at the beginning of the meeting. He might say, they could have thrown seven proxies in favour of the Council's resolution. They were the votes of persons who had been present at the meeting, but had left. He (Mr. Purdon) did not think it was generally known that the votes of persons who left the meeting fell into the hands of the Chairman, but that was the rule, and it had better be known. As they all knew, the question of proxies would come on for consideration at a future time.

Mr. KINGSMILL again referred to the resolution passed by the Ratepayers at the last meeting, and said he merely asked if the Council had received the proxies of persons now in Shanghai, but not present at the meeting, and whether the resolution was to be set aside? He thought it right the question should be answered.

Mr. PURDON said the Council did not send the resolution referred to by Mr. Kingsmill to the Consular body, and the gentleman who did so did not hand it to the Council for their sanction. The Council, therefore, had nothing to do with it, and it was not competent for them to alter the Land Regulations in any way. Proxies were admitted at the last meeting, and as the Council had not been instructed in the matter, they had nothing to do with it.

Mr. KINGSMILL asked if the Council could ignore a resolution of the Ratepayers?

The CHAIRMAN said the case was a perfectly simple one. A Resolution was brought forward at the last meeting, the Consuls took cognizance of it, and their action was published in the newspapers. The Consuls had not settled the matter amongst themselves, nor with the Chinese authorities, and the Land Regulations could only be altered by the body of Consuls in concert with the Chinese authorities. The question would be brought forward for discussion, and until the whole subject was before them for legislation, they could do nothing with it.

The matter then dropped.

The CHAIRMAN said the next question for discussion was that of investing police funds.

Mr. PURDON said the object of the Council was to get the sanction of the Ratepayers to invest the balances of the

police funds, as mentioned in the resolution, in debentures. There was nothing to prevent the Council taking the money out of the bank, and investing it themselves, but they thought it would be unadvisable to do so without bringing the subject before the Ratepayers. The money was now in the bank, at five per cent., whereas if invested in debentures, they would receive eight per cent. He saw no reason why it should not be done, and therefore proposed—

That the Balances standing at credit of the "Police Gratuity," "Reward" and "Passage Funds" be invested in Municipal Debentures as opportunity offers.

Mr. Lemarchand seconded.

The Chairman put the motion, and it was carried *nem. con.*

The Chairman said the next motion proposed by the Council was with regard to cleaning out the Soochow Creek.

Mr. Purdon said the resolution was a simple and short one. The Chinese authorities had once proposed to do it, but at that time it was inconvenient to have it done, and it was set aside. If they were now asked to clean out the Creek, no doubt they would do it. He would, therefore simply propose—

That the Chinese authorities be requested to clean out the Soochow Creek.

Mr. Kidner, in seconding, said it was considered on all hands that it would be better, for various reasons, to have this work done.

Sir Edmund Hornby—Provided it is not done in the summer months.

Mr. C. P. Blethen asked how it was proposed to have the work done?

Mr. Kidner said the object was to clear out all the mudbank, from the Honan Road Bridge to the Garden Bridge, and so deepen the creek for that distance.

Mr. E. M. Smith remarked that he could not see why the Yang-king-pang could not be included in the motion, for it required to be cleansed as greatly as the Soochow Creek did. He therefore proposed as an amendment—

That the Chinese authorities be invited to co-operate with the English and French Municipal Councils for the purpose of cleansing the Soochow and Yang-king-pang Creeks.

Mr. C. P. Blethen would enquire how it was proposed to keep the Soochow Creek clean after it had been cleansed?

Mr. Kidner replied that he supposed the Council would again ask the Chinese authorities to clean it out, when it was required to be done.

Mr. Blethen mentioned the present width and depth of the creek at different points, especially calling attention to the fact that from near the Honan Road Bridge to the Garden bridge there were only about four feet of water at high tide, and at low water only a few inches. The creek therefore at low water was for that distance useless for navigation, and it would be a good thing to have it cleaned out, and the depth of water maintained. He also suggested that something should be done to improve the bank line of the creek, either by bunding, or in some other way.

Mr. Kidner said that what Mr. Blethen had mentioned was what the Council wanted to do. He did not believe in bunding out a creek, because it had been found in these waters not to answer at all. There must be a sloping bank, and by dredging and cleaning out to keep the water-way clear, his belief was that the creek would be useful for all purposes for eight or ten years to come

Mr. Blethen thought the Stone Bridge should be taken away, when they would have a greater flow of water, and that would probably help to keep the creek clean.

Mr. Purdon said the work could not be done in the hot weather, but if the resolution were carried, the Council would arrange with the Chinese authorities, and then the question of the line of the creek would be decided. With reference to Mr. Smith's amendment as to the Yang-king-pang, it was not necessary to say "co-operate with the Chinese authorities," for the two creeks belonged to the Chinese, and they would have to do the work. If thought requisite, the Yang-king-pang could be included in the resolution with the Soochow Creek.

Mr. E. M. Smith said that would meet his views.

Mr. Kingsmill said that the two creeks were differently circumstanced. With regard to the Soochow Creek, it was doubtless a provincial matter in which the Chinese Government was interested. The other merely divided the two Municipalities. He thought they would be getting themselves in a false position by asking the Chinese authorities to do the work in the Creek which really belonged to the Municipal Council. He thought it was a most vicious course to pursue, for it was in fact giving the Chinese authorities all the handle they wanted for coming into the Settlement, and levying taxes which were detrimental not only to the place itself, but also to its Municipal Government. He considered that what was done to the Yang-king-pang should be done by the Council, and that no application for assistance should be made to the Chinese authorities with respect to it.

Mr. Twombly would ask if the cleansing of the Yang-king-pang was not done on the last occasion at the expense of the Municipal Council, and whether the bunding was not done at the cost of one or other of the Councils, according to which side it was required? Also, if the Chinese were to do the work of cleaning out the Creek, if would it not be likely that they would throw down the bunding by digging close to it and under it?

Mr. Purdon said he was not in the Council at the time alluded to by Mr. Twombly, but he believed that what was done then was done at the expense of the two Councils. As to the Chinese, if they were to clean out the Yang-king-pang, being likely to hurt the bunding by deepening down under the piles, of course the Council's engineer would see that that should not be done nor the roads injured.

Mr. Twombly said if the Chinese were requested to do the work, they could hardly be restrained from doing it in their own way, which would only be their right; but if they were asked only to co-operate, the Municipal authorities could supervise them.

Mr. Purdon said of course the Municipal authorities would supervise the work, and would not allow it to be done to the injury of the roads.

Mr. Hogg said with, respect to the Soochow Creek, he would ask, on the part of the Ratepayers, if the effort on the part of the Council would be to keep the creek as wide as possible?

Mr. Purdon said the whole scheme of widening and deepening the creek would come up for consideration and decision.

Mr. Hogg said he asked the question, because in the Council's report it was set down that the engineer was in favour of narrowing the creek to 200 yards, and that in this he was supported by other professional opinion. It was an important question, and he had brought it forward now in order to obtain a definite reply.

Mr. Purdon said that if Mr. Hogg had read the report further on, he would have seen that the Council did not concur in this opinion.

Mr. Hogg had observed that, but still thought the expression should be more explicit.

Mr. Kingsmill would propose, as an amendment—

That the resolution remain in its original shape, referring simply to the Soochow Creek.

Mr. Keswick seconded, and there being no further discussion,

The Chairman put the amendment, and it was carried.

Mr. E. M. Smith said then that virtually threw over the Yang-king-pang altogether.

The Chairman replied in the affirmative, and then put the original proposition, and it was carried.

Mr. E. M. Smith thought it was necessary to have a poll. (No, no.)

The Chairman was of opinion that a poll was not required, there being no doubt as to the opinion of the meeting.

Mr. E. M. Smith said he must bow to the decision of the chair.

The next business was a motion by the Council, proposing the removal of the Free Ferry and mole.

Mr. Purdon said this was another resolution that did not require any great length of time to consider it, and he would at once propose—

That the incoming Council be authorised to remove the Free Ferry and Mole.

Mr. Kidner begged to second the motion.

Mr. Iveson would like to add to the resolution,—

And to construct a foot bridge at the end of the Szechuen road, at a cost not exceeding Tls. 2,000.

The traffic across the pontoon bridge was now very considerable, and he thought the construction of a foot bridge at the point he had named would be advisable.

Mr. Purdon said the Council would offer no objection, if the Ratepayers thought it necessary.

Mr. Kingsmill said that this work, if agreed to, could only be done after the arrangement with the Chinese authorities with regard to the line of the Soochow Creek. He should say it would be premature to undertake a work of the sort until that arrangement was made.

The Chairman said Mr. Purdon had accepted the proposal.

Mr. Hogg suggested that the new bridge should be erected before the old one was removed.

Mr. Purdon said if it was proposed to do the work immediately, they would have to provide the means of doing it, for it was not included in the present estimates. He did not know there was any great objection to Mr. Hogg's suggestion, because the old bridge need not be removed yet, and there would be only a few months' delay, as the work could not be done in the hot weather.

Mr. Twombly asked if, in building, the foot-bridge would be extended from shore to shore, the whole width of the creek when it was cleaned out, or whether it would be built on the present piers?

Mr. Purdon said the pontoon bridge was not at the end of the Szechuen Road where it was proposed to erect the new one, but the mole would be removed when the old bridge was taken down.

The resolution, with this addition, was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr. Purdon said that for many years the question of the water supply of the Settlement had been agitated. Of late years it had been more and more agitated, for, of course, as the Community grew, the greater became the necessity for a better supply of water. The Council had been asked to do something in the matter, and they had brought forward the scheme that was before the Ratepayers. It was manifest that no Council could bring forward such a properly and well digested scheme as would there and then be accepted by the Ratepayers. The Municipal Engineer had had some experience in water works, but he wished his estimates should be looked over and checked by some other Engineer. He (Mr. Purdon) thought that the Ratepayers would never be willing to undertake works of the

kind on the opinion of any one man, and therefore the resolution he had to propose provided that the estimates as contained in the report of the Works' Committee, should be checked by a proper and competent authority. There was no doubt a feeling among many that a private company was the proper way of getting the water supplied to the Settlement, and if there were a sufficient number of well-known men who would come forward and subscribe for shares, no doubt such a company could be floated; but he could not help thinking that an undertaking of the kind, on the security that this Municipality could offer, would be much more readily taken hold of. If it were left in the hands of a private company, it would virtually amount to a monopoly, for it would be no use saying another company could be set afloat if the first did not meet the wishes of the Community; the capital required was too large for anything of that kind. The community might find themselves bound hand and foot to the company, and if the company found that private consumers did not pay them, the public would have to pay just whatever the company chose to ask, for every gallon of Water used on the streets or thrown on fires, or else have to buy over the Company's Works at whatever price they chose to ask. If there was no doubt that a liberal revenue was to be derived from a good water supply, there was no reason why the Community generally should not have the benefit of that revenue. What the Council wanted at first, was some good ground to work upon—some starting point to build on. If they got authority to obtain the opinion of a competent engineer, and so get a well-defined scheme, the Council could at once proceed to the question of raising the money and providing the interest, and lay the whole scheme properly before the Ratepayers for their approval; and debentures, if issued, would doubtless be soon taken up. They had not named a sum, but even if they had to spend Tls. 4,000 to 5,000 it would be well spent in getting what they wanted, for even if it was found that no scheme could be carried out for two or three times the estimated amount, it would be worth while to spend the money in getting that opinion. There was nothing more for him to add, he believed, to what he had already said, and he therefore begged to propose—

That the Municipal Council be and are hereby authorised to take such steps as may appear necessary to have the estimates for the Water supply, as proposed in Report from the Works' Committee, submitted to some competent authority; if requisite, to engage an Engineer for the purpose, and on such report—if favorable—to obtain tenders from responsible firms for carrying out the scheme which appears most feasible; a special Meeting of Ratepayers being called on receipt of such tenders to approve of same and to authorise the issuing of Debentures, to provide for cost of constructing the works.

He would, however, add that all such details as to where would be the best place to erect the water-works, would be discussed on receipt of the report of the engineer whose opinion they might seek. All that the Council now did was to suggest that as a starting point, and to ask for it the sanction of the Ratepayers.

Mr. LEMARCHAND seconded the motion.

Mr. HOGG said he thought the preliminary expenses should not be thrown upon the Ratepayers, especially when it was seen that a happy spirit of competition had set in, which it would be well to encourage (Hear.) He thought the Ratepayers should not be called upon to put their hands in their pockets. There were two private companies before the Ratepayers, and the latter were not required to go to any expense in the matter at all, unless they chose to take up shares in either of the rival Companies. Those companies could be safely left to incur all the preliminary expenses themselves, without troubling the Ratepayers.

Mr. PURDON was of opinion that it was not the thing to let those Companies go on with their preparations, and incur expense, and then step in and take advantage of their experience.

Mr. HOGG said it was the way in which things were frequently done in this world.

Mr. KIDNER said he coincided with Mr. Purdon. It would be monstrous to let two Companies go on for a time, and perhaps complete their arrangements, and then for the Municipal Council to step in and take advantage of what they had done. He considered it was a work that was properly taken up by the Council, for he further agreed with Mr. Purdon, that water-works in the hands of a private company would be nothing short of a monopoly. The Ratepayers had had a pretty good experience of a monopoly, in the shape of the Gas Company which supplied bad gas at a high price. (Laughter).

Mr. HOGG said of course the Council would take care that no undue advantage would be taken of a monopoly in water supply.

Sir EDMUND HORNBY said—I have only three objections to make to the proposal of the Council, if it is seriously made by them. 1.—I think that anything which a private company can do, and is willing to try to do, and which legitimately falls within the province of a private company to do, private enterprize ought to be allowed to effect—especially in a place like Shanghai. 2.—That the Council have plenty of more legitimate things to do, which private enterprize cannot effect, and to realize which it is useless to look to private enterprize to effect. 3.—It seems to me absurd, and, indeed, putting the cart before the horse, to suggest going to considerable expense to ascertain the practicability and cost of undertaking certain works, before it is first ascertained whether, when this expense has been incurred, the money can be raised to carry the work out. I do not think a man would be considered very wise who employed an architect to furnish him plans for a house, unless he had the money in his pocket to build the house, if the plans suited him. On these three grounds I shall vote against the Council being authorized to expend a single farthing of money in respect of any works which they are not sure they will be able to carry out.

Mr. KESWICK said he had listened to Sir Edmund Hornby's remarks with deep attention, and must say that he thought he had travelled widely beside the question. He (Mr. Keswick) considered it was a public and not a private matter to provide water for a community; and that it was not putting the cart before the horse to enquire the cost first. It was simply like enquiring the cost of the mansion to which Sir Edmund had referred, before commencing to build. It was properly a question for the Municipal Council to be informed upon and to take up; for he thought if a private scheme were to be launched here, there would be an infinity of trouble occasioned by it in the future; for when a Company had once filled the streets with water-pipes, it would be quite within their province to charge what they pleased. (Applause.) It was for the Ratepayers to decide the question, however, and also to consider the advantages they would derive from the work being done by the Municipal Council or being left to private enterprise.

Mr. KINGSMILL said he knew something of similar affairs at home, and knew he had had to pay very dearly indeed for water supplied by a Corporation. The City of Dublin was in former years supplied with water by private companies, but some people thought the Municipality was the best body to carry on such an enterprize. They brought forward a motion in accordance with their opinion, and a Bill was afterwards passed, giving the City of Dublin the privilege of drawing water from a river some thirty miles away. The estimated expenditure was more than doubled, and although Dublin was now getting a good supply of water, the Ratepayers had to pay five times as much as before. That was not at all a satisfactory result, and although he did not predict such a thing would happen in Shanghai, if the Ratepayers authorised the Municipality to establish water works, he could not but think that private enterprize in such a case was best. In Great Britain, the large majority of the towns was supplied with water by private Companies, but with reference to the Metropolis, it was on a different footing altogether. London was not supplied by one company only, but by seven different companies. The spirit of private enterprize still had fast hold of the people at home, and although there was a bill brought into Parliament by Major Beresford to consolidate those companies, it was difficult to say whether it would be carried. With respect to the Settlement of Shanghai, he did not know whether it would be generally conceded that they would be more likely to be better supplied with water from the works of a private company than by those of the Municipal Council, but he thought the dread of raising a monopoly if it were left in the hands of a private company was groundless, because the company advocated there to-day, gave the Council the right of pre-emption at any time; so if the Ratepayers found it irksome to have a private company, they could call upon the company to sell under an arbitration. That got rid of that difficulty; and with regard to the other, that of getting out an engineer from England—which would entail great expense—he thought there was no occasion for doing anything of the kind. There was no need to send to England for the services of an engineer to set such a thing as water works going. He had himself, so long ago as 1870, been in correspondence with a rising engineer at home, and they had eventually drawn up a scheme and exchanged estimates. The thing was simplicity itself. They would have to draw their water from a source near at hand, and from no elevated source, because there was no elevated source within 90 miles. The only question was, where could they get the purest water from in this alluvial soil, and all the information that was necessary could be ascertained on the spot, and without incurring enormous expense.

Mr. PURDON said if Mr. Kingsmill would look at the resolution, he would see that it was not proposed that an engineer was to be brought out from England. There might be one in Shanghai, or in Hongkong, or somewhere else. At all events, he did not think it likely that the Ratepayers would be satisfied by taking the opinion of only one man.

Mr. J. B. TOOTAL said he had a resolution to propose, but did not know whether, if the meeting adopted that of the Council, it would place him out of order in proposing to obtain the permission of the Council to open the roads to lay down water-pipes.

Mr. PURDON said not necessarily so, because the Ratepayers could, if they thought proper, give the permission required.

Mr. TOOTAL asked whether his resolution could come in as an amendment to the Council's proposition?

The CHAIRMAN said he did not see why it should not.

Mr. TOOTAL then went on to say that the community had waited many years for the establishment of good Water-Works, and the company he belonged to had been started in the hope of providing a much-needed requirement. They proposed to begin at once, and to go on gradually with the work. There were

other schemes before the Ratepayers, one of them by the Works Committee of the Municipal Council, to cost Tls. 260,000 with a contingent and probable addition of Tls. 107,000. In this the proposal was to get the water from the Soochow Creek, but if this place was not satisfactory then the water was to be brought from Loong-wha, but the filtration would be on the creek, and as the water at Loong-wha was full of the ordinary Shanghai sediment and Loong-wha was five miles from the place where the works were to be constructed, water heavily impregnated with sediment would have to traverse these five miles. He would like to know how long these pipes would last, without being choked; he gave them three months only. Fancy gentlemen, five miles of sediment! Again, one of their the Council's own body had just now described the Soochow Creek to have a "reeking foreshore." Would the Council give the inhabitants water to drink which had traversed this reeking foreshore? His Company did not seek to be monopolists, but they did ask permission to open the roads, to lay down water pipes for the supply of the Community. Another scheme, the prospectus of which he had not seen, but he understood embraced the plan of establishing the works at Loongwha, and involved a capital of Tls. 500,000; but from what source was the capital to be raised? He (Mr. Tootal) understood that on the proposed amended Land Regulations, the Council had sanctioned a limit of their borrowing powers to an amount equal to two years' revenue; this would be about Tls. 500,000. Already, the Council had some Tls. 60,000 issued, this day they would be asked for Tls. 35,000 more, and they were committed to Tls. 40,000 for the Tunsin property; how then could they raise Tls. 500,000, or if they did in what position would they be for other requirements? He would remind them that the company he represented was a public company, and that the Council could pull them to pieces if they thought proper; but he asked if it would not be as well for the Ratepayers to give his company permission to at least make a beginning? He would propose, an as amendment to the Council's resolution—

That the Council be authorised to grant permission to the Shanghai Water-Works Company to open the roads within the limits of the Settlements, for the purpose of laying water pipes.

Mr. Purdon said it was not the desire of the Council to in any way stifle private enterprise; but, looking to the importance of having a good water supply, and the works carried out in a complete manner, it was thought it could be done better under the care of the Council than by private persons.—It being now 12 o'clock, he proposed an adjournment until 1.30.

The meeting then adjourned.

The meeting having reassembled,

Mr. Tootal said they had been dismissed so peremptorily from water to wine, that he had not been able to conclude the remarks he had proposed making in support of his amendment. Mr Keswick had drawn a picture of the horrors of monopoly; but since he came into the building, he (Mr. T.) had been told that every application for a reduction which had been addressed to the Gas Company, by the Council, had been granted. On the other hand, it had been suggested that this ready concession rather supported the idea that there had been a surcharge. Then, whatever might be Mr Keswick's horror of water monopoly, he did not appear to suffer from the same complaint in the matter of the Hongkew wharves. It occurred to him that if the Loong-hwa sheme were carried, the works would be outside Municipal limits. In the not unlikely event of a row, therefore, after we had spent Tls. 500,000 upon these Water-works, the Chinese could cut off the supply, and, having stopped the water at one end, could apply the torch at the other, and burn the Settlements. He appealed to the Ratepayers—not the Land-Renters. The Land-Renters—where were they? Absentees, most of them, living on turtle and in luxury, whilst their agents here were blocking up our homes and filling our streets with Chinese, and filth, and disease. He appealed to the Ratepayers; those were the men who watched us the closest—the men who had to live in Shanghai; and to them he said, if you consent to this Municipal scheme now, you will repent it in future. Be wary! Having said this, he would propose his amendment.

Dr. Jamieson had pleasure in seconding the amendment. In doing so, he must say that till ten minutes ago he had no idea that he would be called on to do so. He understood that there had already been discussion of the subject at the morning sitting, but he had not the opportunity of being present; so that if he were guilty of going over ground already trodden he trusted they would excuse him. No doubt they were agreed that they ought to have pure water. In the light of recent investigation at home, we had come to learn that a great deal of disease was due to the impurity of water, and whatever might be our views as to the way in which our requirements should be met, we could not deny they ought to be met; and then the question arose as to the comparative merits of rival schemes. He was not competent to go into the question of finance involved; but he believed he might say that the scheme with which Mr. Tootal had associated his name, and for which he asked from the Ratepayers so much assistance as is implied in permission to lay pipes in the roads, did not involve one-half the cost of the scheme put forward by the Works' Committee. The respective suggestions contemplated Loonghwa, the Soochow Creek and the River near Yangtszepoo, as sites for Water-Works. The Shanghai Water-Works proposed to take their water from the latter point, and they had had an analysis made by Mr. Cleave, who was a thoroughly competent analytical chemist, and that analysis was perfectly satisfactory. The water which would be supplied by the Company was certainly far purer than the majority of the samples supplied to the different boroughs in England. He would like here to correct a misconception which might arise from his now praising a local source of water supply, whereas he had always, since he had an opportunity of influencing public opinion through the Customs Medical Reports, abused the Shanghai water; but the reason was that, his reiterated objections were levelled at the water as consumed. That water was undoubtedly of extremely impure character. It was taken at all times of tide, from the ends of jetties and from off the mouths of sewers, and it was to eliminate these impurities that the Water-Works Company was established. The Company contends that, under the precaution it is prepared to take, it will be able to promise a pure supply. It will take water only at high tide, when the great bulk is derived directly from the Yangtze, and at a point where there can be no junk or city contamination. The impurities which enter into the buckets filled at the ends of jetties in the vicinity of sewers will therefore be originally absent. But the Company will of course deliver the water much purer than they receive it. Bearing in mind the unquestionable importance of obtaining a pure water supply– and it is imposible to close our eyes to the fact that diseases such as typhoid fever, due greatly to impure water, are on the increase among us—any scheme which proposes to supply pure water, and above all, which promises to supply it without any delay, ought to receive support. He hoped the Ratepayers would not hurry over the subject; he would prefer rather that it should be referred to a special meeting, when the Company would be in a position to say more fully what were their hopes and prospects, and at what date the works would be accomplished.

Mr. Purdon would like, before the resolution was put to the meeting, to make one remark. Dr. Jamieson had referred to a scheme. There was no scheme of Mr. Tootal's before the meeting. There was nothing to bind the Company to take water from any place; there was nothing to prevent them taking it even from the ends of jetties or sewers. The object of the Council was not to bind themselves to take water from the Soochow Creek, but to get a starting point, to get proposals and estimates of the cost of bringing water into the Settlement. They asked sanction to spending a certain amount of money to do that, and they will bye-and-bye bring forward a definite plan and ask the Ratepayers to sanction it.

Mr. Kingsmill said the Company were quite prepared to furnish the Ratepayers, now or any time, with full particulars of their scheme. Meanwhile, documents were before the meeting, stating where they proposed to take water from, and they were bound by that statement.

Dr. Jamieson said the Company were bound by their public proposition. There was such a thing as public opinion in Shanghai, which would prevent them taking water from the end of sewers as Mr. Purdon suggested. Besides, it was not likely they would do anything so sure to spoil their business.

Mr. Tootal said the Water-Works Company were not likely to go elsewhere than where they proposed to take their water, any more than, if the Gas Company undertook to supply good gas, it would be expected they would supply it from Loong-hwa. People would suppose it was to come from the Shanghai Gas Works.

Mr. Keswick did not know whether he was quite in order in speaking again, as he had spoken on the original resolution. But he would like, if he were in order, to make a few remarks on the amendment. He might have to traverse again some of the ground he went over before. He would repeat that he thought it the duty of the Ratepayers to be most particular in such an assential thing as giving a private Company a monopoly of water supply. At the present time, they had seen an advertisement that there was such a Company as the Shanghai Water Works Company, but of the nature of its scheme, or its proposed extent, they knew nothing. Then there was the rivalry of its opponent—he did not know how far the formation of the Loong-hwa Co. had gone—it might also want to disturb our streets. He thought the Ratepayers should consider very carefully, before deciding, whether it would not be better to have a scheme from the Council under such management that they would be able to deal with it. They should be careful not to part with the authority the Council has. To him it was clear the supply of water should be a Municipal affair, as much as the care of our roads and jetties, and not issue in a private undertaking. As a matter of finance also, if there were sufficient prospect of emolument to induce two rival schemes, if the advantages appeared such to private companies, it was right for the Council to undertake the work. They would find private individuals still ready to invest, and there could be no fear of the tax involving hardship on the Community. People who had made themselves acquainted how such matters were now dealt with in other countries, would be aware that anything approaching a concession was jealously regarded. Nothing should be done to give preference to individuals or companies. Mr Tootal had referred to the Wharf scheme, but

that was purely a mercantile matter, and quite apart from any public interest. It did not affect the public health or rights—the two matters were not analogous, and there was no comparison between them. He repeated that the Council should not be divested of any authority, and that no private company should be allowed to break up our streets and roads, or interfere in any way with a matter so essential to our health as water supply. The duty devolved on the Council, and by them should be performed.

The amendment was then put to the meeting, and declared lost. A poll was called for; but before it was ended, the adverse vote was accepted; and the Chairman recalled attention to the original resolution.

Mr KINGSMILL would suggest, before they were asked to vote on the original proposition, that, as there were so few Ratepayers present, the whole question should be referred to a special meeting, when the Company would bring forward estimates and definite proposals. It was almost certain that the present meeting would have to be adjourned, and he would propose as an amendment—

That the consideration of the Water Scheme be referred to a future meeting, to take place within one month from date.

Mr. HAAS seconded.

The amendment was lost. The original resolution was then put, and declared carried.

Mr PURDON had now to offer a resolution, which was designed to meet a requirement in the present condition of the Settlement. There was no provision to meet the case of unassessed property, and the Council thought it desirable for the Ratepayers to make such provision. He wished to propose—

That whereas there is at present no provision for the assessment of lands and buildings not already assessed, the Municipal Council for the time being be and are hereby authorized to assess all such lands and buildings: and that all appeals against such assessments shall be made to the Finance Rate and Appeal Committee who shall have power and are hereby authorized to deal with each appeal according to their discretion, and whose decision shall be final.

He would remark that this was not at all intended to apply to existing assessments. These assessments had been made by an Assessment Committee; appeals had been heard by an Appeal Committee and decided; and the Council had no power to go back on their work. The resolution applied only to unassessed property in future, and would only give to the Finance Rate and Appeal Committee a power which its title implies.

Mr. COWIE seconded.

Mr. HOGG asked, before proceeding, whether nothing could be done with regard to the previous resolution. He had cried "divide," and was under the impression that a division would be had; but found this resolution introduced before he had realised that his call had not been heard.

The CHAIRMAN had heard the word "divide," and looked around, but could not see where it came from. If a poll were desired, he had no objection.

Mr. PURDON said the Council could have no objection to a division. It was not at all their wish to stifle discussion. A poll was then taken on the Water-Works resolution, and the votes were—117 for, and 62 against.

Mr. PURDON remarked that these numbers did not include the proxies which the Council held.

The Assessment resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. PURDON said that ended the official business, and the Council were now really out of office. As they would see by the notice convening the meeting, the Committee appointed to revise the Land Regulations would now have to present their report.

Mr. IVESON said copies of the revised Land Regulations, accompanied by the Committee's report, had been circulated among the Ratepayers. They had cost the Committee a good deal of time. He did not suppose they were perfect; in fact, the comments made in that morning's paper showed they were not so. He had only to lay them before the Ratepayers and ask them to consider them. In the meantime, the Committee expected to be relieved of their commission.

The subject dropped, the Chairman intimating that it was now competent for the Ratepayers generally to bring in the business which had been notified.

Mr. HAAS said—Mr. Nolting, who is unavoidably absent, has asked me to second the resolution of which he has given notice—

That a revision of the assessment of rents shall take place.

Mr. PURDON asked the Chairman whether a resolution could be proposed by any one not present in the meeting? Would it not be better for Mr. Haas to propose the resolution, and get some one else to second it.

Mr. HAAS assented, and Mr. TOOTAL said he would be very glad to second it.

Mr. KIDNER suggested that a great many people had voted against Mr. Hart's amendment on Res. No. 7, under the impression that it would upset the Budget. No doubt, however, the principle which Mr. Hart advocated was just, and if he would put his proposal as an amendment to the present resolution, it would probably be now carried.

Mr. HART said he had intended to bring brought forward an amendment to the resolution which he thought would have met the case, had it been carried—he referred to resolution No. 8. The resolution was, however, put so quickly and carried, that there was really not time to do it.

The CHAIRMAN was not aware that the resolution had been carried very quickly. He thought he had allowed time. Could not Mr. Hart's amendment come in on resolution No. 9,—as an amendment to Mr. Nolting's proposition?

Mr. HART said if it could be allowed to reopen No. 8, he would prefer it.

Mr. KIDNER said he thought Mr. Hart did not quite understand the meaning of No. 8. It was simply an authority to empower the Council to assess new buildings, and collect taxes upon them until such time as an assessment could be made. Now, Mr. Nolting proposed a revision of assessment upon rents, and if he would add to it, an assessment of property, including roads, it might be admitted.

Mr. HART said he would read the amendment he had intended to bring forward, which he did as follows:—

That provision be made for a revision of the assessment on any house or land, upon the application of the tenant or owner thereof, and that in making such reassessment land used by the public be not taken into account.

Mr. KINGSMILL said he would like to make a suggestion, if permitted, without putting it in the form of a motion. He had been concerned in one or two assessment Committees, and knew that the labours of such committees were of a very onerous unthankful nature, but he thought an improvement might be effected if the suggestion he was about to make were adopted. It was that the Council should once in each year, before the end of November, make up their books of assessment, which should afterwards be publicly exhibited, so that the Landrenters and Ratepayers should have an opportunity of inspecting them; and that an Appeal Committee should be appointed by the Ratepayers, who should go over the books, and compare them, and hear appeals, their decision to be final. He was speaking of these matters as he had said before, from personal experience, and he knew that the present assessment had gone on until it had become so incompatible with the market value of the land and houses, that some violent measure was rendered necessary. He, therefore, made the suggestion as being a more simple system, and he considered Mr. Hart's proposition, that the actual area of land occupied should be taken as the basis of assessment, was a very good one.

Mr. HAAS said he would withdraw his proposition in favour of Mr. Hart's.

Mr. WESTALL seconded Mr. Hart's amendment.

Mr. KIDNER said that seemed to be a very curious way of putting the matter, that land occupied by the public should not be taken into account.

The CHAIRMAN asked Mr. Haas if he accepted the amendment in the place of his resolution.

Mr. HAAS said he did so.

The CHAIRMAN then read the amendment over again, and was going to put it to the meeting, when

Mr. KINGSMILL said the amendment was a little vague. How were the provisions for carrying it into effect to be made?

Mr. PURDON, on behalf of the Council, might say that he was just going to ask the same question. There was nothing in it to show them what to do, and the Council would not be able to work under such an amendment. It did not even say who was to make provision for it—there was no provision of machinery under which the Council could work.

Mr. HART said the machinery could be provided afterwards.

Mr. E. M. SMITH submitted that the resolution as it now stood, was one of most serious danger; and it seemed to him that to place in the hands of three gentlemen of the Municipal Council, the power of making a revision of an assessment that had taken a whole year about, was open to decided objection. It would lead to complications that would be likely to set them, like the Kilkenny cats, fighting all together.

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Hart had added to his resolution, the words "having regard to the former resolution."

Mr. PURDON said that, so far from not having mentioned the subject, he had mentioned it a good many times—perhaps before Mr. Hart came to the meeting, and so he did not hear it. What he (Mr. Purdon) wanted to point out was that the Ratepayers at their last meeting had appointed an Assessment Committee, and an Appeal Committee who had decided all appeals, and the Council did not see their way to overthrow former assessments; and if this amendment was considered at all by the Ratepayers, there should be added to it that any application asking for a reassessment should be carried out by two professional men at the applicant's own expense. If the reassessment of any property was thought necessary, it would be worth the owner's while to pay fees to two professional men for their assistance—to be afterwards submitted to the Council. But they could not do it under this amendment.

Mr. HART said it was time something was done in the matter; and he was obliged to think it was the business of the Council to have brought forward some proposition for revision of assessments.

Mr. PURDON—Why not bring forward a proposition for a reassessment altogether? There was no objection to that. The Council had, however, arranged their Budget on the present assessment, which, as a Council, they were not aggrieved by. He held that it was for those parties who felt themselves aggrieved to bring the matter forward.

Mr. HART said if Ratepayers were to be

met with such determined opposition, it was useless bringing anything forward.

Mr. Purdon said it was not the wish of the Council to meet the question with any vexatious opposition, and the better thing to do would be to bring forward a resolution for a revision of the assessment on all land and houses, though the Council could not now offer any opinion on it.

Mr. E. M. Smith thought it was competent for any individual to bring forward a proposition for revision. With respect to this amendment, as soon as it was passed, there would be no end of persons coming forward with appeals, and a great deal of trouble be given. The best plan would be to have a thorough revision of the assessment of both land and houses.

Mr. Kingsmill said from his experience on two Assessment Committees—and he thought Mr. Purdon could support his view—it would be much better to have a yearly assessment.

Mr. Purdon asked Mr. Kingsmill if he intended his suggestion as an amendment to that of Mr. Hart? He thought some such arrangement as that contained in Mr. Kingsmill's suggestion could be carried out.

Mr. Kingsmill said he did not wish to make any formal proposition, and had hoped his suggestion would have been adopted without doing so. His object was simply to recommend it to the notice of the Council, and for them, if they saw fit, to work on it. He believed, however, it would meet the wishes of the Ratepayers, and he would lay it before them.

That the Municipal Council shall once in every year before the 30th November, cause an assessment to be made of the value of the various lots of land within the Settlements, and of the houses and other buildings within the said limits, and shall cause same to be publicly displayed within the offices of the Council for the information of all concerned; and the actual area of land, not including land devoted to public purposes, shall be the area to be taken into consideration in all assessments of such land;

And the Electors shall, at the ordinary annual meeting of each year, appoint an Appeal and Revision Committee of not less than seven members, of whom three shall form a quorum, who shall hear all appeals from such assessment, and whose decision shall in all cases be final and conclusive.

Mr. Purdon said he believed that something of that sort could be worked on by the Council. In fact, if Mr. Hart's amendment were carried, there were only two ways in which the Council could work. They would either have to make an entire reassessment, or hear appeals as they were made, and decide upon them. The suggestion made by Mr. Kingsmill met all that, but he did not believe that the revision of assessments, as set down in Mr. Hart's amendment, could be worked at all.

Mr. E. M. Smith said he thought if Mr. Kingsmill's suggestion were acted upon, it would be throwing too much work upon the Staff of the Council, and they had already quite enough to do, without having other onerous duties thrust upon them. Mr. Kingsmill's suggestion amounted to a perpetual revision of assessments, and if it were carried out, a committee ought to be appointed to do the work.

Mr. Kingsmill said a committee of electors would be appointed by it.

Mr. Hart said, with the consent of Mr. Westall, he would withdraw his former amendment, and propose the following—

That a reassessment of the land and buildings within the Settlement be made, and that in making such reassessment, land used by the public be not taken into account.

Mr. Westall seconded the amendment.

Mr. Tootal asked how long that assessment was to last? He thought Mr. Kingsmill's suggestion was a very feasible one.

The Chairman said Mr. Kingsmill's suggestion was not before the meeting yet, and could not be until it was proposed and seconded. He really ought to say that providing for future assessments was very like making a new Land Regulation.

Mr. Kingsmill said he must beg to differ from the Chairman's view that his suggestion was making a new Land Regulation. It was only providing new machinery, and he would now move it as an amendment.

Mr. Tootal seconded the amendment.

The Chairman asked Mr. Kingsmill to read his amendment over again.

Mr. Kingsmill did so, and said it only meant that the Assessment and Appeal Committee should at once be able to enter upon their labours. He had been asked to add to it, "and that the actual area of land occupied, should be the basis of assessment." If that addition would meet the views of the meeting, he would not object to insert it.

Mr. F. H. Bell said it appeared to him that a subject of such great importance had hardly received the consideration it deserved. In a meeting like that, and in the course of only half-an-hour's discussion, it could not be brought fairly before them. He could not see that any man of common sense could say that Mr. Kingsmill's was a fair amendment to Mr. Nolting's resolution. It was a simple proposition to put the whole of the assessments of the Settlement in the hands of three persons only, whereas there had always been a committee appointed to consider it. He (Mr. Bell) thought it was a most crude suggestion, and required a great deal more consideration than they had been able to give it that afternoon. If such a proposition was considered necessary, notice should have been given of the intention to bring it forward. They ought not to have been called upon to vote on so important a matter without notice. It was a fundamental motion, which he thought the present meeting could not deal with, and that it ought to be delayed till the next yearly meeting. (Hear.)

Mr. Keswick said there was no object to the gained by delay, if, as he understood Mr. Kingsmill's amendment, it was confined merely to providing the machinery for the assessment. That was all that was required, and it was not such a great resolution, nor had it the importance that Mr. Bell attached to it, looked at in that way. It was important that the present assessment, which had given such dissatisfaction, should be corrected.

Mr. Purdon asked how would it meet the opinion of the Ratepayers, if the Council would say they would take up the question, and bring forward a resolution looking to a new assessment? in short, to bring forward a scheme for a new assessment. He thought Mr. Bell was right in saying it was a fundamental question, whereby a great change would be brought about in the rating of the community, and he did not know if it did not amount, as the Chairman had said, to the formation of a new Land Regulation. If the Council would say that at the end of the present year they would be prepared with some scheme of reassessment, perhaps it would meet the views of the meeting. He considered it was a question they could not settle that afternoon.

Mr. Tootal said if the proposed reassessment did not come before the Community previous to the middle of January next year, the Ratepayers would be mulcted in the first quarter of the following year—the rates being payable in advance.

Mr. Purdon said that was very true, but it was not a matter of much importance.

Mr. Wainewright said the remarks which had just been made, applied to Mr. Kingsmill's amendment, and not to Mr. Hart's, and he asked why they should wait for another year? The present assessment was very unsatisfactory, and caused much complaint. Mr. Hart's proposal was that a revision of the assessment should take place now, and it was not open to the objections Mr. Bell had made, nor to what the Chairman of the Council had said.

The Chairman then read Mr. Kingsmill's amendment, and said that, as he had said before, it seemed to him like making another Land Regulation. He then submitted it to the meeting.

The vote being cast, the noes were declared to have it, and the amendment was lost.

The Chairman said the question next had reference to Mr. Hart's amendment.

Mr. Hogg—Who is to make the assessment?

A Voice—That will be settled hereafter.

Mr. Purdon said there was neither time nor person appointed to make the assessment, and as far as he knew the feeling of the members of the Council, the result would be, if the amendment were carried, that at their next meeting they would say there was nothing to tell them to do the work, that there was no committee appointed, and no means provided. And as for the Council being asked to take the trouble of ascertaining the exact amount of property within every compound wall, he thought they ought not to be called upon to do anything of the kind, in addition to what they always had to do.

The Chairman then put Mr. Hart's amendment to the meeting, and it was also lost, and the original motion having been withdrawn, the subject dropped.

The Chairman said the next motion on the paper was with reference to the proposed new Hospital.

Mr. Keswick rose in pursuance of notice, to ask from the Landrenters their support for an institution that had now been a great benefit to the Settlement for upwards of ten years. The General Hospital had unfortunately to vacate the building it at present rented, in consequence of the ownership of the property having been changed, and the Trustees had been obliged to procure a site upon which they could erect a suitable building and where they could permanently establish the institution. There had been a great deal of discussion on the course of action taken by the Trustees, who had had a difficult task to arrange for a site that would in all respects meet the views of the Community, and at the same time afford ample space for the business of a hospital. The Howard's Wharf site was offered to them on very favourable terms, but the Trustees were unable for various reasons to accept that site. The question then arose where to get a site. The great difficulty that prevented them getting one near the centre of the Settlement was the great cost of land, and the only site that was available which they considered eligible, was the piece of land at the end of the wharves on the Whangpoo bank. It was a distant place, but a place that in the course of a few years would be considered a much more convenient site than it was at the present time. The extension of Shanghai, judging from what was now taking place, would be in that direction; and the position in a sanitary point of view was unexceptionable. As to the great benefit derived from the Hospital, it was unnecessary for him to offer any remark upon it. It was an institution that had done great service, and unhappily it was more than likely that its services would be required in the future, especially if they did not get that supply of pure water that was so much talked about. The sum that would be necessary for the erection of a new Hospital it was not contemplated would fall as a tax upon the Ratepayers, for he

believed that the institution, if Tls. 35,000 were expended as proposed, would be able to provide a sinking fund, that would in about 15 years pay off the loan now asked for, and leave the Community in possession of a good Hospital. The resolution he was about to propose did not ask the Ratepayers to sanction such an advance without having good reasons for doing so. The object of the resolution was to empower the Council to assist the Trustees to make every arrangement on behalf of this very important institution, and he therefore begged to propose—

That the Council be authorised to assist the Trustees in establishing the Hospital by advancing a sum not exceeding Tls. 35,000, and be empowered to issue Debentures for that purpose if necessary, provided the property of the Hospital is pledged as security for the loan, and that the plan of the building, the selection of the site, and mode of providing for paying off the debt be submitted to and approved by the Council.

Mr. IVESON seconded the resolution.

Sir EDMUND HORNBY said—I shall certainly not give a silent vote in favour of Mr. Keswick's proposition. Situated as we are in Shanghai, I do not think there can be a worthier use of public money than the building of an hospital. It is a work which benefits no single nation in particular—but the citizens of all nations alike. It is a work which ought not to be a private enterprise, because it will never pay—as, indeed, it never has paid, anywhere as an investment. The amount is not large, and I am certain that every farthing asked for and obtained, will be well and carefully employed; and I do not believe the Hospital can be built as it ought to be built for one farthing less. I understand the building is intended ordinarily to accommodate 50 patients—not one whit too many, and that at a pinch it will accommodate twice or thrice that number. I make no observations on the site, but I do so on the vote for Mr. Keswick's motion, for it will be a vote that will do honour to the community, besides proving a lasting benefit. The only suggestion I would make—not by way of amendment—is that, now, practically, the community will advance all the money requisite, it should have a greater and more important share in the government of the Hospital. The present Trustees represent the Subscribers—the Subscribers have ceased to exist—at anyrate their money has gone, and most of them have given up their shares and interest in the little that remains. They no longer, therefore, represent the people who had advanced the money. It was a private institution—it is now to become a public one—let, therefore, the Ratepayers choose the governing body, or at any rate, a large share of it. I hope the vote will be carried unanimously.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, after a pause, and carried with two or three dissentient voices.

Mr. BELL said the motion he rose to propose required no comment from him. It was almost identical with one they had carried last year, and was brought forward merely to supply a verbal defect in the former. He therefore at once proposed—

That Article XIX. of the Land Regulations be amended by the insertion (in the eleventh line on page 24) after the words of the Article "shall be entitled to vote in the election of the said members of the Council and at the public meetings"—of the following words—"Provided always that the proxies of "Ratepayers only who are absent from the "Consular District of Shanghai, or are "prevented by illness from attending, shall "be admitted to vote at such meetings."

Mr. IVESON seconded

Mr. PURDON remarked that, at the election of Councillors, proxies were not admitted by the present Regulations.

Mr. BELL said the resolution was only to provide for the proxies of absentees from the meetings, and would not touch elections.

The resolution was then put, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. KINGSMILL would not detain them more than a few minutes in proposing the resolution of which he had given notice. The Polytechnic Institution had secured a site for a building on the north side of Hankow Road. It had previously been in treaty for a plot on the south side, but had been unable to complete the purchase. It had then been in communication with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and the purchase had been agreed on of a site on the north side, at a point where the proposed Yin-wo-ka Road joins the Hankow Road. The land for this road had never been given up possession of by the proprietors, but the Council had been authorised to treat for a road leading from the Kiukiang to the Hankow Roads. The road was only 178 ft. from the adjacent Kwangsi Road, it would not lead anywhere particular, and the whole block would have only a frontage of 420 ft. without a road, if it were abandoned. So the public would not suffer in any way from want of communication. All he proposed was, that the Council be authorised to retire from a resolution that had never been acted on, and so facilitate the building of an institution which commended itself to the support of the community. His resolution was—

That arrangements having been made for the purchase of a plot of Ground for the new Polytechnic Institution adjacent to the Hankow Road, the Municipal Council be authorised to give up the proposed extension of the Yin-wo-ka between the Kiukang and Hankow Roads.

Mr. KESWICK seconded.

Mr. BELL would like to have the opinion of the Council as to giving up the extension of a road which had been once voted. He had always understood the Council were anxious to open up roads in that neighbourhood; and now they were asked to stop the construction of one, he would like to have the opinion of the Council as to the wisdom of doing so.

Mr. PURDON said the Council did not think it desirable to abandon the proposed road. They did not wish to appear in opposition to any such institution, but that was their opinion. The road was already open from the Maloo to the Kiukiang Road, and it remained to extend it from the latter into the Hankow Road. If it were given up, a long block would be without any cross road. If it were left to the Council, therefore, they were obliged to say they were not in favour of giving it up. If this extension were carried out, the road could be still further extended. (Applause.)

Mr. KINGSMILL had thought he had the opinion of the Council that they would do their best to carry out the Chekeang Road, which was a much more important one, and would render this unnecessary. The Yin-wo-ka Road was of no public importance. He thought the gentleman who was standing in the way of the Chekeang Road would listen to reason. The result of the Council's opposition would be that the Polytechnic would be obliged to go elsewhere, to a more inconvenient site; and it was really no use pressing the road, because the proprietors objected to give up the land.

Mr. PURDON replied that the argument as to the shortness of the road did not bear, because it was only a link in a long road. If it were carried out from the Maloo to the Yang-king-pang it would be a long road; and as to the Chekeang Road extension, it was still problematical whether they would get it. (Applause.)

Mr. KINGSMILL would withdraw his proposal in deference to the Council's opinion. (Applause.)

Mr. KESWICK added that, in seconding the resolution, he was under the impression it had the approval of the Council.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting would now be made a special one, for consideration of a proposal to be brought forward by the Council. The Land Regulations provided that the Senior Consul present should take the chair at special meetings; therefore he presumed there would be no objection to his continuing to occupy it. It was also necessary that, before such meetings were declared constituted, the Secretary should state that two-thirds of the Ratepayers were present or represented. The requisite number were represented.

Mr. PURDON said the Council's business would detain them very little time. They thought it would be more convenient to have the year end in December than in March, and he had, therefore, to propose—

"Whereas the Municipal year has hitherto commenced on the first day of April, and ended on the thirty-first day of March, and whereas it is expedient that the said Municipal year should for all the purposes of these Regulations be the same as the Calendar Year, Now therefore be it further ordered that the words "April or May" in Article IX. are hereby repealed, and the words "January or February" shall henceforth be substituted therefor: That the word "March," in Article XIX., is hereby repealed, and the word "December" shall henceforth be substituted therefor: That the annual meeting mentioned in Articles XII., XXI. and XXV. shall henceforth mean the meeting to be held in the month of January or February: That the Municipal year referred to in the Article XVIII., and elsewhere, shall henceforth, and for all purposes, be deemed to commence on the first day of January, and to end on the thirty-first of December in each and every year, anything in these Regulations to the contrary notwithstanding."

Seconded by Mr. DRUMMOND, and carried unanimously.

This closed the business before the meeting.

Mr. BELL proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the retiring Council, which was carried by acclamation.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was proposed by Mr. PURDON, and the meeting separated at 4.30 P.M.

Correspondence.

LOCAL TAXATION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—I am inclined to dissent from some of the conclusions in your Editorial note on my communication, appearing in your last issue. My letter was written under the impression that the Chinese authorities have the right to tax their own subjects in whatever way, and to any extent, so long as those same subjects are contented. I refer to such subjects, of course, as retain their allegiance to the Emperor of China, and as are domiciled within his realms.

If I am wrong, and if the accidental, and perhaps only temporary, residence of a few natives within the limits of our so-called Foreign Concession, exempts them from contributing towards the maintenance of their country's institutions, by all means let us have every *Runner* secured and punished, and let there be an immediate abolition of all native local taxation within our borders. But I think some one of our authorities has laid it down as law that we—*i.e.* foreigners—have no right to interfere between the native and his Governor; and, that being the case, it is my opinion that the native will thank his well meaning friends to leave him to arrange his own difficulties.

As to my having answered my own question, perhaps you will concede that it is one thing for me, and for others like me, to obtain—under the rose—information of what is actually going on; and that it is quite another affair, in the utter

absence of direct evidence from those who hand over the money to the collectors, to induce the Consular body, and more notably the native authorities, to accept the information so obtained as proof conclusive on the point at issue.

Still waiting to learn how such direct evidence is to be secured, believe me.

Yours, &c.,

VIATOR.

P.S.—M., who addresses you this morning, has let his virtuous indignation run riot with his reason. Bales of Drills, Lumber, Runners, the Inquisition and double Government, have evidently been all jumbled up together in his noddle, and he has let the public have each with an ! attached. Double Government ! Why didn't M stop to consider that his very (?) innocent Chinese place themselves voluntarily within the pale of his double Government, if by that he means our Municipal system and their liability under their own citizenship? We foreigners—Britishers—have three or four Governments to satisfy, and we may growl as much as we please against them, but we have got to subject ourselves to them all the same. Shall I mention a few? No. One only shall be named by me, the REGISTRATION REGULATION.

V.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—A correspondent of the evening paper asks some questions about the General Hospital, which I will answer briefly, with your permission, through your columns.

1st.—"Is it true that the sum paid for the proposed site (Endicott's garden) is more than the marketable value of the land?"

The Trustees of the Hospital were engaged in the search for a site for several months, and their negociation for the lot in question extended over a considerable period of time. They believed then, and still believe, that they got the lot at a reasonable price. There may be persons in the community who are better informed in regard to real estate matters, and the requirements of the Hospital, but it is certain that the Trustees used their best judgment.

2nd.—"It is reported that Mr. Hanbury offered to the Trustees the site of Howard's wharf, on which to build the new Hospital; the terms being that no rent should be asked for three years, and that after that time the rental should be only nominal. Is it true that this generous offer of the best site in the Settlement was declined, because the Trustees were influenced by the objections of a resident who thought the Hospital would be too close to his house?"

Mr. Hanbury offered the Howard's wharf site at a rental of 1,000 Taels a year, no rent to be paid for three years. It is understood that he will give outright 3,000 Tls. toward the building of the new Hospital upon the Endicott garden site. The new site cost 13,000 Tls., the interest on this amount, at 7%, will be somewhat less than the rental required by Mr. Hanbury, and the property will be freehold.

The offer of Mr. Hanbury was refused because of the objections made by all the residents in the part of Hongkew adjacent to the Howard wharf. It was understood that those objections would, out of public spirit, be waived by those more nearly concerned, among whom was the United States Consul-General, if the Trustees would provide contagious disease wards elsewhere. The Trustees thought that the objections then taken were well founded, and after considering the proposal to establish contagious disease wards elsewhere, concluded that it would be impracticable.

At a late moment, when the plans of the new Hospital were completed, it became evident that the Howard wharf site was too small. The contagious wards, as proposed, actually abutted directly upon the street in the rear, and the buildings covered the whole lot, excepting a narrow corner in front and a court within the wings. The Trustees, looking then to the size of the lot and to the objections which had been raised, believed that it would be wise to go elsewhere.

3rd.—"Can you inform me why the Trustees were so anxious to settle the matter, without once consulting the resident physicians?"

The Trustees were not anxious to settle the matter without consulting the resident physicians. It is precisely what they were anxious to do and did do. In the early stage of their consideration of the subject, they dealt only with the surgeon of the Hospital, in whose judgment they had and have great faith. They believed that he knew the feeling of his fellow physicians, and have still no doubt upon this subject. When, at the moment of closing the purchase of the Endicott garden site, the Trustees found that many of the medical body questioned the wisdom of building at so great a distance, they invited the whole number of the medical body to consult with them. The result of this consultation was that the physicians were satisfied that the Trustees had acted wisely in abandoning the Howard wharf site, and that that they could not do better than to go on at Endicott's garden.

It may, I think, be justly said that the task devolved upon the Trustees in the building of a new Hospital is not a light one; and that, as they are acting from public spirit and have no pecuniary interest in the Hospital, it is not fair to meet them in a narrow and caviling way. They doubtless desire and invite suggestions and fair criticism, but they can hardly be expected to consider the unpleasant insinuations of your contemporary's correspondent of this sort. When that correspondent goes so far as to intimate that they were "anxious" to avoid publicity, he simply proves that he has not been anxious to ascertain facts and write justly.

Having, then, indicated the carefulness shown by the Trustees in their conduct of the important business they had in hand, and the final concurrence of the physicians in their conclusions, I may add the remark that, before closing for the down-river site, the Trustees visited, by Committees of their number, various other proposed sites, and could find none which seemed in all respects anything like so desirable. I may also add a statement, that the affairs of the Hospital are by no means hopeless. The actual working of the last two years, which have been dull years, shews that the Hospital will pay all working expenses, including interest upon the loan which must be made to secure the funds needed for building operations, and leave something of a margin to provide for a sinking fund. The Hospital is a much needed and very valuable institution, which will pay its expenses. If the public are careless about it; if, instead of meeting the Trustees fairly, they propose to throw overboard Trustees and Hospital, they have it entirely in their power to do so, *and the loss will be their own.*

It is fair to the Trustees to say, that I have written without consultation with them.

Yours &c.,

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.

May 14th.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In Saturday's issue of your paper I observe that a writer, signing himself "St. Vincent de Paul," makes sundry statements with regard to the "resident Physicians" which do not apply to me. The following is a correct account of my connection with the affair to which he refers:—

In September of the past year, needing a holiday, I had arranged to spend a fortnight in Chefoo. Three days before I started, I learned that arrangements were nearly completed for building the new Hospital upon what is now termed the Endicott Garden site. I had never before heard this site mentioned, and up to that date believed that the Trustees had decided to build on the ground known as Howard's Wharf. I was not then, and never had been, directly or indirectly, consulted in the matter. I have forgotten now who my informant was, but am certain that the news reached me through no one connected with the Hospital. Before leaving Shanghai, I assisted Drs. Jamieson and Johnston in drawing up a letter addressed to the Hospital Trustees, protesting against their intention to remove the Hospital to such a distance from the Settlement. A meeting of those interested in the matter was called by the Trustees a few days after I left Shanghai. I have never seen any report of that meeting, but was told, when I returned to the Settlement, that the protest had been abandoned in consequence of three statements advanced by the Trustees:

1st.—That the Howard's Wharf site was not large enough for the buildings required.

2nd.—That besides the Endicott Garden site, the Trustees had failed to discover another suitable situation for the Hospital.

3rd.—That the Endicott Garden site had already been purchased.

I returned from Chefoo on the 19th of September, and had I continued to protest, I should then, I believe, have been without support. I judged it useless to take further action in the matter, but have never altered the opinions to which I subscribed my name, and still believe that Howard's Wharf is the proper place for the Hospital, and that a serious mistake will be committed if the building is erected on the site of Mr. Endicott's Garden.

I am Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD HENDERSON.

May 15th.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad that the proposed change of site of the General Hospital is attracting public attention, as I think the Community will deeply regret the choice made by the Trustees. I cannot say, however, that I am glad for the sake of those gentlemen, that their defence has been undertaken by the writer who signs himself "St. Vincent de Paul." Let me examine some of his statements.

1st.—With regard to the value of the piece of ground called Endicott's Garden, I am not an expert on the subject of real estate, and so will not say distinctly that the sum paid is more than the marketable value of the land, but I distinctly remember that, at the time, the sellers were spoken of as very lucky men, and congratulated upon getting a capital price for their land.

2nd.—With regard to Mr. Hanbury's offer, in spite of other issues ingeniously raised, the fact is admitted that the Trustees, who are now through their Chairman about to ask the Municipal Council to issue debentures for Tls. 35,000 for a Hospital, refused a site which they might have had for three years for nothing.

3rd.—The most important point at issue is the question whether the Trustees did or did not consult the physicians of the Settlement, as to the propriety of removing the Hospital. Your correspondent

says, "When at the moment of closing the purchase of the Endicott Garden site, the Trustees found that many of the medical body questioned the wisdom of building at so great a distance, they invited the whole number of the medical body to consult with them. The result of this consultation was that the Physicians were satisfied that the Trustees had acted wisely in abandoning the Howard's Wharf site, and that they could not do better than to go on at Endicott's Garden." Now this sounds very well, but it differs absolutely from the report I have heard of the interview. Is "St. Vincent de Paul" quite sure that the circumstances were not as follows? Were not the Physicians requested to attend, and, after having been politely listened to for a few minutes, were they not told "*that the arrangements were already made, and the purchase of Endicott's Garden concluded?*"

We are told, further, of the carefulness shown by the Trustees in their conduct of the important business entrusted to them, but a very strange proof of this case is incidentally given. I read that "at a "late moment, when the plans of the new "Hospital were completed, it became "evident that the Howard's Wharf site "was too small." Now surely the space at the disposal of the builders should have been the first thing considered in drawing plans for a building.

The question is really a very important one, and I hope the Community will not let itself drift into the commission of a blunder that could not easily be retrieved if once made. The site proposed is too far from the Settlement. Persons injured by accidents would run great risk in being transported such a long distance. The Doctors could not pay so many visits to the Hospital as they do now, and so consultations would be less frequent. The friends of patients could not call and see them so often as they do now, and thus the sufferings of the sick would be increased. These are a few of the objections to the change that present themselves to my mind, and I am sure that they are sufficient to make the Community hesitate in taking a step so disadvantageous and so costly as the one proposed.

Yours sincerely,

CAUTION.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Shanghai General Hospital, I am very glad to see that the public is beginning to take some interest in that institution; and my Co-Trustees are, I am sure, also only too glad that the views of the public generally should be openly expressed, so that if they have made any error of judgment it may be rectified before it is too late.

My object at present is therefore to correct certain mistatements which have appeared in your evening contemporary regarding the Hospital, and to endeavour to put the views of the Trustees fairly, and in as few words as I can, before the ratepayers.

I may mention in the first place that a copy of the report for the last three years will be in the hands of the ratepayers on Monday, where the present state and future prospects of the Hospital are fully explained.

When the site known as Howard's Wharf was first offered to the Trustees by Mr. Hanbury, on certainly favorable terms, they highly approved of it, but on examination it was found too small to accommodate the class of buildings suitable for a Hospital—and also the idea of having the Hospital there was very generally objected to by the residents in the vicinity, and not by one person alone. As the Hospital is a public institution and dependent on the Community for support, the Trustees, I think, very properly considered that the objections of this portion of the Community were entitled to due regard; and that, as there was a strong feeling amongst them against its being built there, coupled with the fact that the area was too small, decided that they must go elsewhere. They also felt that an institution of this kind should be thoroughly independent, and that it was preferable to have it standing on its own ground. The only eligible sites which presented themselves to the Trustees at this time, were, the site which they eventually bought for Tls. 12,000, known as Endicott's Garden, comprising 30 mow and having a large river frontage, and a piece of land immediately to the west of it, for which a larger sum was required than for the land eventually purchased. In connection with the purchase of this site, it is stated that the medical men of the Settlements were never consulted, and that the site was acquired entirely against their judgment. This is simply untrue. Most of them certainly did object in writing, as they preferred the Howard's Wharf site, but when they met the Trustees in person and were told the reasons against taking Howard's Wharf, they gave in their adhesion to the present site, the purchase of which, although already negotiated for, was then, and not till then, concluded. I should mention that Dr. Henderson was absent from Shanghai when that meeting was held. That the site, simply as a site for a Hospital, is a good one, I think there can be little doubt. The only question is, whether it is so far away as to seriously inconvenience those who are obliged to make use of it or the medical gentlemen who have patients there. These latter have answered for themselves so far. As regards the former—the Hospital if built on the proposed site will be but little further out of the way to a considerable portion of the Community than the present Hospital, while it will be much nearer the general shipping and wharves, where accidents of a serious nature more generally occur. It is also easily approachable by water, and before long there can be little doubt that the means of communication with that portion of the Settlement will be much improved.

Those are the points which I think principally require correction. The Trustees, I know, are actuated by only one desire, and that is to locate the Hospital where it will be of most use to the Community immediately and permanently; and if the present discussion serves to secure a better site than the one selected, I shall be glad that it has taken place. The Hospital is unfortunately a necessary institution, and it would be with infinite regret that I should see anything occur in the least calculated to impair its usefulness. The Sisters who minister to the wants of the sick, have also to be considered in the arrangements made for a new building. They have, with infinite devotion, and with an utter disregard for their own convenience and comfort, continued in a building which has never afforded them the accommodation which by agreement they were entitled to.

Apologizing for the unavoidable length of this letter,

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. KESWICK.

Shanghai, 15th May.

P.S.—The above was written before the letter on the same subject in your to-day's issue was seen, and which has in so many respects anticipated my own statement.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Many of your readers may not be aware of the requirements which a new hospital for Shanghai should fulfil, or may have formed their idea of a hospital from visits to the present one, which is not by any means a suitable building for its present purpose. I therefore beg you to find room for the following remarks. The proposed new hospital provides for about fifty patients, who require accommodation differing according to the class they pay for, or according to the nature of their ailments. One day, there will be more patients of one class, or suffering from one disease, in the hospital, than on another day. The new hospital must be, therefore, probably nearly as large as one for a hundred patients who could be indiscriminately distributed through the wards or who required no separate rooms.

It is authoritatively laid down that, in the construction of a new hospital, the adoption of separate pavilions or buildings with lateral windows on opposite sides and natural ventilation, is essential. These separate pavilions must be at such a distance from one another that, when the windows are open, the air from one pavilion should not blow readily into the neighbouring one.

There are many other essentials of a hospital, but the above is sufficient to show to any one, with necessary measurements, that the Howard's Wharf site is too small for the new hospital, if it is to be properly constructed. A garden or some considerable piece of ground round the hospital is absolutely necessary both for the use of convalescents and for the erection of temporary sheds for patients, as it was done three years ago for some patients sent to the hospital sufferinng from a form of gangrene such as was likely to spread. Again, when during epidemics additional accommodation is required, it cannot be obtained by placing more sick in the wards, but by the erection of temporary buildings.

Should the hospital be built on Howard's Wharf, there can be scarely any vacant space round it, and the wards must be crowded together, whilst on Endicott's Garden a hospital can be built as nearly perfect in its construction and arrangements as possible, and therefore more healthy, and comfortable for its inmates.

Although well aware of the inconvenient distance of Endicott's Garden, I am of opinion that a good hospital there is preferable to a bad one in the centre of the settlement.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

L. S. LITTLE.

Shanghai, 17th May.

JUNKS IN THE PEIHO.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I wonder what "Puritan" was thinking about the other day, when he commended Sun-sze-ta for the measures he had taken to keep the junks from anchoring in the steamer channel. Never since I first began to visit Tientsin have I seen the river in such disorder. The junks were anchored here and there, and anyhow. Instead of being all on one side of the river, as they used to be, they are now to be found anchored on both banks of the stream, and then not in single lines, but sometimes as many as three abreast on one side, whilst two lay in the same manner on the other.

At certain places on the banks of the river may be observed a series of cone-shaped structures, erected in order to mark the places where the junks ought to anchor. These have lately been whitewashed by Sun-sze-ta, and this, I am informed, is all the Customs Taotai has done. It will be a wonder if the present disorderly manner of anchoring the junks can continue without causing disputes between the junk-owners and steamer companies; and if Sun-sze-ta be not so much scared at the junkmen as he was at the dredgers who chased him away from

the creeks he was engaged in deepening, he will pay them a visit and endeavour to restore something like order amongst them.

Yours truly,

TRAVELLER.

Amusements.

CRICKET.

A Scratch Match between two Elevens of the Club was commenced about 4 30 p.m. on Tuesday. Mr. St. Croix's side went first to the wickets, but were put out for 47. After four of the opposite side had been disposed of, the approach of dusk obliged the stumps to be drawn.

The match was continued shortly after 5 P.M. Wednesday, and was remarkable for the amount of leather hunting provided for the fielders. The feature of the match was the innings played by Mr. Gore-Booth, who astonished himself and the spectators by his free and clean hitting, notwithstanding the changes of bowling resorted to. His clean forward square-leg hit for 6 was the hit of the match. Messrs. Jones, Newbigging and Smith were very troublesome men to get rid of, scoring 24, 17 and 16 respectively. On the second innings of the losers, we refrain from making any comments, but wish them better luck at their next attempt. A little evening practice would do much good to all the aspirants for Cricket fame :—

Mr. A. ANDERSON'S SIDE.

1st Innings.

G. H. Woollatt b. Brewer	5
W. De Rusett c. Meller b. Pugh	5
G. C. de St. Croix c. W. de St. Croix b. Rose	0
D. Jones c. and b. Meller	24
J. E. Waller b. Pugh	4
C. F. R. Allen c. and b. Pugh	4
E. H. Gore-Booth not out	61
H. Reynell c. S. Reynell b. Pugh	0
A. Anderson b. Meller	3
W. C. Newbigging c. Rose b. Walker	17
F. M. Smith c. Pugh b. St. Croix	16
Wides, byes, &c.	16
Total	155

Mr. W. DE ST. CROIX'S SIDE.

	1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Hy. Meller b. Waller	0	c. Newbigging b. Jones 0
F. Pugh c. Anderson b. Waller	1	run out 3
E. G. Rose c. H. Reynell b. D. Jones	4	c. Gore-Booth b. Waller 0
A. Broom b. Waller	11	b. Waller 4
S. Walker c. Anderson b. Waller	0	not out 2
W. C. Ward l.b.w., b. D. Jones	7	not out 3
H. R. Hearn b. D. Jones	16	b. Waller 0
T. Brewer b. Jones	0	run out 6
W. E. Stephenson b Waller	1	
W. de St. Croix not out	0	
J. L. Scott c. Anderson b. Waller	0	
Wides	7	Wides, byes, &c. 9
Total	47	Total 27

PEKING RACES.

Monday, the 26th, and Tuesday, the 27th April, 1875.

FIRST DAY.

1.—MAIDEN PLATE.—One Mile.—Prize, $75. For ponies that have never run before.

Mr. Scandinave's *Surprise* 1
,, Vapereau's *Croquemitaine* 2
,, de Roquette's *Réactionnaire* 3
,, Julius' *Chassepot* 0

Time, 2m. 9½s.

2.—MIAO-CHIA-TI STAKES.—½ Mile. Prize, $60.

Mr. Vapereau's *Raton* 1
,, Hart's *Blackbird* (late *Satan*) 2
,, d'Imécourt's *Fomalhaut* 3
,, Hunter's *Pai Yang* 0

Time, 1m. 2s.

3.—THE HAI-KUAN CHALLENGE CUP.—Value 100 Taels, and $50 added from the fund, if won for the first time. Presented by Robert Hart, Esq., and other gentlemen of the Imperial Maritime Customs. 1½ Mile. The Cup to become the property of any gentleman residing at Peking whose pony or ponies win it two years consecutively.

Mr. Hunter's *Ling Yang* 1
,, Vapereau's *Vide-gousset* 2
,, Ohlmer's *Reinfall* 0

Time, 3m. 28s.

4.—LADIES' PURSE.—¾ Mile.—Presented by the Ladies of Peking. For Ponies owned and ridden by Peking residents only.

Mr. Scandinave's *Surprise* 1
,, d'Imécourt's *Pousse-cailloux* 2
,, de Roquette's *Réactionnaire* 3
,, Hunter's *Pai Yang* 0

Time, 1m. 39s.

5.—TIENTSIN CUP.—Value $100. Presented by gentlemen of the Tientsin community. 1¼ Mile.

Mr. Hart's *Blackbird* (late *Satan*) 1
,, de Roquette's *Commandant* 2
,, Vapereau's *Raton* 3

Time, 2m. 55s.

6.—WELTER RACE.—¾ Mile. Prize, $60. Weight, 12 stone and upwards.

Mr. d'Imécourt's *Belle Rose* 1
,, Ohlmer's *Reinfall* 2
,, Scandinave's *Mistake* 3

Time, 1m. 41s.

SECOND DAY.

1.—PEKING DERBY.—1 Mile. Value, $100. Winner of either the Maiden Plate or the Tientsin Cup to carry 5 lbs. extra; of both, 7 lbs. extra.

Mr. Scandinave's *Surprise* 1
,, Vapereau's *Raton* 2
,, de Roquette's *Commandant* 3

Time, 2m. 9s.

2.—PRESENTATION PLATE.—Presented by Their Excellencies M. M. de Butzow and Raasloff. ¾ Mile.

Mr. Vapereau's *Croquemitaine* 1
,, Harts *Blackbird* (late *Satan*) 2
,, d'Imécourt's *Fomalhaut* 3
,, Ohlmer's *Reinfall* 0

Time, 1m. 39s.

3.—TSUNG-LI YAMEN PRIZE.—Presented by the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên. Two miles. For Peking-owned ponies only.

Mr. d'Imécourt's *Belle Rose* 1
,, Hart's *Blackbird* (late *Satan*) 2
,, Hunter's *Ling Yang* 3

Time, 4m. 39s.

4.—HACK RACE.—Once round (nearly ¾ mile.) Prize, $50. For ponies which are regularly ridden as hacks.

Mr. Rocher's *Claymore* 1
,, Jamieson's *Lethargy* 2

Time, 1m. 42s.

5.—TRIAL STAKES.—1¼ mile. Prize, $100, added to a Sweepstakes of $10 each. A forced entry for winners; optional for other ponies. Hacks excluded.

Mr. Scandinave's *Surprise* 1
,, Vapereau's *Raton* 2
,, Do. *Croquemitaine* 3

Time, 2m. 51s.

6.—CONSOLATION STAKES.—1 mile. Prize, $50. For ponies which have run and won no race.

Mr. de Roquette's *Réactionnaire* 1
,, Ohlmer's *Reinfall* 2

Time, 2m. 20s.

7.—MAFU RACE.—Once round. 1st prize, $10.; 2nd prize, $6.; 3rd prize, $4.

Mr. Hunter's *Huang Yang* 1
,, Vapereau's *Raton* 2

&c., &c.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, May 15th.

CHING CHONG *v.* J. H. HUME.

This was an action to recover $164.80, for goods sold and delivered. Defendant disputed his liability, and the chief judge adjourned the case to enable plaintiff's books to be examined by the Clerk of the Court. The result of the examination was that the various items charged for the goods were found to be correct, but that the dates were incorrect.

Judgment was given for plaintiff, for full amount, defendant to pay costs of suit and $2 extra for the trouble of examining the plaintiff's books. The total to be paid into Court in a week, or execution to issue.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, May 19th.

Before C. F. R. ALLEN, Esq.

J. WHEELWRIGHT *v.* W. PECK.

This was an action to recover $99.42, for goods supplied and money lent on behalf of the defendant, who acknowledged that he owed some money to the plaintiff, but to what amount he could not say. He was not able to read or write, and the plaintiff had been keeping his books for him.

Plaintiff was sworn, and deposed that the money sued for was for some sheep that the defendant purchased of him, between the 1st January and 30th April last. The account was taken from defendant's books, and he was prepared to swear to its correctness.

Defendant, sworn, said his books were in a state of confusion, and nothing could be made of them. He had had three different persons to look after his accounts, but they were so muddled that, when the books were some time ago produced before Mr. Mowat, nothing could be made of them. He could not dispute the plaintiff's claim, for he could not say how the account stood between them.

His HONOUR said that, under those circumstances, he could not do otherwise than give judgment for plaintiff, for full amount claimed, with costs.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, May 17th.

Before C. F. ALLEN, Esq., *Acting Police Magistrate.*

R. *v.* CHARLES KETCHIE.

Deportation.

The prisoner, who is a Hindoo, was brought up in custody from prison, after undergoing a sentence of ten days' hard labour for assaulting the servants at the Sailors' Home. Having been previously convicted, he was also ordered to find sufficient security for his future good behaviour, or to be deported.

The position in which he stood having been explained to him by Deighton, the interpreter, the prisoner said he could not find security, and

His WORSHIP therefore ordered the sentence of deportation to be carried out, and remitted the man to prison until he could be sent away.

R. (W. R. FULLER, Chefoo) *v.* WEBSTER MORRIS.

Charge of Embezzlement.

The prisoner, who is a piano tuner, and was also in the employ of the prosecutor as clerk, was apprehended in Broadway, Hongkew, on Sunday, by Mr. Molesworth, Consular Constable at Chefoo, on a warrant, charged with embezzlement. There are several cases alleged against him, the aggregate amount being estimated at about $600, the dates ranging from April, 1874. He was now brought up for the purpose of being remanded in custody until the departure of the next steamer for Chefoo.

No particulars were gone into, and the warrant having been attested by the Consular Constable

His WORSHIP made the necessary order for the detention of the prisoner.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MAY 21ST, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From Liverpool, the steamships *Antenor* and *Agamemnon;* from Hamburg, the s.s. *Galatea;* from London, the s.s. *Horriang* and *Craigforth;* and from Marseilles, with the London mails of 9th ultimo, the M. M. steamer *Djemnah.*

TELEGRAMS.—No change on the quotations of last week.

PIECE GOODS.—Depression has been the ruling spirit in our PIECE GOODS market, and the Auctioning hongs claim honorary mention as having done the largest share of the business here since this day-week. Of course, prices are lower, but that apparently is a matter of secondary moment. The goods are imported to be sold by auction, and sold they are. The principle has to be carried out, and the Chinese reap most of the profits. Privately, the transactions have been trifling, embracing chiefly common 6 and 7-lb. *T-Cloths, Drills,* and English *Sheetings,* and almost every article, but *Drills,* has declined in value. At the close there is little enquiry for anything, while holders generally are courting offers, and the desire to be doing something is evidently growing upon them.

Exclusive of the auction proceedings—noted below, the published business of the week may be summarised as follows :—

Grey Shirtings.—1,500 pieces common 6-lbs. at Tls. 1.35 per piece ; 6,000 pieces 7-lbs. at Tls. 1.45 *a* 1.47 per piece ; about 5,000 pieces 8¼-lbs. at Tls. 1.63 *a* 1.77 per piece. *Heavy* goods—resales only and at lower rates. Market for all weights inanimate.

White Shirtings.—Ordinary to fair 64 Reeds—1,600 pieces at Tls. 1.90 *a* 2.05 per piece. Finest Reeds wanted but no stock.

T-Cloths.—14,000 pieces—common to good—6-lbs. at Tls. 1.14 *a* 1.22 per piece, portion of them "to arrive" ; 12,000 pieces common, and 5,300 pieces Mexicans 7-lbs., to arrive, and hard cargo, at Tls. 1.33 *a* 1.34½ per piece, and Tls. 1.43 *a* 1.60 per piece respectively ; and 6,200 pieces 8-lbs. at Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.70½ per piece. Common 6 and 7-lbs in fair enquiry throughout, and buyers, to arrive, still to be found, although at reduced rates ; but Mexican descriptions have been in little favor, and the quotations for such are decidedly weaker.

Drills.—14-lbs. *Nil.* High offers are said to have been declined for *Pillar.* The ordinary market quotation for this cloth, however, is only Tls. 2.42 *a* 2.43 per piece. Nor has much been done in 15-lbs., although, probably, there would have been a larger business in this weight had not dealers got frightened by the decline which was established at Tuesday's Auction. Prior to that event firmness enabled at least one seller to realise a better price, by 2 cands. per piece, for a lot of 1,000 pieces good quality, than was offered to him last mail day. He sold at Tls. 2.50 per piece ; and that could not be done to-day. But foreign holders are in no way alarmed, and are contented to wait for the restoration of confidence among the dealers. About 3,000 pieces, *American Drills* at Tls. 3.37½ *a* 3.47 are reported. *Dutch* are wanted—None here.

Jeans.—No business and no demand.

Sheetings.—3,500 pieces 15-lb. English, partly "to arrive," at Tls. 2.94 *a* 2.96 per piece. The higher figure shows a clear drop of 6 cands. per piece, on the selling rate of last week.

Fancy Cottons.—An insignificant local enquiry for *Dyed Brocades, Handkerchiefs* and *Chintzes,* but nothing of importance effected. The dealers wish to get everything cheaper than the generality of holders care to accept. The recent arrivals of *Blue Chintzes* have nearly satisfied all requirements, and buyers, "to arrive," are anxiously looking for their cargoes before the market leaves them. Sundry parcels of *Scarlet Chintzes* are on offer, but there is no sale for them at present. For the North, 1,000 pieces of favourite chop 3-lb. *Turkey Reds* have been settled at Tls. 2.15 per piece, and a few ordinary 2¼ and 2¾-lbs. at Tls. 1.65 and Tls. 1.90 have been taken for Japan ; 1,000 pieces, 12-yd. *Printed T. Cloths,* at Tls. 2.25, and some *Mahommedan Cloths* and *Printed Twills,* at about last quotations, wind up the business in the Fancy department.

Woollens.—Holders of those descriptions on which the superstructure of the Auctions has been raised, have had rather a quiet time of it. But although rather-down cast, hope does not seem to have quite deserted some of them. They have had enquiries for *Long Ells,* for *Lastings,* and for *Mediums,* and have elected to hold for previous currencies. Nor is there anything unreasonable in their efforts to establish them. Current prices do not cover cost. Moreover, the stocks of *Long Ells,* and fine *Black Lastings,* are very moderate, and the position altogether favours their action. Some special colors of *Figured Orleans* have realised full figures, upwards of 1,000 pieces having changed hands at Tls. 3.40 proportion and Tls. 3.65 per piece. The Auction sales speak for themselves. They comprise—

Tuesday, 18th May.						*Thursday, 20th May.*				
Camlets—C. P. H., Scarlet	300 pces.	at Tls.	13.60	*a* 13.87½	per pce.	400 pces.	assorted av.	Tls.	13.75	per pce.
Gentian	100 ,,	,,	13.40	*a* 13.45	,,					
Dark Blue	100 ,,	,,	13.70		,,					
—G. G. M.						200 ,,	,,	,,	13.25	,,
—S. S. G.						600 ,,	,,	,,	13.20	,,
Long Ells—C. P. H., Scarlet	1,000 pces.	at Tls.	6.95	*a* 6.92½	per pce.					
Spanish Stripes— do.	240 ,,	,,	0.59	*a* 0.59¼	per yd.	378 ,,	T. T. B.	,,	0.57¾	per yd.
Peacock— do.	120 ,,	,,	0.55½		,,					
Medium Cloth	60 ,,	,,	0.80	*a* 1 07	,,					
Lastings—Elephant—Black and Gentian	120 ,,	av. Tls.	10.75	*a* 11.00	per pce.					
—Lion— do.	100 ,,	,,	12.17¼	*a* 12.25	,,					
Mahomedan Cloth	160 ,,	,,	0.12.6	*a* 0.12.4	,,					
Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs. Peacock—mildewed	2,100 ,,	,,	1.53½	*a* 1.58	,,					
—8¼-lbs. Sound	3,000 ,,	,,	1.61		,,	1,500 ,,	Sound	,,	1.51	per pce.
—8¼-lbs. Lion	3,250 ,,	,,	1.64¼	*a* 1.65¼	,,					
—8¼-lbs. Red Lion—fine	500 ,,	,,	1.72	*a* 1.72½	,,					
—9.2-lbs. Peacock	1,250 ,,	,,	1.62		,,					
Drills—15-lbs. Peacock	420 ,,	,,	2.41¾	*a* 2.41¼	,,					

Outports.—Up river, by last accounts, continuous rains and the New Teas were the topics of the day. Little or nothing doing in imports. At TIENTSIN, late importations were finding their way slowly into the interior—prices barely maintained. JAPAN.—No improvement thus far.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.7.5	13.8.0	13.7.0	13.0.0	13.9.5	...	...	12.5.0	12.6.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	6.9.5	7.0.0	6.3.0	7.1.0	6.9.0	...	...	7.0.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.9	0.5.5½	0.5.6	0.6.1	0.5.8	0.6.0	0.5.6	0.5.6	0.5.6	0.5.6

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 20TH MAY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple	Black.	Mauve	Brown
C.P.H. Camlets p. pce. ₹	13.72½/13.77½	13.80/13.85	13.62½/13.77½	.....	13.87½/13.95	...	.....	...	.....	...	...
G.G.M. ,, ,, ,,	13.27½	13.20	13.35	12.60	13.90	...	14.35	12.20	12.20	...	...
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.22½/13.27½	13.20/13.10	13.35/13.22½	12.70/12.55	13.85	...	14.42½/14.22½	12.15	12.17½/12.12½	13.30	...
T.T.B.Sp.Stripes p.yd.,,	0.59/0.59¾	0.56/0.55¼	0.56¼/0.55½	0.60½/0.61¾	.....	0.58½	0.56	0.57¾	0.56/0.55	...	0.56

	T.m.c.	*T'm.c.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...₹ pc.	1.3.4	to 1.3.8
7lbs. ..... ,,	1.4.3	,, 1.5.6
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.1	,, 1.9.8
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. ..... ,,	2.2.0	,, 2.4.0
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.6.5	,, 2.8.5
Tun Sin ..... ,,	3.0.5	,, nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₹ pc.	1.5.8	,, 1.7.5
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.0	,, 1.8.5
64 ,, ... ,,	1.9.0	,, 2.0.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	**2.0.5**	**,, 2.1.8**
68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5
Best ..... ,,	2.8.0	,, 3.3.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...	3.3.5	,, 3.4.7
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs. ...	2.3.7	,, 2.5.2
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...	2.6.5	,, 2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs. ...	2.3.5	,, 2.4.0
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs...	1.8.0	,, 1.9.0
American ,, ,, nom. ...	2.7.5	,, ...
SHEETINGS—		
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs. ...	3.7.0	,, 3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs. ...	**2.8.5**	**,, 2.9.6**
T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.4	,, 1.2.2
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.3.0	,, 1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2.8	,, 1.3.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.4.1	,, 1.5.8
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.5	,, 1.8.5
Better kinds and XX	1.8.5	,, 2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in. ₹ dz.	0.4.8	,, 0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0	,, 0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₹ pc.	2.1.0	,, 2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0	,, 2.6.5

Brocades—White, 40 yds.	,,	2.2.0	,, 2.2.5
Dyed	,,	2.6.5	,, 2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds	,,	4.2.0	,, 4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings	,,	2.3.5	,, 2.6.0
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,, 1.4.5
Blue and Brown	,,	1.3.0	,, 1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.0	,, 1.4.0
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.		1.9.2½	,, ...
50/52 ,,		3.7.0	,, 4.9.0
T. Reds, 24 yds. 2¼ a 3 lbs. 32 in.	,,	1.7.0	,, 2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0	,, 2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	₩ yd.	0.1.8½	,, 0.1.9½
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3½	,, 0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,, 0.2.1
Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5	,, 0.0.6½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in.	₩ pc.	1.3.0	,, 1.4.0
41 in.	,,	1.4.5	,, 1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,, 0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S	,,	13.0.0	,, 13.7.5
G G	,,	13.2.5	,, ...
S S G	,,	13.2.0	,, ...
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5	,, 1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.5	,, 0.5.7½
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.7½	,, ...
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,, ...
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H	₩ pc.	6.9.5	,, ...
,, C P H	,,	6.9.5	,, ...
Assorted, H H	,,	6.6.0	,, ...
,, C P H	,,	6.7.0	,, 6.8.0
,, G G	,,	6.5.5	,, ...
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,, 12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds	,,	4.0.0	,, 8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.1.0	,, 3.4.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.5.0	,, 3.9.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,, 3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron.*—This week no sales have been reported, and quotations are nominally the same. *Lead.*—No alteration in the nature or extent of business, excepting that it be rather lower offers on the part of the natives, which have been rejected. *Tin.*—The article is lower again, and in no request. *Copper.*—Best *Slab* has been wanted at Tls. 18.50 per picul, but in the absence of supply no sales are recorded. At the close the demand is off, rather, and prices are weaker—say Tls. 18.30 *a* 18.40 per picul.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

	Tls. m. c.			Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER ..... per Pcl.	110.0.0 *a*		COTTON—Common New ..... per Pcl.	8.4.0 *a* 8.6.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10 ..... per Box	6.1.0 *a* 6.2.0		,, Medium ..... ,,	9.2.0 *a* 9.6.0
Small ,, ... ,,	....		,, Best ..... ,,	10.0.0 *a* 10.6.0
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ... nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5		SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom. ,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
18 ... no demand. ,,	7.0.0 *a*		,, 2 ..... ,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
19/23 ,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0		,, 3 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing ..... ,,	19.0.0 *a*		Canton, ... ,, 1 ..... ,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
Fok Chok .....nom. ... ,,	18.4.0 *a* 18.6.0		,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
Common Chops ... ,, ... ,,	13.7.0 *a*		,, 3 ..... ,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
STEEL ..... per Tub	3.5.0 *a* 3.6.0		Brown—Swatow, Best ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Bamboo ..... per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0		Common ... ,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ... ,,	..... *a*		,, —Canton, ... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Slab, best ... ,, ... ,,	..... *a* 18.5.0		,, — ,, Common ... ,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
Ore ..... ,, ... ,,	..... *a*		PEPPER—Black ..... ,,	8.5.0 *a* 8.6.0
HOOP IRON ..... ,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0		—White ..... ,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
PIG IRON ..... per Ton	25.0.0 *a* 26.0.0		RATTANS—Common ..... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
NAILROD IRON—			—Good to fine ..... ,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom. .....per Pcl.	3.0.0 *a* 3.1.0		—Best ..... ,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,, ... ,,	2.7.5 *a* 2.8.0		SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
Belgian ..... ,, ... ,,	2.3.0 *a* 2.3.5		5 ,, ,, & inf. ,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ... ,,	2.6.5 *a* 2.7.0		SANDALWOOD—South Sea ..... ,,	3.6.5 *a* 3.7.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ... ,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0		Timor ..... ,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Round ..... ,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0		Malabar ..... ,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom. ..... ,,	6.0.5 *a* 6.1.0		MANGROVE BARK ..... ,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ... ,,	... .. *a*		FLINT STONES, ... ,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.2

COTTON.—The settlements amount to about 1,000 piculs, for the South, at former prices.

EXCHANGE.—Business for the past week has been on a small scale, although sterling rates have advanced ¼d. all round and close firm at quotations. On India, transactions were reported early in the week at Rs. 307, and subsequently at Rs. 308 and 309. At the close there are sellers at Rs. 310. On Hongkong, rates have advanced to 27½ *a* 27⅝; very little doing, however.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—The advices from Hankow extend to the 19th, and we can now record the opening of the new season on the 12th. First musters were placed on the market on the 12th, and settlements were at once effected at Tls. 26½ for Oonahms, Tls. 29 *a* 30 for Yong Low Toongs, &c., and Ningchows at Tls. 40 *a* 48. An active business has since been done at high rates, and the competition of buyers for Russia seems to have been eager, at exceedingly high prices, as the subjoined statement will serve to show—

Prices paid :—	1875-76.		1874-1875.
For Ningchows ..... Tls.	32 *a* 63	against Tls.	36 *a* 54
,, Finest Oopacks ..... ,,	33 *a* 42½	,,	32 *a* 37
,, Other do. ..... ,,	24 *a* 32½	,,	24 *a* 31½
,, Oonahms ..... ,,	23½ *a* 32	,,	21¾ *a* 29½

No Teas from Shongsam had been shown.

Total settlements, 86,000 chests, stock 65,000 chests.

It will be seen that for finest parcels of all classes (more especially of Ningchows) an unheard of range of prices has been obtained.

The quality of the Teas so far is reported upon favourably, and some chops that have come under one notice are very choice indeed; but the average of samples is perhaps not superior to those of last season, and in the case of Ninchows we think all below the very best chops are inferior to those of last year.

The *Glenartney*, *Bengal*, *Fleurs Castle* and *Glenearn* were to have immediate despatch, and the *Deucalion* which left Woosung yesterday (the 21st) had a large quantity of the New Tea transferred to her.

HANKOW—May 19th 1875.—We have been favoured with a copy of Messrs. Gordon Bros.' Tea Report, which we reprint in full :—

We have to record a most unsatisfactory commencement of the season 1875×76.

The market has, before now, been opened after dark, likewise while scarcely 15 musters were on offer, but on the present occasion it may almost be said that both circumstances were combined, buyers operating during one of the heaviest rain storms experienced at the Port and with only 12 samples to select from.

Had prices been exceptionally cheap, buyers could not have been more eager to secure the Teas, unusually large Russian orders giving an extra stimulus to competition and causing each chop to be picked up at once on arrival at a rapid advance on opening rates.

The first musters, consisting of Teas from the Yung-Low-Toong and Sun-Yong districts were shewn on the 12th instant, and offers were at once made on the basis of last year's rates, the "Blue Riband" falling this season to Messrs. Major & Smith, who opened the market by purchasing "Chun-ga" 906 half-chests Low-Yong Tea at Tls. 26.5 per picul, or 1s. 8¾d. per lb., laid down in London. Messrs. Sassoon and Drysdale immediately followed suit at Tls. 29 *a* 30.50 for the Oopacks, the 12 chops on offer being placed before the evening.

The unfavorable weather experienced during the whole of last week delayed the arrival of the Tea boats, and consequently up to the evening of the 15th, only 40 musters of Hankow Teas had been placed on the market, the settlements shewing an advance of Tls. 1 *a* 2 on opening rates. On the 16th, large supplies came to hand, including Teas from Chong Sow Kai, the market for these being opened at Tls. 37.25 per picul, the same Tael cost as last year. Later purchases from this district at Tls. 30 *a* 33, we make fair value.

The first samples of Oanfaas were offered yesterday, and settlements reported at Tls. 35 *a* 36.50 per picul.

Ningchows.—Settlements have been almost entirely for Russia, as high as Tls. 63.5 being paid for finest chops, against Tls. 52 last year. Prices for other kinds vary from Tls. 32 *a* 61 per picul.

With regard to the quality of the crop we consider—

Oopacks.—*Sun Yongs*, *Chong Sow Kais.*—Strong, well made, and fine, good in water but inferior in leaf to last year. *Yung Low Toongs.*—Well made, but thin. *Hip Ka Si.*—Average.

Oanfaas.—The best are strong, full tone teas, a very marked improvement on last year.

Oonams.—*Ping Kongs.*—As last year. *Low Yongs.*—Rather better. *Lye Tings.*—Rough leaf, brighter infusion. *Wun Kai.*—Inferior.

Ningchows.—Finest equal to last year, good to fine decidedly inferior in every respect.

	Chests.	Half-Chests.	Boxes.	Ningchows & Ho Hows.
Business to date is as under :				
For England.....	16,350	67,270	2,250	12,310
,, Russia	13,180	30,740	430	41,420
Total	29,530	98,010	2,680	53,730

Total settlements to date, as compared with the first week of last season, amount to equivalent of—

1875×76. 1874×75.

56,730 chests ..... 32,860 chests for England.

49,360 ,, ... 25,000 ,, for Russia.

Settlements for Russia are greatly in excess of the same number of days last year, also business for England, although buying has not been general, prices for most descriptions being considered dangerously high.

With regard to prices paid for England at the commencement of the season, we consider all Teas under Tls. 28, Tls. 1 *a* 2 higher, and those over this figure on a par with last year. For Russia, prices are so irregular it is impossible to compare them.

Our market closes with a decided disposition on the part of Teamen to accept lower rates, but the first steamer being full, a very large decline ought to be established before prices reach a safe level.

FREIGHT.—The (s.) *Shanghai* took 1,000 tons Tea for the *Deucalion* at £4 5s. The *Glenartney* leaves to-morrow morning, and the *Bengal* is also full at £5.

EXCHANGE.—On London 6/0½ for credits ; 6/0¾ for documents.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 19th May, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 107 @ 112, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	10,899	11,650	6,600	47,050	2,300	6,150	4,900	250	...	500	2,455	...	...	3,800
T-Cloths..... ,,	8,525	4,360	7,960	20,800	5,250	10,380	6,820	100	...	...	700	...	...	4,460
White Shirtings ..... ,,	300	250	...	3,970	350	5,898	...	100	...	100	255	...	...	1,320
Drills ..... ,,	180	1,020	...	7,170	510	1,950	825	...	...	...	302	...	...	180
Jeans ..... ,,	100	...	...	920	330	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	740	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	150	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Spots, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	200	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	100	200	50	300	100	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	440	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Chintzes ..... ,,	...	60	60	435	...	300	...	...	680	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	50	...	...	800	850	120	307	...	...	...	400	...	...	560
Velvets ..... ,,	...	...	40	978	...	...	...	30	24	...	...	...	...	150
Velveteens..... ,,	...	...	24	168	...	...	72	...	20	...	...	...	...	72
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	200	800	700	1,400	...	...	...	200	200	...	...	...	...	30
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	100	200	...	...	...	...	2,820
Dimities ..... ,,	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	...	12	30	390	72	78	12	30	...	...	...	...	...	100
Medium and Broad Cloths..... ,,	...	18	18	72	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	228
Camlets ..... ,,	10	19	140	1,462	20	305	30	40	20	...	...	...	...	84
Long Ells ..... ,,	20	60	60	2,140	20	...	60	...	...	...	20	...	...	80
Lastings..... ,,	20	20	50	520	...	220	160	80	...	...	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings..... ,,	...	50	...	100	40	60	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	20
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	1,250	...	...	40
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	160	110	1,180	700	150	119	...	150	...	750	...	...	...
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	50	...	250	185	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	280
Iron—Nail Rod .....Pcls.	706	1,129	...	210	..	...	...	...	...	210	168	...	...	50
Pig Lead ..... ,,	1,098	126	465	184	...	..	...	365	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 21/5/74.
Grey Shirtings .....Pcs.	96,554	1,655,000	101,350	1,420,193	988,100	950,400
T-Cloths ..... ,,	69,355	1,010,992	54,640	589,694	184,300	678,400
White Shirtings..... ,,	12,543	278,806	23,583	288,591	85,600	51,900
Drills ..... ,,	12,137	223,366	17,310	133,210	153,800	394,000
Jeans ..... ,,	1,810	124,173	12,166	144,912	49,300	564,000
Sheetings..... ,,	740	27,980	10,900	41,000	14,700	34,800
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	300	16,905	5,359	28,742	14,700	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	149	497	2,479	2,800	2,341
,, Dyed..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	?	.....
Brocades, White ..... ,,	400	8,207	497	6,280	300	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	1,050	20,116	500	14,240	23,200	26,600
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	560	7,878	1,000	7,400	6,600	4,900
Chintzes ..... ,,	2,095	74,172	1,213	36,534	51,000	94,500
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	2,677	40,441	600	40,946	26,800	11,200
Velvets..... ,,	1,144	16,965	480	19,091	9,800	19,800
Velveteens ..... ,,	314	4,861	1,092	6,869	3,200	8,900
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	6,320	79,029	600	38,552	32,300	78,300
Muslins .....Pcs.	900	18,006	8,000	19,784	12,900	22,700
Dimities ..... ,,	300	9,500	200	2,530	7,800	8,700
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	852	17,742	1,598	17,894	10,900	27,600
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	226	8,260	206	8,931	11,100	19,500
Camlets ..... ,,	2,197	34,360	1,810	27,193	15,000	13,800
Long Ells..... ,,	2,440	29,300	1,860	27,180	6,900	14,100
Lastings ..... ,,	1,090	16,158	1,150	12,020	8,300	4,500
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	310	5,440	.....	3,319	7,000	2,200
Lustres, Plain..... ,,	1,300	7,050	550	7,559	4,600	12,600
,, Figured ..... ,,	3,599	67,330	4,673	29,024	90,200	14,100
,, Crape ..... ,,	635	9,540	2,250	6,489	18,100	10,700
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	2,238	39,302	.....	21,574	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,423	50,573	8	84,401	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Pera, Ægean, Lombardy, Russia, Deucalion, Glenearn, Antenor, Agamemnon, Hindostan, Galatea, Horriang, Craigforth, Djemnah* and *Anadyr*, several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

May 22, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—May 16th, British barque *Zephyrus*, from Cardiff.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—May 20th, American ship *Messenger*, for Guam; 21st, British steamer *Deucalion*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Anadyr* takes — bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅞d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¾d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 10d. *a* 5s. 10⅛d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.30. Private, Frs. 7.37½. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 309 *a* 310. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 309 *a* 310. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅝ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28⅛ *a* 28¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.25 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 22nd May:—

The Market continues dull with little business.

Banks.—No transactions reported. A limited number of shares could be placed at our quotation, but there are no sellers.

S. S. N. Co.—Some business was done, late on the 15th, at Tls. 71, and a private sale was reported to have been made at Tls. 72. Since that date a limited business has been done at Tls. 72 and latterly at Tls. 71.

Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs remain unchanged. In *Victorias*, no business transpired till the 19th, when purchases were made for Hongkong at $160, at which few shares are now to be got. *Chinas* remain steady at $142, but no business reported.

Marine Insurance.—Yangtszes were sold on the 19th at Tls. 550, cash in 15 days, and shares are now obtainable at Tls. 547 for cash. Buyers now offer Tls. 81 for *China & Japans*.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—Pressure to sell, in the absence of demand, resulted in a sale on the 18th, at Tls. 90, at which there are buyers.

Imperial Loan Bonds are wanted at £100—*cum interest*.

Some rain fell on Tuesday night, but the weather has since been fine and hot. The thermometer has ranged from 60 to 81.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	22 % dis.
Steamer Cos.			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	3 p. c.	Tls. 71
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 65
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T. 10 p. sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co.	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 139
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	76
H'kong and Chiun Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh	875
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 547
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 81
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	470
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	160 ex. 72
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	142
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	1 p. c.	90
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	104 noml.
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£100 Ex. 5/7
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			72⅝

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per M. B. str. *Niigata Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. Henry Wilson; 4 Chinese, and 2 Japanese in steerage. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. A. Bayley, Messrs. A. R. Marty, W. Glover, H. Blass, A. Lemmer; 3 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama—Mr. Aug. Thomas, Genl. Moorhead and servant; 4 Chinese in steerage. Per str. *Chihli*, for the North—Mr. Molesworth, Consular Constable at Chefoo, and Mr. W. Morris, prisoner. Per str. *Haining*, for Chefoo—Mrs. Maclean, and two Misses Maclean. For Tientsin—Mr. Murray Kennedy. Per str. *Deucalion*, for London—Mrs. Dow, Mrs. Goodwin and 3 children. Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Hiogo—Mrs. F. Gilman and child, Miss Williams, Miss Dyer. For Yokohama—Mrs. Smith, Messrs. F. Sutton, J. Bassel, E. Wennmohs, John Crofts, C. W. Lawrence. For New York—Rev. J. Wherry, wife and 4 children. For San Francisco—Mr. T. Coote, and Dr. Falding. Per str. *Dragon*, for Foochow—Dr. Stirling, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman, Messrs. Harvey Dunn, and Smith. For Hongkong—Mr. J. Kerr. Per str. *Ningpo*, for Hongkong—Mr. Huffam.

Arrived.—Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Yokohama—Mrs. Geo. R. Harrison, Messrs. W. White, J. Bisset and servant, H. Hugio and servant, Sterling, J. Samson, W. A. King; 5 Chinese. From Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cornabé, Messrs. C. Seman, G. Wada, C. Chevalier; 19 Chinese. From Nagasaki—Messrs. Fukewana, Hinnouroura, J. M. Cory, W. Johnston, C. V. Housman, A. Wyatt; 4 Japanese, and 20 Chinese. Per M. B. str. *Takasago Maru*, from Japan—Miss Klien, Messrs. Tilghman, J. Brown, Spahn, Shima, G. Booth, C. Delmar, E. Gardner, G. Simmons, C. Werner, A. Samuson, G. Lenck, W. Springer, Wee Ka-chy and servant; 1 Japanese lady, child and servant; 8 Chinese, and 1 Japanese in steerage. Per str. *Haining*, from Tientsin—Mr. Hatch; 40 Chinese. Per str. *Glengyle*, from Swatow—Mr. Nils Möller. From Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. Kep. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. W. Paterson; 97 Chinese. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—105 Chinese. Per str. *Yangtsze*, from Hongkong—76 Chinese. Per str. *Agamemnon*, from Hongkong—18 Chinese. Per str. *Fychow*, from Hankow—Mrs. Yankowsky and Mr. A. G. Wood. Per str. *Shingking*, from the North—Mrs. Glover, Miss Carroll, Dr. Dudgeon, Rev. C. P. Scott, Messrs. Howlden, and Knight. Per str. *Olympia*, from Swatow—39 Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—86 Chinese, and 1 European deck. Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Duff, and Mr. Wolff. Per M. M. str. *Djemnah*, from Marseilles—Messrs. Gouilland, Shervane, Johnson, Maitland, Skeggs, Roustan, Noel, Delaplace, Sisters MacCarthy, Galinde, Urzmor, San Vincent, Gabrielle, Louise, Julie, L'Abbe Coquet, L'Abbe Coquenguiot, L'Abbe Otal, Comte DeChapedelaine, Messrs. Armstrong, Gerard, Cottioux, Le Houeller. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Vickars and servant, Messrs. Coutts, Macleod, and Sortal and servant.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Anadyr*, for Hongkong—Miss Carrol, Hon. P. Ryrie, C. A. de Brito. For Saigon—Mr. Gès. For Singapore—Mr. C. Chevalier. For Marseilles—Dr. Dudgeon, Messrs. S. W. Galles, John Dent, N. N. Warrick, C. Lunan, R. E. P. Craven.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
May	″	°	°	°	°	°			
15	29.900	67.0	74.0	59.0	66.5	62.5	0	Z.	..
16	29.900	69.0	72.0	63.5	67.5	60.0	2	E. S. E.	..
17	29.902	70.5	83.0	65.0	71.0	66.5	0	Z.	..
18	30.050	71.0	81.5	63.5	72.0	68.5	0	Z.	..
19	30.000	74.0	82.0	67.5	74.5	66.5	2	West	..
20	29.954	72.0	85.5	64.5	72.5	70.5	0	Z.	.02
21	30.000	72.5	85.5	63.5	74.0	70.0	2	South	..

Explanation.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

PRICE of the *NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE*.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50; Three Months, 3.50;—*all payable in advance*. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum. Subscriptions will be considered as renewed, unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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30 Cornhill.
LONDON *(E.C.)*

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

The Union Marine Insurance Co. Limited.

CAPITAL—£824,000.

THE undersigned Agents for the above Company are prepared to issue policies at current rates.

SHAW BROTHERS & Co.

31ma 76 2863 Shanghai, 31st Mar., 1875

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 420. SHANGHAI, MAY 29, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₱ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Apr. 16	Hankow,	May 26
San Francisco,	„ 17	Yokohama,	„ 14
Hongkong,	May 24	Nagasaki,	„ 20
Tientsin,	„ 21	Foochow,	„ 26

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Mar. 11 } Received 17th April.
Shanghai, ... „ 5 }

BIRTH.

On the 11th April, at 9, Lynedoch-crescent, Glasgow, the wife of JOHN JARVIE of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 9th of April, in London, HERMANN AHLERS, formerly of Shanghai.

On the 24th March, at Clapham Common, near London, DANIEL HANBURY, F.R.S., F.L.S. Aged 49.

At 14, Suffolk-square, Cheltenham, Lieut. JOHN GEORGE FORMAN KERR, R.N., late of H.M.S. *Modeste*, second and sole surviving son of Vice-Admiral R. Kerr, aged 26 years.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Nanking*, from Hankow—The Right Rev. Bishop Williams, and Mr. A. M. Anderson. From Kiukiang—Mr. W. S. Fitz. From Chinkiang—Mr. A. E. Salter, and 1 French Missionary. Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—Mr. Gallighar. From Chefoo—Mr. Howe. Per str. *Oregonian*, from Yokohama—Messrs. T. Grose and servant, H. Shingio, A. E. Hippisley, A. Garcin and servant, and Sam Sing. From Hiogo—Mrs. Lang, child and servant, Mrs. Hall, son and infant, Messrs. Zawana, D. Matsa, Jno. Pitman, and H. P. Hansen. From Nagasaki—Mrs. Julland, 2 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lines, and Mr. Mitchell; 10 Chinese, and 2 Japanese. Per M. B. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. [illegible] and child, Dr. Kirkman, Messrs. Peters, Hartmans, Grösser, Nöetzl, Mathews, Ross, Peacock, Hunt, Ujegima, Johnson, Tung Lee, and Wing Sing; 3 Europeans, 4 Chinese, and 3 Japanese, in steerage. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong—1 European, saloon, and 2 deck; 62 Chinese. Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Mr. E. McLoughlin. Per str. *Taku*, from Tientsin—2 Europeans, in cabin, and 9 Chinese, deck. Per str. *Tunsin*, from Hankow—Messrs. Hollingworth and Dillon. Per P. & O. str. *Zambesi*, from Southampton—Messrs. W. Russell, and C. J. Bryant. From Bombay—Mr. P. Jourdan and native servant. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan, and Captain Haselwood; 93 Chinese.

DEPARTED.—Per M. B. str. *Takasago Maru*, for Hiogo—Mr. T. H. Bateman. For Yokohama—His Excellency Chevalier de Schaeffer and servant, and Mr. C. W. Lawrence. Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. Jalland and child, and Mr. J. F. Mitchell. For Hiogo—Rev. F. F. Gough, Mrs. Gough and three daughters, and Mr. A. F. Swany. For Yokohama—Bishop Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Fitz Henry and two children, Miss Remusat, Mr. and Mrs. Lemaire, Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan, Messrs. G. Bisset, F. Jones, L. P. Moller, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Kip and child. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan. For New York—Mrs. Knowlton and child, and Mr. C. J. Andrews.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. str. *Hindostan* for Hongkong—Miss Little. For Southampton—Mrs. Featherstone and Mr. David Ross.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
May	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
22	29.952	73.0	85.5	65.5	75.0	70.5	3	S. S. W.	..
23	29.900	74.5	83.5	69.0	74.0	67.0	6	E. S. E.	..
24	30.050	70.0	85.0	60.0	70.5	66.5	2	S. S. W.	..
25	30 000	74.0	90.0	67.0	77.0	64.0	6	S. S. W.	..
26	29.950	78.5	88 5	77.5	80.5	73.0	3	S. S. W.	..
27	30.000	79.5	88.5	74.5	80.0	73.5	5	S. W.	.01
28	29.802	80.5	88.5	75.5	83.0	77.0	8	S. S. W.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

CHINA:
1868 to 1872.

A RETROSPECT OF POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA during the Five Years 1868 to 1872.

For sale at office of "*North-China Herald*," and at Messrs. KELLY & Co.'s 1A, Canton Road. Price—$2.50.
tf 3052 Shanghai, Sept. 29th, 1873.

NOTICE.

A COPARTNERSHIP has This Day been formed between JOHN HEARD, AUGUSTINE HEARD, A— HEARD, and CHARLES EDWARD PARKER, for the purpose of carrying on the business of *General Commission Merchants* at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, Hiogo and Yokohama, under the name and style of HEARD & Co.

Mr. ROBERT INGLIS FEARON, Mr. GUSTAVUS FARLEY, Junr., and Mr. JOHN ALEXANDER FRASER are authorized to sign the name of the Firm.

HEARD & Co.
tf 3235 Shanghai, 28th April, 1875.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1875.

IT is to be feared we are not very much nearer a revised code of Land Regulations than we were in the spring of 1874. The Committee then appointed by the Ratepayers neglected the matter too long, and, taking it up within a few weeks only of the annual meeting, placed in the hands of the Ratepayers only 48 hours before that meeting, a code so greatly altered in form, and involving such marked changes in principle, that it was out of the question that it should be voted, or even discussed. If we were asked only to adopt bye-laws that could be changed next year if found impracticable, the case would be different; but Land Regulations are not easily altered. They have to be approved by the Consuls, and sanctioned by the Ministers, and endorsed by the Governments; and any change involves a renewal of the elaborate process. Careful consideration is needed before the adoption of permanent laws; and the subject very naturally

dropped when Mr. Iveson, the chairman of the Committee, had handed in their report. The Committee have not attempted to patch up or add to the old code, but offer a completely new one, which has at least the merit of being shorter and more intelligible. They have gone on the principle of laying down the bases of government in the Regulations, leaving all details to be dealt with in bye-laws, which it is proposed there should be power to enact locally, without reference to Peking. The present system, under which every trifling rule has to be sanctioned by a dozen Legations, is in the last degree inconvenient. The idea of putting as much as possible into bye-laws, which shall not need to go beyond the Treaty Consuls for sanction, is, therefore, a good one. But we can hardly say whether the Regulations are complete, until we have the bye-laws too; and, as it is unlikely the Ratepayers will be called together again before the autumn, to discuss the subject, it would be well to complete the new code by the addition of bye-laws, so that we have the whole thing before us at once.

As regards the code put forward by the Committee, some of the proposals appear good; others will be certainly opposed Articles III and IV contemplate a marked reduction in the qualifications for Elector and for Councillor, which require grave consideration. If it were merely a case of electoral privilege, there could be no word of dissent. But it is not so. The electors are also legislators, in Shanghai. They do noto as in other countries, elect men t constitute a legislative assembly. They are electors and members of parliament in one. They pass laws themselves, and only elect a government to administer them. The very reduction which is now proposed, was suggested at the time of passing the present Regulations, in 1869, when the objections to the proposal were summed up by Mr. F. B. Johnson, in terms which it may not be amiss to quote: Mr. Johnson; said "the constitution of the "municipality, as proposed to be amend-"ed, would be more democratic in "principle than any other in the world, "that he knew of. Elsewhere, the people "elected a constituent body who made "laws after mature deliberation; in "such a case he did not object to even "universal suffrage; but here the "Council had administrative, not legis-"lative functions. The electors them-"selves considered laws and voted "money at a hastily called public "meeting, without the sense of responsi-"bility which a representative assembly "would necessarily have. In fact, the "position was very similar to that which "might be imagined were all England "called together on Salisbury Plain, to "pass laws by acclamation. He thought "the qualification of Tls. 500 per "annum rental quite low enough." The reduction in the qualification of Councillor is perhaps not objectionable, but it is unnecessary, as is the increase in the number of Councillors from nine to twelve. Art. V proposes to restrict the amount of money which the Municipality shall raise on loan, to two years' income. But this is hardly a subject for legislation. It is one the money market may be left to decide. If we borrow too much, the rate of interest will soon be 18 instead of 8 per cent. Art. VI does away with the distinction between Foreign and Chinese house-tax, but arrives practically at the same result by making the rate 8 per cent on rentals below Tls. 300, and 6 per cent. on those above that sum. The result of putting it in this form is to make us accept the principle of taxing the poor higher than the rich. It would be better to retain the old distinction between Chinese and Foreign houses.—Neither do we see the advantage of altering the present principle of the land-tax. The maintenance of a proportion between the rate on land and that on houses is a practical and equally useful restriction; and unnecessary change is as objectionable as the maintenance of objectionable laws. Art. VII gives power to the Council to act for the suppression of any riot, but it is not worded with sufficient explicitness. The Council, for instance, did not understand it to give the power of initiative which was intended; and that mere fact is sufficient to condemn it; precision of language is above all things essential. Art. IX gives a necessary power in regard to expropriation of land, but is open to objection in detail. Art. XII brings within the scope of taxation foreigners residing without the Settlement, who have hitherto escaped taxation while deriving fuller use than other residents, of the roads and gas-lights which foreigners living within the Settlement are taxed to keep up. We have heard it urged in their behalf that they have also offices in town, and do pay taxes on those. But a man having offices in the Strand, is not exempt from taxation on his house in St. John's Wood.

The code contains in all only thirteen articles, against twenty-nine in the present Regulations; and it will be necessary to compare the two very carefully, to see that nothing essential to be embodied in the Regulations, has been let drop in revision. The Committee have no doubt done this; but the Ratepayers will hardly be justified in voting a new code, without satisfying themselves on the point. It is of course intended that a great portion of the missing articles shall subside into bye-laws; and a great deal of the contraction no doubt is attained by the exclusion of redundant verbiage. The proposed Regulations comprise some very good clauses, and we cordially agree with several of the Committee's remarks, notably with that objecting to the presence of Chinese tax-gatherers in the Settlements. We have noted some objections that occur to us, but we are not to be understood as undervaluing the code as a whole. The subject is one on which difference of opinion is certain to prevail. We hope that Ratepayers will give the matter their full consideration, and that time and opportunity will be found, in the autumn, to discuss and vote Regulations that will meet our requirements for many years to come. We rather regret to gather from the Council's memoranda that another code is impending over us, prepared by Mr Rennie with the aid of legal opinion in England. We do not want English legal opinion. We know better, ourselves, what we want, than the best European lawyer can tell us. We shall get technical phraseology which it will need a lawyer to interpret; whereas we want plain English which every Ratepayer can understand.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 16th April arrived on Thursday, by the P. & O. str. *Zambesi*.

The American mail of the 17th April arrived on Saturday, by the P. M. str. *Oregonian*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe by the P. & O. str. *Hindostan*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

The South Wales Strike is virtually terminated.

The King of Spain has authorized liberty of the press. Meetings preparatory to the Elections are being held.

The Liege Tribunal has dismissed the charge against Duchesne. The result has created a sensation at Berlin.

Frequent religious disturbances have taken place in Belgium. The Populace assaulting Pilgrims.

The Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company is unable to pay an interim dividend, owing to decrease in the receipts.

THE DERBY.

Galopin	First.
Claremont	Second.
Repentance	Third.

The French Municipal report for 1874-75 shows a credit balance of Tls. 43,000. It is proposed to expend nearly all this durin

the ensuing year on public works, but a reduction on taxation is also promised. While certain people in the English Settlement are crying out to tax the Chinese more heavily, the French policy is to lighten their burdens. It is not difficult to foresee what would be the relative effect on the value of property in the two Settlements, if the different policies were carried out.

The English Council meeting of the 19th May was little more than a formal one, for the transfer of responsibility from the old to the new Council.—While regretting that their resolution about an abatement of Mr Fogg's Land-tax was lost, the Council have of course no alternative but to collect the outstanding sum. As we have already remarked, we anticipate that steps will be taken to obviate this source of trouble in future.—Further consideration of the Land Regulations is to be deferred till Mr Rennie's report is received. Perhaps, as the matter has lapsed for the moment, it is well to have this document, as well as others, to lay before the Ratepayers when discussion is invited. We hope, however, that neither matter will be left over till next Spring. The annual meeting has enough to do with current business.

At the meeting of shareholders in the Victoria Fire Insurance Co. held in Hongkong on Monday, a resolution in favour of winding up the Company was carried *nem. con.*

The Supreme Court has been again occupied for two days this week, with the *Fusing* v. *Ocean* collision case. Judgment was delivered on Wednesday, to the effect that both vessels were in fault, and that the damage sustained by both, together with that occasioned to the cargo, be added together, and that half the damage be borne by each vessel.

An important case has been heard in the U.S. Consular Court. F. B. H. Jenkins, sued George D. Glover, Commissioner of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs at this port, to recover Tls. 6,687, the alleged contract price of 275 revolving rifles and 140,000 cartridges. Plaintiff alleged that the contract was made by him with a duly authorised officer of the Chinese Government, and that the arms were imported under a special permit from the Superintendent of Customs at Shanghai, but that on their arrival the agent of the said officer refused to take them. In April last, the plaintiff offered the arms and ammunition for sale by public auction, but the defendant was alleged to have stopped the sale, as being illegal and in violation of the treaty between the United States and China, signed on the 18th June, 1858. The hearing was confined to the question, raised by Mr. Wainewright, whether the defendant, as being a servant of the Chinese Government, and acting under its authority, was amenable to a Consular Court. Mr. Eames, for the plaintiff, contended that he was amenable, insomuch as it was not shown that he had not acted outside his instructions, and, further, that the arms, having been legally imported to the order of the Chinese Government, though afterwards refused by its officers, became disposable in the same way as ordinary merchandise. The Court decided in favour of defendant, holding that he was acting under instructions and was justified in his action. It seems to us that the Court carries its idea of the possible duties of a Commissioner of Customs, rather far.

A Flower Show has been held in the British Consular compound, and went off successfully. A full description will be found on another page. The Band of the *Audacious* was present, and the weather fine.

A Cricket match, between eleven of the Shanghai Cricket Club and eleven of H.B.M.'s Navy, was played on Wednesday, and resulted in a crushing victory for Shanghai in one innings.

A Spring Regatta was held on Wednesday, over the usual course, between Lindsay's Wharf and Boyd & Co.'s, Pootung. A full report is given on another page.

Monday, being the Queen's birthday, the various men-of-war and merchant vessels in the river were dressed with flags, presenting a very gay appearance.

We are glad to learn that the new Chehsien of Shanghai arrived yesterday, and [illegible] of Yeh, the late incumbent, will be a source of congratulation both to foreigners and Chinese. No magistrate who has held office here since Shanghai was a treaty port, has excited such a feeling of indignant dislike by the cruel tortures that have been often used in his Yamen; and in one case at least, that of the actor Yang Yeh-liu, his conduct was as unjust as brutal.

We hear that the Chinese Government have decided to appropriate the amount required to secure a representation of their produce, manufactures, &c., at the Philadelphia Exposition. The sum which is needed is about 40,000 Taels, and it is expected that for this they can make a better display than they did at Vienna. It is said that Hoo, Taotai of Hang-chow, will send on his own account about 10,000 Taels worth of silks, porcelains, &c.

A correspondent writes:—"I noticed, some days ago, a remark that we had no right by treaty to enter China except by the seaboard, so that, even if we had Burmah, we could not make use of it to trade with China. This erroneous idea should be corrected, as by the favored nation clause we can do as other Powers do, and by Art. 4 of the Russian treaty, it is agreed—'At all places along the frontier agreed upon in the first Article of this Convention, Russian and Chinese subjects may hold intercourse at pleasure. There shall not, in any case, be duties levied, and all frontier officers shall afford protection to merchants quietly carrying on trade.' Apart from the fact that we should hardly submit to such a restriction as that invented by the writer, we have here a clear treaty right. What trouble some people will take, to find reasons for "not doing it!"

The *Courier* learns that one of Mr. Margary's Chinese attendants has arrived at Hankow, having escaped death himself through being absent from Manwein on an errand, at the time of the murder. "He was told that the two Chinese with Mr. Margary at the time (his cook and a man he had brought with him from the Shanghai Consulate) fought desperately; the latter killing several of his opponents before he himself was overpowered. Margary was killed before he had time to strike a blow. After despatching him and his two attendants, the crowd proceeded to his lodgings, where they found the teacher and the boy, whom they literally cut in pieces. Of course they stole everything they could lay hands on. Our correspondent gathered this information from his teacher, who saw and talked with the man the morning he wrote to us. But we hear that the man is half silly from privation and suffering, and is as yet unable to give a very coherent account of his proceedings." He had begged his way to Hankow, hiding all through the day, and travelling only at night.

Within the past ten days, there have been several narrow escapes from fire within Chinese precincts, arising in every instance from the carelessness of the occupants of the houses. Of this it will be [illegible] late hour on a recent night, an alarm was given that a fire had broken out in a chow-chow house in the Shantung road. The cook, it appears, having put too much fuel in the stove, it blazed up and set fire to some woodwork close by. Running quickly up, the flames caught the roof, and had just broken through it, when a foreign member of the Police force luckily came up. The occupants of the house were making no efforts to stop the progress of the flames. The policeman at once set to work, and by the aid of some of the *women* of the neighbourhood, who carried water for him, he succeeded in extinguishing the fire, which in a few minutes would have been beyond control. Cannot the Chinese be made to feel the necessity of carefulness in regard to fire?—perhaps by way of penalty at the Mixed Court, in case gross carelessness is proved.

The gale of Thursday and Friday week is said to have been one of the most severe that has happened on this coast for a long time, and in the neighbourhood of the Saddle Islands it was felt with terrible intensity, involving much loss to native shipping and lamentable destruction of life. Mr. Snowden, the pilot concerning whose safety, and that of his crew, some anxiety was felt last week, came up the river on Saturday morning, having been weather-bound for several days among the islands. He reports that on the Friday he saw at one time three Ningpo boats bottom up, with several men clinging to the keels. At great risk he put out from his anchorage, and steered towards them in the hope of saving life. He succeeded at one time in getting close enough to see their features, but the sea was running so high and the wind so fierce, that it was equally impossible either to lower a boat, cast a rope to them, or steer the schooner near enough to take them on board, although he remained in their vicinity the entire day, experiencing the horror of seeing the unfortunate wretches

washed off one and two at a time, until all were drowned before his eyes. The scene was, he says, most agonising, but owing to the noise of the wind and sea, he was spared the additional pain of hearing their cries for help. Large quantities of junk wreckage were floating in the neighbourhood of both the False and North Saddles, betokening the force of the gale.

The brig *Georgina*, from Nagasaki, is on shore at the Block House spit. Lighters have been sent to her assistance. She has been sold at auction as she lies. The hull, &c., realized Tls. 720, and the cargo (coals) Tls. 140.

The steamers *Bengal* and *Glenartney*, from Hankow, are reported as having passed the Lightship on the 22nd instant. The *Bengal* passed the Red Buoy at eleven p.m., the *Glenartney* several hours in advance.

The mail steamer *Zambezi* passed the following tea steamers during the passage from Hongkong to this port—steamers *Bengal* and *Deucalion* below Amoy, an unknown steamer shortly afterwards, and the steamers *Fleurs Castle* and *Glenearn* Wednesday

port yesterday, went alongside the steamer *Antenor*, to discharge some 6,000 packages of tea.

The steamer *Fire Queen* brought down 4,700 packages of tea for transhipment to the P. & O. steamer *Hindostan*, which leaves to-morrow with the mails.

The M.B. str. *Kanagawa Maru* went on shore in the river above Half Way Point, and had to discharge cargo before she could be got afloat.

The German barque *Saturnus*, from Hamburg, having some 23,000 kegs of powder and ammunition on board, is berthed outside the lower limits of the Harbour.

The Chinese gunboat *Fau Paw* is alongside the Hongkew Wharf, taking in one ten-ton Krupp gun and several others of smaller calibre, for the forts near Ningpo.

We have received the March-April number of the *China Review*. It contains—1o. An interesting paper by Messrs. Bowra and Lister, entitled "The Last of the Chinese"—a sketch of some incidents in the Mongol invasion, and of the part taken by Wên Tien siang in resisting the invaders. 2o. A Chapter, which is apparently to be first of a series, on "the Folklore of China"; 3o. A further instalment of Mr. Allen's translations of "Tales from the Liao Chai Chih Yi;" and 4o. A continuation of Mr. Hutchinson's rather elaborated narrative of "Three Weeks' in the Interior." A short paper by Mr. E. H. Parker, on "the Hankow Dialect," and a poem entitled "The illness, death, and funeral obsequies of Mr. Locust," over the initials G. C. S., complete the number.

Our Tientsin correspondent calls attention to a memorial in the Peking *Gazette* of the 15th March, from the Governor of Yunnan, relating the arrival of Burmese Tribute-bearers at the provincial capital, during last March. This evidently is the Mission which preceded Col. Browne's party, and which is supposed, in India, to have pre-arranged the attack. What our correspondent notes about the changes of officials in Yunnan, is significant, and shows the error of delay. Nothing is more natural than that the Mandarins implicated should be removed out of sight; we suspect by the time the British officers arrive, there will be no one left to examine.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from Chinkeang, on the 26th May, 1875:—"There has been a moderate enquiry for Cotton goods since the date of our last. At the commencement of the week, the prospects of trade looked brighter, and an improvement in the demand was confidently anticipated; later on, however, the market again became inactive; it closes quiet at quotations. A fair business has been conducted in nailrod iron and Sandalwood. We also notice somewhat heavy clearances of Sugar."

A Chefoo correspondent writes that the Chinese have a rumour of the death of Tso Tsung-tang, the Viceroy of Kansuh, and lately appointed Special Commissioner for affairs in Turkestan. We have heard nothing of it otherwise, and mention it for what it may be worth. It is important, if true, as Tso was the only Chinese who could compare in power and influence with Li.

The vexed question of the Bund frontage came up for discussion again at Kiukiang, [illegible] Landrenters held on the 12th instant. It was resolved to leave the Municipal Council to make such terms as they think fit, provided these are not less than Tls. 500 per annum for 500 ft.—Tls. 100 per annum is to be charged for the privilege of attaching a pontoon to the Bund.—Bulk musters of the second chops first crop Tea will be here in a day or two. —Settlements since the 21st amount to three chops of Hohow at Tls. 26¼, Tls. 30½ and Tls. 34, respectively.—The s.s. *Lotus* is shortly expected from Hankow to fill up here.—Total settlements to date, 23,718 half-chests and 981 boxes. Stock, about 2,000 half-chests; shipped to Hankow, 111,083 half-chests and 596 boxes. Prices —Ning-chows, Tls. 34 *a* 55¼; Hohows, Tls. 26 *a* 34. Every probability of the crop being a large one.

A Hankow correspondent writes, on the 21st May:—We had a Lottery last night on the Ocean Steamers—

"Fleurs Castle," ...1st favorite.
"Hankow," .....2nd do.
"Glenartney," .....3rd do.

The "Glens" are much fancied, and the "Hankow" is being backed freely to make the fastest time from here to Gravesend. My favorite is the "Glenearn;" her public form is first rate, and I fancy she will give them all a dusting. She is, as the sailors say, a "heeler." —Messrs. Gordon Bros. write that there have been unusually large settlements, Buyers being so eager to secure the Teas that the stock never accumulates to over a few thousand packages. Prices have varied considerably, a few settlements shewing a decline of Tls. 2 *a* 3 per picul on opening rates, while a large proportion of the others exhibit a like advance.

For England all classes of Tea have been sought after, but more especially Oanfaa kinds at Tls. 26 *a* 30 for good to fine, and Tls. 31 *a* 38.25 for finest, the latter being the price paid for "Sin Chong," commonly known as the "Monarch of Oanfaa." As high as Tls. 41 per picul has been given by Russian Buyers for several chops of exceptional quality from this district. Further acquaintance with the Oanfaas confirm us in our opinion that they are vastly superior to last season, although not as good as we have known them in former years. Chong-Sow-Kai teas have also been in favor at Tls. 30 *a* 33 for second, and Tls. 26 *a* 29 for third chops. Seangtam kinds hung fire for several days after their arrival, but our market has since then been quite cleared at Tls. 20 *a* 22.5 per picul, or 1/4 *a* 1/5½ per lb. laid down in London. The Teas are better than last season, but the prices paid appear to us extreme value.

For Russia the demand has run chiefly on fine to finest Teas from the Ningchow, Oopack and Oanfaa districts together with common Seangtam kinds. Finest chops have been eagerly competed for, and the highest prices on record have been paid, say for

Ningchows	Tls.	32 *a* 63.5
Oopacks	,,	32 *a* 43
Oanfaas	,,	32 *a* 41
Seangtams	,,	19 *a* 22.5

Opinions regarding the crop vary, several connoisseurs considering the Teas to be the best and cheapest known for years, while others (probably the majority), agree with us in thinking the Teas from several of the Hankow districts rather superior in quality, but fail to see the comparative cheapness; 184,560 chests have been bought, against 136,220 last year. The export to date is 9,720,805-lbs. against 2,600,000 in each of the previous years. The departures for London are as under:—

May 20,	"Glenartney"	2,255,953 lbs.
,, 21,	"Bengal"	2,047,227 ,,
,, 23,	"Fleurs Castle"	2,645,221 ,,
,, 24,	"Glenearn"	2,244,967 ,,

The *Lotus*, *Gordon Castle* and *Glenfalloch* are loading for London at £4.17s., and the *Hankow* at £3.15s. The *Strasburg* is nearly full, but her destination has not transpired. The *Russia* loads for Odessa at £5.10s. The through rate of Freight to London by P. & O. is £4.15s., and by Holt's line £4 per ton of 40 feet.

The Foochow tea market was not opened on the 26th instant; but a good many Pehlings had been taken—at a price to be fixed when that event came off. Arrivals of Congou amounted to about 80,000 chests. Russian buyers were reported to have made full offers for some of the teas from the Fokoan district.

Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s Canton Market Report, dated 20th May says:—

During the past fortnight a fair business has been passing in Tea, and as anticipated in last report, Teamen have had to submit to reduced rates, especially for Scented Capers. Scenting flower has not been very abundant, and high prices have had to be paid, so that sellers of Scented Teas have in many cases arranged for an extended time for delivery, in the hopes of cheaper flowers, and immediate shipments are in consequence curtailed. The steamer *Nestor*, which sailed from Hongkong for London on the 14th instant, took some quantity of tea, but particulars have not yet been circulated.

About 30 bales of New Silk have arrived on this market, but as yet no settlements are reported to have taken place. $330 per picul or 12/3d. per lb. is asked in the country for "Kowkong" No. 4 Tsatlee. The quantity of the New Crop is decidedly fair, and an improvement on the corresponding yield last season, and as the weather has been dry of late, less than the ordinary amount of moisture in the thread may be looked for. Before departure of next French mail, several hundred bales will likely be in stock, and doubtless some shipments will be made by that opportunity. We are not in a position to furnish quotations for any classification of staple, but $320 *a* $325 per picul is talked of as the probable opening price for No. 4 quality. Parsees are said to have purchased 60 piculs (chiefly old Silk) for shipment to India.

Editorial Selections.

THE BLOCKADE OF HONGKONG.

If the Earl of Carnarvon's dispatch, with regard to the Blockade by the Chinese cruisers of the harbour of Hongkong, is to be accepted as an indication of the policy intended to be pursued by Her Majesty's present advisers, can we only express our deep regret at the conclusion they have arrived at. From various quarters, from the Premier's lips, and from sentences let drop by various members of the Ministry, we have heard laudatory expressions with regard to the present British Minister in China. Lord Carnarvon goes further than his colleagues, and tells us plainly that, for many of the difficulties under which the trade of Hongkong is made to suffer, the advice given by Mr. Wade and Sir Brooke Robertson is mainly answerable. We are not going to enter into a tirade against Mr. Wade's policy in China. We have stated our opinion, frequently and strongly, that it is a mistaken one, and that it has not in the past been calculated to gain us respect, nor in the future profit. So long as it seemed possible that Mr. Wade was acting under the compulsion of his own Government, all reasonable men in China were willing to give him credit for being pressed into a line of conduct to which he might personally be opposed—although surprise was felt that his advice, in that case, could have had so little influence. Lord Carnarvon's despatch, however, seems to place him in a different light, as not the instrument but the originator of a policy detrimental to national interests and national prestige. The report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the Blockade question has been held back from publication so long, that it seemed as if it were destined to lie on the same shelf with "bayonet-ploughed" memorials, Woosung Bar enunciations, and the other medley of curious and entertaining misstatements which have by back ways found an entrance into the archives of the Foreign Office. Lord Carnarvon, in this report, more regardful of the interests of those under his department than his colleagues, has at last permitted the document to see the light. It is difficult, after a perusal of its clear statements, to comprehend the position finally adopted by the Colonial Minister. His own hesitancy is marked. It is evident that the strength of the case made out by the memorialists had really convinced Lord Carnarvon of the impolicy of permitting the present state of affairs to continue; but that, out of deference to his colleagues, he was forced at last to submit, and that, to cover this submission, he produced the very curious but unconvincing argument submitted in his dispatch. With the statements adopted therein, we are only too familiar. They crop up from time to time in such documents as Customs' Reports, and we have known them, in at least two instances, to have found their way by irregular channels to Her Majesty's Foreign Office. When, at the time of the attempted revising of the Treaty of Tientsin, Sir Rutherford Alcock was directed by the then Government to place himself in communication with the Tsung-li-yamên, we have his own words for the fact that, Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Foreign Maritime Customs, having offered his services as an intermediary, those services were accepted. The Foreign Office has never made public the very curious dispatches to which this strange method of carrying on diplomatic relations led. They were no less curious, and no less edifying, than those by accident disclosed with regard to the entrance to the Yangtsze and the Trade of Shanghai. Yet they seem to have been accepted gravely as matters of fact, and to have had far more weight attached to them than to the published memorials from merchants and others, whose refutation, were their statements false or exaggerated, was inevitable. Were the trade of Shanghai, owing to the obstructiveness of the Chinese Government in not dredging the Woosung bar, really in the moribund condition depicted in the now published memorial to which Mr. Hart's name is attached, we can imagine the incalculable amount of mischief likely to be done by the acceptance, without enquiry, of such a document. Yet the possession of that document was carefully guarded by the Foreign Office; and we do not know that the misstatements, ridiculous as they are when examined by the light of facts, ever excited a word of question on the part of the British Minister or the Foreign Office. How many more documents of similar nature have been placed before Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to enable him to form a judgment on Chinese affairs, we are of course unable to conjecture. The family likeness, however, running through the few despatches we are permitted, or contrive, to see, leads us to suppose that they are neither few nor far between. The very secrecy in which they are shrouded, adds weight to our suspicions that Her Majesty's advisers see Chinese matters, not with their own, but with other peoples' eyes. We have wandered rather from our original point—the Blockade of Hongkong; but the despatch of Lord Carnarvon is so intimately in accord with the whole tenor of what has been lately accepted by the Government, that we could not enter on the special subject without some previous commentary on the entire question.

II.

It is difficult to understand how so clear and straightforward a document as the Report of the Commission on the Blockade of Hongkong has failed to convince Her Majesty's Government of the importance of the case at issue. Thanks to Lord Carnarvon's care for the interests of those confided to his department, we are in possession of that document, but we are kept studiously in the dark as to the arguments on the other side which seem to have had sufficient weight with the Foreign Office to ensure its practical rejection. From Lord Carnarvon's dispatch we can, however, form some idea of these arguments, and their acceptance appears to be a deliberate abandonment of the policy which has hitherto actuated Great Britain in her policy in the East. It is assumed that China is a country possessing revenue laws; that these revenue laws have a tangible existence; that we are therefore called upon to respect them, and that any interference with the collections of a Chinese official really amounts to an act of smuggling. This is in point of fact giving up the very question to settle which two wars have already been found necessary. The Treaty of Nanking is a witness of how very far China Article X. reads, "His Majesty, the Emperor of China, agrees to establish at all the ports which are by the second article of this treaty to be thrown open for the resort of British merchants, a fair and regular tariff of export and import customs and other dues, which tariff shall be publicly notified and promulgated for general information; and the Emperor further adds that, when British merchandise shall have once paid at any of the said ports the regulated customs and dues agreeable to the tariff to be hereafter fixed, such merchandise may be conveyed to any province or city in the interior of China, on paying a further amount as transit dues which shall not exceed ——." Sixteen years after, so little had the Chinese Government attended to its compact with regard to revenue laws, that the following clause had to be introduced into the treaty of Tientsin :— "Whereas it was agreed in Article X. of the treaty of Nanking, that British imports, having paid the tariff duties, should be conveyed into the interior free of all further charges, except a transit duty, the amount whereof was not to exceed a certain percentage on tariff value; and whereas no accurate information having been furnished of the amount of such duty, British Merchants have constantly complained that duties were suddenly and arbitrarily imposed by the provincial authorities as transit duties upon produce on its way to the foreign market, and on imports on their way to the interior, to the detriment of trade; it is agreed that, within four months from the signing of this treaty, at all ports now open to British trade * * the authority appointed to superintend the collection of duties shall be obliged upon application of the Consul to declare the amount of duties leviable, &c." Seventeen years have again elapsed since it was found necessary to

introduce such a clause in a solemn compact, and we may turn to the Report of the Blockade commission, to learn what progress has been made by China towards establishing revenue laws. It is notorious that, in the province of Kwangtung, containing as it does two ports actually opened under treaty and one, the opening of which though promised by the treaty of Tientsin the Chinese Government has continued to keep closed to the present day, not one package of goods has been sent into the interior, nor exported therefrom under this provision of the treaty. Spain is a country scarcely to be held up for the admiration of the world, and, doubtless, Lord Carnarvon thought that in making our position with regard to it a crucial test in this matter of China, he was propounding an unanswerable argument. Spain, however, has some revenue laws, and at least is blessed with a fixed tariff. The revenue officer at Tarifa would scarcely, even under existing circumstances, feel it consistent with his position to stop vessels proceeding to Xeres and indefinable tax. If Gibraltar were, as Hongkong is, a centre of British trade, and Spanish officers were to indulge in those excentricities, it is unlikely that the circumstance would be permitted to pass unnoticed. The situation in China is not now very different from what it was when our first war became necessary. It is only necessary for an officer to discover that he can levy exactions with impunity, to ensure his doing so. The government is impecunious and rapacious. It has no settled system of revenue, but calls on its officers to pay up certain sums in consideration of their offices. The latter apply the same rule to their inferiors, and these in turn to the trade over which they can exercise control. It is simply the good old rule "That he should take who has the power, and he should keep who can." If breaking such a rule as this be an act of smuggling, then all the native trade of China is smuggling. It is notorious that, along certain lines, competition actually exists amongst the mandarins to induce cargo to travel by their route. It is thus that the import of opium at Swatow has increased three-fold, at the expense of Amoy, Foochow, and even Ningpo. It would be as reasonable to call the increased import at Swatow smuggling, as to apply that opprobrious name to the native trade from Hongkong. The old custom of the empire has never required that such vessels as leave the colony should go to Canton to effect a clearance. Such a course is contrary to all native precedent, which, if it indeed delivers the traders tied and bound into the hands of every petty tax-collector, leaves him free to make his best arrangement when there. Did the payment of duty to the Canton authorities in any respect do away with the liability of the trader to the other duties, we could understand in some degree Lord Carnarvon's argument. We could comprehend even some attempt at a compromise, such as that payment of the duty at Canton should entitle the goods to be delivered anywhere in the empire on the additional payment of the transit rate as per Treaty. As it stands, an official at Canton levies arbitrary exactions on the trade of the Colony, and these exactions afford no guarantee that after he has taken his squeeze, the same process will not be repeated again and again by every official into whose power the unfortunate trader may pass. Twice, as we have said, we have had to make those exactions matter of treaty, because if we neglect them trade becomes a matter of impossibility. It augurs little for the practical experience of those intrusted with British interests, that a third time they should have to be reminded of the conditions which twice before made commercial intercourse with China practically impossible.

THE FRENCH MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

The French Municipal Report is a marvel of terseness and lucidity, covering only 2½ pages; but details are supplied by a reprint of the Minutes of Council Meetings, and these are so clearly written and well-arranged that it is quite unnecessary to go over the ground again. The Report discloses a state of affairs which must be highly gratifying to the Ratepayers. Drainage has been extended; an iron bridge has been procured for the Yang-king-pang (opposite Honan Road); gratuitous concessions and purchases of land have been arranged for the purpose of widening sundry streets; the Yang-king-pang Bund has been nearly remade, and still the Council are able to effect a large reduction of taxation. Chinese houses are to be taxed to the extent only of Tls. 15,000 in 1875 6, against Tls. 18,736 levied in 1874-5; and only Tls. 8,000 is to be raised as a Nuisance and Lighting rate, instead of Tls. 9,144 raised last year.

We understand that an Assessment Committee, comprising 4 Municipal Councillors and several foreign landholders, assisted by some Natives having large interests in the Concession, is now sitting. The result of their revision will permit the Council to take definite steps for the contemplated reduction. When the commission has finished its work, either the percentage will be reduced, or the taxes collected on valuation will be fixed under the real valuation ascertained by the commission. At any rate the Council contemplates to diminish the taxes progressively, every year, till they are in proportion with the Municipal wants, and expects this year to waive the collection of about Tls. 4,000 *a* 5,000.

The following précis exhibits clearly the state of the finances.

	Tls.
Credit Balance on the 1st April, 1874	34,627.54
Estimated Revenue for 1874-75	81,600.00
	116,227.54
Actual receipts	84,850.03
Balance on the 1st April, 1874	34,627.54
	119,477.57
Expenditure	75,633.51
Balance on 31st March, 1875	43,844.06

But public works involving Tls. 13,000 of this sum are already entered upon.

No wonder the Council congratulate themselves that their financial task has been an easy one:—

"The increasing prosperity of the Municipal finances has enabled them give a great impulse to public works and to think at the same time of reducing the charges on the community. If the sources of this prosperity are sought, experience proves that they have their origin in the simplicity and therefore economy of the system of Municipal Administration, and in the productive power of the Concession in the matter of finances."

Referring to the riot which occurred during their term of office, the Council remark:—

"The Council is convinced that the immorality of the triumph of violence will not be consecrated, and it is with confidence that the cause has been confided to the French Legation at Peking. It is its support, time, and patience that must be relied on for the re-entry of the Municipality in its rights of roadway over the Rues de Ningpo and Saigon, which have been so far recognised as well-established by M. de Geofroy, Minister of France at Peking, after reading the memorial which the Council addressed to him."

The Council go on to regret that, for the first time in its existence, good understanding with the English Council has been disturbed. The most serious difference, resulting from the wish of the latter to have the French Bund retired, where it had encroached on the Yang-king-pang, has been settled by the recommendation of the arbitrators that the *statu quo* be maintained. The other matter, which is not mentioned in the report, is of course the relative share to be borne in the cost of bridges over the Yang-king-pang. As the English Council have declined to submit this to arbitration, there seems no chance of its being so easily settled. The income for 1875-6 is estimated, including the balance of Tls. 43,000 in hand, at Tls. 127,374; and the expenditure at Tls. 120,360, which would leave a balance of Tls. 7,014 on the 31st March, 1876. The expenditure is divided into three heads,—Secretariat, Tls. 33,601; Public Works, Tls. 54,025; Police, Tls. 32,734. These figures exhibit an increase, in each case, over the expenditure for 1874-5; the most marked being in Public Works, on which only Tls. 18,000 were spent last year, out of Tls. 30,000 allotted. Practically, the large balance has greatly accrued because the expenditure on Public Works has been slight, and it is to be reduced now to a normal level by making up for lost time.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

I once more, with your permission, presume to lay before the British public a few observations respecting the intended investigation into the assassination of Mr. Margary and his servants in the province

of Yunnan, and which I trust your readers will at this moment deem acceptable.

Mr. Margary, on his making the journey through China from east to west, stayed some days—report says a week, at the town of Manwein; and was entertained by the Chinese civil authority of that place; Mr. Margary having been furnished with a passport, which was drawn up in the English and Chinese languages, and which bore the seals of Great Britain and China; and being besides furnished with despatches from the Tsung li-yamên, at the desire of Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's Envoy, to the provincial authorities on the route. The Chinese functionaries at Manwein were thus well aware that Mr. Margary was a British subject, and a British officer, travelling in the Empire of China by the written permission of the Chinese Imperial Government; and that it was consequently their duty as stated in the passports, to protect and aid him while on the journey within their jurisdiction. Consequently, on Mr. Margary's second appearance in Manwein, and still provided with a passport and despatches as before, the local authorities were fully cognizant of his nationality, and of his position as a British officer; and as the inhabitants of the place had already seen him holding official intercourse with their authorities on his first coming to Manwein, they also, most undoubtedly, were perfectly cognizant of his nationality, and of his rank; for the Chinese people have the habit of asking for information [illegible] points on seeing Foreigners; and, consequently, when Mr. Margary was assassinated at Manwein, both the Chinese functionaries and the Chinese people of the place were aware that a British subject, and a British officer, was being assassinated.

The civil authority of the town of Manwein is a Foo-sze, or native magistrate, and the military officer stationed there will be found to be of the rank of a Major in the Imperial service. The chief civil functionary at Tăng-yuĕ (Momein) holds the rank of Sub-Prefect, and, from the Chinese Red Book I learn he is named Fang kwei-fang (方桂芳) and is a native of Anhwuy province, (a native of the same province as Li Hung-chang, and, I think, also as Pwan Ting-sin, the Fantae of Yunnan). The chief military authority at Tăng-yuĕ holds the rank of Major-General, is named Le Wei-shuh (李維述) and is a native of Yunnan province. From the accounts we have before us, it is shewn that the town of Manwein lies only a short day's journey, some 7 or 8 miles, from the garrison town of 盞達, written by Du Halde, *San-ta-fu;* by D'Anville, *Santa;* in the "Middle Kingdom," *Tsan-tah;* and by the Sladen Expedition *Sanda*. I will write the name, however, *Chan-tah*, as given in Williams' New Dictionary. Chan-tah appears to be a fortified place, and, of course, contains a suitable garrison, and lies on the route by the Tee-pe Pass from Bhamo to Tăng-yuĕ. The soldiers who attacked Colonel Browne's party, were no doubt drawn from the garrisons of the fortified town of Chan-tah and of the city of Tăng-yuĕ. The commandant of the Imperial troops in the Tăng-yuĕ region holds the rank of Tsung-ping, or Major-General, and is named, as said above, Le Wei-shuh. General Margary, in his letter to the *Times*, alludes to the Chinese troops who attacked Colonel Browne's party, "as being commanded by the nephew of Lee See-hie." Le Wei-shuh and Lee See-hie may be the same general under different names.

It is, under all these circumstances then, of great importance for the strict and just carrying out of the investigations, that an official of high rank be appointed by the Central Government of China to go to Yunnan with the British officers, *to aid them in every way possible, by his superior standing in the Imperial service, and by his being unconnected, as a provincial official, with the local provincial authorities of that part of Yunnan where the outrage was perpetrated, to obtain the actual facts regarding the assassination, so that the British officers may later have no doubts left on their minds as to who are the guilty parties.* I have in my former letters already pointed out that Sung Paou-hwa, the officer selected by H. E. Li Hung-chang to go with the two British officers in the Yunnan Commission, is not a proper man for the important business of investigation, in consequence of his subordinate standing as a Chinese officer giving him no authority over the Yunnan officials; for even the civil functionary of Tăng-yuĕ (Momein) is of higher standing, being a Sub-Prefect, than the officer selected by Li Hung-chang; and if the accounts we have received be true that the head of Mr. Margary was exposed over the gate of Tăng-yuĕ (Momein), the chief civil functionary of Tăng-yuĕ is assuredly a guilty party; and according to Chinese law must be interrogated, together with all his people, in regard to the assassination of Mr. Margary and his servants.

We have, then, reason to take it for granted that the Sub Prefect of Tăng-yuĕ, the Major-General of the Imperial forces in the Tăng yuĕ region, and the subordinate officers of these two men, are concerned in the assassination and in the attack on Colonel Browne and his party. [illegible] the province of Yunnan are, we are perfectly aware, the subordinates of the Governor of the province of Yunnan; and in all ordinary cases, we should look to him alone to investigate his provincial affairs and do justice. The present affair is, however, an extraordinary one, and we cannot depend altogether upon his judgment in settling it. Hence, the British public has yet to learn who has been deputed by the Central Government *to try judicially these civil officials and military officers of the province of Yunnan*; for we trust we shall not in the end have to come to the conclusion that the nominee of H. E. Li Hung-chang, Sung Paou-wha, is the official deputed for that purpose. According to the British Treaty with China, Chinese are tried by the Chinese territorial authorities of the place in which they have been guilty of any outrage on British subjects; but this language refers to the Chinese people alone, and not to Chinese officials. The British officers deputed by Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's Envoy, to go to Yunnan, proceed there, as we may say, to watch the proceedings of the Court; to put interrogatories to the parties under examination, in order to obtain satisfactory information for Her Majesty's Government; to point out to the judge of the Court parties whom they wish to be examined; *and finally to obtain justice for the assassination of Mr. Margary and his servants, and for the attack on Colonel Browne and his party.* After the massacre at Tientsin, the Central Government *at once* deputed high officials from Peking and other places, and not holding territorial positions in the province, to go to Tientsin. It appears then, to my humble judgment, only right that we should demand that the Central Government deputes a high official to proceed from Peking to Yunnan, to try the guilty parties.

In a friendly spirit, I will now sincerely and earnestly urge upon the Central Government of China to act with promptitude in this affair, and with all sincerity and justice to settle it; for they may rest assured that the British people are determined to have justice; and should the British Government, in the end, become convinced that the Government of China is endeavouring to evade doing strict justice, Prince Kung and the Ministers generally may be assured that the hour will soon arrive when England will, like Macduff, exclaim "My voice is in my sword." China will lose a staunch ally in Great Britain, in her approaching troubles from the West—Kashgar and Eastern Turkestan.

11th May.

Yesterday morning, about half-past nine o'clock, H. E. Li Hung-chang came to the mercantile establishment of the C. M. S. N. Company, situated in this Settlement, and after staying there for a quarter of an hour, went on board the C. M. S. N. Co.'s new str. *Yehsin* and inspected her, this being her first trip to Tientsin from Shanghai, since her arrival from England. He remained on board for about half-an-hour, after which he proceeded in his sedan to the lately erected granaries of the Grain Transport Service, situated near the Rampart Forts, about six hundred yards below the British Settlement. He stayed there for a quarter of an hour, after which he returned to the city in his steam-launch, which towed a gig conveying some of his people. His Excellency was accompanied in his inspection of the steamer and the new granaries by General Chin, the Commandant of the Tientsin garrison; by Woo, the Territorial Taotai; by Sun, the Customs' Taotai; by Chao, the Salt Taotai; by Ma, the Prefect (Che-foo) of Tientsin foo; by Yin, the Magistrate (Che-hsien) of Tientsin; and by Chao, the Taotai of the Grain Transport Service, besides a host of petty mandarins: and [illegible] on his Excellency reaching the granaries, the Chinese gunboat manned yards and fired a salute of three guns. On his departure in his steam-launch, this was repeated.

In my last I mentioned that we had received tidings here that an insurrection had broken out in Manchuria, and that the Governor-General of this province had received instructions from the Central Government to send troops as soon as possible to the disturbed region. To-day, General Chin, the Commandant of the garrison at Tientsin, inspected a regiment of foot soldiers—one thousand strong in rank and file, besides officers; a regiment of cavalry—five hundred strong in troops, besides officers; and a battery of artillery; and paid them one month's pay in advance. These troops will leave here on the 23rd instant for Newchwang—the foot soldiers going by sea, and the cavalry and artillery going by land, *viâ* the Shan-hae Pass. The men are all natives of the province of Chihli, and drilled after the Foreign fashion.

The weather may be now called warm, the thermometer at daylight standing at from 60° to 65° Fahrenheit, and rising during the day to 85° Fahrenheit. The country around has within the last few days assumed a green colour, yet we are still much in want of rain for the benefit of the crops, as the ground is very dry.

18th May.

When at dinner yesterday evening, the Peking *Gazettes* of 15th and 16th May came to hand. In the first there is a long memorial—in fact the whole *Gazette* is filled with the memorial and its supplement—by Chin Yuh-ying, in his double capacity of Acting Governor-General (Tsung-tuh) of Yunnan and Kweichow provinces, and Governor (Suan-foo) of Yunnan, on the tribute sent by Mung Tun, the King of Burmah, to the Sovereign of China. There is no date appended to this State paper, to show when it was penned by Chin Yuh-ying; but in the memorial itself it is mentioned that the Burmese tribute party crossed the borders of the prefecture of Tăng-yuĕ (Momien) on the 22nd January, and arrived at the capital city of Yunnan on the 9th and 22nd March; thus the memorial must have been penned after the latter date, and consequently after the assassination of Mr. Margary at Manwien on the 21st February.

As far as I could gather from the short examination of the memorial and supplements (which I may mention I despatched that evening to Shanghai), the following mandarins at the places mentioned held office at the time of Mr. Margary's murder :—

At Yunnan city—the capital of the province—Chin Yuh-ying (岑毓英) the Governor of Yunnan and the Acting Governor-General of Yunnan and Kweichow provinces.

Also at the capital, Pwan Ting-sin, (潘鼎新) the Fantae or Provincial Commissioner of Finances and the functionary next in rank to the Governor Chin Yuh-ying.

At Yung-chang-foo (永昌府), within which Momien is situated, and 64 miles English from it, Choo Pih-mei (朱百梅) the Prefect of Yung-chang-foo, which is 448 miles from Yunnan, the capital.

At Tāng-yuē (Momein) (騰越)— miles from Manwein, Woo Ke-leang (吳啟亮) *Acting* Sub-prefect of Tāng-yuē-ting.

At Tâng-yue (Momein) Tseang Tung-han, (蔣宗漢) *Acting* Tsung-ping, or General of the Imperial forces within the Tang-yue sub-prefecture (騰越廳).

In the Tang-yue sub-prefecture, under the command of General Tseang Tsung-han, (蔣宗漢) and Lieutenant Chin Weitung (陳偉同).

In the Red Book published for the spring of this year, and which I obtained this forenoon, I find a Mandarin named Sung Teh-ke (宋德基) given as sub-prefect of Tâng-yue (Momein), and a Mandarin named Yang Shing-tsung 楊盛宗 as Tsung-ping or General of the Imperial forces at Tâng-yue. From these differences between the Peking *Gazette* and Red Book, it would appear that a change of the officials has lately taken place. In the districts and prefectures all round Tang-yue (Momien), the supplement to the memorial of Chin-yuh-ying, found at the end of the Peking *Gazette* of the 16th May, testifies to a number of changes having been made amongst the territorial functionaries at these places. This action on the part of the Chinese Government at this moment, strikes me very forcibly as being worthy of the consideration of Her Majesty's Minister.

I am particular in remarking upon all these matters, as it is of great importance that the British officers should know beforehand, who were the Chinese officials who actually held office at the abovementioned places when Mr. Margary was assassinated. The British officers should, as early as possible, have an accurate memo. of all the officials of the abovenamed places, for reference when the investigations are going on, in order to call upon the judge of the Court to examine everyone of them.

I have no additional information to send to you from the North of China, in the way of further direct proceedings on the part of the Chinese Government for investigating into the assassination of Mr. Margary in Yunnan. At present, all eyes are directed upon Mr. Wade, Her Majesty's Minister, anxious to learn and to see what steps he will take in the Margary affair. Time, we are all well aware, will cause the wearing away and the disappearance even of a granite stone ; what then must it not be doing every hour upon the persons of the Chinese officials in Manwein and Momien regions? Every hour, consequently, that we allow to pass over without action, is an hour of valuable time lost to acquire accurate data on the events of the Margary assassination ; for within an hour, those who perpetrated, or instigated others to commit the deed, may disappear from the stage; nominally by the course of nature, but virtually, more probably, by political action, through removal to another place. Every Englishman must at this moment be anxious that Her Majesty's Minister and the Government generally shall be put in possession of irresistible data respecting the murder, on which to ground a rightful demand for the most complete justice. For should we hereafter be compelled to throw away the scabbard, I trust it will be in our power then and afterwards to show to the whole civilized world that our cause, based on undeniable facts, is a just one ; and I trust also that the whole civilized world will likewise then and afterwards approve of our action.

PURITAN.

19th May.

AMOY.

A meeting was held at the Club on the 15th May, at which it was decided to give a ball on the 24th inst., H. M. Birthday. After the Indian style, the dancing will be done under punkahs, and I am assured by an old resident in India that it will be quite cool. *Crede experto.* A Regatta is also to take place on the 29th, a proposed programme for which has already been [illegible] Jones, called in on the 15th on her way to Foochow. She had powder and shell for the *Growler*, but as that vessel had not returned from Formosa, she transferred it to the *Ling fêng*, pending her arrival, and left to relieve the *Kestrel* on the 16th.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

Hongkong papers are much taken up with the trial and sentence of A. F. Chambers. We mentioned last week, that a sentence of nine years' penal servitude had been passed on the prisoner. The only charge pressed, was obtaining $42,000 on false pretences from Mr. Whittall ; that of embezzling $17,000 from the Canton Insurance Company was not pressed. The sentence is spoken of with approval by the Hongkong papers, and a high tribute is paid to the bearing of Mr. Whittall throughout the case.—The *Daily Press* says one box of treasure has been recovered from the wreck of the *Japan*, by those on board the schooner *Scotland*. — The Government are taking steps for the improvement of Kowloon. A road is to be made from the landing place to Yowmahtee, and another will be constructed leading to the docks, and if a number of trees were planted about these thoroughfares, it would tend very much to the better appearance of the locality.—A sad occurrence took place on board the German bark *Livingstone*, on her passage from Cardiff to Hongkong. On the 28th March, when the vessel was in lat. 17 degrees 40 minutes S., long., 104 degrees 26 minutes E., Captain Popp, then in command, was missed at 11 p.m. It was the second mate's watch, and the captain was last seen about 10 p.m. Search was made for him, but all to no purpose ; he was never seen again. Whether he jumped overboard or fell over, is not known on board. The vessel was going along steadily at the time, without a roll, the weather being fine, and was making 9 knots per hour.—H.M.S. *Thalia*, from Nagasaki, having one case of smallpox on board, has gone into quarantine of Stone Cutters' Island.—The Chinese gunboat *Sui Tsing*, is in a state which necessitates the condemnation of the hull. Her engines will be taken out and fitted in another vessel.

MACAO.

Since my last, another attempt has been made by the Customs' cruiser mercenaries to board a junk in the Macao waters, and levy blackmail. As the Portuguese are determined to put down these irregularities, and have kept a sharp lookout, the mercenaries again caught a Tartar, the boat being taken alonside the *Tejo*, and there detained, pending the result of diplomatic correspondence, now going on between the Government of Macao and the Viceroy of the Two Kwang —It is rumoured that the present Governor, Senhor Lobo d'Avila, is talking of going home. It is not yet known who is to be his successor ; but a man of the stamp of the assassinated Amaral is anxiously looked for to put down with a high hand these Customs' practices. Five hundred lashes on the fat back of a Customs' mandarin, caught in *flagrante delicto*, boarding peaceful traders in Macao waters, would do more to put down this intolerable abuse than a long correspondence conducted by the best diplomatist.—*Hongkong Times.*

SAIGON.

We learn from Saigon that fresh difficulties have arisen regarding the opening up of Tonquin. In spite of the fact that an official agreement had been made to open it in June, the Annamites urged a further delay, and the French authorities, [illegible] reprehensible reason, have consented to a postponement. According to present advices the date now fixed is in September next, and the Court of Hué does not disguise its gratification at what it considers a diplomatic victory. We are of course unable to say what reasons have obtained with the Governor of Saigon to induce him to act in this manner, but can readily believe that it is dangerous to French prestige to allow the Annamites to imagine that an agreement entered into can easily be rendered nugatory by the display of a little obstinacy. The delay will at all events be a matter of sincere regret to all interested in the opening of Tonquin.—*China Mail.*

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* learns from a reliable source that two Corean Officers have been beheaded, one on the 9th and the other on the 16th of last month, for interference with the Japanese Ambassador, who went to Corea for the purpose of entering into a treaty with that power.

YOKOHAMA.

Among the chief items of news in the Yokohama papers which arrived on Saturday, are the following :—The *Herald* says the Imperial Japanese corvette *Tsubo-Kan* has been despatched on a four months' cruise round the islands. The object of the cruise is to give the cadets of the Naval College an insight into the practical working of their profession.—The *Gazette* says a preliminary inquiry has been held, touching the charge of default (to the amount of $28,000) laid against King Yao, late compradore of the Deutsche Bank. On the application of Mr. Mammelsdorf, the Manager of the Bank, the representatives of the press were excluded, and therefore no details can be given. The Shroffs who were examined as to their knowledge of, or complicity in, the embezzlements have been released on bail in the sum of $300 each.—The compradore of the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, who was apprehended on suspicion of being implicated in the robbery from that Bank, has also been examined. Mr. Vouillemont, manager of the Bank, was present. The prisoner

persisted in his previous statements—that Swaby had obtained $5,300 from him by cheque, and that the cheque, which had been deposited in the safe by Cantelli, as being equivalent to money, was afterwards abstracted. He often gave sums to Swaby and Cantelli by cheque, and did not think anything was wrong. He admitted his liability for the $5,300, and expressed a determination to replace it as quickly as possible. He was remanded *sine die*.—The *Echo* states that a rich quarry of marble has been discovered in the mountains of the province of Bizen, near Mitsouiche. The marble is white, and of a superior quality to that imported from Europe.—The Imperial library at Tokio is completely organised. The gates will be opened to the public from 9 o'clock a.m. until 5 p.m. daily.—As the frequent death of dogs from worms in the heart has been again under discussion lately, in China, it may be worth while quoting the following paragraph from the *Japan Herald* :—"Many European dogs die annually both in China and Japan, from the presence in their hearts of long worms, a species of trichinæ, which grow in bunches and coils, with great rapidity and to a considerable length. We saw the other day a dog's heart which had been opened and preserved in spirits. The organ was enormously enlarged, and perforated by coils of trichinæ. One bunch was at least half an inch in diameter, and must have contained several hundred yards of those dreadful parasites, which were white and about the thickness of crotchet cotton. It would be interesting to know whether, as we have heard, this disease in dogs is unknown in Europe, and if so, what are the climatic or alimentary causes of its prevalence in the Far East."

Public Meetings.

THE ERECTION OF TRINITY CHURCH INTO A CATHEDRAL.

Trinity Sunday, 1875, will be remembered as a red letter day in the annals of the Church in North-China. On that day the Church of the Holy Trinity at Shanghai was erected into the Cathedral Church for the diocese of Bishop Russell, in North-China. By 11 o'clock a.m., the hour appointed for the commencement of the service, a large congregation had assembled, amongst them being H. E. the British Minister, Admiral Ryder, Sir E. Hornby, Judge of H. M. Supreme Court, G. F. Seward, Esq., U. S. Consul-General, and many officers of H. M. Royal Navy. At the hour of morning service (11 a.m.) the clergy having entered the Church and taken their respective positions, the opening sentence, "I will arise," was sung by the Choir; Morning Prayer was read by the Rev. C. P. Scott, Missionary of the S P. G., from Chefoo

The Lessons proper for the festival were Isaiah vi., to v. 11., and Revelation i., to v. 9, and were read respectively by the Rev. F. F. Gough, of Ningpo, and the Rev. J. D. Valentine, of Shaou-hing, missionaries of the C. M. S.

The Psalms were sung to Double Chants, and the *Te Deum* to Jackson's well known music.

The Second Lesson being finished, Canon Butcher and the seven clergy walked down the chancel to the West door, where they met the Bishop of North-China, accompanied by the Trustees. The clergy then returned, and the Bishop, standing before his Throne, the following ceremony took place :—

Rev. C. H. Butcher.

I, Charles Henry Butcher, Consular Chaplain of Shanghai, and Incumbent of this Church, do now, on behalf of its Trustees, and in the presence of this Congregation, request you to state for their satisfaction, and that of all others whom it may concern, whether it be your wish and purpose to select and assign this Church as the Cathedral for your Diocese in North-China.

The Bishop.

It is my wish and purpose so to do; and I hereby declare that this Church is to be the Cathedral for my Diocese.

Rev. C. H. Butcher.

In the name of its Trustees, I now induct and install you into the real and actual possession of the chair of this your Cathedral; and I do hereby invest you with all the privileges thereto appertaining. In token whereof I present unto you the keys.

Rev. C. H. Butcher and Rev. T. McClatchie now retired to the vestry, and were conducted therefrom to the Bishop by his Chaplain, Rev. F. F. Gough.

Rev F. F. Gough to the Bishop.

Rev. Father in God, I present unto you this our Brother to be invested with the office of Dean in this your Cathedral Church.

The Bishop to Mr. Butcher.

We, William Armstrong, by divine permission, Bishop in North-China, do now invest you with the Office of Dean in our Cathedral Church; and do hereby induct you into the real and actual possession of this stall. In token whereof — [illegible] you the keys.

The Bishop to Mr. McClatchie.

We, William Armstrong, by divine permission, Bishop in North-China, do now invest you with a Canonry in this our Cathedral; and do hereby induct you into the real and actual possession of this stall. In token whereof we present unto you the keys.

The ceremony being concluded, the Benedictus was sung and the service proceeded as usual. The Anthem was taken from the Psalms—"Praise the Lord O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord; years long as I have any being I will sing praise to my God; O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces. They that put their trust in the Lord shall be even as the Mount Sion, which may not be removed, but standeth fast for ever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever." (Goss.) For the Introit, Bishop Heber's Grand Hymn—"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty," was sung to Mr. Dyke's Tune "Nicæa."

The Communion Service was commenced by Bishop Williams, of the American Church, the Kyrie being sung to a melody by W. T. Best. The Rev. E. H. Thomson, Missionary of the American Episcopal Board, read the Epistle, and the Rev. G. D. B. Miller (of the American Episcopal Church) the Gospel.

The Hymn before Sermon was Neale's translation from the Latin—"Christ is made the sure foundation," to Mr. Monk's Tune "Oriel."

Bishop Russell then ascended the pulpit and preached an eloquent sermon from Isaiah ii., 3.—"Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths." After showing that the mountain and house of the Lord here referred to were Mount Moriah and the beautiful Temple of Solomon, the Bishop drew a parallel between the ancient Temple, as the most splendid edifice of its day, and the Cathedrals of our own Church now; showing that, even as Solomon's building was a place where all might repair to give thanks unto the Lord, and a cementing tie to bind them together, so should this beautiful edifice be a rallying centre for all in these parts, whether resident here or in the outports. The Bishop also maintained that, even as the Temple on Mount Moriah became a place of quiet retirement from the world, so should this Cathedral serve such a holy end. In conclusion, the preacher went on to say that of all the uses to which the Cathedral should be put, there was none so great as the instruction of God's people by his appointed servants. There are, the Bishop said, two ways of God which ministers should give prominence to in their vocation—1st, to point out God's way of righteousness and justice; and 2nd, to show the way of reconciliation and peace with the unrighteous and the wicked. His Lordship concluded by imploring God's blessing on this Cathedral as the centre of religious life in North-China.

The sermon ended, a short pause was made to allow non-communicants to withdraw, and then the administration of the Holy Communion was proceeded with, the Bishop being himself celebrant.

Thus ended a service of great interest and importance. Especially as it was the means of bringing into closer union the two sister Churches, viz., the Church of England and the American Episcopal Church.

Evening Prayer was at 6 p.m.

The Prayers were read by The Rev. J. D. Valentine, and the Lessons by The Rev. J. Llewellin, chaplain of H.M.S. *Modeste*, and Dean Butcher. [illegible] preached again, taking for his text the 4th verse of the 10th chap. of the Epistle to the Ephesians, part of the 2nd Lesson—"There is one body and one spirit."

We subjoin the legal record of the transaction, which was executed on the following day :—

Be it known to all whom it may concern by this Public Instrument of Record, that the undersigned, the Right Reverend William Armstrong Russell, Bishop of North-China; the Reverend Charles Henry Butcher, Chaplain of the British Consulate and Incumbent of Trinity Church, Shanghai; the Reverend Thomas McClatchie, and Alfred Adolphus Krauss and Frederick Hayley Bell, Trustees for the Subscribers and Pew-renters of the said Church, personally appeared before me, Sir Edmund Hornby, Knt., Chief Judge of Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan, this Twenty-fourth day of May, 1875, and declared as follows :—

That on the 23rd day of May, 1875, being Trinity Sunday, the said Trustees did in the said Church, being present—the Right Reverend the Bishop the Reverend Charles Henry Butcher, the Reverend Thomas McClatchie, and the Congregation, on behalf of the said Subscribers and Pew-renters of the said Trinity Church, and in conformity with a certain resolution passed on the 1st day of March, 1875, by the said Subscribers and Pew-renters, in a public meeting assembled, and with the consent of the Reverend Charles Henry Butcher, offer the said Trinity Church to the said Right Reverend William Armstrong Russell, Bishop of North-China, aforesaid, as and for his Cathedral Church, always reserving to themselves and their successors all their rights, title, and interest in the said Church; and the said Bishop did accept the same, subject to the said reservation, and did there and then nominate the said Church as his Cathedral Church, and did appoint the said Reverend Charles Henry Butcher, the present Incumbent thereof, Dean of the said Cathedral Church, with all the rights and privileges appertaining to such dignity or office; and did further nominate the Reverend Thomas McClatchie to the dignity or office of Canon of the said Cathedral Church.

To all which facts this Public Instrument of Record testifies, and is further authenticated by the signatures of the parties therein mentioned.

In witness whereof, We, the undersigned,

have this Twenty-fourth day of May, 1875, in the presence of and before Sir Edmund Hornby, Knight, Chief Judge of Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan, hereunto affixed our signatures.

Edmund Hornby, *Chief Judge.*
W. A. Russell, *Bishop of N.-China.*
Charles Henry Butcher, *Incumbent of Trinity Church, Shanghai.*
Thomas McClatchie, M.A.
Alfred Adolphus Krauss, Fred. H. Bell, *Trustees of Trinity Church, Shanghai.*

MEETING OF LANDRENTERS AT KIUKIANG.

Meeting of Lotholders on the British Concession Kiukiang, held at H. M.'s Vice-Consulate, on the 12th May, 1875.

Present :—Messrs. Kopsch, R. Francis, Anderson, Hart, A. Little, and A. Bean. Mr. W. G. Stronach, Acting Vice-Consul, in the chair.

The Minutes of the last full meeting were printed and in the hands of those present, and were therefore taken as read.

Mr. Anderson then proposed, and Mr. Kopsch seconded—

That, the rental of 500 feet of the Bund shall stand as before, at Taels 800 for one

It was then proposed [illegible] to the above by Mr. R. Francis, seconded by Mr. Bean—

That Taels 500 be substituted in the above for Taels 800.

This amendmen twas lost by 13 against 9.

A second amendment was then brought forward by Mr. R. Francis, and supported by the Rev. V. C. Hart, as follows :—

That the Municipal Council be authorised to make such terms as they may consider advisable with companies or individuals desiring the use of the Bund-frontage, but no cession of a frontage to be made for less payment than Taels 500 annually for a frontage not exceeding 500 feet, nor for a longer term than five years, subject to confirmation by a subsequent meeting of Lotholders.

Carried without a dissentient voice. The original motion was therefore lost, and the amendment took its place as Resolution I.

Resolution II. — Proposed by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Hart—

That no pontoons be placed before, or be attached to the Bund, without permission of the Muncipal Council and paying for the privilege at the most a rental of Taels 100 a year,—the charge not to be retrospective.

Ayes 15, Noes 7. Carried.

Resolution III.—That cargo boats belonging to non-payers of wharfage dues be taxed for the use of the Bund when landing or shipping cargo from it, or be forbidden from using the Bund.

This was proposed by Mr. Kopsch and seconded by Mr. Anderson. The votes in favour of it were 15, none being recorded against.

Resolution IV.—Proposed by Mr. Kopsch and seconded by Mr. Anderson—

That the rental of 500 feet mentioned in Resolution I. is understood not to exempt the renter from Wharfage or other dues as paid at present.

A discussion ensued as to whether such a resolution was not *ultra vires*, as meddling with a question of taxation which had not been previously announced. Setting aside the question as to whether taxation was *ultra vires* in any case, some such definition of the intention of the meeting was evidently necessary in the present instance, as the lotholders were divided in their views. The Resolution was, therefore, ruled to be in order, as simply declaratory, in order to avoid sending forth to the world a perfectly ambiguous deliverance. An amendment to leave out the word "not," was lost by 15 votes against 7, and the Resolution was accepted as it stands without further vote.

The meeting was then closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

W. G. Stronach,
Acting Vice-Consul.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 19th May, 1875.

Present :—Messrs. J. G. Purdon, G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, W. Kidner, A. A. Krauss, F. W. Lemarchand, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The Police Force was inspected, and Mr. Purdon took the opportunity to express the Council's satisfaction at the way in which the Police duties had been performed during the past year, dwelling particularly on their behaviour at Fires. Upon returning to the Council Room, Mr. Purdon stated that ordinarily the retiring Council explained to new members the nature of the business left outstanding, but as on this occasion most of the old members were continuing in office, this formality could be dispensed with. It was agreed that any information required on a subject should be given at the time it came up for discussion.

The members of the retiring Council then passed a vote of thanks to Mr. [illegible] for his services as Chairman during the past year, and desired that it might be recorded in the minutes that his colleagues felt much indebted to him for the time and attention he had devoted to Municipal matters during the term.

Mr. Purdon briefly acknowledged the compliment, adding it was due to the members generally that the work had proceeded so satisfactorily and pleasantly.

The meeting then elected :—

Chairman—Mr. J. G. Purdon.

Vice-Chairman—Mr. F. W. Lemarchand.

Defence Committee — Messrs. Purdon, Hart and Kidner.

Finance Committee — Messrs. Lemarchand, Cowie and Krauss.

Watch Committee—Messrs. Kidner, Hart and Heyden.

Works' Committee — Messrs. Purdon, Mackenzie and Webb.

The Chairman then mentioned the following matters as outstanding.

Land Tax—W. H. Fogg.—The Council regretted their motion at the Ratepayers' meeting had been lost.

Instructions were given to the Secretary to collect the amount for which judgment had been given in the United States Consular Court.

Revision of Land Regulations.—Decided to postpone further steps till the opinion referred to by Mr. Drummond in his report had been received from Mr. Rennie.

Drill-Instructor.—Communication from Hongkong was looked for.

Jinrickshas.—Regulations are being drawn up, and before being acted upon it was determined that they should be submitted to the French Council, so that the regulations for both Settlements might be in harmony.

Slaughter House.—Enquiries are being made of the owner—at present in England—as to the terms on which he is prepared to sell a lot of land situated at Sinza, suitable as a site for a slaughter house.

Amusements.

THE FLOWER SHOW.

The Committee are to be congratulated on having achieved a decided success. Seeing how very recently a taste for floriculture has grown up in Shanghai, a Flower Show was rather an ambitious project. The result, however, has fully justified the confidence of the promoters, and has convinced people generally that next year's show will be a better one than the present. There is always more or less difficulty in starting a thing of the kind ; many people are shy of sending things even for exhibition ; but now that they have seen it is possible to do so and survive the ordeal, we anticipate the contributions will next year be much more numerous. They may derive encouragement from one instance. The first prize for heliotropes was awarded, unsought, to a gentleman who had only sent the flower to help adorn the tent ; but he arrived, and found himself famous.

One misfortune has befallen the show, but it is one which the Committee could not foresee. The season has been so early that flowers which were expected to be in perfection on the date fixed, have blossomed and died. In ordinary years, sufficient roses might have been expected, to constitute a show in themselves ; whereas roses were in perfection a full fortnight ago, and the few which are exhibited in the Consular Compound, are relics of a past. The same remark applies to other sorts of flowers ; and it surprised many to see so fine a show of azaleas as were exhibited, under the circumstances. But if the forwardness of the season deprived the Flower show of some part of its attractions, it has hastened forward some of the other products which always find place in such exhibitions. The strawberries which stood close to the entrance of the tent were [illegible] and people were surprised not only to see fine young potatoes, but to learn that the cultivator had been enjoying them as a table luxury for the previous fortnight or three weeks. Some very fine leeks and asparagus on the same table attracted notice. Perhaps the greenery formed the prettiest portion of the show ; and of this there was an endless variety. Some Japanese maples, with different kinds grafted on the same stem, were much admired, as were also two Australian pines. Two prettily trained lemon-plants attracted by their graceful form as much as by their fragrance. The fern stand, if we may so name a stand on which ferns predominated though any other plants found place, was much admired ; but there were many other handsome shrubs, and two tree ferns (from Amoy) formed a striking feature in its neighborhood. There was a handsome Yucca too, in full flower, in this part of the tent, and a caladium was pointed out to us as a rarity. But we cannot pretend to enumerate severally the hundred attractions offered ; and will only go back for a moment to the flowers proper. Let it not be imagined from what we have written, that flowers are absent or deficient in the Show. On the contrary, there is a striking collection ; prominent among which are a fine display of geraniums, several handsome lilies, petunias, and fuschias just budding into flower. The camelias exhibited, like the roses, are somewhat past, and exemplify our regret that the forwardness of the season should have so upset calculation.

What visitors will find, on a second and closer inspection, is how many more things there are in the tent than they at first suspected. The string of orchids, for instance, hanging over their heads, might escape notice ; but they will not fail to see the canaries which add to the charm of the show, for they invite attention in thrilling tones.

The weather on Monday was perfect ; a cool breeze tempered the heat, and combined with the attaction of the show to draw more people into the Consular compound than are often to be seen assembled in Shanghai. The band of the *Audacious* performed admirably ; and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy the afternoon.

The Flower Show was well attended again, on Tuesday afternoon ; Admiral

Ryder, Mr. Wade, and a number of officers from the men-of-war in port being among the visitors. Several Chinese gentlemen also availed themselves of the opportunity to inspect it. The band of the *Audacious* again performed during the afternoon, and gave much pleasure to the visitors. It is, we think, the best band that we have had in Shanghai for some years. The Refreshment tent was well supplied and well appreciated. The community are much indebted to the ladies who contributed this portion of the entertainment, and took great trouble in arranging it during a day of summer heat. The bouquet tent was also tastefully supplied, and most of the gentlemen present bore evidence of their appreciation of the pretty nosegays offered there. At a rough estimate, we should say some 400 people were present on the first, and 300 on the second day. We are glad to hear that it is estimated the receipts will just cover the expenses. Altogether the Show has been an undoubted success, and the Committee — Messrs. Medhurst, Drummond, Endicott, Scott, and Wheelock— must be gratified by the result of their effort to inaugurate a fresh amusement. Admiral Ryder and Dr. Little were the judges.

Scarlet Geranium—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock; 2nd prize, F. D. Hitch; 3rd prize, T. R. Wheelock; Hon. Men. A. Fergusson. Scarlet and White Geranium—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock; 2nd prize, T. R. Wheelock; Hon. Men. T. R. Wheelock. Double Geranium—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. White Geranium—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Pelargonium—1st prize, F. D. Hitch; 2nd prize, T. R. Wheelock; Hon. Men. F. Mawhood. Ivy Geranium — 1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Variegated Geranium—Hon. Men. W. H. Medhurst. Wax Plant—1st prize, W. V. Drummond. Japan Fir Tree—1st prize, J. Wilson. Colored Box—Hon. Men. J. Wilson. Colored Ivy—Hon. Men. J. Wilson. Labelia—Hon. Men. J. Welch. Flox—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Honeysuckle — 1st prize, Yuk-Chang; Hon. Men, W. V. Drummond. Jasmine—1st prize, W. V. Drummond. Fern—Hon. Men. W. V. Drummond; Hon. Men. W. V. Drummond. Lily—Hon. Men. W. V. Drummond. Japan Maple—1st prize, R. I. Fearon. Sweet Peas—1st prize, J. A. Howie. Tree Pine—1st prize, J. Wilson. Japan Lily—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Arum Lily—1st prize, A. Fergusson. Canton Lily—2nd prize, H. Meller. Scarlet Verbena—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Variegated Verbena—2nd prize, T. R. Wheelock. Cineraria—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Mignonette—1st prize, T. Brewer. Japan Seringa—1st prize, Yuk-cheong. Pansies—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Snap Dragon—1st prize, Yuk-cheong; 2nd prize, Yuk-cheong. Clematis—1st prize, F. D. Hitch; 2nd prize, F. D. Hitch. Fuschia—1st prize, F. D. Hitch. White Camelia—1st prize, W. V. Drummond. Camelias — 1st prize, W. H. Medhurst. Nasturtium—1st prize, J. L. Scott. Petunia—1st prize, W. H. Medhurst. Heliotrope—1st prize, E. W. Batt; 2nd prize, T. R. Wheelock. Azalia—1st prize, Pon-yew-chong; 2nd prize, Dr. Little; 3rd prize, Say-lok-dong. Tree Fern—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Fern Ball—1st prize, W. H. Medhurst. Fern—2nd prize, W. V. Drummond. Yucca—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Caladium—1st prize, J. Wilson. Fern rockery—1st prize, W. H. Medhurst. Orchid—1st prize, J. Wilson; 2nd prize, J. Wilson. Fern—Hon. Men. W. V. Drummond. Lemon Verbena—1st prize, W. H. Medhurst. Australian Pine—Hon. Men. W. H. Medhurst. Ornamental Tree—1st prize, Say-lok-dong. Table Decoration—1st prize, Mrs. F. H. Bell; 2nd prize, Mrs. M. P. Evans. Strawberries—1st prize, J. L. Scott; 2nd prize, H. Evans; 3rd prize, Revd. J. W. M. Farnham. Cabbage—1st prize, H. Cooper. Cauliflower—Hon. Men. H. Cooper. Leek—Hon. Men. H. Cooper. Ash leaf Potatoes—1st prize, H. Cooper. Rhubarb—Hon. Men. J. Vaughan. Asparagus—1st prize, A. Ferguson. Peas—1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Knolcole — 1st prize, T. R. Wheelock. Turnips—1st prize, H. Cooper. Parsnips—1st prize. H Cooper. Beet-root—1st prize, J. L. Scott. Vase of Flowers—Hon. Men. Dr. Little. Rose—1st prize, J. Wilson.

S. R. C. SPRING REGATTA.

26th May.

Judge.....J. A. MAITLAND, Esq.
Starter .....ROBT. MACKENZIE, Esq.
Umpire .....A. C. WESTALL, Esq.

The programme announced that the first race would be started punctually at 5.15 p.m.; it was therefore a subject for congratulation among the spectators, that the actual start took place at 5.55—that is, at least five minutes before it was expected. Regattas never come off punctually, most of all on the Pootung side; the difficulties of transport and arrangement are great; and the hope that they will prove less embarrassing than last time, always proves delusive. —The first boat to appear on the scene was the Umpire's steam launch which, after a prolonged cruise in search of the Judge and Starter, concluded to drop down to the starting post and await events. She was soon followed by the *Dragon*, having on board a number of spectators; and not long after the Red eight appeared paddling quietly down. The Blue was not long behind, and after some little time had been lost getting into position, owing chiefly no doubt to the strength of the wind—at 5.55 p.m., as we have said before, the word "go" was given. There was still a slight flood tide running, but its influence was scarcely perceptible inshore on the Pootung side; and the choice of inside place was chiefly influenced by a wish to get shelter from the strong wind that was blowing across the river. The first race was a close one till near the finish, when Blue, which was already leading, put on a spurt and won with something in hand.

An interval ensued during which the Starter indulged in a short cruise in his houseboat, and the Judge was detected at the wrong end, on board the *Dragon*. Both, however, were at their posts when wanted, and the second race was eventually started about 6.25. It was an interesting one from the fact that one of the competing boats (Takoo) was holder of the Cup from the previous year, and because it was reported that the opposing crew had tried a novel system of training. If so, the result was adverse to the experiment. Takoo, rowing a long steady stroke, again won the Challenge Cup, and holds it therefore for the second year.

Although both these races had been steadily pulled, the interest had been wanting, of an exciting finish; this was supplied by the third, in which the positions of the boats changed several times towards the end, and in which Blue's plucky spurt at the last promised, for a moment, to recover an apparently hopeless race.

(1) CLUB EIGHT-OARED RACE. (2)

	Mr. Muller's Crew—*Blue*.	st.	lb.		Mr. Reid's Crew—*Red*.	st.	lb.
Bow	Morse	9	2	Bow	E. Rehders	9	12
2	C. W. Richards	10	7	2	H. H. Joseph	9	4
3	J. H. Cheetham	12	4	3	C. S. Sharp	10	11
4	W. Hamilton	11	1	4	O. Meuser	11	2
5	J. Andrew	13	3	5	J. W. Shepherd	11	0
6	E. Gipperich	11	0	6	W. M. Primrose	10	5
7	G. Lewis	11	0	7	T. Nelson	10	0
G. Muller, *Stroke*		11	12	F. Reid, *Stroke*		11	7
B. A. Clarke, *Cox.*		11	4	J. Hall, *Cox*		9	5

Blue won the toss and took the inside, got away quickest and gained ¾ length in the first 50 yards. Red lessened the distance to a ¼ length shortly afterwards, but failed to get level. The two maintained their position till nearing Roberts' yard, when Blue increased its lead, and drawing clear with a spurt, came in winner by 2½ lengths.

HONG FOURS CHALLENGE CUP.

	1.—Takoo.	st.	lb.		2.—Way-foong. (Honkong Bank) *Dark Blue*.	st.	lb.
Bow	J. Hall	9	5	Bow	C. Barron	10	2
2	J. H. Scott	13	0	2	A. W. Maitland	10	1
3	J. Andrew	13	3	3	And. Veitch	11	10
A. Burrows, *Stroke*		0	12	Alf. Haselwood, *Stroke*		9	8
J. M. Cory, *Cox*		10	2	*Cox*			

Blue won the toss and took inside. Red took a slight lead at starting, and kept it throughout, gradually increasing it towards the end of the course, till at Roberts' yard they were able to take Blue's water, and the race was virtually won. Passing the jetty a full length clear, Red increased their lead and won easily by 2 or 3 lengths.

CLUB FOURS.

1.—*White*.	2.—*Dark Blue*.	3.—*Red*.
Morse.	Hughes.	Rehders.
Meuser.	Richards.	Joseph.
Chestham.	Shepherd.	Sharp.
Gipperich, *Stroke*.	Hamilton, *Stroke*.	Andrew, *Stroke*.
Cox.	*Cox*.	*Cox*.

White took inside place, Red next and Blue outside. The boats got away to a very even start, but Red began to tail soon after, the two previous races having rather taken it out of the Stroke. Blue was the first to show in front, White 2nd, and Red 3rd. These positions were maintained for about ¼ of the distance, when White drew up, and at half-way had taken a lead, which was increased to nearly two lengths, Red meanwhile also drawing upon Blue and looking like 2nd honors. On nearing Roberts' yard, the two last boats were nearly even, when Blue put on a fine spurt which drew him rapidly clear of Red, and brought his nose level with the White coxswain. If he could only keep it up, he looked to have a chance of the race, as the White crew began to go to pieces; but at the critical moment a crab was caught, and it was over. White recovered the lost ground, winning by some two lengths, Red the same distance [illegible]

The afternoon was not a favourable one, as the strong wind made the water rather lumpy even inshore. The breeze, however, tempered the heat pleasantly to the spectators. A smart shower fell about half-past 5, and a few drops of rain at intervals subsequently, but not enough to drive spectators under shelter.

The Committee desire to express their thanks to Messrs. Boyd & Co. for their kindness in erecting a landing-stage, and providing a dressing room and cooling drinks for the competitors; and also to Messrs. S. C. Farnham & Co. and the Agent of the P. & O., for the several steam-launches kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

CRICKET.

S. C. C. *v.* ROYAL NAVY.

A match was played on Wednesday, between a selected eleven of the S. C. C. and an eleven of the Royal Navy, made up from H. M. S. *Audacious, Modeste, Vigilant,* and *Midge*. The wickets were pitched shortly after 10.30, and play was continued with but little intermission throughout the day, the match terminating shortly after six o'clock. The temperature was high, and the sun shone brilliantly during the earlier part of the play, but the heat was greatly modified by a pleasant breeze, which towards the afternoon become half-a-gale, and brought up some masses of cloud, from which a gentle shower fell towards the conclusion of the match. The play on the part of the S. C. C. was excellent, both in batting and fielding, and an inspection of the subjoined scores will show that some extraordinary numbers were made. Mr. Souper contributed no fewer then 106 runs, and then retired from sheer fatigue; the next highest were Mr. E H. Gore-Booth with 79, and Mr. J. B. Manson, with 44, and run out; the total score reaching 282. The Navy went to the wickets for their first innings at about four o'clock, but ill-luck attended them throughout, and they only succeeded in putting 26 upon the paper. In their second innings they were more successful, but still fell far short of their opponents, reaching only 64—or a total of 90 in both innings

Towards evening a considerable number of spectators occupied the Pavilion, and a number of ladies were present in

the Marquee erected for their accommodation. The band of the *Audacious* was in attendance, and played frequently during the afternoon. The following is the score :—

CLUB.

1st Innings.

E. H. Gore Booth, b. Wright	79
E. G. Rose, b. Wright	9
E. B. Souper, retired	106
J. B. Manson, run out	44
F. B. Aubert, b. Wright	6
A. Anderson, l. b w.	11
H. de C. Forbes, c. Topping, b. Pike	5
W. T. Phipps, b. Pike	0
J. E. Waller, b. Wright	4
H. Moore, b. Wright	3
E. J. Caldbeck, not out	1
Extras	11
	282

NAVY.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr. Topping, c. and b. Waller	4	c. Souper b. Waller	17
Mr. Baxter, c. Manson b. Souper	3	c. Rose b. Manson	1
Lieut. Pipon, b. Waller	2	b. Waller	0
Rev. Llewellin, st Manson	0	s. Phipps b. Manson	27
Lieut. Wright, c. Anderson b. Souper	6	c. and b. Manson	2
Hon. S. Fortescue, b. Waller	2	c. Rose b. Manson	15
Lieut Pike, st. Manson	0	b. Manson	0
Mr. Wortley, b. Souper	1	not out	1
Lieut. Ommaney, not out	1	c. Phipps b. Souper	1
Mr. Barry, c. Caldbeck b. Souper	0	b. Manson	0
Lieut. Philips, c. Caldbeck b. Souper	5	c. Phipps b. Manson	0
Extras	2		
	26		64

Correspondence.

THE RATEPAYERS' MEETING.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—With reference to the speech of the Chairman of the Municipal Council to the Landrenters, there is one statement he has made respecting Mr. Camajee which calls for correction, wrongly imputing as it does, disrespect (if nothing more) to a body of gentlemen, the 'Treaty Consuls,' who, it seems to me, have no concern in the business one way or another. I explain for Mr. Camajee, as he cannot be expected to do so as easily as myself. When this dispute arose, and for many months after, it was the generally received opinion that there was no redress against the Council for any injury they might commit against an owner of private property in Shanghai, in the regular Courts, and that the only tribunal was the 'Court of Treaty Consuls.' It was ascertained that there was some disposition on the part of H. M.'s Supreme Court to exercise its jurisdiction against the Council (the British subjects). On referring to the Constitution of the Court of Treaty Consuls, it was found that whilst it was convenient for adjusting a certain class of Municipal affairs, it was impotent to afford redress for aggression upon private property. At this time there appeared a judgment by one of the Superior Courts in England, wherein the members of a public body established by an Act of Parliament, were held individually responsible for a trespass committed against private property. To this, I directed the attention of the Council through their Secretary. Under these circumstances, Mr. Camajee abstained from proceeding before the Treaty Consuls without any disrespect towards that body, and, I think, without leaving it open to the Council to create a prejudice in respect of it. From the Report, it appears that the Council think Mr. Camajee is dilatory in resorting to extreme measures against them; if this be so, he evinces his confidence in the impartial sense and courtesy of many members of the Council, who, if left to themselves, would coincide with his own ideas in ten minutes, without recourse to any long winding arbitration or interminable law procedure.

I am, Sir,
Yours truly,
19th May. D. COOPER.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, May 20th.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge, Sitting in Admiralty*; and N. ROSKELL, Esq., Master of P. & O. str. *Hindostan*, *Assessor*.

THE STEAMER *Fusing v.* THE STEAMER *Ocean*. *Collision.*

Mr. DRUMMOND and Mr. EAMES appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT (solicitor for Peter Denny, of Dumbarton, Scotland, the owner of the *Ocean*) and Mr. HANNEN, for the defendants.

This was a cause of damage, instituted on behalf of Tong-king-sing, one of the owners of the C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Fusing*, to recover Tls. 200,000, value of the said steamer and cargo, which was sunk in collision with the British steamer *Ocean*, on the 4th April last.

His LORDSHIP having, on the suggestion of Mr. Drummond, described the mode of procedure in such actions, with respect to the addresses of Counsel and the taking of evidence,

Mr. EAMES said it seemed to him hardly worth while to read the pleadings as originally filed, as his Lordship was doubtless familiar with them.

His LORDSHIP said he could not say he was [illegible] with them, as he had not seen them. He saw, however, that some alterations had been made in the petition with pencil.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said those alterations would be presently explained.

Mr. EAMES went on to explain that the name of Robert Morton Andrews, the Captain of the late *Fusing*, was originally inserted in the petition as being the plaintiff. It had, however been arranged to take out Captain Andrews' name, and substitute that of Tong-king-sing. That change necessitated some other alterations, but the substance of the petition was of course unchanged. It was merely the substitution of one name for another. He would now read the petition :—

1st.—The Chinese steamship *Fusing*, being tight, staunch, and strong, and well fitted, and fully manned, sailed from the port of Shanghai on the 3rd day of April, 1875, laden with a general cargo, and bound to the port of Tientsin, and everything was well with her until the date mentioned in the next paragraph.

2nd.—On the 4th day of April, 1875, between 10 and 11 A.M., the *Fusing*, with the necessary officers and crew on deck, keeping a good lookout, with fore and main trysails set, was proceeding under steam towards Tientsin in the prosecution of her said voyage, and was about 125 miles North of Shaweishan, when a steamship, which proved to be the British steamer *Ocean*, was observed on the starboard side of the *Fusing*, approaching her nearly at a right angle, about one to one-and-a-half ship's length distant, apparently with her helm to port.

3rd.—At the time hereafter mentioned, and for several hours before that time, a thick fog prevailed, and those on board of the *Fusing* first became aware that a steamer was near them, through hearing a steam-whistle three or four points on their starboard bow. The *Fusing* was then going at reduced speed, and, when the whistle was heard, her engines were stopped; and, when the *Ocean* was seen, the *Fusing's* engines were at once reversed and turned full speed astern. But the *Ocean* kept on apparently at full speed, and with her helm still to port, striking the *Fusing* at the angle aforesaid, with great force, about 40ft. from her stem, cut her down, and caused her to sink, with all her cargo and a number of passengers, in a few minutes thereafter.

4th.—The aforesaid collision, and the total loss of the said steamer *Fusing*, her cargo and the lives of some of the crew and passengers, are solely imputable to the fault and misconduct of those on board and having the control and management of the said steamer *Ocean*, in consequence of their going at full speed in the thick fog, and of having improperly ported her helm; and the said collision, total loss of said steamer, her cargo, etc., are not in any way or degree imputable to the said steamer *Fusing*, or to any person on board of her, her officers and crew having done the utmost in their power to avoid or prevent the said collision.

The Plaintiff therefore prays relief as follows :—

1st.—That the Honble. Court will pronounce for the damage sued for in this cause, and refer the amount of said damage to the Registrar and Assessor, and condemn the defendants and their bail therein, together with the costs of this suit.

2nd.—That the Plaintiff may have such further relief as the nature of the case may require.

The answer to the petition was as follows :—

1st.—On the 2nd day of April, 1875, the British steamship *Ocean* left the port of Chefoo laden with a general cargo, and bound for the port of Swatow. The said steamship was then tight, staunch, and strong, and was navigated by William Brown, her master, and a crew of thirty-nine hands, of whom nineteen were Europeans and twenty (including thirteen firemen) were Chinese.

2nd.—On the 4th day of April, 1875, between 10 and 11 a.m., the *Ocean* with the necessary officers and crew on deck keeping a good look-out, was proceeding under steam at a moderate rate of speed towards Swatow in the prosecution of her said voyage, and was about two hundred and thirty miles South of the Shantung Promontory when those on board the said steamship heard the sound of a steam whistle, a few points on her port-bow. At the time hereinbefore mentioned, and for several hours before that time, a thick fog prevailed, and at the time the said whistle was heard, those on board of the *Ocean* were unable to see the vessel from which it proceeded. The steam whistle of the *Ocean* had been sounded at frequent intervals from the time the said fog came on.

3rd.—Immediately upon the said other steam whistle being heard, the helm of the *Ocean* was put hard-a-port, and her engines were stopped, reversed and turned full speed astern and her steam-whistle was again blown.

4th.—About two minutes after the said other steam whistle was heard, a steamship which proved to be the Chinese steam-ship *Fusing* was observed a little on the port bow of the *Ocean*, crossing her course nearly at right angles about one and-a-half or two ship's lengths distant, and apparently going at full speed, and with her fore and main trysails set, and with her helm to starboard.

5th.—Immediately after the said steam-ship *Fusing* came into view, and before anything further could be done, the said two steamships came into collision, the *Ocean* striking the *Fusing* on the starboard bow and nearly at right angles, and in a few minutes thereafter the *Fusing* sank.

6th.—The Defendant denies that the collision in question, and the losses and damage consequent thereon, are imputable to the fault or misconduct of those on board and having the control and management of the *Ocean*, as stated in Article 4 of the Petition, and he alleges that the said collision, losses, and damage are solely imputable to the fault and misconduct of those on board and having the control and management of the *Fusing*, in having improperly starboarded her helm, and in not having kept clear of the *Ocean*, by porting their helm in time and passing the *Ocean* on her port side as they were bound to do, in accordance with the rules and customs of Ocean Navigation, and also in their having omitted to stop and reverse the engines of the *Fusing* as soon as they heard the whistle of the *Ocean*, and also in their having sail set, and also in their not having kept the course usual and proper for vessels proceeding from Shanghai to Tientsin.

7th.—No blame whatever in respect of the said collision is imputable to any person on board of the *Ocean*, and the said collision was so far as the *Ocean* was concerned an inevitable accident.

8th.—Save as herein appears, the Defendant denies the several allegations of the petitioner.

And the said Robert Ernest Wainewright prays this Honorable Court to pronounce against the damage proceeded for, and to dismiss the said steamship *Ocean* from this suit, and to condemn the plaintiff in costs.

Mr. EAMES then enquired if his Lordship would make an order sanctioning the changes in the petition, as pencilled in?

His LORDSHIP replied that he had already done so.

Mr. HANNEN said he supposed Mr. Tong King-sing appeared for the owners of the ship and cargo.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the owners of the ship were also the owners of the great part of the cargo, and then went on to say that this was a procedure in Admiralty in respect to damages incurred by a collision between two vessels as set forth in the preliminary act, the C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Fusing*, and the British steamer *Ocean*. The *Fusing* was a vessel of 532 tons register, but he did not know the registered tonnage of the *Ocean*.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said the net tonnage of the *Ocean* was 970.

Mr. DRUMMOND resumed by saying that on the morning of the collision, the 4th April last, the weather was foggy and the wind light from the S. S. W. The *Fusing* was steering nearly N. at slow speed, the engines having been slowed some hours previously to the collision, and she was making four-and-a-half or five knots per hour. A whistle was heard, and a good look-out was then kept towards the quarter from which the sound came. Soon afterwards, a vessel came out of the fog, apparently proceeding at full speed on a strong port helm; and despite the precautions taken on board the *Fusing*, that vessel—the *Ocean*—struck her about forty feet from her stern on the starboard bow, causing her to sink in a few minutes with the loss of forty or fifty lives. The case of the plaintiff was a peculiar one, and the decision of the Court would be very valuable for reference hereafter. The facts of the case would be found to lie in very small compass, and the law applying to them would also be found to be very easy. He referred his Lordship to the very old decision of Lord Stowell (*Abbott on the Law of Merchant ships and shipping—Collisions; p.* 598), which respect to the four possible circumstances under which a collision at sea could occur, and which he would now read :—Our Court of Admiralty, before which misfortunes of this kind are fairly the subject of discussion, adopts, when both vessels are in fault, the rule of Maritime Law; and accordingly in the case of the

Woodrup, Lord Stowell lays it down that there are four possible circumtances under which a collision may occur.—In the first place, it may happen without blame being imputable to either party, as where the loss is occasioned by a storm on any other *vis major*. In that case, the misfortune must be borne by the party on whom it happens to light, the other not being responsible in any degree. 2,—Where both parties are to blame, there having been want of due diligence or of skill on both sides; in such a case, the rule of law is that the loss must be apportioned between them, as having been occasioned by the fault of both of them. 3,—By the misconduct of the suffering party only; then the rule is that the sufferer must bear his own burden. Lastly,—It may have been the fault of the ship which ran the other down; and in this case the innocent party would be entitled to an entire compensation from the other. Now the case of the plaintiff in the present action rested on the fourth of those possibilities, viz., that the *Fusing* was run down by the *Ocean*, and therefore, she was entitled to full and complete indemnification. It would be shown that the *Ocean* was proceeding at undue speed, and without taking proper precaution under the unusual circumstances. The *Fusing*, not having complied with the rules laid down by the Admiralty, must be treated in every respect as a foreign ship, and could not be bound by those rules. Neither was the *Ocean* bound by them. There was a very long list of countries which were bound by those rules, but China was not amongst them, and he would at once direct his Lordship's attention to that fact. Those rules, however, had been drawn up by men of great skill, possessing great knowledge of the subject. They would therefore, be brought forward in this case, as being the best possible guide as to whether the steps taken by the *Ocean* were right or wrong, according to those rules. At the same time, it was not necessary for him to enter fully into the merits of the case now, for it would be better for him to reserve what he had to say until the final summing up, when his Lordship would have the whole of the evidence before him. He would, however, mention one case only that covered this case. It was that of the "*Rona* and *Ava*" (29, *L. T.*, new series, p.p. 781 and others; Privy Council.) That case was important as resulting in a decision overruling another, both steamers being ultimately held to blame. The case turned almost entirely on the question of seamanship, and there was only one authority quoted in the whole of the report. One of the ships was British and the other French, and the judgment showed that although the Court at Hongkong had decided the case in accordance with the Admiralty rules, the Privy Council had afterwards taken it out of the rules altogether, and made it a question of seamanship entirely. The *Rona* was found to blame for proceeding at eight-and-a-half or nine knots in her own smoke—thereby creating a local fog; and the *Ava* was found to blame for a double error, in not having slackened her speed and not having ascertained the exact position of what she was approaching. In the present case, the *Fusing* and *Ocean* were steering a parallel course, and if the whistle had not been blown, they would have passed clear and without seeing each other, because each would have kept on her course. The *Ocean*, however, ported her helm on hearing the *Fusing's* whistle—the *Fusing's* position being almost exactly opposite to what it was supposed to be by those on board the *Ocean*. The alteration of her helm took the *Ocean* five points off her course, and brought her into collision with the *Fusing* which did not alter her position at all. The collision was therefore, caused by the *Ocean* being put on a strong port helm, the *Fusing* as he had said not having altered her course. The question for the Court would be,—Was the *Ocean* justified in taking the step of porting her helm as she did? If the Court found that it was a wrong step, it would have no difficulty in deciding the next point, that that step contributed to the result that had ensued. That was the case between the two ships; and upon the points he had raised he would cite the case of the *Black Diamond* (*Pritchard*, vol. 2, p. 1041.) The point established in that case was, like that in the *Rona* and *Ava* case, that porting the helm was not a proper thing to do until the exact position of the other vessel was distinctly known—it was not permitted as a precautionary measure at all. Mr. Drummond concluded by saying he would not proceed further with the case at the present time, but proceed at once to call evidence in support of the *Fusing's* case. He would first call Mr. Tong King-sing.

His LORDSHIP asked if this witness was to be called to prove ownership?

Mr. DRUMMOND said, yes.

His LORDSHIP—Is not that admitted?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—We should like to hear what Mr. Tong King-sing has to say.

TONG KING-SING, deposed—I am plaintiff in this suit, and also a shareholder and manager of the C. M. S. N. Company, the owner of the vessel that was lost. I have here a list in Chinese of the shareholders of the Company, and also of the owners of the cargo that was on board the ship. The Company were the owners of the rice that was on board when the ship was lost. I am acting in this case with the knowledge and consent of all the others of the Company and the owners of the cargo. I produce the bill of sale of the *Fusing*. It gives the particulars of the steamer *Precursor*, which was the former name of the *Fusing*. There are 447 names in the list of shareholders of the Company.

By Mr. HANNEN—Amongst those 447, there are no foreigners. We give instructions to our Captains to follow the English sailing rules. The instructions are given by word of mouth, not in writing. All the ships are commanded by either American or English Captains, chiefly English.

ROBERT MORTON ANDREWS, examined by Mr. Eames, deposed—I was master of the *Fusing*. I left Shanghai on the last voyage, on the 3rd April. I have been on this coast for three years and a half or four years, running North. I was bound to Tientsin, and was steering the usual course. On the 4th of April, at 10.40 a.m., I had a collision. The weather was foggy, with light wind from S. S. W. The first intimation I had of a steamer being near, was hearing a whistle on the starboard bow. I was on the port quarter deck at the time. There was no bridge. The wheel was forward, on a high deck—about 2½ to 3 feet high. The model produced is made to scale. The wheelhouse was just abaft the foremast. It was a wide wheelhouse, with an open front. The second officer and second engineer were on duty at the time, with a Chinese on the look-out, and a Chinese quartermaster at the wheel. The fog set in thick about 6 a.m. Before the fog set in the *Fusing* was going about 8¾ knots; it was afterwards—at 6 o'clock—reduced to five or six knots. I do not know if the speed was afterwards further reduced. I went forward when I heard the whistle, and at the same time I heard our gong strike to slow. We were then going at reduced speed. That reduced her to very nearly dead slow. I put my head down the engine room skylight, and told them to stop her. The engines would at that speed be stopped very quickly, and the vessel would stop in five or six lengths.

By His LORDSHIP—The ship was 202 feet long.

Examination resumed—The collision occurred soon after this, and I suppose the ship had gone four or five lengths. I heard the *Ocean's* whistle a second time. That was after we had stopped the engines. When I saw the *Ocean*, I gave the order to reverse the engines. The *Ocean* was about two lengths distant, on the starboard bow, bearing about 6½ to 7 points. When I saw her, I ordered the helm to be put hard-a-starboard and to reverse the engines. That was about 30 seconds before she struck us. I do not think the *Fusing* answered the starboard helm at all. The *Ocean* then came into collision with us, and nearly cut us through. The *Fusing* did not float more than four or five minutes afterwards. We had no time to save anything but what we had on. Neither of the log books was saved. Several of the crew were drowned, and one officer, the third engineer. I never saw any of the old logs. I only saw the one in use. It was in use when I took command. I know of no other. I have had prepared a model illustration of the position in which the ships were just before and at the time of the collision. (Witness produced the model—a very ingenious contrivance—and explained it to the Court, by means of two moveable models of the ships.) It is a fair and proper representation of the position of the ships. I also produce a chart, on which the positions of the *Ocean* and *Fusing* are marked. If the *Ocean* had not altered her helm, it is impossible that a collision could have occurred. If she had kept on her course, she would, as far as I could judge, have passed the *Fusing* about a quarter of a mile distant. There were windows all round the wheel-house, and the helmsman had no difficulty in looking well forward—the mast was no obstacle.

By Mr. HANNEN—We were following the outer course marked in pencil on the chart, not the inner one. The inner line is a bee line from one point to another. It starts from Shaweishan, and would clear the Promontory by about six or seven miles. The outer course was the ordinary course on a flood tide. I did not see Shaweishan at all on shaping my course to run out. We passed Shaweishan about seven in the evening. Of course, I ran across the banks from the Lightship. We were at the Lightship at four p.m. I kept the same course, N.E., until eight o'clock, until I made sure I was past Shaweishan. At that hour I changed the course, and considered I was four miles north of Shaweishan. I changed the course to N.N.E., and continued on it until twelve. I set my patent log at eight and hauled it in at twelve. We had then gone 35 miles by the log. At twelve I changed my course again to N. ½ E., and continued running on that course until the collison. At eight a.m. we had run 99 miles by the log, and at 10.40, the time of the collision, 120 miles altogether.

Mr. HANNEN said the plaintiff's preliminary act said 125 miles.

His LORDSHIP said the statements in the preliminary act should be kept to.

Witness resumed—I had a conversation with the captain of the *Ocean* as to the distance I had run. I said it was 120 miles, not 125. I am still in the service of the Company, but have no command. I am waiting for a ship to come from home. I was walking on the port quarter deck, when I heard the first whistle. The sound was on the starboard bow. I went forward, and asked the second mate "Where is she?" He said, "Broad on the starboard bow." The lookout man was stationed quite forward, in the night-heads. When the fog came on, I kept the two look-out men still on duty. That was an extra precaution, because during the day the only persons on the look-out are the officer of the watch and the man at the wheel. When I got forward, I heard the whistle again, a little before the beam. It appeared to be travelling past us on the starboard beam. Supposing the *Fusing's* helm had been starboarded and her head went a little to port, the effect would have been exactly the same. Immediately after the second whistle I saw the *Ocean*, and ordered the helm hard-a-starboard and the engines full speed astern. The compass was in the wheelhouse. I was standing outside, and could not see the compass. The man tried to execute the order to starboard, but there was no time for the ship to answer it before she was struck. There was about time to get the helm down. The *Ocean* cut into us about 20 feet. The *Fusing* was thin plated, not very thin. I had a survey made of her at Tientsin. I cannot remember the particulars. It was held on account of a collision in the Tientsin river. I believe there was a remark in the report as to the excessive thinness of the plates. Altogether there were about 100 people on board. We had four boats, and one of the larger ones helped to save life. She stayed and picked up till she was full. There were 26 in her. She was one of the largest. The smaller ones would hold about 20 each. The old logs are always kept on board a ship, till they get worms in them, and then they are taken on shore. I never saw any of the old logs of the *Fusing* on board. When the *Ocean* struck us, she was coming very nearly at right angles, and her head was about W. by S. Her head must have been very nearly West, with a little South. The string of the *Fusing's* whistle led over the front of the wheel-house, and in through the window. The engine room telegraph was inside the wheel-house. As a rule the quartermaster at the wheel was the only person stationed in the wheel-house. At the moment of hearing

the *Ocean's* whistle, he was the only person in there. The *Fusing's* screw was a right-handed screw. Standing where I was, and in a fog, looking forward, I could not see if the ship's head went round, without looking at the compass—unless by looking back at the wake. When we see a steamer ahead, we port our helm. If we only hear her, we stop the engines, and wait till we see her; and neither port nor starboard. So far as I know, other vessels of the Company follow the same rule. We carry four quartermasters. Three were saved. I know of no steamers on the coast which do not follow the English sailing rules. One of the quartermasters lost was off watch, one was sick, one was the wheel. There was only one quarter-master on watch at the time of the collision, and he was steering. There was no extra hand put on instead of the quarter-master who was sick.

Re-examined by Mr. Eames—I have my certificate; it is dated 1868; it is that of an extra master. It has not been usual for us to see how near we can get to land without touching. We usually give the shore a good berth. The courses I have given are the true courses. There was a ¼ point westerly deviation. A survey was made of the *Fusing* at Tientsin, on the 4th or 5th March; another was made in Shanghai, on the 3rd April. It made by Captain Barton and Captain Bolton. I have never seen a ship with *every* log book on board. They are generally kept till they get worms in them, and then sent ashore.

[Mr. Hannen objected that the survey report must be handed in by Captain Bolton. It could not be handed in by the witness. The Court agreed.]

Witness—the Surveyors reported that she was a good risk.

Mr. Eames—You have been asked about a conversation you had with Captain Brown after the collision. What was that conversation?

Mr. Hannen objected that this was introducing new matter. His question had only had reference to a particular point.

His Lordship ruled that Mr. Eames was entitled to elicit the whole, for this reason; it would otherwise be possible for the opposing Counsel to elicit only one point in the conversation and confine a witness to that, if he found the rest was likely to make against him.

Mr. Hannen admitted the reason was good so far, but contended that the reason why the introduction of fresh matter in re-examination was inadmissible, was that the other side had no chance of cross-examining upon it.

Mr. Drummond said there would be no objection to Mr. Hannen cross-examining, and

Witness continued—Captain Brown said the reason he put his helm a-port was that she answered that helm so much more quickly than the starboard helm. He also said that he had had great trouble with his engines in going astern.

To the Assessor—Our lowest speed, if we eased her down, was 3 knots. There was not wind enough to keep our fore and aft sails full. They were flat. The distance of our whistle from the leech of the fore-trysail was about 10 feet. I had no reason to believe that the sound of the whistle would be diverted by the trysail.

To the Judge—There was very little wind; we had had sails set all night. There had been a strong wind, but it had been going down from midnight, and there was very little at the time of the collision; we were going at a rate of 6½ knots. The effect of reducing to 3 knots would not to allow the wind to fill the sails. It might allow them to fill a little more, but not enough to have any force on the ship; there was not enough wind. I cannot tell the rate of the flood tide at the time of the collision. We have very little tide when we get past the entrance to the Yangtsze. At the time of the collision, we had run 120 miles. At 8 o'clock we had run 99 miles.

The Chief Judge—Therefore, from 8 o'clock up to the time of the collision (at 10.40) you had run 21 miles. If you divide 21 by 2h. 40m., that gives a speed of over 8 knots an hour. How do you reconcile that with your statement that the speed was 5 or 6 knots?

Witness admitted the discrepancy, and said he must look into it; he might be mistaken.

The Chief Judge wished that he would do so. The Court had of course no wish to trip him up. It only wished to ascertain the actual fact.

Mr. Hannen said the witness had no means of checking his statement except by thinking it over. The log-book had gone down; and there was witness's formal deposition.

Counsel for plaintiff suggested the distance was only estimated, and it was difficult to judge in a fog.

Witness continued, (in reply to the Judge)—I do not think it would have been better to go on when I heard a whistle broad on the starboard bow. I stopped, fearing we might come in collision. To go on might in some cases lead to the ship drawing clear, but it would not have done so in this instance. I think the order to stop was a proper one. I have said that I heard the sound of the whistle apparently travelling along the starboard beam. [In answer to a question if he still thought it right to stop?] I saw the *Ocean* directly after.

Hugh Brook Rose, examined by Mr. Drummond, deposed—I was second officer of the *Fusing*. I had a certificate of competency as second mate. It was lost with the ship. At the time of the collision I was officer of the watch, and was stationed between the wheelhouse and the bow. When I went on duty at 8 in the morning of the 4th April, the ship's course was N. ¼ E. by the magnetic compass. There was only about 2° variation W. There was very little difference between the magnetic and the true course at that place.

By Captain Roskell—The deviation of the wheelhouse compass was hardly appreciable on the Northerly course.

Examination resumed—I did not change the course while I was on duty. We had the sails set that appear in the model. They were not drawing. The booms were secured by a tackle amidships. The ship was making five and-a-half or six knots when I went on deck. The weather was thick, foggy.

By His Lordship—We could see about a length and a half of the ship. The fog was general, not local.

Examination resumed—There was little or no wind. What little there was came from the S.S.W., and was favourable for our course. There was a rolling sea, and I think it came from the S.S.E. I do not think it was strongh enough to check the progress of a vessel. I kept the whistle blowing at intervals, and had a man on the look-out in the bow. I should say the sails that we had then set would not interefere with the sound of the whistle. The booms were on the starboard side, I do not think the sound was interfered with at all. Ours was a shrill whistle, not one of the deep-toned American whistles. The speed of the ship was reduced before I came on deck. The chief mate was then on watch. The *Fusing*, at her best speed, might have gone 9½ knots. I should say that would be her best speed. Her best speed, in my watches, was 8¾. She made that the night before the collision.

By His Lordship—My watch the night before was from 8 o'clock until 2 a.m.

Examination resumed—The station of the officer of the watch in the *Fusing* was between the wheelhouse and the bow. There was no one near me on deck at the time of the collision. The first I knew of another steamer being near me was by hearing her whistle. The sound was on the starboard bow, distant I should say, about three or four points.

A large drawing of a compass was here produced, and the witness was requested by Mr. Drummond to place the model of the *Fusing* in the position she was alleged to be when he first heard the whistle, and afterwards the model of the *Ocean* where he supposed she was at that time.

Examination resumed—I am quite positive that the noise I heard was on the starboard bow and at least three points. Our ship was then going from 5½ to 6 knots—at reduced speed. When I heard the other whistle I answered with ours. I gave an order to the man at the wheel to sound the whistle, I gave him no other order by voice. I also telegraphed to the engine room to slow the engines. That would bring the ship to dead slow, to about 2 to 2½ knots, just keeping way on her. She would gradually come down to that from the 5½ or 6 she was previously going. I think she might have gone about a couple of ship's lengths before she came down to 2 knots. Our whistle was answered from the other ship in a very short time indeed. All three whistles were immediately after each other. The sound of the second whistle seemed to be travelling along towards our stern. I could not see the other steamer then, and the only idea I formed was that she was a passing ship. From the direction of the sound it seemed as if the other steamer was clearing us. When the captain was standing near me on the deck, I heard him give the order to hard-a-starboard. That was only a little over 30 seconds before the collision. The other vessel was in sight then, just coming out of the fog. I cannot tell whether the man obeyed the order to hard-a-starboard. There was not time for him to have got the helm hard over. Supposing him to have had time to alter the helm, the ship's course would have been very little altered at the slow speed she was going, I do not think the man could have got the wheel half-over in 30 seconds. The wheel was forward, and there was a long drift of chain to the stern. It takes longer to put a wheel over when it is forward than when it is astern. (Witness next placed the models in the position the ships were when the *Ocean* was seen by him.) The *Ocean* was then close to us, and I heard the captain say, "My God, she's into us,—full speed astern." That order was given after the order to starboard—almost immediately afterwards. I could tell it was obeyed, but the only way I could judge was by the *Ocean's* bow. If our ship had not stopped, I believe the *Ocean's* bow would have cut as far as our engine-room. I believe the *Fusing* was very nearly stopped at the time of the collision. The *Ocean* appeared to me to be going between W. and W. S. W. That was heading into the shoals, according to the chart. The *Ocean* must have changed ner course very considerably to have got into that position. She must have gone round on a port helm. She struck the *Fusing* on the starboard bow. (Witness placed the models at the angle indicated by their then position.) I left the deck for about a quarter of an hour, when the chief mate took my place. With that exception, I was on deck until the time of the collision. I kept a look-out at the wheel compass, and am certain there was no change of course up to a few seconds before the collision, when the captain gave the order to hard-a-starboard. If that order had been carried out, it would only have caused the *Ocean* to strike us about the engine room, but there was no time to carry it out. The *Ocean* would not have cleared us if it had been carried out. Placing the model of the *Ocean* the same distance on the port bow of the *Fusing*, the witness said if the latter had starboarded her helm in that position there might have been no collision. We should have had to have starboarded some five or six points. From what I know of the respective courses and the speed of the two ships, it would have been impossible for them to have struck, supposing the *Ocean* to have been on our port bow. To have got into that position the *Fusing* must have gone off her course five or six points, which she did not do. In a thick fog, hearing a whistle not very far off, but not seeing anything, it would be my duty to return the whistle. If the whistle was ahead, I should stop instantly,—if two or three points on the bow, I should, in that place on the coast, as a measure of precaution, slow the engines.

By His Lordship—From the quarter in which I heard the whistle, I could not tell whether the other ship's head was pointing North or South—coming towards us or going away from us.

Examination resumed—I should not change the ship's course under any circumstances until I saw the other ship. That was the reason I did not change her course when I heard the whistle. If the ships had kept on their true course towards their respective ports, North and South, I believe they would have passed clear by a quarter of a mile. The only indication of the speed of the *Ocean* that I had was the little jet or feather of water thrown up by her stem. I am not aware there was any tide there to cause that. I should imagine her speed to have been six knots. I should estimate it at that, but I only had time to turn round from the engine room and glance at her. I am quite sure she was moving forward, towards us. She cut into the *Fusing* about 15 feet. The *Fusing* had a very large beam, about 30 feet. She was what would be called a bluff-bowed ship. The *Ocean* cut into the fore skylight, about 20 or 30 feet from the stem. There was some rice in bags stowed just where the *Ocean's* bow struck. The compartment

was full of cargo. I should say it would have added to the resistance of the *Fusing* to the blow, as rice is very heavy. After the collision, when the ships came apart, the *Fusing* seemed to be quite stationary and settling down. The *Ocean* disappeared by backing into the fog, somewhere about from where she came. The sea rushed into the *Fusing* immediately, and the bow seemed to go under directly. The plates seemed to be all broken and smashed. She sunk in about four minutes, I should think. We tried to clear away the boats, as being the only step we could take to save life. One boat saved several lives. I was clearing another boat when the ship sunk, and I went down with her. I came to the surface, and caught a log of wood, and was afterwards taken into Capt. Andrews' boat.

By Mr. HANNEN—On the morning of the collision there was a swell on, but not enough to check the speed of a vessel coming South. There were 26 persons saved in the *Fusing's* boat. They were as many as she could carry in a calm heaving sea. There were other boats coming from the *Ocean*. I do not know where the ship was when I came on deck at eight o'clock the night before. I was told she had passed Shaweishan. I believe there were indications of fog at that time. There was not a similar fog to that of the following morning. There was sufficient fog to obscure the Shaweishan light—a very little fog will do that. The light is very high, and sometimes we can see the land and not the light, because of fog. I had no orders to slacken the speed, although it was a foggy night, and so kept on at full speed. I estimated the speed by the vibration of the ship, and by looking over the side of the ship at the water. We slackened speed in the morning because of the increased fog. I kept the sails up, because I thought the fog would clear off and a wind spring up. The sails were doing no harm, and in fact no good. I had every reason to expect the fog to clear off, as it had done before, and it did clear soon after the ship was lost. I heard a whistle on our starboard bow, and it was answered almost instantly. I know it takes some little time for sound to travel. The *Ocean* cut into us 15 feet, but I did not see that a portion of our bow was torn out in the direction of aft. I was looking at the *Ocean's* bow, and for a means of escape. After the first whistle, I was not certain which way she was steaming—whether towards us or away from us. The second whistle seemed to be travelling towards our stern, and I concluded she was a passing steamer, until I saw her. There was a Chinaman on the watch with me. He was not a quartermaster. There were four quartermasters on board, one of whom was sick. One of them was drowned. I cannot say whether our ship went at all to port. I did not look at the compass. I did not hear the helm changed. I could have heard the helm chains from where I was standing. The *Fusing* would, I think, lose her way in about two lengths after slowing the engines, and she would stop entirely in 30 seconds after reversing them. The time between my striking the gong to go slow, and the Captain's order to go full speed astern, was I think two or three minutes. (Witness then described the mode of communicating from the deck to the engine-room.) If the engines were going slow, one gong would make them go dead slow—the engines only just moving.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—Had the second quartermaster not been sick, he would have been on deck. We put a sailor in his place. Sometimes a man was kept on the look-out in the daytime, and nearly always two during the night. I do not think it necessary to have two, but it is the custom. Had there been two men on the look-out, I do not think the collision would have been avoided. The first whistle I heard was, I think, heard all over the ship, but it was not reported by the look-out man. I left the sails set because I expected a breeze from the S.S.W. and the fog to clear, as that frequently happens on this coast.

By Captain ROSKELL—I feel quite sure in my own mind that the first whistle I heard was on our starboard bow. There was nothing to obstruct the sound.

By his LORDSHIP—The weather between twelve o'clock and two on the previous night was foggy—it was what we called a drifting fog, opening and closing. The course was not altered during that time. I hauled in the log at twelve, and found we had run 35 miles. The chief mate hauled it in at eight in the morning, but I do not know what was on it. It was down when the ship sunk.

JAMES FERRIER, examined by Mr. Eames, deposed—I was chief engineer of the *Fusing*. I went off duty at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 4th. The second engineer relieved me. I went to my berth, close to the engine-room skylight. The first I heard of something being wrong was hearing a gong. When I left the deck, the ship was going at reduced speed, about five or six knots. The gong meant to go slower—about a mile-and-a-half an hour. I was partially dressed, and made preparation to go on deck. I got on deck just at the moment of the collision. I looked down in the engine-room, and saw the engines were going astern. The bow of the *Fusing* was just going under water. The *Ocean* was backing away from her. I went below, by the Captain's order, stopped the engines, and opened the safety valve. The ship sunk in about four minutes. I had just time to run aft, after coming up out of the engine-room, before the ship sunk from under me. The ship's best speed was about 9 knots, at 62 revolutions; when slowed down, there would be about 48 revolutions. The engine-room log was lost. I consider the *Ocean* had cut two or three feet more than half across the *Fusing's* deck. I heard the captain give the order to move the engines at dead slow, to keep the ships together. The *Ocean* was then backing off. Captain Brown, Captain Andrews and myself were talking together after the collision. Captain Brown in the course of the conversation said he had had some little trouble with his engines at Singapore—they would not go astern, but were now a little better.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—My cabin was on the starboard side. I did not go forward at all. The *Ocean* was just backing out when I first saw her after the collision. I was 70 or 80 feet away from the bow, but could judge the distance the *Fusing* was cut into, by seeing the *Ocean's* bow half across her deck. At full speed the *Fusing's* engines made 62 revolutions, and reduced speed would make a difference of three or four knots per hour. I judge of that from experience, and my knowledge of the ship, after being in her for a year and a half. The time that elapsed from the collision to the sinking was about four minutes. I was about a minute and a half in the engine-room. Captain Brown did not mean that he had any difficulty with his engines on this occasion. He was speaking of them generally. He said he usually ported his helm, because the *Ocean* went round quicker that way. He did not mention that in connection with his not knowing where the *Fusing* was.

JAMES SHERER, examined by Mr. Drummond, deposed—I was second engineer of the *Fusing*. I took charge of the engines on the 4th April, at 8. a.m. The engines were then making 47 or 48 revolutions. I do not know what speed that would give.

By His LORDSHIP—I have known the *Fusing's* engines to make 69 revolutions. That was in the river, going to Hankow.

Examination resumed—In bad weather and with a sea on, the engines might make a great number of revolutions, and the ship make little way. In ordinary weather the revolutions are a guide to speed. On looking at the sea I would be able to judge the speed. On the morning of the 4th April, there was a slight swell on, but no broken water. When I took charge of the engines I was told to keep them as they were. About two hours and-a-half after I had been on duty, I received an order by the gong to go slow. I obeyed it immediately, and reduced the engines to dead slow, about 20 revolutions. She continued at that about ten seconds, when the Captain called down the skylight to stop her. I did that, and entered both orders on the log slate. Almost immediately I received another order to go full speed astern. I obeyed it, and the engines were going astern for about a minute. I felt the shock of the collision, but cannot judge what the ship was doing at that time. I remained in the engine-room about half-a-minute, opened the tube and furnace doors, and then went on deck. The chief engineer told me the ship was sinking. He went down into the engine-room, and I followed him. I have been an engineer for two years and two months, and had a certificate, but it was lost in the ship.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I saw there was a slight swell on that morning, but no broken water. I merely glanced over the rail as I went along. I could not judge of the speed of the *Fusing* from the number of revolutions of the engines. My cabin was on the port side, near the engine-room. There are no means of calculating the exact speed from the number of revolutions. I have no reason to suppose that I have a more accurate recollection of the circumstances now than when I was before the Naval Court. From the time I got the orders from the Captain until the ship was struck was about a minute and a half. When I left the engine-room, the engines were going full speed astern. I "have no mind" what I said before the Naval Court. When I came up out of the engine-room, I went first to my berth, and then met the chief engineer. He went down to the engine-room and I followed. We were down about half-a-minute, and the chief engineer then said we would go aft, as it was our only chance of escape.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—The reason I left the engine-room was that I thought the ship was going to sink immediately. I could see she was very much down by the head, because the platforms were sloping.

FREDERICK H. WALLACE (examined by Mr. DRUMMOND) deposed—I was chief officer of the *Fusing*. At the time of the collision I was in my berth. I had been on duty from two o'clock until eight. I relieved the second officer at nine for a few minutes. The ship was then going between five and six knots, on account of the fog. By the wheelhouse compass, the ship was steering N. ¼ E. There was a deviation of ¼ point W. by the standard compass. The true course was N. ½ E. We did not see Shaweishan, but judged that we passed it about seven on the previous evening. The log was put over at eight o'clock, and was hauled in every four hours. The collision took place about 120 miles N. of Shaweishan, but I cannot be certain within a margin of five miles. We took no observation that morning, because there was no sun, and our only guide to the position of the ship was the course steered and the distance run. My cabin was on the port side, aft, and I was awoke by hearing the Captain call out. I got out of bed, and almost immediately felt the shock. I went forward, and saw that the ships were then in actual contact. She had cut the *Fusing* more than half through. I did not observe how the engines were going at the time. Almost immediately before the collision, I heard the Captain order the helm to be put hard-a-starboard. It was about ten seconds previous. The order to reverse the engines had been given before. From the time of the collision to the ship sinking was about three or four minutes. I went aft, and then saw the *Ocean* backing off into the fog. There was a slight roll of about three or four feet, but no broken water, and not sufficient to check the *Ocean* more than half a knot. It would not have increased the speed of the *Fusing* so much as a knot. There was no wind to make our sails draw. When the water had got to the funnel, I jumped overboard and was picked up by one of the *Ocean's* boats. Everything was done that could be to save life.

By Mr. HANNEN—I hauled in the log at eight o'clock on the morning of the collision. It marked 99 miles. I had also hauled it in at four o'clock, and it then marked 71 miles. I do not not know what it marked at twelve o'clock. The lines drawn on the chart produced were, I think, the course steered. At seven the previous evening, we were in six fathoms. The weather was at times foggy and clear. It was foggy when we passed Shaweishan. We could see about a mile, and were going at full speed. I cannot say if the *Fusing's* bow was torn in a backward direction. I only saw the *Ocean's* bow was more than half across the *Fusing's* deck.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—The 99 miles were made in 12 hours, from eight to eight, but for the last two hours we went at reduced speed. For ten hours, the speed was about 8¾ knots, and from 6 to 8 o'clock, it only about five or six knots.

Captain BARTON deposed—I surveyed the *Fusing* just before she left on her last voyage, on behalf of her owners and the insurance offices—the Union of Canton, the Yangtze, the China and Japan and the Chinese. The

report produced is the one I made at the time. It bears my signature.

By Mr. Wainewright — I study the interest of those offices, and it is my duty to survey all ships insured with them. All the offices named had a risk upon the *Fusing*. My report was a favourable one. She was an awning-decked ship, and her plates were half-inch and five-eighths, the top plates being lighter. She was strongly built for her class, 80 at Lloyd's. I consider her plates were strong enough for her size. She had been in collision with the *Haining*, and I simply looked to see if the repairs had been properly carried out.

The Court then adjourned till 10.30 next morning.

May 21st.

The Court resumed this morning at 10.30, the first witness called being,

Chen Ah-kung, who, examined by Mr. Eames, through a native interpreter, deposed—I was one of the native quartermasters of the *Fusing*. I left Shanghai in the ship. I was on duty at the time of the collision. There was a thick fog. It was part of my duty, in a fog, to blow the whistle. On that morning, I blew it often, but cannot tell the exact time; there was no clock in the wheel-house. I went on duty at 8 o'clock. I heard another whistle on the starboard side of the ship; I cannot tell the position exactly, but the sound came from a vessel a-head on the starboard side. I could not see the vessel. When I went to the wheel, the *Fusing* was heading N. ¼ E. I kept on the same course, without change. I heard the *Ocean's* whistle twice. The *Fusing* answered the first whistle, and then whistled twice afterwards,—three times in all. The ships came into collision in a very short time after the *Ocean's* first whistle. I have been a quartermaster for about a year. The *Fusing* was going very slow when the whistle was heard. There was no order given on board the *Fusing* until after the last whistle on board the *Ocean*, when the Captain ordered me to change the helm to hard-over-starboard, but I had no time to get it over before the collision. There was no time to alter the course.

Mr. Eames said they had called this witness as a matter of course, and he thought he need not ask him any more questions.

By Mr. Hannen—On the evening of the 3rd, I was on duty from six to eight o'clock. The weather was "pretty dark," with very slight fog. I could not see the Shaweishan light on account of the fog. At the time of the collision, the captain, second officer, and also a quartermaster and a sailor, were on the look-out, besides myself at the wheel. The quartermaster and sailor were both drowned. The quartermaster's name was E-sun and that of the sailor Ah-kun. The captain, second mate, and quartermaster were walking the deck, the sailor being at the extreme end. The first whistle was very close, and somewhat startled me. The noise was quite close; and considerable bustle ensued. I sounded the whistle, and the second mate ran into the wheel-house, and pulled the string of the gong to stop the engines. I cannot speak certainly as to the time between the sound of the second whistle and the collision, but I should think it was about half-a-minute. During that half-a-minute the captain told me to alter the course, but I do not know what else he did. The quartermaster who was on watch was slightly sick, but he kept his watch nevertheless. From the time of hearing the first whistle, I am sure I did not alter the course of the ship. I kept the helm always amidship, and maintained a straight course. That is the position of the helm when pursuing a straight course.

Re-examined by Mr. Eames—It is no part of my business to ascertain who is on deck on the lookout. It is my business to attend to the wheel only. When on a straight course, I always keep the helm amidships.

Mr. Drummond said that closed the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Wainewright, in opening the defendant's case, said he entirely concurred in the proposition laid down by his friend, Mr. Drummond, that it was a case not to be decided by Admiralty rules, but was solely a question of seamanship. One of the vessels belonging to a country that had not come under the sailing rules, those rules did not apply to it. At the same time he agreed that the sailing rules that had been adopted by every civilized nation were very good guides as to what was the duty of navigators, even though they were not bound by them. So far, he went with his friend's argument, but no further; and he would draw his Lordship's attention to the first proposition, that in cases of this kind the plaintiffs had cast upon them the burden of proof that they were in the right and the defendant in the wrong. There were several cases upon this point reported. One was the *City of London* (*Swaby*, page 301), in which Lord Wensleydale had laid it down that the burden of proof, in such cases, lay with the plaintiff, who must show that the cause of loss lay with the opposite party. He would mention two other cases in the same connection, those of H.M.S. *Swallow* (*Swaby*, p. 31), and the *Ligo* (2, *Haggard*, p. 360.) He drew his Lordship's attention to the proposition in the first instance, because he contended that, unless the plaintiff made out a strong and conclusive case against the *Ocean*, the defendant could not be charged with any liability whatever. The plaintiff laid two charges against the *Ocean*,—one, that she was going at an undue rate of speed; and, secondly, that those in charge of her took a wrong step, in ignorance of the facts of the case by which they were surrounded; or, in plain language, that the *Ocean's* speed was too great, and that she was wrong in porting her helm as she had done. The circumstances which surrounded the case were pretty well agreed upon, as would be seen by looking at the preliminary acts filed by the plaintiff and defendant respectively, which agreed as to the time and place of the collision; and, with regard to position of the ships they would be found to be pretty correct when worked out on the chart. There was, however, a difference of five or six miles in the calculations. The *Ocean* made it 130 miles N. of Shaweishan, while the *Fusing* gave it as 125 miles. The plaintiff said the wind was very light at the time, but the defendant's experience of it was somewhat different.

His Lordship—They were going with it, and you were going against it—that might make some difference.

Mr. Wainewright admitted that, and went on to say that both agreed that it was very foggy at the time, and that there was no question respecting lights in the case. They also agreed that when the ships came in sight, they were only 1½ or 2 lengths distant from each other, though some allowance must be made in that agreement, because the *Ocean* was so much longer than the *Fusing*. As to the course and bearing of the ships, some more evidence would have to be obtained. The facts already elicited, however, showed there was no great difference between the cardinal points of the case, except on the very important point as to which bow the *Ocean* was on as regarded the *Fusing*, when she was first heard. The *Ocean* said she was certainly on the *Fusing's* port bow; while the *Fusing* was equally certain that the *Ocean* was on her starboard bow when first heard. Those were the outlines of the case, which, doubtless the Court were familiar with by this time. As to the two charges brought against the *Ocean*, the first of which was the question of speed, evidence would be given as to the speed she was going, and he thought they would be able to show she was going a little over six knots, while the *Fusing* says she was going five-and-a-half or six—but that was not in accordance with the evidence afforded by the log, which was somewhat strange. Plaintiff said the collision took place 125 miles from Shaweishan, but the times and distances run given by them, would leave them at 8 o'clock, on the 4th, 103 miles N. of Shaweishan showing a difference in 2⅔ hours of 22 miles, which would give the *Fusing* a speed of over 8 knots, during the last two hours and forty minutes of her run. The Captain wanted to make it appear that he was 120 miles N. of Shaweishan, but, even taking an extreme case, that would give 6½ knots as the rate they were going. Mr. Wainewright next commented on the evidence given by the engineer and mate of the *Fusing* as to her speed, and also on the mode by which they said they had formed it,—viz., by looking at the sea over the ship's side; and then said he thought he might ask the Court to take it, that the speed of the *Fusing* was about 6½ knots; and by the end of the case he thought the Court would find that the two vessels were going, at the time of the collision, at a nearly equal rate of speed. There was not a pin to choose between them on that point. The question, therefore, was, was it a too great rate of speed under the circumstances? He would now refer the Court to *Pritchard's Digest*, p. 186, where reference was made to the case of the *Europa* (14, *Jurist.*) In the present case, the defendant said it was possible to have avoided the collision, provided the *Fusing* had done all she could, but that his efforts were defeated by the way in which the *Fusing* was handled. In the next case he would cite (the *Perth*, 3, *Haggard*, p. 414) the decision looked as if the Court thought six knots in a crowded way was not too great a speed—and that was about the speed the *Ocean* was going. He meant to contend that it was perfectly reasonable that a steamer in a fog should go six knots. There were several other cases he might quote, in one of which two steamers, going at five knots, came into collision in a harbour, and that was held to be a reasonable speed in such a place as that. It would be for the Court to say whether five or six knots was a reasonable speed in this case. The vessels were not in a crowded way nor in a harbour, and they would also prove that the *Ocean* was going outside the usual course of vessels sailing North—that she was not making for Shanghai at all, but for the Saddle Islands, much more to the East. It would be also proved that extra precautions were taken on board the *Ocean*, and that when she got near the Shantung Promontory, she continued on a course that took her a good deal further out than the course she would have steered had the weather been clear. She then steered East, and Captain Brown considered he was far out of the track of vessels going North, and that he was in no danger of coming across the track of any vessels, because there was no port lying to the Westward.

His Lordship—Except sailing vessels.

Mr. Wainewright would except sailing vessels, but he did not expect that any large steamer would be crossing the *Ocean's* course. During the fog, the whistle was sounded, and warning was so given to anything that was approaching. Next came the point, that a slow rate of speed would have subjected the vessel to the influence of currents, which would have taken her out of her course, and it was clear the other side entertained a similar idea.

His Lordship said the preliminary acts said nothing about currents.

Mr. Wainewright said no, but he should be able to prove the existence of currents, and also their influence, if speed was reduced too much. Reducing the speed too much interfered with the navigation of the ship, which would not answer her helm so well, as the Assessor knew. The next question was—What was the *Ocean's* duty with regard to her helm? As he had said at starting, the case did not rest upon Admiralty Rules, but solely on the principles of navigation. It had been laid down in *Pritchard*, p. 157, section 270, that vessels meeting each other at sea must pass on the larboard (port) hand. Then in a Privy Council case cited in Pritchard at page 207 it was decided that when two vessels approach each other, having the wind free, they must pass on the starboard hand; and again in the case of the *Chancellor*, the rule of the sea is laid down that, when two vessels meet each other, having the wind free, each vessel is bound to port her helm and go to starboard of the other.

His Lordship—But all those cases suppose that the vessels see each other.

Mr. Wainewright said that was so. He thought he need not cite any more authorities, but there was an American case he might mention, which was also a guide to the settled rules of navigation, whether for steam or sailing vessels, which said that on two vessels meeting, each shall port and turn to the right. Therefore, the question was—Was the *Ocean* justified, under the circumstances, in porting her helm; she heard the *Fusing* approaching on her port bow, and very near to her—it was known by her whistle that she was very near. The *Ocean* immediately stopped her engines and went full speed astern, a sign that the danger was thought imminent by those on board. Having the most complete conviction that the *Fusing* was on her port bow, the *Ocean* next did what he (Mr. Wainewright) contended, she was fully entitled to do—ported her helm to get further out of

the way. The *Fusing* must have been a "meeting" vessel, for if the *Ocean* had been following her, she would have heard her whistle several times, and therefore the reasonable thing to do was to port, and she had a right to suppose the *Fusing* would do the same. As the Captain of the *Fusing* had said yesterday, there were no steamers on this coast that did not do as English steamers would do, and, therefore, the *Ocean* had a right to expect that the *Fusing* would port her helm. As to the question of what was her real direction, he thought his Lordship would come to the conclusion, when he had heard the evidence for defendant, that the *Ocean* was justified in thinking the *Fusing* was on her port bow. He did not, in fact, think there was any other course open to the Court, except to say that the ships were very nearly end on to each other, justifying the *Ocean* in porting her helm. Knowing what was the best to be done under the circumstances, they would be able to prove that it was their duty to go to port, and that it was the duty of the *Fusing* to have ported also, which she did not do, but attempted to put her helm to starboard. That point he must leave to the Court; but there was another charge still, and a very grave one, against the *Fusing*, which was, that, when they heard the *Ocean's* whistle, they did not reverse, but went on for about two minutes without reversing their engines, until the vessels were only about 1½ or 2 lengths apart, when they did reverse their engines. He would be able to show that if the *Fusing's* engines had been reversed directly the *Ocean's* whistle was heard, the collision could not have happened. It was their duty to have stopped and reversed at once. On this point, he would refer the Court to *Parsons*, p. 536 to the *Perth*, 3, *Haggard*, to an American case, 6, *Wallace*, and to the *Frankland v.* the *Kestrel* Law Reports, Privy Council cases, vol. 4, p. 529. The marginal note to the latter case said that a steamer in a fog hearing another's whistle, was bound not only to stop her engines, but to reverse them, and that was supported by the judgment. He submitted that, in this case, if the *Fusing* had reversed her engines when she heard the *Ocean's* whistle, there would have been no collision at all. That was proved by their own evidence. Capt. Andrews had said that when her engines were going slow, she would have stopped in five or six lengths; and the mate said she would come down to three knots when going slow. Then he (Mr. Waine-wright) said that if she had reversed her engines, instead of contenting herself with stopping, she would have stopped her way altogether in a very short time; if she had reversed, she would have stopped some 20 or 30 feet from the *Ocean*, and the collision would have been avoided, He, therefore, said the collision arose through the *Fusing* not stopping and reversing her engines, which he contended she ought to have done. Then, again, the *Fusing's* screw was a right-handed one, which would have had the effect of throwing her head to starboard when she went astern, a fact that must be borne in mind with respect to this collision. Those were the points on which he should rely on behalf of the defendant—the neglect of the *Fusing* to port her helm and her failure to stop and reverse her engines. One thing, how-ever, he had passed over, relative to the question on which bow the *Ocean* was, and that was the look-out kept on board the *Fusing*. The evidence of the witness who had been examined on the point that morning, showed that there was most direct conflict of testimony. The second officer had said the quartermaster was sick and not at his duty, while the witness that morning said the quartermaster was a little sick, but was on deck with another man. That at least showed there was some doubt on the point; and the Captain himself was evidently in some doubt, when he went for-ward and asked the second officer "Where is she?" If he was so sure the *Ocean* was on his starboard bow, why should he have asked that question? The second officer also said the man on the look-out reported a whistle on the starboard bow, but the man at the wheel said he did not hear anything said as to where the whistle was. The sole evi-dence as to where the whistle was, lay with the Captain and second officer. He (Mr. Waine-wright), therefore, thought upon the evidence adduced on the question, that there was some doubt about the position of the sound. He would now refer for a moment to the case of the *Rona* and *Ava*, quoted by his friend. That case, he would submit, was distinguishable from this, insomuch that the *Ava* began to port when she was about three miles off, and he thought his friend was wrong in his argument that when a whistle was heard, but the vessel not seen, they must sit down, put their hands in their pockets and do nothing until the approaching vessel was seen.

His LORDSHIP thought it was one of the misuses of the word "seen," because there was also the sense of hearing. He did not think that could be the meaning intended—that when a vessel was heard approaching, but not seen, that nothing was to be done on board the vessel that heard her coming until she was seen.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said it certainly could not be meant that the captain of a ship should sit down and put his hands in his pockets on hearing an approaching ship, and wait until he saw her before doing anything to avoid her; but that was the construction attempted to be put upon it. He would not trouble the Court with any further observations now, but would leave what else might have to be said until after the hearing of evidence.

WILLIAM BROWN was next called, and (examined by Mr. HANNEN) deposed—I am master of the steamship *Ocean*. I have been a master for 20 years. I produce my certificate. It is an extra one. The *Ocean* left Chefoo on the 2nd April, at 2.30. My crew consisted of 19 Europeans and 20 Chinese. The weather was fair. I passed the North Rock at 0 o'clock in the afternoon, leaving it one mile to the S., steering E. ½ N. That course I laid down on the chart produced. Kept that course till 8 o'clock, and then changed to E. ¼ N., and ran it till three o'clock in the morning, when we were 74 miles from the North Rock. Then changed course to S. ½ E. At eight on the previous evening the weather was a little foggy. I kept out further than I otherwise should, in consequence of the fog, to avoid steamers on the coast. From three o'clock kept S. ½ E. till noon on next day. At noon, took an observation, and put down the latitude in the log (produced), 36° 37″ W. and longitude 123° 6″ E. I marked the spot on the chart (produced.) The old log was filled up at Chefoo, and I was obliged to purchase this one.

Mr. HANNEN, referring to the chart produced, said—This chart is the one used by Captain Brown on this voyage, and is left exactly in the state he used it. There are a few pencilled lines drawn on it, which he will explain.

Witness explained—There are two lines drawn on the chart. I discovered an error in the first calculation, and of course corrected it. Therefore, the second line is the accurate one. By 4 a.m. on the 4th, we had run 136 knots by the patent log; by 8 o'clock, 161; making about 6½ knots from four o'clock. At four o'clock, the weather was getting a little foggy. It was sometimes clear and then foggy. At four o'clock I was in bed. The second officer called me, and told me it was a little foggy. I told him to double the look-outs and blow the whistle if it became thick. The wind was then about S.; it had been before about S.E. I got up at seven, but had been up several times during the night. During the night it was blowing a strong breeze, and freshened in the morning; the strongest part of it was about six. There was also a strong sea on. It had washed down in the engine-room, and the decks were all wet. From four o'clock to eight, the speed of the vessel had decreased from about 8½ knots to about 6½. After eight o'clock, she continued at about the same speed, as far as I could judge. I walked round, then, to see if all the officers were in their proper places, and the whistle ready for blowing. There were two look-out men and four other seamen on the deck, with two quartermasters and the second officer. One look-out man was right forward, another 15 feet aft of him, the officer on the bridge, a quartermaster at the wheel, and another just abaft the engine-room hatch. It lightened a little at eight o'clock. After breakfast, I walked about the deck till a few minutes after ten, and then went on the bridge. I remained there until the collision took place. Just after we sounded our whistle, it was answered by another on the portside. I am quite certain it was on the portside. The man forward reported a whistle a-head. I am not aware that any one else reported it. The second officer said something about a vessel on the portbow. I at once ordered the helm to be ported, hard-a-port. The answering whistle was not loud, but a kind of "wavering" sound. I thought the ship was very near. I saw the order to hard-a-port executed. That was the first order I gave. I did not give any order to put the helm a-starboard. I also telegraphed to the engine-room to stop and go full speed astern. The telegraph is a round dial with a handle on it. The handle was turned round to full speed astern. It sounds a bell in the engine-room. I immediately took the handle and turned it, because I thought the other vessel was very close to us. In about a minute, or a minute-and-a-half, the *Fusing* hove in sight. She seemed to be heading right across our bows. That would be about N.W. by the compass. The compass was on the bridge, and I saw it. When the *Fusing* came in sight, the *Ocean* had fallen off. She was then heading S.W. ½ W. She had fallen off about 45 degrees. Our screw is a left-handed screw. When going astern, this would tend to throw her head to port. When the *Fusing* hove in sight, the first thing I saw was her mainsail, and immediately after that I saw the whole length of her broadside. I looked at her stern, and saw the propeller was still moving, and her helm hard a-starboard. The collision took place in 30 or 40 seconds afterwards. The *Ocean* struck her about 15 or 20 feet abaft the stem. I remained on the bridge looking out for the collision until the moment we struck her, when I left the bridge and ran forward. I looked at her bow. The *Ocean* was going only about three knots, but the *Fusing* seemed to be going very fast. The plates of the *Fusing* were torn back by the force of the collision. We struck her at nearly right angles. When I looked over the side, I saw "the wound was fatal," and called out to the people to come on board, but I saw nobody. Our ship got clear, and I then stopped the engines. I was forward, and sung out to stop the engines. They were stopped, and then I ordered out our boats. All our boats were lowered. There were four. We saved 58 people,—five Europeans, the rest Chinese. One of the *Fusing's* boats also saved life. They came to the *Ocean*, and were hauled up on the leeward side. They could not have come alongside on the portside. There was too much sea on. Our fore compartment was full of water, and I had to throw cargo overboard. My boats were out two hours, and I remained by the wreckage seven hours. I was running outside the track of steamers coming from Shanghai. I did so to keep out of the way of steamers on the coast, and because it was a direct line for the Saddles. I was bound for Swatow. When I left Shanghai for Chefoo, I kept in the track of steamers and laid it down on the chart. At the time of the collision, I was about 20 miles outside the usual track of steamers. I was going at about 6½ knots, and I consider that a very moderate rate under the circumstances. With the sea that was then on, the *Ocean* would not have been handy with her helm at a much less rate, on account of the chopping sea. We were not so likely, either, to be drifted about by currents.

His LORDSHIP.—Is there anchorage all along this coast?

Mr. HANNEN.—No my Lord; at this spot there were 42 fathoms of water.

Witness resumed—I have since been informed that there are currents on that coast. I was not aware of it at the time. The exact spot was marked on the chart by observation. The point where we changed our course at noon is marked on the chart, and is the exact spot of the collision, by observation. The spot marked with a blue cross is the spot of the collision by dead reckoning. After leaving this spot, I have drawn my course for Shaweishan. I took the course to reach Shanghai, because I was in disabled state. I left the spot of the collision at 6 p.m. on the 4th ult. The course by the compass that I took was S. by W. ¼ W., and there was a ¼ point difference, making it ½W. true. The weather was clear, and the wind N. I went af 6 knots, because I did not know whether the collision bulkhead would stand at a greater rate of speed. Continued at that pace till a little past nine, when I found the bulkhead would stand, and increased the speed. There was a strong breeze from the N., and I went at 8½ knots. I continued

at that until 7 in the morning, and then took soundings—13 fathoms. Went on at the same pace, until 9.30, and then saw Shaweishan just about the time that I expected to sight it. The spot of the collision as marked on the chart, worked out true—came out correct within a mile or two.

His Lordship asked how many miles he had run.

Mr. Hannen (after measuring on the chart,) said it was 134.

Mr. Wainewright.—And a little more where the course turns in.

His Lordship asked how far that differed from the *Fusing's* chart.

Is was said it was not the same chart, nor on the same scale as the *Fusing's*.

Captain Roskell measured the two charts, and found the *Fusing* had laid it down as 121 miles, and the *Ocean* 131 miles, to the scene of the collision from Shaweishan.

Mr. Wainewright—And in their preliminary act, the *Fusing* gives it as 125 miles.

Witness resumed—I had a conversation with Captain Andrews on the day after the collision. I did say that I had had a little difficulty with my engines in going astern, but I did not say they were a little better now. I did not tell him that my reason for porting my helm was that the ship would go round quicker on that helm. I remember having a difficulty when the starting pedestal broke. That pedestal was renewed altogether in Shanghai. There was no difficulty in reversing the engines after that. I might have talked to Capt. Andrews about the ship's going. It is just possible I might have said the *Ocean* went round quicker on a port helm, but I did not give it as a reason for porting on this occasion, nor was it a reason. Part of a plate of the *Fusing's* side was left on board the *Ocean*, after the collision. I have not got it now, because it was washed overboard. It was very thin,—much thinner than the *Ocean's*.

By Mr. Drummond—I was never up this coast before to Tientsin. I went up in company with another vessel, and following the course she took. That is all I know about the track of vessels on that course, and from what I have been told about it by other captains. The chief mate keeps the log. I cannot say when it was written up. I have not got my official log here. The first course I laid on the chart was incorrect, but I corrected it immediately after. It made the vessel further out. I was told that the wind was strongest at six o'clock. It decreased considerably from six till eight, and then freshened again. Our speed was decreased to six-and-a-half knots by the sea and wind. I do not know what speed the engines were going at—or what revolutions they were making. They were not to my knowledge, changed to reduce the speed. The greatest speed of the *Ocean* is a little over nine knots. At the time of the collision, I could see perhaps a distance of a length and a half of the ship, but not more, on account of the fog.

At this point of the case, the Chief Judge, after consulting with the Assessor, expressed the opinion, 1st, in the case of the *Fusing*, that the rate of speed, considering the dense fog that prevailed, giving it only as stated in evidence by the witnesses for the plaintiff, as five and a half or six knots per hour with a following sea, was too great; that the *Fusing* did not reverse on hearing the first whistle of the *Ocean*, but only slowed down by order of the second officer, and then stopped by order of the Captain; and that her lookout was insufficient. As regards the *Ocean*, the Court considers the Captain's own evidence conclusively shows that, at the least the steamer was certainly going at six and a half knots, after allowing for all opposition of wind and sea; and that notwithstanding the fog—so dense that he could not see more than half a length beyond his own ship's length—he never slowed his engines, but kept them at the full speed rate of eight to nine knots, however, much the wind and waves may have checked the speed; and the Court considers that the rate the vessel was going, six and a half knots, was unjustifiable in such a fog as then prevailed. The Court did not wish to stop the case at this juncture, but unless there was evidence to be produced that would alter the opinion just expressed, it was hardly worth going on further. It was the duty of a captain to go dead slow in a fog, and, when another vessel was heard, whether ahead, or on the port or starboard hand, it was his duty to stop and reverse the engines at once. He must say that for those who had the care of the lives of passengers and crew, to go through the water, in a dense fog, at the rate of six knots per hour, was monstrous. It had been shown that the *Fusing* could go as slow as three and-a-half knots, and she ought to have gone down to that. It appeared to the Court and Assessor that both steamers were wrong in going at the rate of speed they did under the circumstances.

Mr. Hannen said the Captains of steamers on the coast considered it was the best speed they could go at, under such circumstances.

His Lordship—Then it is high time they learnt differently.

Mr. Drummond asked if the Court would express an opinion on the *Ocean* porting her helm.

His Lordship did not reply directly, but said if there was likely to be an appeal he would go on taking the evidence.

Mr. Hannen—So far as we are concerned, we think we are not justified in throwing up our case.

Mr. Wainewright—If the case is appealed, the underwriters will want all the evidence they can get.

His Lordship—Very well, then we will go on with it; but so long as the fact remains that the ships were going six knots an hour in a dense fog, it will not alter the opinion of the Court.

Mr. Drummond said that, so far as the plaintiffs were concerned, they were willing to accept the opinion expressed by the Court as a judgment in the case.

His Lordship (to Mr. Hannen)—Are you going to show that you were going less than six knots per hour.

Mr. Hannen—No, my Lord.

His Lordship—Then you will now confine yourselves to the question of porting the helm?

Mr. Hannen—Yes, my Lord; but the question of porting might be shown to have influenced the speed.

His Lordship—Is it intended to appeal?

Mr. Hannen—I cannot say; we are in the hands of the underwriters.

A brief consultation took place, and it was decided to go on with the evidence.

Capt. Brown resumed—I do not know how many revolutions the engines were making. The whistle I heard was a "wavering" sound. I do not know that that would indicate distance—it seemed to be very close to us. The *Ocean* would perhaps go a quarter of a mile after her engines were put full speed astern, having been originally full speed ahead. I am not sure about it, and can only give my opinion. I ordered the helm to be put hard-a-port, and at that time saw nothing but fog around. I heard only one whistle before porting my helm. That order would only be justified by the other ship being nearly end on to me. I should say those words "end on" cover two points on each side the bow. I am not aware that it has been decided that a point-and-a-half is defined as being the outside limit. I never gave an order to starboard. The second officer was on the bridge with me, and if he had given the order to starboard I must have heard it. I had a man—a European—stationed for the purpose of passing on my orders to the man at the wheel. If he says he heard an order given to starboard, I cannot imagine where he got it from. I do not know that he did hear it—I cannot account how he got it into his head. I do not think it is possible he could have heard it from the other ship, and passed it on as an order from me. When I saw the *Fusing's* propeller moving, I should not like to say whether it was going ahead or astern. I noticed clearly that her helm was hard-a-starboard. I noticed nothing particular about the sails, only that they were set. I have only had experience in collisions previously in Shanghai—nowhere else. I gathered all those important points as to the propeller, the helm, and the sails at that critical moment at a glance—I saw the whole ship. The collision took place in about 30 seconds afterwards. At Singapore, the *Ocean's* engines would not move, but I do not say that I told Captain Andrews so. I might have said something to him about the engines. I certainly did not tell him that I ported my helm, on the occasion of the collision, because the *Ocean* would go round much quicker on a port helm. I ran into the *Ichang* about three months ago, on leaving the wharf; and on another occasion, at Woosung, the *Ocean* did not swing to her anchor so soon as we expected. I cannot say she took the bottom. The pilot was in charge.

By His Lordship—She was then drawing 16 feet of water.

By Mr. Drummond—I should think the *Ocean* could be stopped in three or four minutes. At Woosung, she would not go either ahead or astern, but it was in consequence of a nut or something of that sort dropping out of the machinery.

By Mr. Hannen—Immediately previous to the collision, the engines reversed at once on the order being given. It would have been remarkable if I had not seen the sails of the *Fusing* first, and then the hull; and seeing her hull as I did, I could not avoid seeing her propeller and helm also. I have had information from captains as to the proper track of vessels from Shanghai to Tientsin. When the patent log was hauled in at four o'clock, it showed a mean speed of 6¼ knots.

John McKecknie (examined by Mr. Wainewright) deposed—I was second officer of the *Ocean*. I was officer of the watch on the morning of the collision. The weather was foggy, and it became dense after nine o'clock. I sounded the whistle about every four or five minutes. When the *Fusing* answered my whistle, I kept my whistle sounding a long scream. I have no doubt whatever that the *Fusing* was on our port bow. I saw the helmsman put the helm hard-a-port directly the order was given. I heard no order given to put the helm a-starboard. I do not think it could have been more than a minute and a half after my hearing the *Fusing's* whistle, before I saw her. I saw her bow first, on our port bow. The collision took place in about half-a-minute. Up to the time of the collision, we were going about seven knots. I consider that seven knots is a proper speed for a ship of her length to answer her helm. Her length is 285 feet, and beam 31 feet. (The remainder of this witness's evidence was confirmatory of that given by Captain Brown.)

By Mr. Eames—When I first heard the *Fusing's* whistle, our engine room telegraph was at full speed ahead, but when she actually struck, the *Ocean's* speed was reduced to about five knots. The *Ocean* is a rather sharp ship, and has a nice sheer—not very much. She is a pretty dry ship, and does not take in water in a moderate sea. She took in a little spray on the morning of the collision. There was a heavy swell on at the time, but no broken water. None of our boats were swamped in the endeavour to save life from the wreck of the *Fusing*. The *Ocean* steers very well, but not so well in a head sea.

By Mr. Hannen—The position of the telegraph does not in the least indicate the speed the ship is going.

His Lordship—It indicates the last order given to the engineer.

By Mr. Hannen—The engines may be going at full speed ahead, but under certain circumstances of wind and sea, the ship might not steam more than one or two knots.

Henry Russell (examined by Mr. Hannen)—I am a master mariner, and hold a certificate as Naval Navigating Lieutenant. I was formerly in command of the *Appin*, and have made frequent voyages between Shanghai and Tientsin. I think that a speed of eight or nine knots is not too much to run in a fog on this coast. Some of these fogs are local and some general, and I always ran at about that speed, the chances of collision are so small. There are variable currents running on to the land. With a head sea on, unless a vessel is going at a good speed, there would be danger of deviating from her course, and losing her reckoning, and so perhaps getting on a rock. The course pointed out to me as the course of the *Ocean* is outside the track of steamers by 23 miles. We can sight Shaweishan in clear weather at 14 or 18 miles' distance. If the course laid down on the chart, from the point marked with a blue cross to Shaweishan, was that taken by the *Ocean*, she would have been, according to the evidence of Capt. Brown as to speed, in 13 fathoms of water at seven o'clock on the morning of the 5th.

By Mr. Eames—I have been running on this coast since 1857. I am not in command of the *Appin* now. In running at the speed I have mentioned, in a fog, I always took every precaution for the safety of the ship in every way, by keeping a good look-out. I always hoped the fog was a local one. I

consider it quite prudent to go nine knots in a fog, by keeping a good look-out, although it might be impossible to see more than a ship's length ahead. The currents are very uncertain, and I believe they are caused by the wind—especially after a S.W. wind has been blowing some time.

The Court then adjourned by arrangement until Tuesday morning.

May 25th.

The Court resumed this morning at ten o'clock.

His LORDSHIP asked what was the length of the *Ocean*, and also the correct latitude and longitude of the spot of the collision?

The *Ocean's* length was given as 285 feet.

Capt. ROSKELL, on measuring the chart, found that the correct position was Lat. 33°. 31'.30" N.; and Long. 152.59 E.

Mr. HANNEN applied for leave to amend paragraph 5 of the defendant's answer, under Section 93, by the addition of the words, "The *Ocean* herself sustaining extensive injury by reason of the said collision;" and under Section 55, by liberty to file a counter-claim by a cross-petition, and for an order to hear the counter-claim together.

Mr. DRUMMOND objected to such an amendment at so late a period of the hearing, when it might have been done at an earlier period, and before the expression of opinion on the case by the Court, almost amounting to a judgment.

Mr. HANNEN said on the face of the petition it not appear that the *Ocean* sustained any damage.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he must object to anything being now introduced that would have the effect of a cross suit.

Mr. HANNEN said the amount of damage sustained by the *Ocean* was not specified in the answer, and all that was asked was that it should be inserted.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he must oppose its insertion at so late a period in the case. It was asked for to give the defendant the benefit of a cross action, and although there was a good deal of right in the allegation of his learned friend, he was bound to object. The application had arisen on the opinion expressed by the Court on a previous occasion, but for which it would not have been made.

His LORDSHIP disallowed the application, as it raised no specific defence, but was merely a statement of a fact, which appeared in the evidence, and was therefore not the foundation of counter-claim, the Court having full jurisdiction to do equity between the parties in its judgment.

The case then proceeded.

The following witnesses were then examined:

HECTOR MCKINNON (examined by Mr. HANNEN), deposed—I was a quartermaster on board the *Ocean*. On the morning of the 4th April, I was at the wheel, steering S. ¾ W. That was by the aft compass. I heard a whistle. It seemed to me a little on the port bow. There was a quartermaster standing aft of the engine-room skylight. He ordered me to starboard my helm. Before I had time to starboard my helm, I got the order from the bridge to hard-a-port. I followed that order, and watched the compass anxiously to see if the vessel paid off. I watched till her head was about S.W., and then I heard the crash; that made me look up, and saw the *Fusing* right across our bows, about a right angle to me, from where I was standing. She answered her helm properly and quickly as she always did. She would not have answered so quickly if she had been going only three knots. The weather was foggy and there was a little head sea on.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—When I ported the helm, the *Ocean* paid off three points and a quarter, from S. ¾ W. to S. W. I first got the order to starboard, from the quartermaster on deck. I heard the order from the bridge immediately afterwards, to hard-a-port. I had no time to starboard the helm—did not shift it in that direction at all. If it was blowing hard, and I could not hear the whistle from the bridge, I should take an order from any officer or quartermaster who would pass it to me from the bridge. I could see the bridge at the time of the collision. The Captain and second officer were on the bridge. I think the second officer gave me the order to go hard-a-port. I cannot swear, but I think it was him, because I knew his voice. I heard nobody else, anywhere, besides the quartermaster, give the order to starboard the helm. I put it to port at once on receiving the order. I could not see the man on the look-out in the bows, because the bridge hid him from me. I think I could see about a ship's length all round. I did not see the *Fusing* until I heard the crash. I did not think she was so close. I think it was about three minutes from the time I got the helm hard-a-port before the collision. I cannot be sure, but I think I had the helm hard-a-port for three minutes. I cannot say what speed the *Ocean* was going during that time. I know nothing about the speed; and that's all I've got to say about it. She would answer her helm at two knots, but not so quickly if there was a wind on the bow to check her. There was a slight swell on, with very light wind. I think the wind was more on the port bow than ahead.

Captain BROWN recalled by Mr. WAINEWRIGHT, deposed—The damage the *Ocean* sustained was a large hole in the port bow, about ten feet long and five feet in depth. Some of the plates above and below the hole were indented. On the starboard bow there were one or two small holes, the rivets having been knocked out. The covering-boards were started, and the chains and hawsepipes broken, with other smaller damage. All those injuries were caused by the collision. I have not got a bill of the particulars.

NEIL MCNEIL (examined by Mr. WAINEWRIGHT), deposed—I was a quartermaster on board the *Ocean*, and was on watch at the time the collision occurred with the *Fusing*. The weather was very foggy. I heard a whistle, as far as I could make out, on our port bow. I was standing at the after-end of the engine room skylight. I received an order from the bridge to put the helm a starboard. I do not know who gave it. My duty was to pass the orders from the bridge to the man at the helm. I passed on that order. I also received an order from the bridge to hard-a-port, which I also passed on. There was "no time" between the two orders. I did not see the helm a-starboard, but I saw it a-port. The next thing was that we ran into the *Fusing*. I did not see her before the collision. I think we struck her at nearly at a right angle. The next order I got was to lower and man the boats.

By Mr. EAMES—I was in the *Ocean* as quartermaster, about three months, always under the same officers. I cannot tell the distance from the bridge to the wheel. There was a light breeze ahead,—a little on the port bow. We could not well hear a voice from the bridge. I received an order to have the helm put a-starboard. I did not recognise the voice, because I "had got such a start" on hearing a whistle so close to us. The second officer gave me the order to hard-a-port. I cannot tell if it was the same voice that gave me the order to starboard. I cannot tell how long the ship went on a-port helm before the collision. There was no time to put her to starboard. I did not look at the compass, and cannot say how much she paid off to starboard before porting. There was no time to starboard.

WILLIAM STEPHENS next deposed—I am an able seaman on board the *Ocean*. At the time of the collision I was standing in the stem on the look-out. I was as far forward as I could. It was foggy, but I think I could see more than the length of the ship. I heard the *Fusing's* whistle once, and it seemed to come from a-head somewhere. I reported a whistle a-head somewhere. When I first saw the *Fusing*, she was about a point and a half or two points on the port bow. I first saw her starboard bow as far as the Chinese letters on her side, "where the bridge ought to be." Cannot say how far she was off. Saw the *Ocean* strike her on the bluff of the bow, about fifteen feet from the stem. She appeared to be answering a starboard helm, and was slewing across our bow when she was struck. She had headway on her—appeared to have good headway. I ran aft, abaft the fore-rigging. There was a good swell, about half-a-point on the port bow. There was no broken water, just a swell. No water came over the bow. The wind had been on the starboard bow, but had gone right ahead—fore and aft.

By Mr. DRUMMOND—I first saw the *Fusing* on the port bow of the *Ocean*. The first glance I had of her was as far as where the bridge should have been. I think the *Fusing* must have altered her bearings, judging from the position we were in when I first saw her, and where we struck her. I do not recollect having said in my former examination that she did not alter *the* bearing. When I reported the whistle, somebody sung out starboard, and the captain put his hand up, and jumped to the telegraph. He just put his hand up, as I thought, to answer my report. If I had been at the helm I should not have taken it to mean to starboard the helm. I heard the order in the first place given either to "starboard" or "standby"—I cannot say which. The order was given on board the *Ocean*. I heard the order to port given on both ships—on the *Ocean* first. Before I saw the *Fusing*, the captain and second officer of the *Ocean* were singing out to port. I also heard them on board the *Fusing* singing out to port. As we struck her, she must have been approaching on a starboard helm. I had my oilskins on, on account of the fog. The *Ocean* had taken some water over early in the morning.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The man I relieved told me so, but I put on my oilskins more on account of the fog than that. She took no water in during the time I was on watch.

THOMAS ROONEY (examined by Mr. HANNEN), deposed—I am a boy on board the *Ocean*. On the morning of the collision, I was stationed at the forecastle hatch, to keep a sharp look-out. Our whistle was blown at intervals, and I heard a whistle answer it on our port bow. I am sure it was on our port bow. I heard the second officer "roar" out hard-a-port. I heard no order to starboard. I was standing between Stephens and the bridge. I saw the *Fusing* in about two minutes after hearing her whistle, and we struck her in about two seconds. I lent a hand with the boats. I am past seventeen years old.

By Mr. EAMES—I have been in the *Ocean* eight months. I can tell the captain's voice, and also that of the second mate, when I hear them. I was looking out on the port side. I do not know the compass yet.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I know a little of the compass, but cannot tell how many points the *Fusing* was on our port bow.

WILLIAM CRAIG, chief engineer of the *Ocean* (examined by Mr. HANNEN), deposed—I have the charge of the engineer's log, in which I make the entries. I make them day by day, generally from the engine room log-slate, which is kept in the engine room. The engineer on the watch enters them on the slate. I made the entries in the book relating to the 4th April. (Log-book put in.) The first I knew of the collision with the *Fusing* was the shock. I was in my room at the time. I went immediately to the engine room, and gave the engineer in charge orders to open the doors, ease the safety valve, and do other things that were necessary. The engines were then stopped—the engineer on watch stopped them. I was not more than a minute in getting to the engine room. There was plenty of time to stop the engines before I got there.

By Mr. EAMES (to Witness)—Perhaps you will read your entry in the log-book?

Mr. HANNEN would prefer that the officer of the Court would read the entry.

Mr. BISHOP accordingly read the entry, which was to the effect that the engines were stopped at 10.40, and put full speed astern, and that at 10.43 they were stopped from going further astern.

Witness resumed—I wrote the log up on the 4th. I never knew an engineer's log written over on the next page. We interline and sometimes go right round the page. I do not keep a watch. There are four engineers, including myself. I was in my room at the time of the shock. My room is right aft. I went on deck and thence to the engine room. I was not more than a minute getting to the engine room. The fourth engineer was on watch, and he told me the engines had just been stopped. I gave no order then about moving the engines. I remained below about half-a-minute, and then went on deck to look at the hole in the bow of the ship. I went below again, and gave the engines half-turn ahead and half-turn astern just to see if they were all right for starting. All this took about a quarter of an hour. I did not see the *Fusing* at all,—only her sails. I only know from what the fourth engineer told me, and from what was on the log-slate, what was done to the engines before I got down. I stated on a previous occasion that there was no writing on the log-slate, but that the time was entered, and I copied it into the book. I told the fourth engineer to be careful as to the time. There is very little vibration in the

Ocean. In the daytime, when there is so much noise, I cannot hear any alteration of the engines in my room. I did not notice the stopping and backing astern on this occasion. I did not notice that the engines were turned astern about the time of the collision.

By His Lordship—I copied the entry from the log-slate—not perhaps in the same words, but to the effect.

By Mr. Eames—Full speed astern and the stopping were marked on the log-slate. There were no remarks. I got them from the fourth engineer verbally. I have said I got down into the engine room in about a minute. Our telegraph gong is an ordinary one. I did not hear it in my room ; it is too far off. I do not know what the *Ocean's* draught is. She was in capital trim, and at full speed in smooth water would go about 9½ knots. That is the best speed she ever made since I have known her. I do not know that she was offered for sale to the C. M. S. N. Company—I am not let into those secrets. She must be in good trim to make 9½ knots. The engines were making 48 revolutions at the time of the collision. The highest number of revolutions on the trip was 50, between Chefoo and Newchwang. There is another entry, where, with fore-and-aft sails set, she only made 50 revolutions. The masts and sails are not of much use to her.

By Mr. Hannen—In the log, there are instances of the engines making 56 and 57 revolutions, and so on, between Shanghai and Nagasaki. When I went down to the engines and gave them half-turn ahead and astern was from 15 to 20 minutes after the collision. I merely went to see if the engines were ready to go either ahead or astern as they might have been required.

James Gregg (examined by Mr. Hannen), deposed—I am a master mariner, in command of the *Cawdor Castle.* I have been pretty frequently on this coast, but not of late. I think about 6 knots is a fair speed for a ship to run in a fog, provided she is not near the land. Supposing a ship is at dead slow, the only way to make her answer her helm, is by putting the helm over and moving her engines full speed ahead. I think 6 knots in a fog is a safe speed ; if she was near land I should use a little more care. If I had reason to think she was near the land, I should go slower. After going a little distance, and by keeping position, you very often run out of a fog quickly on this coast It is still more necessary to keep up a reasonable speed when there are currents. That is one of the chief reasons why I would do so.

By Mr. Drummond—I think 6 knots is a reasonable speed in a fog, when not near the land. I think it is a safe rate of speed in the regular track of vessels. If there were a large number of vessels about—if I found I was among a field of ships, I should go slower perhaps. I consider my ship is perfectly under control at 6 knots. There are different degrees of fog. To ask how far I could see if the atmosphere was what we call foggy, is a vague question. Sometimes you can see a mile, and at others not more than 300 feet. If I could not see more than a mile, I should call it foggy—sometimes you can see three miles in a fog, at others two miles. I have seen some fogs in which you could not see the length of a ship of 350 feet—standing at the stern, you could not see the bow. I was not in the *Cawdor Castle* when she went ashore in a fog on her last voyage. I do not know anything about the *Gordon Castle* or the *Drummond Castle* getting ashore in fogs. Most ships go down to half-speed of engines in a fog. If I was to go dodging on at two or three knots, I should perhaps be unable to clear rocks, which I should if going faster. It depends upon how I know my compasses, to keep off the shore in a fog, not having been able to take an observation. Very often by moving on we get out of a fog. My experience has been so, in all parts of the world. Seventeen or eighteen years ago, I used to be up and down this coast often, but I do not pretend to any local knowledge. Fogs are very nearly the same all the world over. Some places you cannot pass without getting in a fog—like the banks of Newfoundland. With respect to the term local as applied to fogs, it is a well-known fact that if you keep on for fifty miles or so, you get out of it. If I got caught in a fog, so that I could not see more than the length of my ship, I should go slower to ensure my own safety and that of the ship. Six knots is not an unsafe speed in a fog, and to ensure absolute safety, I should keep the fog horn going and a good look-out. Six knots is but a mile in ten minutes, and you can do a great deal in ten minutes. Four miles is the slowest speed at which I believe a ship could be handled with safety—at two or three she would not have safe steerage way on her. The slowest possible speed at which a ship could steam safely, would depend upon the weather, upon the wind and sea. A vessel going at 6 knots could be stopped in about 700 feet, with a head wind and sea.

By Mr. Hannen—There would be great risk in going so slow as two knots in narrow water in a fog.

By Captain Roskell—Six knots is a speed at which I could have my ship best under command. The Cunard ships are of great power, which makes a great difference in a head wind and sea, and enables them to go at four knots against a westerly Atlantic gale. If you are in narrow waters, in a fog, with danger of touching the bottom, it is better to push along and get out of the danger.

By His Lordship—If the fog was so dense that I could not see more than her length, I should like to go a little slower than 6 knots, but it would depend upon wind and weather, and where the ship was.

By Mr. Hannen—In the locality on this coast, pointed out to me on the chart, I should think 6 knots in a fog a not unreasonable rate of speed.

Charles Wylie (examined by Mr Wainewright), deposed—I am fourth engineer of the *Ocean,* and was on duty on the morning of the collision. I cannot say what speed 48 revolutions would give. I heard the whistle going. At 10.40 I received a telegraph to reverse the engines. It took me 20 seconds to do it. I logged it on the slate—"engines stopped at 10.40 and went astern ; at 10.43 stopped engines." They were then going 44 revolutions, which I chalked on the bunker, as usual. I opened the furnace doors and safety valve, by the chief engineer's orders, and then went on deck. About 20 minutes after, went down again with the chief engineer and put the engines in a position to start easy, and then went away with one of the boats.

By Mr. Drummond— I take the number of revolutions by my watch. I borrow the chief's watch because I have not got one of my own. I never go on duty without a watch. There is a clock in the engine room, but we cannot tell by that. I do not know if there is an indicator on the deck. When I went on duty, the engines were making 48 revolutions at full speed, and continued at that rate until 10.40, when they were reversed and put full speed astern. I was the only engiuer on watch at the time of the collison.

By Mr. Wainewright—I cannot tell whether those on the bridge can tell from the thud of the engines how fast the ship is going—48 revolutions is no guide as to the speed of the ship. It is the usual speed they are driven at.

Thomas Laurie deposed—I am third engineer of the *Ocean,* and remember the collision with the *Fusing.* I was off duty, and standing on the port side under the bridge. I heard the *Fusing's* whistle. It sounded on the port bow, a little ahead. I heard the second officer say "a whistle on the port bow." The captain gave an order to port the helm. There was no order given to starboard. I saw the captain go to the telegraph, and I then ran to the engine room and saw the index go to "stop" and then to full speed astern. The engines worked beautifully and went astern immediately. I went to the engine room in case my services might be required. (The witness then detailed the circumstances of the collision in similar terms to those previously given, adding that when he first saw the *Fusing,* she appeared to be going at a good speed through the water, and he did not notice her slacken.)

By Mr. Eames—I was not called as a witness at the Naval Court. I am not prepared to swear that the *Fusing* did not slacken when she approached us.

Alexander MacFarlane (in answer to Mr. Drummond), deposed.—I am chief mate of the *Ocean,* and on the morning of the 4th, at ten o'clock, I was in my room in bed. I left my room because I heard a whistle on our port bow. The door and port of my room were closed, but the skylight and companion of the mess room were open. I was not asleep. I was reading. My cabin is below, aft, on the port side, a good bit abaft the engine room. I knew the strange whistle was on our port side because I was lying with my head forward of the ship, and was at once convinced. I told the captain so afterwards, when the ship was in safety.

Mr. Hannen said there were no other witnesses to be examined, and if he could have ten minutes to-morrow morning, he thought he could probably say all that was necessary in the case, whereas if he were required to address the Court this afternoon, he would have to go through nearly all the evidence. Perhaps the same course would suit Mr. Drummond ?

Mr. Drummond said he had no objection to the course suggested.

His Lordship consented to the adjournment, and it was arranged the Court should reassemble at 10.30 next morning.

May 26th.

Mr. Hannen, on rising to address the Court on behalf of the *Ocean,* would like to put in the finding of the Naval Court held in the case, or, as it was called, the order of the Court. Mr. Drummond had consented to take the document he (Mr. Hannen) then held in his hand, as the proper order, and it had been verified by Mr. Wainewright. He would therefore put it in now.

His Lordship—Of course, you can do anything in these cases by consent, but in any other case it must not be considered a precedent.

Mr. Hannen resumed by saying that he wished to call his Lordship's attention for one moment to the application made to amend the answer, merely to suggest that, supposing it to be his Lordship's intention on finding both vessels in fault, to order the damage to each to be added together, and the *Ocean* to pay one-half, exactly the same result would follow from the course proposed to be adopted by the amendment, and to ask if it could not be permitted ?

His Lordship replied that he had considerd the question of amendment, and did not see how he could allow it, but he would make a note of this application.

Mr. Hannen said if his Lordship came to the conclusion that both vessels were to blame, he would of course make a special decree ?

His Lordship said he would do so.

Mr. Hannen then went on to say that the first point he should consider was as to the speed of steam-vessels in a fog—Was six knots per hour too great a speed ? It had been mentioned in this Court that a six knots speed under such circumstances was too great ; but the Board of Trade Regulations required a *moderate* rate, and all the decisions agreed in holding that what *was* a moderate rate of speed must be decided by the surrounding circumstances, as regarded wind, weather, and position. This had been distinctly laid down in the case of the *Europa* (14, *Jurist*), mentioned also by Mr. Drummond. There was no report of the case in Shanghai, but very full notes were given in Pritchard ; and it was laid down that no rate of speed could be said to be dangerous, but that the speed in each particular case must be taken in connection with the attendant circumstances as to weather and other things. In the present case, it had been proved that the *Ocean* was running 30 miles outside the track of steamers, and he would say that if ever a steamer could run at six knots in a fog, the *Ocean* was justified in doing so on this occasion. The Court had said that in this case, the vessels should have gone dead-slow, but that opinion could not be reconciled with the language of the authorities, nor did it accord with the decision in the case of the *Europa.* That decision when it spoke of speed—did not speak of *dead slow* ;—it always spoke of a moderate rate of speed. There was an intimation that five knots was almost inconceivably slow for a vessel to go ; the judgment said that if a vessel was running through a *crowded way,* she must go "even as slow as five knots." Therefore, he contended that five knots was a moderate rate of speed in a crowded way ; and under the circumstances in which the *Ocean* was placed, six to six and a-half would be a reasonable and moderate rate of speed.

His Lordship—The speed being five knots, the consequence would be that two vessels coming into collision would meet with a force of ten knots.

Mr. Hannen said that would be so if neither of them stopped or reversed. He

would next draw attention to the case of the *Perth*, (3 Hagg: 414) in which it was by implication held that in a track frequented by coasters, six knots was a reasonable rate of speed. Moreover, it was certain that the captains on this coast, and indeed everywhere, considered that a moderate and not a slow was a safe speed. There was a very good reason at the bottom of this. It was the result of a well-known natural law, the law that a flat surface driven through a fluid encounters a resistance which is as the square of the velocity, whence it followed that a ship would turn in much less space when going fast than when going slow. On this coast to go about 6½ knots was a universal rule, and if it was the universal rule to go at six knots, steamers approaching each other would believe that they were both coming at such a rate, and would be more likely to clear each other than if one were going slow and the other fast. If there had been any doubt as to the rate of speed maintained on this coast in a fog, it was removed by the evidence that had been given in this case, though some slight difficulty had been laid upon the defence in getting evidence upon the point, through the expression of opinion given by the Court on a previous day that six knots in a fog was too fast. If the Court had not expressed its opinion, the defendants might have obtained more evidence as to the opinion of coast Captains upon the rate of speed. It is difficult to induce men to come and *say that they* think right and habitually do that which a Court is about to condemn. But the defendants offered to the other side the opportunity of disproving the custom and opinion if they chose to attempt it. But supposing the *Ocean* to have been going too fast, there still remained the question, *did this speed contribute to the collision?* Except in so far as it was true that had the *Ocean* not been going at that particular rate, she would not have been in that particular spot at that particular time—the speed did not contribute to the collision; the defendants were able to turn their vessel's head 45° before colliding, and must have gone clear had the *Fusing* reversed her engines at once on hearing the whistle. Moreover, she ought to have ported her helm, whereas he (Mr. H.) would shew that she starboarded it. If the speed did not contribute to the collision (and it was for the plaintiffs to make out that it did), the *Ocean* could not be held to blame. (1, *Pritchard* 197; the *Telegraph*, 1, Spinks 436; the *Vivid*, Swabey 88.) Another point which his friend Mr. Drummond had made a great deal of, was that the *Ocean* should not have ported her helm under the circumstances, and in expressing that opinion he had relied on two cases only. Now with regard to one of them—the *Rona* and *Ava*—his friend's contention must be that, that case decided that those on board a vessel in a fog on hearing another vessel quite close at hand and approaching them, must sit still and do nothing. He (Mr. Hannen) thought it was absurd to say that although they could not see the *Fusing*, but could hear her coming, yet, because they could not make use of that particular sense, viz: of sight, they were to sit still, no matter how firmly convinced of her position by their sense of hearing, until the approaching vessel was *seen*. Upon that point, he would refer the Court to 1, *Pritchard*, p. 164, "Wheeler *v.* the *Eastern State*, in addition to the cases cited by Mr. Wainewright. It was an absolute rule that where there was a chance of two steamers which were meeting, coming into collision, both must port their helm.

His LORDSHIP—That is when they see each other.

Mr. HANNEN said that was in a case where the sense of sight came in; but in this case it was the sense of hearing that was concerned. There could be no valid distinction between the two means, sight and hearing, of acquiring knowledge. The *Ocean* could not have been catching the *Fusing* up, or she would have heard her whistle before,—therefore, on that coast, and knowing that she was a steamer, the *Ocean* knew also that the *Fusing* must have been meeting her. The first question on the evidence was:—Was she on the *Ocean's* port bow? Seven witnesses on behalf of the *Ocean* had been called, all of whom said positively that they heard the whistle on the port bow. The counsel on the other side had not in the least shaken that evidence, and it must be taken that they had failed to make it appear that the *Fusing* was on the *Ocean's* starboard side. They, being plaintiffs, unless they made out affirmatively that they were on the starboard, and upset our evidence proving them on the port-side, their case failed, and it must be taken that she *was* on the port-side. That there was considerable doubt on board the *Fusing* as to where the *Ocean* was, was evidenced by the fact of the captain of the *Fusing* asking, "Where is she?" Their positive evidence was reduced to that of two witnesses only. 1—The officer of the watch. 2—The quartermaster at the wheel, who was proved by his own witnesses to have told a falsehood. The *Fusing* being then on the *Ocean's* port-side, the collision must have resulted in a very different way to that which was shown on the model produced by the *Fusing*. Although the other side had said the *Fusing* never starboarded her helm, it rested solely on the evidence of the quartermaster at the wheel. Now the Court would remember that the quartermaster told a distinct falsehood respecting the other quartermaster, who was in bed sick at the time of the collision, as proved by the captain and mate, but who he distinctly swore was on duty on deck at the time. Then again, he swore that to keep the ship's head straight he never moved the helm from amidships, whereas every one knew that the helm must be slightly eased at times, and that a screw tended to throw the ship's head to one side or the other, and this tendency must be counteracted. But in reality, the man must have been flurried at such a moment, having the helm to look after, to receive and execute orders respecting it, and also to pull the whistle string and sound the engine gong and jingle—having to do a lot of things at one time, like the street musician of many instruments who banged the drum, blew the pipe and jangled a cluster of bells with his head. The Court would remember, too, that the sound of the whistle, according to the witnesses for the *Fusing*, seemed to be passing along her beam. That effect would have been brought about by their starboarding their helm, and this little incident was of great importance as it came out naturally, and was one of those that would not be prepared for beforehand. That they did starboard, was, he contended, proved by their own evidence. The *Ocean's* witness, as to the way the ship was heading at the moment of the collision, was a stolid old quartermaster, who was not likely to be put out by any circumstances around him, as his Lordship might have noticed when the witness was in the box. That witness's testimony was that the *Ocean's* head was S.W. at the time of the collision, and it was agreed by all the witnesses on both sides that the *Fusing* was very nearly at right angles to the *Ocean*, so that her course must have been N.W. She *must*, therefore, have starboarded, to have changed her course from N. ¼ E. to N.W. Then, in support of that evidence was the testimony of Captain Brown, that he noticed the helm of the *Fusing* to be a-starboard just before the collision. He (Mr. Hannen) contended that all this amounted to conclusive proof that the *Fusing* must have starboarded her helm; and against this there was the bare testimony of a Chinese quartermaster, proved to have told a falsehood, since the captain and mate of the *Fusing* acknowledged that they could not tell if the ship's head moved to starboard. Where there was conflicting evidence, the probabilities which surrounded a case must be taken into consideration, and in support of this, if it needed support, he would quote the case of *The Mary Stuart*, 2, *W. Rob.* 244, quoted in 1, *Pritchard*, page 128, as "*The Mary.*" The burden of proof, as Mr. Wainewright had previously shewn by the authorities, lay with the plaintiffs. But upon that question he would not further take up the time of the Court, and would at once say that the testimony on behalf of the *Ocean* had not been in any one way shaken on any of the points they had raised—namely, that the *Fusing* was on the *Ocean's* port-bow; that the *Ocean* stopped her engines and reversed them at full speed; that the *Ocean's* head was turned 45° by the action of porting her helm; and that the *Fusing* must have turned out of her course and come across the *Ocean's* bows as she was heading N.W., and was at right angles to the *Ocean* at the moment of collision. Under those circumstances, he contended, the case ought to be given in favour of the *Ocean*. Her speed was not greater than the *Fusing's*, as was shown by the unimpeachable testimony of her patent log, while the *Fusing* had no record, except the testimony of the engineer and others, who said they had looked over the side down at the water, and so judged the speed. But it had been elicited that she must have been going 8 or 8½ knots by the distance she ran by the patent log; moreover, he contended that it had been shown that the pace the *Ocean* was going did not contribute to the accident. There was one other point suggested by the finding of the Naval Court, that the *Fusing's* sails might have interfered with the sound of the whistle; whether it could be diverted he left to the Naval Court, but it certainly could be deadened. It was known that a wet sail would stop sound.

Mr. DRUMMOND—There is no evidence of that.

His LORDSHIP—It is a scientific fact.

Mr. HANNEN said that if Mr. Drummond wanted his authority he would give it him. In the December number of the *Contemporary Review*, at page 151, Professor Tyndall, in a paper "On the atmosphere in relation to fog-signalling," says, "A piece of millboard, or of glass, a plank of wood, or the hand, placed across the open end of tunnel intercepts the sound of a bell in a padded box, and stills the sensitive flame. (Model diagram shown.) An ordinary cambric pocket-handkerchief, on the other hand, stretched across the tunnel end produced hardly an appreciable effect upon the sound. Through two layers of the handkerchief, the flame was strongly agitated; though four layers it was still agitated; while through six layers, though nearly stilled, it was not entirely so. Dipping the same handkerchief into water, and stretching a single wetted layer across the tunnel end, it stills the flame as effectually as the millboard or the wood. Hence the conclusion, that the sound-waves in the first instance passed through the interstices of the cambric. Through a single layer of thin silk the sound passed without sensible interruption; through six layers the flame was strongly agitated; while through twelve layers the agitation was quite perceptible. A single layer of this silk, *when wetted*, stilled the flame." In this case, the chances were that, had the sails been furled, the *Ocean* would have heard the whistle of the *Fusing* long before she did, and the collision would have been avoided. The sails were wet from the spray and fog—it having been shown in evidence that spray did come over the bows at one time in the morning, and the dampness of the fog rendered it necessary for the witness Stephens to wear his oilskins. Those were the points upon which he rested the *Ocean's* case, and he would not trouble the Court with any further observations.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in commencing his address on behalf of the *Fusing*, said he would pass over as quickly as possible the several points in the case, and would take as a starting point the opinion already expressed by his Lordship, which was in effect that, both vessels were to blame. Taking the case of the *Fusing* first, he would refer the Court to the evidence given by Captain Andrew, and also by his chief and second officers and engineer; and, without labouring through the whole of it, would submit that the tenor of their testimony went to show that the *Fusing* moderated her speed, carefully, four hours previous to the collision, on account of the fog. That was an extremely important element in the case,—that her speed was reduced to a moderate rate, which was in accordance with Admiralty Rules, which laid it down that a moderate rate was required under such circumstances. The *Fusing* reduced her speed to five or six knots on account of the fog, but whether that was sufficiently slow was a point for the Court to determine. But he would ask the Court to remember that she had slowed to that rate of speed for four hours. Now, on the part of the *Ocean*, they had it in evidence that she went at full speed up to the time of hearing the *Fusing's* whistle, and he (Mr. Drummond) would ask the Court to take special note of that fact, as the Court had already expressed an opinion as to the rate of speed. If the view taken in the case of the *Perth*, already quoted, was a correct one, then five or six knots would not be an unreasonable rate of speed to go at in a fog, and would be in accordance with the Admiralty Rules, which were not binding on the *Fusing*,

but which her Captain had nevertheless adhered to. There was the fact, that the *Fusing* did reduce her speed on account of the fog, and the only question in regard to it was—Was it reduced sufficiently? Upon the question of speed, he would refer the Court to the cases of the *Europa*, the *Great Eastern*, and *Iron Duke* (1, *Pritchard*, p. 186). There were other authorities on the same point to which his Lordship had been already referred to. From those cases, he would deduce the principle that a steamer could go at such a rate of speed as would enable her to stop her way within such a distance as she could see an object in front of her. It amounted to this, that if a steamer could stop in half-a-mile, and those on board could see half-a-mile ahead, the ship was going at a safe rate of speed, and the same for a quarter of a mile, or other distances. He did not think that was reducing the argument to an absurdity at all. It was the case of the *Europa*, and he thought it fairly represented the case of the *Fusing*. She was going at such a slow rate of speed, that she could have stopped in two or three lengths, and she could see one-and-a-half length—she had therefore broken the rule as to speed by about half-a-length, and was in fact just outside the edge of the rule. If the Court contrasted that with the conduct of the *Ocean*, which did not slacken her course at all, it would see the striking contrast in the conduct of the two vessels. The case of the *Iron Duke (Robinson's Reports)*, applied directly to the *Ocean*, and he did not think he need refer the Court to any further authority on the point, for those already quoted were quite sufficient to establish it, and to show that the *Fusing* was within the point. He would now come to the question of the look-out. It was said in the opinion expressed by the Court that the look-out kept on board the *Fusing* was not sufficient, and in case that might be repeated in the judgment of the Court, he would refer to what was done on board the *Fusing* in regard to look-out: There were no less than four men on deck, stationed at different points in the fore part of the ship, the Captain having placed an extra man on the duty because of the fog. Whether the Court still considered that was an insufficient look-out remained to be seen. In the case of the *Ocean*, the Captain's only precaution was to add a little boy to the ordinary look-out. But the main point with regard to the question of look-out was as to whether it *contributed to the collision*. He contended that it did not contribute to the collision, and that to put it in the judgment that the *Fusing* was to be blamed for not keeping a sufficient look-out was a very strong step indeed. He submitted that there was a good look-out kept, and that it had nothing to do with the collision. It was a main ingredient in the case, and would necessitate the Court looking over the evidence, and saying in the first place whether there was a sufficient look-out kept; and in the second, whether it contributed to the collision. If his Lordship was of opinion that the look-out was not sufficient, he (Mr. Drummond) would urge that if insufficient, it did not *contribute* to the accident, and was therefore merely collateral evidence of faulty seamanship. (*Pritchard*, p. 128, Common Law.) He considered that, on the evidence, he was entitled to ask the Court to find that the *Fusing* was not to blame on account of the look-out, the collision occurring as it did in a fog and the look-out being as he had mentioned. The whistle was heard simultaneously all over the ship, and a thousand look-outs could not have averted a collision. A whistle was heard by the look-out man, and was not reported by him.

His Lordship—That was the point the Court looked at, that under such circumstances the look-out should have been an officer. A quartermaster was to be considered a more intelligent being than a common seaman. The Court did not mean that four pairs of eyes were better than two as a look-out at such a time.

Mr. Drummond went on to say that the whole point was that the look-out *did not contribute* to the collision. It had not been shown that the look-out had contributed to the collision in the slightest degree. He would put it more broadly, and say that *every fault* which the Court was asked to find in this case *must be a fault which contributed to the collision*, and it was so important a point on the part of the *Fusing*, that he was bound to urge it on the attention of the Court with all the power he could. The next point with regard to the *Fusing*, was that of not reversing her engines on hearing the strange whistle. The only case quoted by Mr. Wainewright on the point was that of the *Kestrel* and *Franklin*, the whole gist of which was contained in the words "*if necessary, to stop and* reverse." (Sir Robert Collier.) After reading the case, Mr. Drummond asked how those circumtances fitted the present case, in which the whistle was heard once only—not *many times*, and was broad off the starboard bow, indicating a passing, not a meeting ship. On that point, the evidence was clear. If the Court fixed the position of the two vessels at the time the whistle was first heard—which he presumed would be done—he thought they would find they would have passed clear of each other, and that if there had been no whistle at all there would have been no collision. He thought that would come home to the minds of all who had heard the case, as an inevitable conclusion. But they did not think they were approaching each other,—the *Fusing* had already eased her engines, and then put them at dead-slow, which was the very slowest speed at which the ship would be under command. If the Captain had gone one step further, he would have lost the command over his ship. There were certain exceptions which referred to certain cases of imminent danger, but he said broadly, with regard to cases of this sort, that every ship must bear the results of her own acts. If it appeared to a Captain that another ship was in such and such a position, and he acted accordingly—if his act proved to be a mistake, he must bear the result of the mistake he made. The Captain of the *Fusing*, in stopping and keeping his course, acted rightly, and if the speed of five knots was not too much, the *Fusing* was not to blame on any one point. Those were the points on behalf of the *Fusing*, and he now came to the case of the *Ocean*, the two points being "speed" and "porting the helm." The speed of the two ships had been attempted to be brought down to the same rate, whereas it had been shown that the *Ocean's* engines were going full speed ahead, which meant 9 to 9½ knots. The Captain had spoken of the weather as a heavy gale, but he was the exception, for all his witnesses had brought down the force of the wind and sea to just as little as that testified by the witnesses for the *Fusing*. The Captain had taken off a third off his speed on account of the wind and sea; but his witnesses had taken off the gale itself, and therefore the Court must come to the conclusion that the *Ocean* was really going at full speed,—9 or 9½ knots, while the *Fusing* was only going at 5 or 6 knots; there was therefore a striking difference, which did not admit that the cases of the two ships stood on anything like a parallel. The provisions for safety which the Captain of the *Ocean* took in the fog were to put a boy on the look-out, and not to slow the engines at all. Next came the important question of porting the helm, which was the point on which he wished to urge the attention of the Court, as being the most important of all on which to obtain the judgment of the Court. With respect to the evidence as to the order to starboard, which was first passed to the man at the wheel, it was most difficult to arrive at an exact conclusion as to where the word "starboard" came from. Several theories had been attempted, but he would not trouble the Court with them, except to say that the order must have been given by some one on the bridge of the *Ocean*, of which there was no doubt. He did not think the order was given on board the *Fusing*, as had been contended on the part of the *Ocean*; but that it was given from the bridge of the *Ocean* itself, in the first hurry and confusion. He thought the first impression was correct, that the *Fusing* was on the starboard side of the *Ocean*, and if the order to starboard was given by the man on the *Ocean's* bridge, it showed that the man who gave the order thought the *Fusing* was on her starboard side at the moment when the whistle was heard. If that was the thought, it was a correct one; but the consequence showed that second thoughts were not at all times best, for immediately afterwards they changed their minds and gave the order to hard-a-port. The evidence on this point given by the chief mate of the *Ocean*, was so remarkable that, although the other side did not think proper to examine him, he (Mr. Drummond) had thought it right to bring it before the notice of the Court. The witness said he lay in his bed reading, the door and port of his room (which was below), closed, and yet he could not only hear the *Fusing's* whistle, but knew it was on the port bow of the *Ocean!* That was certainly a most remarkable statement, but it bore the inference that, having acted as they did, the position must be supported all through the case. That evidence was, however, too good to be true—as he thought the Court would see, when it took the evidence as to the position of the ships into consideration. Now came the question of porting, which must also be looked at from another point of view. What state of circumstances justifies a ship in porting her helm? He thought it would be within the knowledge of the Marine Assesssor, as well as that of his Lordship, that porting the helm had led to more collisions than anything else. There was at one time a rule laid down for the very purpose of permitting porting, but the danger was ultimately seen to be so great that the rule had been abrogated. The principle was now laid down, as in the case of the *Rona* and *Ava*, that no ship may port her helm *in ignorance of the position of the other*. Now with reference to the question in regard to hearing a whistle in a fog, his Lordship had pointed out that a histle in a fog showed that a ship was somewhere about, and nothing more—she might be going in any direction and that any step that may be taken on board the ship hearing it might be either right or wrong, and she may get into the very danger she wished to avoid. Take the case of the *Ava* for example; she saw a small cloud three miles off, and ported her helm, but the Court held she was not justified in changing her course until she was sure of the position and course of the other—that she was not justified in acting on any supposition whatever. The point was laid down with so much precision that he thought the Court would not care to look upon any other authority. The Court said of the *Ava*—you did not know the course the *Rona* was steering, but altered your own course, and therefore must bear the brunt of the fault. He (Mr. Drummond) applied that case to the *Ocean*, for it really represented the whole facts—the *Ocean* ported when at some distance, and fell off some four or five points, thereby putting herself off her own course and causing the collision. She was heading for the shore when she struck the *Fusing*, and that he contended was in itself a very great error, and brought about all that had happened. It was not once in a million times that two ships got end on to each other.

His Lordship said it seemed to his unsophisticated mind that in such cases the only thing two ships seemed to do was to run stem on to each other. He was in such a case once, where, after dodging about from port to starboard for some time, the two ships came within two lengths of each other, and head on.

Mr. Drummond went on to say that the *Fusing* kept her course until she obtained *knowledge*, while the *Ocean* on the other hand *acted without knowledge*, and the result of her precipitate action brought about the collision. It was a point of the greatest importance in this case. He was supported in his contention by the case of the *Black Diamond*, which was very like the present case. The *Black Diamond* improperly ported her helm, and was held to blame because she was in absolute ignorance as to where the other vessel was. He considered the evidence on the part of the *Ocean* had failed to prove her position at all, while the evidence of MacFarlane, on that point, was most extraordinary. There were one or two other minor points to be considered, and he would remind the Court that, in their preliminary act, the other side made no mention of speed at all, although they gave the position of the *Ocean*. He would next refer to the practice in such cases, and to the Admiralty Rule that under certain circumstances the damage should be equally divided. In *Abbott*, page 598 and through to 600, there were some important notes on the point. An attempt had been made, in the course of the case to amend the pleadings, and he thought he had heard his Lordship say that the Court was a Court of Equity.

His Lordship said that what he had meant to say was that the whole base of its jurisdiction was on equity.

Mr. DRUMMOND said even if the Court considered the *Fusing* to blame and that the *Ocean* had suffered damage through her fault, he would submit that the damage of the *Ocean* be not assessed, nor added to that of the *Fusing*, but that the case should be brought before the Registrar and Merchants to assess the damage and loss of the *Fusing* alone. The proper judgment would be that the damage of the *Fusing* be assessed, and that the *Ocean* pay half of it to her. If the Court desired to have the damage on both sides added together and divided, he should contend that the other side had not brought a cross action.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The *Ocean* could not bring a cross action.

Mr. DRUMMOND was of a different opinion.

His LORDSHIP—Where would it be brought?

Mr. DRUMMOND—In this Court.

His LORDSHIP—But how could this Court attach a Chinese ship?

Mr. DRUMMOND said, it was not necessary to attach the ship, and instanced the case of the *Charkieh*, a frigate belonging to the Pasha of Egypt, which ran down an English vessel in England.

His LORDSHIP—Reverse the case, and put it in Turkish territory. The present case is in Chinese territory.

Mr. DRUMMOND submitted that Chinese, coming voluntarily into this Court, placed themselves on the same footing as foreigners. He did not think the Court would be right in giving the *Ocean* a judgment which would enable them to have the damages assessed. It would have been much easier in the first instant to have filed a cross suit and had the whole case tried together. The application to amend the answer was an attempt to obtain this by a side wind, but the Court had not granted it. In conclusion, Mr. Drummond said that Clauses 3 and 4 of the Order in Council it was distinctly laid down that subjects of China shall be on the same footing as other foreigners in this Court, and with a few other remarks in support of his argument, he left the case in the hands of the Court.

His LORDSHIP said that since the Court adjourned on the previous night, both the Marine Assessor and himself had had an opportunity of going through the evidence, but not together. He would first read the Marine Assessor's opinion on the case, and then the judgment of the Court.

The following is the opinion of the Assessor:—

It is my opinion that the *Fusing* was in fault; in maintaining too high a rate of speed in so dense a fog, that she was inefficiently navigated in the matter of look-out, and that she committed a grave error in not checking her way, by stopping and reversing her engines, when she first heard the *Ocean's* whistle.

I consider that the *Ocean* was also in fault, for maintaining too high a rate of speed.

Her engines were at full speed after the first whistle of the *Fusing* was heard, nor were they slowed until after the order to port was given.

With regard to porting, it appears to me to have been done rather in the flurry of the moment, which would have been natural enough, the impression being that the whistle was somewhere on her port bow; but as no evidence has been produced to prove that the *Fusing* did starboard her helm, until the last moment, when it could not possibly have altered the position of her head, I am inclined to the opinion, after weighing all the circumstances of the case, that the *Fusing* was really a little on the starboard bow of the *Ocean*, and that the collision resulted from the porting of the *Ocean*.

The evidence as to the direction of the sound of the whistle is conflicting.

The evidence with regard to speed also is not quite satisfactory; and I am inclined to believe that the speed of both ships was nearer 7 than 6 knots immediately before the collision—a speed, I think, unjustifiable under the circumstances, as they could have steamed at 4 knots without difficulty as regards navigation, and with less if not the minimum of risk to life and property.

Had both ships, on hearing each other's whistles, at once stopped, and reversed their engines, without moving their helms, it is my opinion that little or no damage would have been sustained by either party.

The Chief Judge then delivered judgment as follows:

This is a case of collision between two steamers—the *Fusing*, owned by a Chinese steamship company, and the *Ocean*, the property of a Scotch firm. Both ships were commanded by Englishmen, and the officers of both ships were English; the crew of the *Fusing* being Chinese, the crew of the *Ocean* being composed of 19 Foreigners and 20 Chinese.

The *Fusing* was 202 feet long, her gross tonnage being 875 tons.

The *Ocean* was 285 feet long, of a gross tonnage of 1,470. Both vessels were propelled by screw.

The collision occurred off the coast of China, in 33° 31′.30′ degrees of Latitude and 122° 59″ East degrees of Longitude, on the 4th of April, about 40 minutes past 10 a.m.

The *Fusing* was steering North ¼ East. The *Ocean* S. ½ W. There was a rolling sea, consequent on a breeze from the S.E. the night before. The wind had died or was dying away. The *Fusing* felt little or no wind—her fore and aft sails, which she had not furled since the wind fell, were flapping. The *Ocean* going in a contrary direction felt the wind slightly. There was a dense fog, which rendered a ship invisible a ship and a half's length. There was no tide, but the *Fusing* had a following sea, and the *Ocean* a head sea. The *Fusing* sank within 4 minutes of the collision, 63 passengers and crew going down in the vessel were drowned.

The evidence offered on behalf of the *Fusing* tended to show that she had reduced her speed at 6 a.m. in the morning, in consequence of the fog, from 8 or 8½ knots to 5½ or 6. The first mate says that the following sea would assist her to the extent of half a knot; against this, and tending to show that this reduction in speed did *not in fact to the extent stated* take place, is the statement in the Preliminary Act of the owners of the *Fusing*, that the collision occured 125 miles north of the Island Shaweishan, a statement which is borne out by the Preliminary Act of the owners of the *Ocean*, which places the scene of collision 230 miles south of the Shantung Promontory—a point about 128 miles north of the before mentioned Island. Moreover, the evidence of the captain, and of the 1st and 2nd mates of the *Fusing*, shows that the distance run from the Island between the hour of 8 on the previous evening when the Island was passed and the patent log set, and the time of the collision, had been 120 miles—reckoned by the patent log and thus divided. At 8 o'clock a.m. the distance marked was 99 miles; therefore, placing the steamers where the captain of the *Fusing* places them, 21 miles must have been run between 8 a.m. and 10.40 a.m.—two hours and forty minutes—which would give a speed during that time of about 8 knots an hour.

It does not appear that there was more than one look-out man employed after 8 o'clock a.m., although the Chinese quartermaster at the wheel says another Quartermaster was on deck; but in this he is contradicted by the captain and mate, who say that the only persons on deck were themselves, the look-out man (a sailor), and the Quartermaster at the wheel; the Quartermaster referred to by the man at the wheel being sick in his berth. The captain was aft, the watch being kept by the 2nd mate, who was stationed in front of the wheel-house.

It appears also that when the first whistle of the *Ocean* was heard, as was thought close on the starboard-bow, the 2nd officer told the man at the wheel to answer it which he did; the engines were then slowed by the 2nd mate, who used the telegraph; the effect of this, it is stated, would be to bring the engines to dead slow—that is—if she had been going slow at the time. As soon as the whistle of the *Fusing* was answered by the *Ocean*, the captain of the *Fusing*, who was on the port-quarter called out "hard over to starboard," and a few seconds afterwards when the *Ocean* came in sight, he ordered the engines to be put full speed astern, saying "My God she is into us." It may then be assumed, from the evidence of the captain and the mate of the *Fusing*, that whatever the rate of speed the steamer was going, her engines were not put astern until the vessel was seen, and when she was seen, she was so close on that the manœuvre was useless.

On this evidence alone, the Court is of opinion, and the Marine Assessor agrees with it,—1st, that the rate of speed, *even* placing it only at 5½ or 6 knots, at what the *Fusing* was going, was not justified under the circumstances. The fog being so dense that any object was only visible a ship's or at most a ship-and-a-half's length off.

2nd.—That the *Fusing's* engines ought to have been stopped and reversed immediately the first whistle of the *Ocean* was heard. The fog being dense and the sound of the whistle showing that a vessel was in dangerous proximity.

3rd.—That the look-out kept was under the circumstances insufficient.

The evidence offered on the part of the *Ocean* is that she had been going at 8½ knots up to an early hour in the morning. That afterwards the speed was reduced, *not however by the slowing of the engines*, but by the action of the wind and sea, to 6½ knots. The second mate, who was on watch at the time of the collision, putting the speed of the steamer at 7 knots when the whistle of the *Fusing* was heard, the handle of the telegraph being at "full speed ahead." The nature of the blow received by the *Fusing* is also evidence of the violence of the shock, which violence is attributable, in the mind of the Court, to, and is confirmatory evidence of, the rate of speed at which the *Ocean* was proceeding. The starboard bow of the *Fusing*, between 30 and 40 feet from the stem, was cut open, the cut-water of the *Ocean* penetrating through the cargo, consisting of bags of rice, to some planks beyond the mid-ship line.

The captain, mate, look-out men and steersman of the *Ocean* state that they first heard the answering whistle on their port-bow, and, imagining the vessel to be in that direction, the wheel was put hard-a-port, and the engines reversed full speed astern. The look-out kept appears to have been all that could be desired.

On this evidence alone, the Court is of opinion, and again the Marine Assessor agrees with it—that putting aside anything else, the rate of speed at which the *Ocean* was going, was, in a dense fog, such as is admitted by all existed, wholly unjustifiable.

That with regard to the porting of the helm under the circumstances, the Court is not inclined to say that it was dicededly wrong, if it was quite clear to the minds of all those navigating the *Ocean* that the whistle proceeded from some vessel ahead on its port-bow. It is disinclined to lay down any hard and fast rule that the organ of sight is alone to be the guide as to the expediency or propriety of taking or following a particular course of action—because if the organs of hearing—touching—and, as in the case of the *Ava* and *Rona*, smelling, are never to be relied on, or acted on, when the organ of sight cannot from circumstances be used, accidents might occur, which the proper use of these organs might be the means of avoiding. But where there is any possibility of doubt,—and in most cases there is great probability of doubt, the value of the simple rule—"not to alter the course, but to go full speed astern," on the moment of a whistle in a fog, showing a vessel in dangerous proximity, being heard, is at once apparent.

The evidence as to the exact relative position of the two vessels is conflicting, and the Court does not pretend to decide which account is the more reliable; but the Marine Assessor is inclined to think that, on the evidence offered, and on the probabilities of the case, the accident is more likely to have occurred in the way stated by the *Fusing*—that the captain and officers of the *Ocean* were mistaken as to the exact quarter whence the sound of the whistle of the *Fusing* proceeded; and that by porting the helm of the *Ocean*, she was driven into collision with the *Fusing*.

Some attempt was made by the defendant to show that 6½ knots an hour was a moderate rate of speed to navigate a steamship in a dense fog, in which an object so large as a vessel was invisible at a ship's—or a ship-and-a-half's—length. The most this evidence amounted to, was that it was usual to run at that rate of speed. Whether usual or not, it is clear to the mind of the Court that it is imprudent to run at that rate, and that it cannot be considered under the circumstances of this particular case either as a *moderate*, or *safe*, or *prudent* rate.—In such a fog, it appears to the Court that, regard being had to the necessity of keeping steerage way on a vessel, the rule should be—and it is one suggested by common sense, and, therefore, by good navigation—that the speed should be

moderated to such an extent that the vessel could be stopped dead within the distance those on board could see an approaching object; and if this is a safe rule it suggests the rule mentioned in more than one case, to the effect that vessels in a dense fog, hearing a whistle or horn a-head of them, and not aware whence it proceeded, should not alter the course, but immediately reverse full speed, not waiting until the approaching vessel appeared in sight.

The Court finds therefore, that both vessels were in fault, and decrees that the damage sustained by both, together with that occasioned to the cargo by injury and loss, be added together, and that half such damage be borne by each vessel.

In making this decree, the Court exercises the equitable jurisdiction of a Court of Admiralty, which enables it to do full justice to the parties before it, although in this case there is no counter-claim or cross-action on the part of the defendant. Indeed, it is difficult to see how any counter-claim or cross-action could have been brought under the circumstances—the *Fusing* being Chinese owned, (and therefore not under the jurisdiction of this Court) and the Chinese not having any Courts of Admiralty or rules of Maritime Law; Having voluntarily come into this Court they must be held to abide by the decision of the Court which seeks, after a full hearing of all the facts on both sides, to do justice.

U. S. CONSULATE-GENERAL.

Shanghai, May 24th.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General;* and Messrs. Talbot Olyphant and John Thorne, *Assessors.*

F. H. B. Jenkins *v.* George B. Glover.

Mr. Eames appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Wainewright for the defendant.

The action was brought to recover Tls. 6,687 from the defendant, who is Commissioner of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs at Shanghai.

Mr. Eames opened the case by reading the plaintiff's

Petition:—

1.—That he is a Citizen of the United States, now resident at Shanghai.

2.—That the defendant is also a Citizen of the United States, and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

3.—That during the year 1866 the plaintiff contracted with a duly authorised Officer of the Chinese Government to cause to be manufactured and imported for the use of said Government certain arms and ammunition specified in the schedule hereunto annexed, for which the officer aforesaid agreed to pay to the plaintiff the sum of Taels 6,687 Shanghai Sycee.

4.—That the plaintiff imported said arms and ammunition under a special permit from the Superintendent of Chinese Customs at Shanghai, and on or about the month of November, 1867, requested the agent of said officer to take delivery thereof, which he refused to do.

5.—That thereafter, to wit, on or about the 21st day of April, 1875, the said arms and ammunition were by order of the plaintiff offered for sale by public auction, at Shanghai, and, but for the interference of the defendant, could and would have been sold as the plaintiff believes, at or near their contract price.

6.—That the defendant by his agent at the time and place of the said auction, publicly and in the presence and hearing of a large number of persons there assembled, protested against the said sale, and in consequence of said protest the persons present were prevented from bidding, and the sale of said arms and ammunition was lost.

7.—That the plaintiff is not at present able to sell or dispose of the said arms and ammunition, except at a merely nominal price.

8.—That by the unwarrantable interference of the defendant as aforesaid, the plaintiff has suffered loss and damage in the sum of Taels 5,000 as he verily belives.

Your Petitioner therefore prays that Judgment may be given against the defendant accordingly, with interest and costs, and that he may have such further or other relief as to your Honorable Court may seem meet.

Schedule of the arms and ammunition above referred to—

275 Revolving Rifles at Tls. 15 each	Tls.	4,125
140,000 Cartridges for do. ,, 1.8.3.....	,,	2,562
	Shanghai Sycee Tls.	6,687

The defendant's original answer ran as follows:—

1.—The allegations contained in the 1st paragraph of the petition are admitted.

2.—The defendant is a citizen of the United States, and is in the employ of His Majesty the Emperor of China, as Commissioner of the Chinese Imperial Customs at Shanghai.

3.—As to the allegations contained in the 3rd and 4th paragraphs of the petition, the defendant is not informed, and leaves the same to be proved.

4.—The defendant admits that the arms and ammunition referred to in the petition were on or about the 21st of April, 1875, offered for sale by public auction at Shanghai, but he denies that he in any way interfered with the sale thereof.

5.—With reference to the allegations contained in the 6th paragraph of the petition, the defendant denies that he either employed, directed or authorised any person to protest against the said sale. If any such protest as is alleged in the petition were made, it was made without the sanction or authority of the defendant. The defendant denies that such protest, if made, had any effect upon the said sale.

6.—The defendant denies the truth of the allegations contained in the 7th und 8th paragraphs of the Petition.

7.—And the defendant further says in answer to the Plaintiff's Petition that the said sale or attempted sale was illegal, inasmuch as it was in violation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Chinese Empire, signed on the 18th of June, 1858, and of the Customs Rules or Regulations made or in force under or by virtue thereof, or some or one of the said Rules or Regulations, and that it was lawful for the Defendant as such Commissioner of Customs as aforesaid, to endeavour to prevent the said sale by protesting against it in the manner charged in the Petition.

8.—And the defendant further says in answer to the plaintiff's Petition, that the act complained of in the 6th paragraph of the Petition, if done or directed to be done by the defendant, was so done or directed to be done by him within Chinese jurisdiction and in pursuance of his authority as a Chinese Customs' Officer, and in obedience to orders received from the Chinese Government.

The defendant therefore prays that the Petition be dismissed, the petitioner decreed to pay the costs, and that the defendant may have such other or further relief as to the Court may seem meet.

Mr. Eames was proceeding to read the answer, when

Mr. Wainewright said it would perhaps be as well for him to state here, what he had before mentioned privately to the other side, that the defendant withdrew the whole of his answer, except the second and last clauses, which would now constitute the whole defence to the action.

The Court—Then you do not care to call any witnesses?

Mr. Wainewright—We do not. We admit everything alleged in the petition to have been done, and simply rely on the second and last clauses in the answer.

Mr. Eames said that seemed to reduce the case to a very narrow compass. There was one point, however, upon which he should be obliged to offer evidence, as it did not appear to be included in the defendant's admissions. It was with respect to the contract price of the arms.

Mr. Wainewright asked if it would not be better to have the legal question settled first, and afterwards go into the question of value.

The Court thought it would be better to decide the legal question first.

Mr. Eames then went on to say that he understood the defendant meant to rely on the second and last clauses of his answer, whereby the case was rendered a very simple one. The defendant took the ground that, as a public officer, he was not responsible, as he had acted solely under the instructions given to him. That no doubt would be the case at home, but the plaintiff's position was a very curious one—he had no means of redress against the Government of China in this matter. He (Mr. Eames) referred the Court to the case of Gumpach *v.* Hart heard before Sir Edmund Hornby, and reported in the *Gazette*, in which the same point arose,—

Mr. Wainewright said if Mr. Eames was going to quote that case, he had better take the Privy Council ruling, as the case was referred to them.

Mr. Eames said if it was meant that Sir Edmund's judgment was overruled—

Mr. Wainewright did not say that the point upon which Mr. Eames relied was overruled. He had a report of the case before the Privy Council, which he would submit to the Court.

Mr. Eames resumed by saying that the defendant was Commissioner of Customs here, and he (Mr. Eames) contended that his duty ceased when goods were entered and passed. He now stated that he acted, in the manner alleged in the petition, on the part of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Wainewright—He acted as Commissioner of Customs, in pursuance of the orders of the Chinese Government. That is all he says.

Mr. Eames—But not on any special order from the Government. Are you going to put in any evidence on that point?

Mr. Wainewright replied that he was not.

Mr. Eames—Then I contend that the defendant had finished his duty as Commissioner of Customs, when the rifles were received and passed. But supposing he had received a special order to act in the manner he now admitted, then I also contend that the Chinese Government could not give him any such order, for the valid reason that the rifles were imported under the usual permit, for the use of the Chinese Government, according to the regulations promulgated on the 9th June, 1863. That is of course admitted?

Mr. Wainewright—We do not admit anything about the Chinese Government.

Mr. Eames—I understand your sole defence is contained in the second and last clauses of your answer—that the defendant is a servant, was acting under instruction, and is therefore not liable? Now, these rifles were imported to the order of the Chinese Government, and when they arrived, the Government refused to take them, but not from any complaint or default in the arms themselves.

The Court—Neglected to take them?

Mr. Eames—We say that we asked the officer to take delivery of them, and he refused to do so; and here comes up the question—and a rather serious one—The Chinese Government enter into a contract for the importation of these arms, which in this instance were manufactured expressly for them. Their manufacture of course took some time, and when they arrived in China, political circumstances had materially altered, and the Government, as I have said, refused to take them. The plaintiff said, "Very well; then let me sell them elsewhere." They refused him leave to export them, and their sale by auction was also stopped. Now, what is to be done with the arms? They were imported expressly for the Chinese Government, which having refused to take them, I contend they became as any other merchandise for disposal. The plaintiff has no remedy against the Chinese Government, and if he is not permitted to dispose of the rifles by public auction, he cannot do so by private sale. If the one course is illegal, the other is illegal also. The whole case turns on the point whether these rifles, having been properly imported, became merchandise that could be dealt with as any other merchandise. I suppose it is hardly necessary for me to quote any reference on the point that a person having no authority cannot give any authority?

The Court—There is no doubt on that point.

Mr. Eames—No, it has been admitted many years. This case is narrowed to those points. The plaintiff wanted to sell the rifles, and defendant was wrong in stopping the sale. It involved a question of very great importance, though it seemed to him idle to argue it.

The Court—Perhaps you will turn to the Treaty provisions.

Mr. Eames—The Treaty provisions are against the sale of arms, but the proclamation provides for the importation of arms with a proper permit.

The Court—Will you read it?

Mr. Eames read as follows:—

Huang, Supperintendent of Customs, Intendant of Circuit, &c. A Special Proclamation.

"It is laid down in the Regulations appended to the Tariff, that munitions of war are contraband, and that import and export trade therein is prohibited; and thus it is only when specially imported for Chinese Government officers, under Government authorisation, that the contraband character of such commodities is removed.

"Therefore after the dates mentioned below, all munitions of war, brought to Shanghai, will be regarded as, and treated as, contraband, unless the importer has *in the first instance* obtained a *permit to import.* This document will be issued by the Customs, on receipt of instructions from H. E. the Governor; and will state distinctly that a certain merchant is authorised to purchase on behalf of His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Government, at a certain place, a certain quantity of munitions of war.

"All munitions of war brought here, save under this permit to import, will be seized and confiscated, and the plea that they are intended to be eventually taken to Japan or elsewhere will be by no means admitted.

"As, however, the distance between China and the various foreign countries is not uniform, I, on the 4th day of the 4th moon (the 21st May), addressed communications to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers to the effect "that *after the expiry of a term of six weeks* "commencing on the 4th day of the 4th moon, "the date of my communications, munitions "of war for which no Customs permit to "import has been issued, brought to Shanghai "in vessels which have come from Hongkong

"or any Asiatic, or Australian port, or in "vessels, which, coming from other parts of "the world have touched or anchored at "Hongkong, or any Asiatic or Astralian port, "shall be regarded as contraband and seized "and confiscated; and that *after the expiry of "a term of seven months*, munitions of war "brought to Shanghai, in vessels which "coming from any European, American or "African port, have not touched, or anchored "at Hongkong or any Asiatic or Astralian "port, shall be regarded as contraband, and "seized and confiscated."

"In addition to the communications which I have already addressed to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers, I now publish this Proclamation for the information of all whom it may concern.

"T'ung-Chih, 2nd year, 4th moon, 19th day."

Mr. EAMES went on to say—It seems to me that this really makes the importation of these arms legal. They were, I repeat, originally intended for the Chinese Government, who refused to take them, but not from any objection to them. That was not good faith, and they now refuse to allow the plaintiff to dispose of them otherwise. I do not know that I can make the case clearer. The hardship is very apparent.

The COURT—Do you rest your argument on this proclamation, without reference to the Supplementary Treaty?

Mr. EAMES—I rest my argument on everything that applies to it.

The COURT referred Mr. Eames to Rule 3 of the Suplementary Treaty between the United States and China, with relation to contraband goods, and requested him to read it.

By Mr. EAMES accordingly read as follows:—"Import and export trade is alike prohibited in the following articles: gunpowder, shot, cannon, fowling-pieces, rifles, muskets, pistols, and all other munitions of war; and salt.—8th November, 1858." Mr. Eames added that his argument was that the Chinese Government had waived the article in the Supplementary Treaty by the proclamation he had previously read.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said he would now call the defendant, and ask him a few questions respecting the authority under which he had acted, reserving his remarks until afterwards.

GEORGE B. GLOVER then deposed—I am Commissioner of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in Shanghai. I hold my appointment from the Inspector-General, Mr. Hart. I am the servant of the Chinese Government. I have read the plaintiff's petition, and know that he alleges that I interfered with the sale of arms. Whatever part I took in the act complained of, was taken by me as Commissioner of Customs. I have directions from time to time from the Chinese Government, through the Inspector-General. The papers produced are part of my instructions, and are placed in my office for my guidance.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT read the papers in question, which he submitted to the Court as part of Mr. Glover's instructions, upon which he had hitherto conceived he was entitled to act. The effect of them, he (Mr. Wainewright) contended, was that Mr. Glover was not amenable to any Consular Court, he being a servant of the Chinese Government. It was perhaps, somewhat premature to read those papers, but he would now do so.

The COURT—Are they issued as instructions?

Mr. GLOVER—They were received from Mr. Hart.

By Mr. EAMES—What instructions have you as Commissioner of Customs, with respect to the seizure of goods?

Mr. GLOVER—I do not admit your right to put this question to me. I am summoned here as George B. Glover.

The COURT—How is the Court to clearly understand the case, unless you will answer the question? It is competent for the Court to inquire how this act lies within the range of your authority. Otherwise acts of the most extreme kind could be perpetrated by anybody under the plea set up. I am as much disposed to support the authority of the officers of the Chinese Customs as anybody can be, but it must be competent for me to inquire in this case whether you have authority to do what is complained of.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said if the Court came to such a decision as that, it would be assuming the position of directing the whole of the Chinese Maritime Customs. His argument was that, as the Court could not summon Prince Kung or any other member of the Chinese Government before it, it had no authority to summon any servant of that Government for an act done under its orders.

Mr. EAMES—Has Mr. Glover received any instructions from the Chinese Government to act as he has done in this case?

Mr. GLOVER—As George B. Glover, I do not know anything of the case—only as Commissioner of Customs, and as a servant of the Chinese Government.

The COURT (to Mr. Glover)—Would it not be better to have this question answered? By the line you are taking, it would seem as if you thought the Court were unwilling to uphold the Chinese authorities.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said it was not a question for this Court alone. It was a question whether a Chinese Customs' official of any nationality, can be forced into his Consular Court to justify an act he may do as an employé of the Chinese Government. If an employé of the Chinese Customs could be so forced into his Consular Court, he (Mr. Wainewright) said it would do away with the Foreign branch of the Chinese Customs altogether. It was a question, he repeated, that did not apply to this Court alone, but to all Consular Courts. There was but a small community in Shanghai, but it embraced many nationalities, and several of those nationalities were represented in the Chinese Customs, but he contended they could not be called to account by their Consuls for their action as servants of the Chinese Government.

The COURT—I will make a note of the objection, but I think it better for the witness to answer the question. I must say it is placing me in a false position to call upon me in this way to decide this point. The dignity and position of the Chinese Government or its officers will not suffer at my hands, but I cannot agree with the argument advanced.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—If Mr. Glover answers the question, you will take a note that he answers it under protest?

The COURT acquiesced.

Mr. GLOVER then said he received his appointment from Mr. Hart, at Peking, who had given him instructions that he must obey his (Mr. Hart's) orders and his only. Mr. Hart had received his appointment from the Tsungli-yamên, and to the Chinese authorities only was he amenable.

The COURT said the question as put by Mr. Eames, was—Have you had special instructions to stop this sale of arms, or were you acting under general instructions?

Mr. GLOVER was understood to say that he had received special instructions, as Commissioner of Customs, with respect to sales of arms, such as the one in question, and that he was acting in pursuance of those instructions.

Mr. EAMES—But you have instructions to do exactly as you did in this case?

Mr. GLOVER—Yes.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT resumed by pointing out to the Court that this was a case of enormous importance, because if the Court decided against Mr. Glover, it would be practically a death blow to the employment of foreigners in the Chinese Customs.

The COURT—Not so. It seemed the best way to put the case right before the Court, and get a decision upon it, instead of springing a point which it had never considered, and upon which it was unprepared to decide. If the decision upon the whole case was unsatisfactory, it could be appealed to the District Court of California.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT hoped the Court would exonerate him from any intention of springing a point, but the vital question was, were foreign officials of the Chinese Imperial Customs to be liable to be dragged up before their Consuls, it may be once a week, to answer for actions done as servants of the Chinese Government? If the Chinese authorities found that was likely to be the case, they would no longer employ foreigners.

The COURT—It is the first time such a case has come before this Court, or any other United States Court. There is no reason, then, to fear that the Customs will be unduly interfered with. Let the whole case go before the Court, and a decision be given, and the Customs may be found relieved from danger of annoyance.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT submitted that the whole case was before the Court—it was solely as to Mr. Glover's liability. As to going into the whole case, it was of no consequence, because if the Court decided against the defendant on the question of liability, it would alter the whole management of the Chinese Customs. He thought he was entitled in that Court, as in any other, to rely on any one of the pleas advanced, and he relied on the question of liability to be proceeded against in this way. What was done by Mr. Glover, was done by him in his official capacity; he had proved he had acted only in his official capacity; and he contended that he was no more liable for a thing done in his official capacity than was the Chinese Government itself. To put it on any ground would be simply to say that the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs were subject to the Treaty Consuls. Such a thing would be impossible. The argument addressed to the Court on behalf of the plaintiff would have been a capital one, if the Chinese Government were the defendants. But it was no argument at all where a servant of that Government was the defendant. It might have been most improper to stop this sale of arms, but that was a matter for the Chinese Government itself to answer and not for their servant, who only acted in accordance with his instructions. To make the servant amenable to Consular Courts was not justifiable, and could not be supported. A British subject was not amenable to the British authorities for acts done as a servant of the Chinese Customs. Upon the points he had raised, Mr. Wainewright quoted several authorities, among them, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Sir W. Hatherton, Messrs. Hannen, Stephen, and Wingrove Cooke.

The COURT said it failed to see the justice of the propositions raised. The Chinese have a perfect right to regulate their revenue matters as they chuse, but why should not the defendant produce his instructions to the Court? If he did not produce his authority, how could the Court know that he was acting under instructions at all?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT, referring to the case of "Gumpach and Hart," said he thought it did not touch upon the present case at all. If Mr. Hart was held responsible for the acts of all his employés, he would be placed in an unendurable position, because he was responsible to one Court, and his employés at others. It was the first case in which an attempt had been made to fasten liability of this kind, and he contended it could not be supported.

Mr. EAMES, in reply, said there were one or two things he would like to repeat. Firstly, it seemed to him, that the defendant must prove to the Court that he was acting within the scope of his authority. If he could do that he would be exonerated, although other people might have been injured by his act. Secondly, he must show that he was acting under Chinese authority, and that the Chinese Government had power to give him such authority. The next step was that he must show his instructions. Defendant had brought quite a quantity of instructions, but he had left out the most important. In this case, the paper itself was the proper evidence, and ought to be produced, but the defendant had produced no documents from the Chinese authorities showing his authority for the act complained of.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said defendant had no power to produce them. He admitted the arms were imported, and of course they were admitted under permit; but what was the nature of the permit he did not say.

The COURT—Then there is no denial on your part that these arms were imported under permit in the usual way, and that the Customs passed them?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that was so.

Mr. EAMES then went on to say that it struck him as being a most curious argument that Mr. Glover could not be proceeded against because his employers could not be touched. So long as Mr. Glover confined himself to the authority given him, he was right, but when he stepped outside of it, he was no longer sheltered by it. To say otherwise would be most monstrous, for if a man was held to be so irresponsible for his acts, he might go and burn a whole city down on a similar plea. In conclusion, Mr. Eames said he would not now go into the question of the value of the arms, because he thought it better to have the legal question settled first.

The Court reserved judgment.

May 26th.

The following judgment was delivered :—

The Petitioner claims that, in 1867, he imported into Shanghai, under contract with an official of the Chinese Government, a lot of arms and ammunition, the agreed price of which was Tls. 6,687 ; that the said goods were landed under an arms permit, drawn in the ordinary form ; that the officer who had contracted to take delivery of the consignment refused to receive it ; that on the 21st of April, 1875, he offered the goods for sale at public auction ; that the Defendant by an agent, publicly at the place of sale, and unwarrantably protested against the sale ; that, but for this act of the Defendant, the goods would have been sold at or near the contract price ; and that he is now unable to sell them excepting at a nominal price. Upon these allegations the Petitioner asks for damages in the sum of 5,000 taels. The Defendant made answer to these allegations, traversing the several points, but at the hearing he amended his pleading by consent. His amended answer set forth simply that he "is in the employ of His Majesty the Emperor of China, as Commissioner of the Chinese Imperial Customs at Shanghai," and that "the act complained of, if done, or directed to be done by the defendant, was so done, or directed to be done, by him within Chinese jurisdiction, and in pursuance of his authority as a Chinese Customs' officer, and in obedience to orders received from the Chinese Government."

I remark in the first place that the Petitioner had, in my opinion, no right to sell the goods in question in the open market. The supplementary Treaty of 1858 provides that :— "Import and Export trade is alike prohibited in the following articles : Gunpowder, Shot, Cannon, Fowling-Pieces, Rifles, Muskets, Pistols, and all other Munitions of War." This means simply that all trade in the articles mentioned is prohibited. The Government of China has, however, provided a system under which purchases of arms, &c., needed by the Government may be made. This system is set forth in a proclamation issued by Hwang, Taotai at Shanghai, in 1863, and officially published at that time in the English language by Mr. H. Tudor Davies, the then Commissioner of Customs. This Proclamation received at the time the approval of the Treaty Consuls, and I am not aware that its provisions have ever been brought into question. The translated proclamation is as follows :—

"Hwang, *Superintendant of Customs, Intendant of Circuit, &c.*

A Special Proclamation.

"It is laid down in the Regulations appended to the Tariff, that Munitions of War are contraband ; and that import and export trade therein is prohibited ; and that it is only when specially imported for Chinese Government Officers, under Government authorization, that the contraband character of such commodities is removed.

"Therefore, after the date mentioned below, all Munitions of War brought to Shanghai, will be regarded as, and treated as contraband, unless the Importer has *in the first instance* obtained *a permit to import*. This document will be issued by the Customs, on receipt of instructions from His Excellency the Governor ; and will distinctly state that a certain merchant is authorized to purchase on behalf of His Imperial Chinese Majesty's Government, at a certain place, a certain quantity of Munitions of War.

"All Munitions of War brought here, save under this permit to import, will be seized and confiscated, and the plea that they are intended to be eventually taken to Japan or elsewhere will be by no means admitted."

The learned Counsel for the Petitioner seems to hold that Munitions of War imported under permits, granted in accordance with the terms of the Proclamation, are freed from their contraband character, and may be sold in the open market. This view entirely leaves out of consideration the fact that the Proclamation is intended to define a procedure under which goods required for the Government may be imported ; and not at all to sanction, under restrictions, a general trade in arms. When, therefore, the Petitioner caused the goods in question to be offered for sale at public auction, he did what he had no right to do, and it was competent for any rightly accredited agent of the Chinese Government to protest against his act.

A second question is—whether the Defendant was entitled, in virtue of his official position and instructions, to protest against the sale.

It might seem that the duties of a Commissioner of Customs cease after goods have passed the Customs in due course, and that the Defendant's interference in this matter was *ultra vires*. There is, however, no violence in the idea that a Commissioner, in virtue of his general oversight of whatever concerns foreign trade, may follow articles which are of a contraband sort, in order to ascertain whether the terms under which they have been imported are complied with, and to prevent any other disposition of them than that contemplated by the Government. But however this may be, there can I think be no doubt that it is competent for the Government to instruct him to take such action. That the Government has given him such an instruction is declared by the Defendant in evidence. I am willing to accept this declaration, and to decide, in view of it, that he was acting within the scope of his authority.

A point was raised by the defence, in objecting to a question put to the Defendant, which is of much interest. It was not pressed, and it was not necessary to make a ruling upon it. This was the more satisfactory, for the reason that neither the Court nor the learned Counsel were prepared, I think, to deal with it, with that extent of information which it deserved. The point, as raised, amounted to a declaration that a citizen of the United States may bar any suit brought against him by pleading that he is an officer of the Chinese Government, and acting within the scope of his authority as such officer, it being in this view beyond the power of the Court to inquire whether the act in issue was or was not beyond the scope of his authority.

With a strong disposition to uphold the Foreign Customs establishment, and a perfect recognition of the very valuable services which it has rendered to native and foreign interests, I find it difficult to assent to so extreme a proposition ; and I trust that, if it be brought up before me again at any time hereafter, it will be done in a formal manner, and with elaborate arguments. I may add that the learned Counsel for the defendant failed to show or to attempt to show that his contention was supported, directly or by implication, in the interesting case of von Gumpach and Hart. My examination of that case indicates that the decision of the Privy Council would not support the contention.

I dismiss the petition, with costs against the petitioner.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, May 17th.

Before C. F. R. Allen, Esq., *Actg. Magistrate.*

R. *v.* George MacMurran.

Drunk and Incapable.

Defendant is boatswain of the str. *Antenor*, and late on Sunday night was found drunk and incapable in the Woosung road, Hongkew. In defence, he said he must have been "dosed" (drugged.)

Discharged with a caution.

Assault.

Aaron Arrant, a native of Aden, was charged with assaulting the houseboy and gateman at No. 1, Kiangse Road.

It appeared from the evidence of the complainants that at about 12 o'clock on Sunday night, the defendant went into the compound of the house, and was proceeding to misbehave himself when the gateboy tried to prevent him. He asked who was inside the house, and the gateboy told him he must ask the houseboy. Defendant did so, and was told by the houseboy that he was too busy to attend to him. Defendant then rang the bell, and on its being answered by the houseboy, he struck him, and tore his clothes, doing damage to the extent of $1.25. He next took up two flower pots and threw them at the gateboy, afterwards kicking him. He was then given into custody.

There was no defence, the defendant merely saying that he went to the house to enquire for a gentleman, with whom he had some business.

His Worship said it was, no doubt, a case of drunken assault, and the sentence was that the defendant should pay $2 for each of the assaults, and $1.25 for the damage he had done to the boy's clothing ; in default, ten days' imprisonment.

The money was paid.

May 21st.

R. *v.* John Toleman, 2nd Cook of the S.S. *Antenor.*

Absent without Leave.

In answer to his Worship, prisoner stated that he came on shore about 4.30 p.m. on 17th instant, with the chief cook. On his return to the ship, the chief officer told him that he had no right to leave the ship without permission. He told the mate that he considered the chief steward as his "boss," and that he was going on shore again. The chief mate knocked him off duty.

Randolph S. Campbell, stated—The chief steward reported to me that the chief and second cooks were on shore without leave. On their return, I told them that they had done wrong. The chief cook admitted his fault, but the prisoner set me at defiance, and said that he would go on shore again. I think he was the worse for liquor. He went on shore again that evening.

Captain Jones gave the prisoner a good character.

Fined two days' pay and costs.

May 26th.

Attempt to commit Suicide.

Mathew Jordan, a fireman, unemployed, was charged with the above offence.

In answer to His Worship, prisoner said that he was mad at the time and did not know what he was doing.

Mr. Stripling said that the prisoner had only just returned from Ningpo, where he had been employed as a constable, but had been discharged from the force for drunkenness.

J. Nesbit, sworn, deposed—I am 2nd officer of the S. S. *Europe*. At about 7 p.m. yesterday, my attention was called to the prisoner, who was on the wharf. The prisoner was standing by the stern of the *Europe*, and had a stone tied by two half hitches to his neck. I went on the wharf and took hold of him and undid the rope. I asked him what he meant. He replied that he was tired of life and wanted to make away with himself. The stone was securely fastened to the rope. From the position he was in, I am of opinion that he intended to carry out his purpose. His coat, vest and cap were lying on the wharf. I made him take up his clothes and then took him to the Police Station. I did not consider him the worse for liquor. He walked straight enough, and seemed to have his senses about him.

Mr. G. Rohl, sworn, deposed—At about 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening, I was about 18 yards from the steamer *Europe*, on Hunt's Wharf. My attention was attracted to the prisoner, by seeing him take off his coat, vest and cap and throw them down on the wharf. Thinking he was going to fight some one, I went towards him ; by the time I reached him Mr. Nesbit had untied a rope from his neck. The other end was attached to a stone. I spoke to him. He replied that he was thoroughly ashamed of himself and did not wish to look a European in the face again. He was tired of life and wanted to make away with himself. There are about 20 feet of water at the spot. He told us why he had left Ningpo. He did not appear to me to have been drinking.

His Worship remanded the prisoner until Friday next, in order that he might be examined by a medical man.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, MAY 28TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From London, the *Forward Ho;* from Hamburg, the *Saturnus;* and from Hongkong, the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*, with the London mails of 16th ultimo.

TELEGRAMS.—Reuter's latest from London quotes—*Mid. Or. Cotton*, 8⅛d.; 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings—Eagle*—9s. 10½d.; *Iron*, £9 10s.; *Lead*, £23 5s.; and reports the export of PLAIN COTTONS to Shanghai as over 11,000,000 yards for the first half of the current month.

PIECE GOODS.—Our Piece Goods market has not experienced any change since this day-week. Extreme quietness has prevailed; and the course of prices—smoothed somewhat by the Auction sales, which again claim attention as comprising the bulk of the week's business—has been downward. At the close there is no life or "go" in the dealers. They have no orders on hand, nor do they look for any until after "settling day," some 12 days hence.

Grey Shirtings.—A thorough collapse. Sales scarcely worth recording. At Public Auction, damages ex *Ulysses—Deucalion*—have sold as follows:—6-lbs. Common, from Tls. 1.16 *a* 1.29 per piece; 7-lbs. *Lion and Flag*—Stewart's—Tls. 1.43 per piece; 8¼-lbs Collie's *Lion on bale*, Tls. 1.65 *a* 1.66 per piece; Green Lion, Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.68¼ per piece, and a better cloth Tls. 1.80 per piece; and some Dewhurst's 9¾-lbs. *Eagles*, rejected because of *mildew*, realised from Tls. 2.52 *a* 2.60 per piece. In the open market best Heavy Shirtings have declined nearly two mace per piece.

White Shirtings.—The transactions reported aggregate only 2,750 pieces of good 66 Reeds, at Tls. 2.12 *a* 2.17 per piece. Eighteen cases of fine counts, in bad order, ex *Ulysses*, were auctioned on Wednesday, and brought from Tls. 2.64 *a* 3.00 per piece.

T-Cloths.—Remarks similar to the foregoing are applicable here. The settlements have been trifling, and a large proportion of these consists of damaged and unmerchantable goods, unsaleable otherwise than by Auction. The range of prices has been for 7-lbs. good Mexicans, from Tls. 1.27½ *a* 1.44¼ per piece, and for 8-lbs. from Tls. 1.40 *a* 1.66½ per piece, some of the goods being very badly chafed and sea-damaged. Privately little has been done, but the few thousand pieces of 7-lbs. Ordinary Mexicans that have changed hands, have been taken at very nearly former rates, and it may not be out of place to mention here that native holders of these classes seem disposed to maintain present rates, anticipating an active market when the settling day is over.

Drills.—14-lbs. English and Dutch have been in frequent enquiry, and have commanded far better prices—relatively—than 15-lbs., of which the bulk of the week's business consists, and which have rather receded in value. About 9,000 pieces have changed ownership on the basis of Tls. 2.50 per piece for Levita and Hudson's best single *Dragon* 15-lbs. cloth. Stocks of the lighter makes are exhausted, and this probably is the cause of their present high favor and position.

Jeans and **Sheetings.**—Still nothing doing in the former, and business in the latter, from want of supply, has been limited to a few best Americans at Tls. 3.72½ per piece.

Fancy Cottons, like every other article, has suffered from the ruling depression. 3,000 dozen *Handkerchiefs* at 0.50 *a* 0.52 per dozen; 250 pieces of 7-lbs. *Gentian Shirtings* at Tls. 2.20 per piece, and 360 pieces *Chintzes*—special—at Tls. 1.47½ per piece, comprise the total settlements reported.

Woollens.—Private sellers still mourn over the absence of demand, and their inability to make sales. They have done next to nothing this week—at least very little appears to their credit in the market book—and some of them seem inclined to follow the tendency of the age, and turn auctioneers. Only, they say their holdings cost considerably higher than what similar goods have been realising at the late Auctions, and they are not yet quite decided on the point of sacrificing. The results of the sales on 25th and 27th instant are as under:—

Camlets—C.P.H., Scarlet & Gentian	400 pcs.	at Tls. 13.45 *a* 13.65	per pce.	200 pcs. assorted av. Tls.	13.47½ per pce.
—G.G.M.				200 ,, ,, ,,	12.95 ,,
—S.S.G.				600 ,, ,, ,,	12.85 ,,
Long Ells—C.P.H., Scarlet & Mauve	1,040 ,,	,,	6.76 *a* 6.78 and 6.82½		
—Scarlet "Elephant"	300 pcs.	at Tls.	6.17½ *a* 6.22½ per pce.		
Spanish Stripes—C.P.H., assorted	312 ,,	,,	0.51½ *a* 0.59½ per yard	378 ,, T.T.B. ,, ,,	0.56 per yard.
— ,, Scarlet Peacock	120 ,,	,,	0.55 *a* 0.54⅜ ,,		
Lastings—"Elephant"—Gentian & Black	40 ,,	,,	10.42½ *a* 10.47½ per pce.		
—"Lion" Do.	40 ,,	,,	12.15 *a* —.— ,,		
Mahommedan Cloth	120 ,,	,,	0.12.1 *a* 0.12.2 per yard.		
Grey Shirtings—6-lbs. Peacock	600 ,,	,,	1.30 per pce.		
—6¾-lbs.	400 ,,	,,	1.35 ,,		
—7-lbs.	1,000 ,,	,,	1.38 ,,		
—8¼-lbs.				3,300 pces. at Tls.	1.60½ *a* 1.60¼
—7-lbs. Goose	1,500 pce.	at Tls.	1.37 per pce.		
—8-lbs. Red Lion	1,000 ,,	,,	1.76½ ,,		
—8¼-lbs. Green Lion	1,000 ,,	,,	1.64¾ ,,		
T-Cloths—7-lbs. Common	900 ,,	,,	1.29½ *a* 1.29¾ per pce.		
—7-lbs. Mexican	500 ,,	,,	1.40¼ per pce.		
—8-lbs.	1,000 ,,	,,	1.64½ ,,		

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.5.0	13.5.0	13.3 0	12.8.0	13.7.0	...	...	12.3.0	12.2.0	...
Long Ells, ... Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	6.7.7	6.9.0	6.2.0	6.9.0	6.9.0	...	...	6.8.5	6.2 5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.8	0.5.4½	0.5.4	0.6.0	0.5.4	0.5.4	0.5.2	0.5.4	0.5.5	0.5 5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 27TH MAY, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve	Brown
C.P.H. Camlets p. pce. ₹	13.50 /13.52½	13.50/13.52½	13.30/13.32½	.....	13.67½	...	.....	...	.....	...	...
G.G.M. ,, ,, ,,	13.12½	12.67½	13.05	12.50	13.60	...	13.17½	...	11.85	13.55	...
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.10 /13.15	12.52½/12.55	13.00/12.92½	12.40/12.45	13.50	...	13.12½/13.30	12.00	11.77½/12.07½	...	...
T.T.B.Sp.Stripes p.yd.,,	0.58 / 0.57⅜	0.55 /0.54⅜	0.54/ 0.54½	0.61	.....	0.54½	0.54	0.56	0.54¼/ 0.54½	...	0.54

U. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—	T.m.c. T.m.c.	68 @ 80 reed .... ,,	2.2.5 ,, 2.5.5
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...₩ pc.	1.3.0 to 1.3.6	Best..... ,,	2.7.0 ,, 3.2.0
7lbs. ..... ,,	1.3.8 ,, 1.5.4	DRILLS, Am. 40yds 30in 15lbs.	...3.3.5 ,, 3.4.7
8¼ @ 8½ lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.0½,, 1.9.6	English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs.	...2.3.7 ,, 2.5.0
9 *a* 9¼-lbs. .... ,,	2.1.0 ,, 2.3.0	Do. Fine to Finest ,,	...2.6.5 ,, 2.7.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs. ..... ,,	2.5.5 ,, 2.7.5	Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.	...2.3.7 ,, 2.4.3
Tun Sin ..... ,,	2.9.0 ,, nom.	JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb.	...2.1.0 ,, 2.2.0
U. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—		English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8½lbs.	...1.8.0 ,, 1.9.0
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...₩ pc.	1.5 5 ,, 1.7.0	American ,, ,, nom.	...2.7.5 ,, ...
60 reed ..... ,,	1.7.0 ,, 1.8.0	SHEETINGS—	
64 ,, ... ,,	1.8.5 ,, 2.0.0	Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs.	...3.7.0 ,, 3.7.5
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed. ,,	2.0.0 ,, 2.1.7	Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs.	...2.8 5 ,, 2.9.6

T-CLOTHS—	
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.1.4 ,, 1.2.0
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...p. pc.	1.3.0 ,, 1.3.5
6-lbs. Mex. ..... ,,	1.2 8 ,, 1.3.5
7-lbs. ,, ... ,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.5.7
8 to 8¼-lbs. ..... ,,	1.6.2 ,, 1.8.0
Better kinds and XX	1 8.5 ,, 2.2.0
HANDKERCHIES, Blue 28in. ₩ dz.	0.4.8 ,, 0.5.5
Brown... ,,	0.4.0 ,, 0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ₩ pc.	2.1.0 ,, 2.2.0
Dyed. ,,	2.5.0 ,, 2.6.5

Brocades—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings.....	,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.5.5
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.	...	1.9.2½,,	.....
50/52 ,,	...	3.7.0 ,,	4.9.0
T. Reds, 24 yds. 2½ a 3lbs. 32in.	,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8½,,	0.1.9½
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3½,,	0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9 ,,	0.2.1
Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5 ,,	0.0.6½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5 ,,	1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0 ,,	0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S	,, ,,	12.5.0 ,,	13.4.0
G G	,, ,,	12.9.5 ,,	.....
S S G	,, ,,	12.8.5 ,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5 ,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.4 ,,	0.5.6
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.6 ,,	... .
,, H.H.	,,	0.5.9 ,,	.....
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H	₩ pc	6.8.0 ,,	.. ..
,, C P H	,,	6.7.7 ,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,,	6.5.5 ,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.6.0 ,,	.....
,, G G	,,	6.5.0 ,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0 ,,	12 6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0 ,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.1.0 ,,	3.4.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.5.0 ,,	3.8 0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0 ,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0 ,,	4.5.0

Metals.—*Nail-Rod Iron.*—No first-hand transactions have taken place, but some business has been done between Natives in M. M. Crown at a decline of 5 candareens per picul. *Lead.*—Rates remain nominally at Tls. 6.05 per picul for L.B. Scarcely any enquiry, and dealers trying hard to supply their little wants within quotations. *Tin.*—While last mail was under despatch, a demand sprang up, and Tls. 19½ for *Fong Hing* was declined. There are no sellers to-day at quotations, but the enquiry is not very strong. *Copper.*—Of Japan there is little here, and best slab could command Tls. 18.75 per picul to-day if on the spot.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.	
Quicksilver	per Pcl.	107.0.0	a	Cotton—Common New	per Pcl.	8.4.0	a 8.6.0
Tin Plates—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0	a 6.2.0	,, Medium	,,	9.2.0	a 9.6.0
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	,, Best	,,	10.0.0	a 10.6.0
Iron Wire—No. 17 ...	nominal per Pcl.	6.5.0	a 6.7.5	Sugar—White.....Swatow, No. 1	Nom. ,,	5.7.0	a 6.4.0
18 ...	no demand. ,,	7.0.0	a	,, 2	,,	5.2.0	a 5.8.0
19/23	,,	7.7.5	a 8.0.0	,, 3	,,	4.6.0	a 5.2.0
Straits Tin—Fong Hing	,,	19.3.0	a	Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0	a 5.4.0
Fok Chok .....nom....	,,	18.8.0	a	,, 2	,,	4.6.0	a 4.8.0
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0	a	,, 3	,,	4.4.0	a 4.6.0
Steel	per Tub	3.5.0	a 3.6.0	Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0	a 4.5.0	Common ...	,,	2.6.0	a 2.8.0
Japan Copper—Finger ..... none ...	,,	.....	a	,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.5.0	a 18.7.5	,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0	a 2.6 0
Ore ..... ,, ..	,,	.....	a	Pepper—Black	,,	8.5.0	a 8.6.0
Hoop Iron	,,	3.2.0	a 3.3.0	—White	,,	15.0.0	a 18.0.0
Pig Iron	per Ton	25.0.0	a 26.0.0	Rattans—Common	,,	2.8.0	a 3.6.0
Nailrod Iron—				—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0	a 4.0.0
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.0	a 3.1.0	—Best	,,	4.2.0	a 4.4.0
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,,	,,	2.7.5	a 2.8.0	Sapan Wood—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2 8.0	a 3.0.0
Belgian ..... ,,	,,	2.3.0	a 2.3.5	5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0	a 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,,	,,	2.6 5	a 2.7 0	Sandalwood—South Sea	,,	3.6.5	a 3.7.0
Bar—Dawes ..... ,,	,,	2.8.0	a 3.0.0	Timor	,,	9.0.0	a 10.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0	a 3.2.0	Malabar	,,	16.5.0	a 18.0.0
Lead—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.0.5	a 6.1.0	Mangrove Bark	,,	0.7.0	a 1.3.0
Japanese & Common Brands ,,	,,	... .	a	Flint Stones,	,,	0.4.5	a 0.5.2

Freights.—*Foochow*, British steamer, 533 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 10 lay days—$0.33 per picul; *Oscar Vidal*, British barque, 490 tons, Shanghai to Nicolaefski, 20 lay days—$3,250 in full; *Misti*, French barque, 432, Shanghai to Tientsin, 10 lay days—$0.25 per picul, dead weight; *Misti*, French barque, 432 tons, Shanghai to Tientsin, 10 lay days—$0.40 per picul, light freight.

Cotton.—Only a limited business this week, and nearly all for the Southern ports. Quotations unchanged. The Hongs are very firm. The prevailing drought has already caused no little damage to the young plant, and this strengthens the position of the old crop. The damage, however, is not yet irreparable.

Exchange.—The Exchange market ruled steady during the past week. There has been a fair supply of merchants' paper, which was readily taken at 5s. 9⅞d. *a* 5s. 10⅛d. The demand for Bank Bills continues small, and the bulk of the business was settled at 5s. 9¾d. At the close, however, 5s. 9½d. is the best rate offered. On India, quotations have ruled from Rs. 310½ *a* 312, and a moderate business has been transacted at these rates. The tendency of the market is in favour of buyers. On Hongkong, rates remain at 27½ *a* 27⅝ per cent. discount.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 26th May, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 113 to 118, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	2,300	5,250	2,850	19,750	2,950	9,850	500	...	...	450	...	900	50	3,250
T.-Cloths ..... ,,	1,790	3,335	1,410	7,270	4,320	13,720	200	...	...	...	...	800	...	4,840
White Shirtings ..... ,,	180	150	350	1,150	350	4,770	250	...	...	60	...	...	...	1,680
Drills ..... ,,	...	120	...	3,480	...	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	360
Jeans ..... ,,	30	30	...	690	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	1,960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	849	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	50	...	...	50	100	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	330	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	60	60	...	120	180	1,260	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	350
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	...	...	...	50	320	220	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	...	20	...	432	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	24	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	...	...	72	18	108	84	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	...	46	...	68	16	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Camlets ..... ,,	10	260	145	845	40	170	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	...	80	1,140	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lastings ..... ,,	...	20	80	100	30	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	20	...	...	...	120	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	180	60	...	470	260	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	150
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	399	466	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	840	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.		Deliveries. For Week.	Deliveries. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Imports. For Week.	Imports. For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Stocks. Estimated at date *	Stocks. Against 28/5/74.
Grey Shirtings	Pcs.	48,100	1,703,100	126,460	1,546.653	1,066,500	1,008,400
T-Cloths	,,	37,685	1,048,677	100,230	689,924	246,800	628,700
White Shirtings	,,	8,940	287,746	24,903	313,494	101,600	63,200
Drills	,,	4,560	227,926	22,277	155,487	171,500	376.800
Jeans	,,	790	124,963	22,350	167.262	70,900	53,600
Sheetings	,,	1,360	29,340	3,025	44,025	16,400	25,400
Dyed Shirtings	,,	849	17,754	5,447	34,189	19.300	.....
Spots, White	,,	.....	.....	600	3,079	8,400	2,300
,, Dyed	,,	.....	.....	750	1,550	?	.....
Brocades, White	,,	.....	8,207	.....	6,280	300	.....
,, Dyed	,,	500	20,616	2,999	17,239	25,700	28,300
Damasks, Dyed	,,	330	8,208	95	7,495	6,400	5,900
Chintzes	,,	2,230	76,402	1,728	38,262	50,500	96,300
Turkey Red Shirtings	,,	690	41,131	3,510	44,456	29,600	9,300
Velvets	,,	512	17,477	918	20,009	10,200	19,100
Velveteens	,,	78	4,939	120	6,989	3,300	9,100
Handkerchiefs	Doz.	1,200	80,229	6,197	44,749	37,300	76,200
Muslins	Pcs.	200	18,206	662	20,446	13,300	19,100
Dimities	,,	.....	9,500	.....	2,530	7,800	8,400
Spanish Stripes	,,	414	18,156	2,298	20,192	12,800	28,700
Medium and Broad Cloths	,,	244	8,504	369	9,300	11,200	19,300
Camlets	,,	1,570	35,930	2,840	30,033	16,200	15,800
Long Ells	,,	1,280	30,580	5,760	32,940	11,400	13,900
Lastings	,,	340	16,498	1,788	13,808	9,700	4,600
Crape Lastings	,,	280	5,720	.....	3,319	6,800	2,100
Lustres, Plain	,,	100	7,150	500	8,059	5,000	11,100
,, Figured	,,	1,270	68,600	592	29,616	89,500	111,100
,, Crape	,,	100	9,640	1,600	7,489	19,000	11,600
Pig Lead	Pcls.	840	40,142	3,360	24,934	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod	,,	865	51,438	5,048	89,449	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Pera, Ægean, Deucalion, Antenor, Agamemnon, Hindostan, Galatea, Horriang, Craigforth, Djemnah, Forward Ho, Saturnus, Zambesi,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

OPIUM.—Stock on 15th May ..... MALWA, 4,350 Chests. PATNA, 1,551 Chests.
Receipts since ..... ,, 1,015½ ,, ,, 39 ,,
Total ..... ,, 5,365½ ,, Total ..... ,, 1,590 ,,
Deliveries from 15th May ..... ,, 1,175½ ,, ,, 364 ,,
Present Stock ..... ,, 4,190½ ,, ,, 1,226 ,,

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Since the 14th May, a very large business has been transacted at Hankow and Kiukiang from day to day, particulars of which up to the latest advices are subjoined :...

Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	10,413,153 lbs.
,, ,, —Green	.....	..... ,,
To United States—Black	.....	..... ,,
,, —Green	.....	..... ,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	.....	10,413,153 lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	.....	..... ,,
To America (per Steamer)	.....	..... ,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	.....	..... ,,

Black.—No arrivals of New Teas as yet to this market.

Green.—We hear that buying of leaf in the Teenkai district began on the 15th, at twenty per cent. lower cost than that paid last year, but prices at once advanced about ten per cent. There were 58 Hongs opened as against 65 last season. From Moyune and Fychow no buying had taken place, as a fall of twenty per cent. on last year's rates was not thought sufficient, and a further decline was hoped for. In Hoochow Teas and fine Pingsueys nothing appears to have been done for similar reasons to those given above, but of the coarser kinds of Ningpo leaf some purchases have been made, and the chops are estimated to cost 32 *a* 34 laid down here early next month. Leaf Tea in small lots is daily arriving from Ningpo, and no doubt some Shanghai-packed Teas will soon be on offer; still the heavy continuous losses of the past season have told heavily and we shall see the effects more distinctly later on.

HANKOW AND KIUKIANG.—In our last we were enabled to report the opening of the New Season at Kiukiang on the 9th, and on the 12th first musters arrived at Hankow, from which settlements were at once made, and our advices from day to day have informed us of a continuous large business at very high prices for most descriptions. The demand for Russian orders has been strong, and price has apparently been a secondary consideration in many instances. Bad weather at the first kept back Teas and buyers anxious for an early interest raised prices by their eager competition fully Tls. 2 per picul; latterly arrivals were larger, but rates seem to have been well kept up and the market has been at no time pressed with stock.

The quality of the New Crop, speaking generally, impresses us favorably, and indeed a few of the finest chops of each district are really splendid Teas. As a whole, and so far as we have yet seen, the Ningchows are not equal to those of last Season. Hohows are good and show very fair value. Oopacks and Oonfaas are well made, and we have found many of them strong in water. Prices paid for a few choice Ningchows are fully Tls. 10 per picul higher than ever given before, and it is understood that very large profits have been made here and there by Teamen. Prices paid have been for Ningchows Tls. 32 *a* 63; for finest Oopacks Tls. 33 *a* 42½; for other Oopacks Tls 24 *a* 32½; for Oonahms, Hohows and other classes Tls. 20 *a* 39.

Second chops had begun to arrive and were in some instances very dusty; prices ruled from Tls. 25 *a* 32.

No time has been lost in despatching first Teas, and the *Deucalion* left Woosung on the 18th closely followed by the *Glenartney, Bengal, Glenearn* and *Fleurs Castle,* direct from Hankow.

SILK.—Last public telegrams report the London market quiet but steady, and quote common No. 5 Tsatlee nominally 12s. 6d. @ 13s. 0d., and Hangchow Tsatlee, at 12s. 9d. per lb.

At foot are closing statistics for season 1874-75. The total export has reached 71,996 bales, the largest seen since season 1860-61, when 76,215 bales of Chinas were shipped to Europe and India. *New Season.*—The weather has continued very favorable throughout for the various changes of the silkworms; mulberry leaves have been cheaper than last season, and the cocoons are reported to give a better percentage of silk than for many seasons past. Considering the fact that everything has been so propitious, and taking into account the unanimity of native reports of a largely increased yield, it is impossible to justify the paying of such high rates as those reported to have been given for the first few arrivals, and it is presumed the sellers have shipped them on joint account rather than accept the heavy loss which the offers of nearly all buyers showed. The season is an early one, and the first bale samples of new silk (some mixed with old crop silk) reached this market on the 27th. They compare unfavorably with last year's; although of desirable quality and color, the size is much coarser than has been seen for many years past, and the silk is badly cased with foul skeins. Notwithstanding this inferiority, buyers have been found willing to take the silk at Tls. 270 @ 285 per picul, (13s. 6s. @ 14s. 4d. per lb.) for No. 5; Tls. 250

@ 260 per picul, (12s. 7d. @ 13s. 1d. per lb.) for inferior Tsatlees; Tls. 232½ per picul, (11s. 10d. per lb.) for common 9/12 moss Taysaams: Tls. 262½ per picul, (13s. 4d. per lb.) for No. 3 Hangchow Tsatlees, and Tls. 230 @ 235 per picul (11s. 8d. @ 11s. 11d. per lb.) for common skeins, to the agreeable surprise of the sellers, and the astonishment of the native silkmen generally. The settlements reported to have been made are about 200 bales made by one buyer only as particularized above:—Prices in the interior have already declined from the opening point, and as purchasing is going on to a limited extent only, a further reduction in rates is looked for by the Hongmen who are buying for this market. Should the new crop silk when it arrives in bulk, prove as coarse and foul as the first parcels received, it will destroy all chance of Chinas retaining their partially-regained favor with home consumers. The arrivals of new silk amount to about 650 bales, chiefly Lingho and Sinsze Tsatlee of inferior description. For a small parcel of Yellow Elephant, Tls. 300 are demanded, but *eager* buyers even want the courage to pay such an absurdly high price, in face of the probable export of 80,000 bales.

P.S.—It is reported that Tls. 297½ per picul have been paid for Yellow Elephant.

ESTIMATE OF NATIVE CONSUMPTION OF SILK FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE GOODS MANUFACTURED THEREFROM.

Manufacturing Districts.	Season 1865-66. Bales.	Season 1866-67. Bales.	Season 1867-68. Bales.	Season 1868-69. Bales.	Season 1869-70. Bales.	Season 1870-71. Bales.	Season 1871-72. Bales.	Season 1872-73. Bales.	Season 1873-74. Bales.	Season 1874-75. Bales.	Description of Goods manufactured, and class of Silk used.
Nankin	2,750	4,000	3,500	5,500	7,000	6,500	7,000	8,000	9,000	9,000	Best Yuenfas and Hainings for Organzine,—"Sin Zue" Taysaams for Tram;—for the manufacture of Satins, Mandarin Silks, and figured and plain Silks for shoe tops.
Chinkiang	750	1,000	1,500	1,500	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	Chiefly Kashing Taysaams and Laeyangs for ponjees.
Soochow	2,750	2,000	2,000	2,500	3,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,500	4,500	"Wo Seih" and "Shan San" Taysaams for Piece Goods;—"Hainings," for Throwns; and Good Kashing Taysaams for Sarcenets, Gauzes, &c.
Hoochow	2,500	4,000	3,000	4,000	6,500	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000	10,000	Chiefly "Sin Sue" Taysaams for Chinese Silk clothes; and Hainings for Throwns.
Szau Zah, Yon Quong-ching, and neighbourhood	4,000	6,000	7,500	8,000	10,000	10,500	10,000	10,000	12,000	15,000	Chiefly common and inferior Kashing Taysaams, for making common ponjees;—good Kashings for Handkerchiefs, Sarcenets, Gauzes, &c.
Hangchow	2,500	4,000	3,500	4,000	4,500	5,000	4,000	4,000	4,500	4,500	Sewhing or long reel Taysaams, Hangchow Tsatlees and Taysaams, for the manufacture of Satins, and heavy Silk Piece Goods, figured and plain;—Mandarin Silks, and heavy thick ponjees for native use.
Sewhing	750	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	Sewhing or long reel Taysaams for sewing Silks, Braidings, &c.
Foochow	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	Very inferior Taysaams, "Tong Cong," Szechuen, and inferior Tsatlee for coarse and common ponjees.
Total Bales...	17,000	23,000	23,000	28,000	35,000	36,000	38,000	40,000	45,000	50,000	

N.B.—These figures must be considered merely approximative, as it is impossible to obtain the information from official sources.

In reviewing the silk season just closed, the task is a more pleasant one than that of twelve months ago; although losses have been made, they have not been general, nor have they been on the same serious scale as were experienced during '72 to '73 and '73 to '74; in fact the comparatively low prices which have ruled on this side with some few exceptions throughout the greater part of the season, have given on the average far more satisfactory results to the shippers, than experienced during the previous two years. The Sterling equivalents of the *opening rates* were the lowest seen since the Port was opened:—in 1864 the Season commenced at prices on a basis of Tls. 355 *a* 365 per picul for chop No. 3 Tsatlee, but the rate of Exchange then ruling (7s. 2d. per Tael) increased the laying down cost to 22s. 5d. *a* 23s. 0d. per lb., (London value at same time 21s. 0d.), against 18s. 2d. *a* 20s. 2d. last year. (London value 19s. 0d. *a* 20s. 0d. per lb.) The reported improvement in quality of new crop silks mentioned in my circular of 30th May, was confirmed when new season's produce in bulk arrived on this market, and has been verified by the result given at the Mills, and by the increased deliveries of Chinas both on the Continent and in London. This improvement was the more noticeable in the lower classes of Tsatlees, which owing to their comparative cleanliness, have continued in good demand; and to a certain extent have displaced the better and higher cost grades. On the Continent especially has this proved the case. *Classical chops* have been in limited demand, owing to their absurdly high cost as compared with common silks, and it appears very probable that the consumption of these fancy descriptions will be further decreased, unless their quotations assume a closer and more reasonable range as compared with the lower numbers of Tsatlees, and more especially is this likely to be the case during the coming Season, should the latter grades be equal to or better than last year's supplies. *Market chops*, such as "Gold Lion," "Clouded Dragon," "Ku Kee's," "Blue Elephant," "Red Peacock," and similarly known silks have not lost favor, but have again been eagerly taken at disproportionate prices as compared with market descriptions of Tsatlees. Laeyang skeins and coarse Taysaams, owing to paucity of stocks in Europe, have been freely sold at satisfactory prices to the shippers, but these classes are expected to rule relatively dearer during the coming season, owing to the good demand for Chinese consumption. Re-reeled silks during a greater part of the season, have shown an improvement in preparation, and have been found to contain less percentage of "drug" than for some years past, but late shipments have fallen off very much in quality, and it is to be feared may cause these classes to be looked upon with disfavor owing to their inferiority and being so heavily "weighted."

The total export has reached 71,996 bales, showing an increase of 14,382 bales over last year's, and whereas shipments to the Continent almost double the previous year's, the export to England shows a *falling off* of 1,700 bales. The following figures showing the steady increase of direct supplies to the Continent are interesting and commend themselves to shippers desiring the best market for their silk.

NEW SEASON'S OPENING STATISTICS.

Year.		Tsatlee Chop No. 3.	Tsatlee No. 4.	Kashing Tay-saam No. 1.	Haining No. 2.	REMARKS.	Estimate of Crop.	Actual total export to all Ports.
1874.	Shanghai opening prices 5th June	Tls. Tls. 370 *a* 390	Tls. Tls. 320 *a* 325	Tls. Tls. 320 *a* 330	Tls. Tls. 310 *a* 315	Silk generally superior to previous season's; better quality and lower grades cleaner.	Bales.	Bales.
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 1*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 18 2 *a* 20 2	*s. d.* *s. d.* 16 7 *a* 16 10	*s. d.* *s. d.* 16 7 *a* 17 1	*s. d.* *s. d.* 16 1 *a* 16 4	Prices of best chop 3 and No. 4 on the 27th June were 397½ and 345 p. pcl. The former showing Tls. 7½ and the latter Tls. 20 p. pcl. advance.	75,000	71,996
	London value 1st June	19 0 *a* 20 0	16 0 *a* 16 6	16 6 *a* 17 0	16 6 *a* 17 0			
1873.	Shanghai opening prices 5th June	Tls. Tls. 500 *a* 510	Tls. Tls. 430 *a* 440	Tls. Tls. 435 *a* 440	Tls. Tls. 430 *a* 440	First arrivals of new Silk compared unfavorably with previous year's, but subsequently improved parcels came to hand—but the bulk of the crop was foul and much mixed.	65,000	57,613
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 1*d.* per Tael.	*s. d.* *s. d.* 26 0 *a* 26 6	*s. d.* *s. d.* 22 3 *a* 22 9	*s.* d. *s. d.* 22 7 *a* 22 9	*s. d.* *s. d.* 22 3 *a* 22 9			
	London value 1st June	25 0 *a* 25 6	22 6 *a* 23 0	22 6 *a* 23 0	22 6 *a* 23 0	Price of best chop 3 Tsatlee on the 28th June was Tls. 485 *a* 495 per picul—shewing a decline of Tls. 15 on opening prices.		
1872.	Shanghai opening prices 25th May	Tls. Tls. 560 *a* 565	Tls. Tls. 500 *a* 520	Tls. Tls. 525 *a* 530	Tls. Tls. 510 *a* 515	This season's silk was specially characterized by being more than ever cased and nibby.		
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 3*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 29 9 *a* 30 0	*s. d.* *s. d.* 26 6 *a* 27 6	*s. d.* *s. d.* 27 9 *a* 28 0	*s. d.* *s. d.* 27 1 *a* 27 4	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on the 29th June Tls. 600 *a* 605, showing an advance of Tls. 40 in one month.	55,000	56,489
	London value 28th May	27 0 *a* 28 0	25 0 *a* 26 0	26 0 *a* 27 0	24 0 *a* 24 6			
1871.	Shanghai opening prices 1st June	Tls. Tls. 530 *a* 535	Tls. Tls. 460 *a* 470	Tls. Tls. 485 *a* 490	Tls. Tls. 440 *a* 450	Color better than previous year, but quality and size decidedly inferior.	45,000 to 50,000	50,099
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 1*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 27 9 *a* 28 0	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 2 *a* 24 9	*s. d.* *s. d.* 25 6 *a* 25 9	*s. d.* *s. d.* 23 3 *a* 23 9	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on the 30th June Tls. 545 *a* 550, showing an advance of Tls. 15 in one month.		
	London value 18th May	27 0 *a* 28 0	24 0 *a* 25 0	25 6 *a* 26 0	23 6 *a* 24 0			
1870.	Shanghai opening prices 1st June	Tls. Tls. 625 *a* 630	Tls. Tls. 560 *a* 580	Tls. Tls. 520 *a* 530	Tls. Tls. 500 *a* 510	First arrivals were of good color (some greenish) and quality, but full in size, yet compared favorably with previous year's samples.		
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 2*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 33 4 *a* 33 7	*s. d.* *s. d.* 29 10 *a* 30 11	*s. d.* *s. d.* 27 8 *a* 28 2	*s. d.* *s. d.* 26 7 *a* 27 1	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlees on the 1st July were Tls. 600 *a* 605 per picul, showing a decline of Tls. 20 *a* 30 per picul in one month.	40,000	33,754
	London value 21st April	31 0 *a* 31 6	26 6 *a* 27 6	25 6 *a* 26 0	25 6 *a* 26 0			
1869.	Shanghai opening prices 8th June	Tls. Tls. 545 *a* 555	Tls. Tls. 470 *a* 490	Tls. Tls. 450 *a* 460	Tls. Tls. ..... *a* 480	First arrivals, owing to being hurriedly prepared, were of a very mixed character, and silk generally was inferior, especially Taysaams.	50,000 to 55,000	42,969
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 1*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 29 0 *a* 29 6	*s. d.* *s. d.* 25 0 *a* 26 0	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 0 *a* 24 6	*s. d.* *s. d.* ..... *a* 25 6	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on the 8th July Tls. 545 560, same as opening rate.		
	London value 9th April	29 0 *a* 30 0	24 6 *a* 25 6	24 0 *a* 25 0	26 0 *a* 26 6			
1868.	Shanghai opening prices 3rd June	Tls. Tls. 560 *a* 580	Tls. Tls. 470 *a* 480	Tls. Tls. 460 *a* 470	Tls. Tls. 450 *a* 460	Silk coarse in size, but color and quality fair.		
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 2*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 30 2 *a* 31 3	*s. d.* *s. d.* 25 4 *a* 25 10	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 10 *a* 25 4	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 4 *a* 24 10	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on 3rd July Tls. 525 *a* 560, showing a decline, in one month, of Tls. 20 *a* 30.	45,000 to 50,000	46,785
	London value 10th April	28 0 *a* 29 0	24 0 *a* 25 0	24 6 *a* 25 0	23 6 *a* 24 0			
1867.	Shanghai opening prices 1st June	Tls. Tls. 490 *a* 520	Tls. Tls. 450 *a* 460	Tls. Tls. 450 *a* 460	Tls. Tls. 440 *a* 450	Silk good color and quality, but full size, except best Chops.		
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 2*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 26 5 *a* 27 10	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 2 *a* 24 9	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 2 *a* 24 9	*s. d.* *s. d.* 23 9 *a* 24 3	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on 1st July Tls. 550 *a* 570, showing an advance of Tls. 50 in one month.	40,000 to 45,000	41,460
	London value 9th April	30 0 *a* 31 0	27 0 *a* 27 6	27 0 *a* 28 0	27 6 *a* 28 0			
1866.	Shanghai opening prices 21st June	Tls. Tls. 470 *a* 480	Tls. Tls. 425 *a* 435	Tls. Tls. 435 *a* 440	Tls. Tls. 425 *a* 430	Silk generally inferior to last season's in color, size and quality, average about ½ number worse.	30,000 to 35,000	28,516
	Equal to in London, Ex. 6*s.* 6*d.* per Tael	*s. d.* *s. d.* 26 7 *a* 27 2	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 2 *a* 24 8	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 8 *a* 25 0	*s. d.* *s. d.* 24 2 *a* 24 5	Price of Chop 3 Tsatlee on 21st July Tls. 520 *a* 525, showing an advance of Tls. 40 *a* 50 in one month.		
	London value 26th April	29 6 *a* 30 0	25 6 *a* 27 0	26 6 *a* 27 0	27 0 *a* 27 6			

* Including Japan Silk transhipped from Shanghai.

Total export for Season.	England.	Continent.	Total export for season.	England.	Continent.
58 @ 1859	75,648	7,996 bales.	67 @ 1868	.....	14,444 bales.
59 @ 1860	.....	5,343 "	68 @ 1869	.....	16,755 "
60 @ 1861	.....	7,993 "	69 @ 1870	42,805	10,053 "
61 @ 1862	75,498	6,278 "	70 @ 1871	31,763	6,342 "
62 @ 1863	66,263	10,802 "	71 @ 1872	25,276	11,393 "
63 @ 1864	57,082	3,458 "	72 @ 1873	35,360	13,265 "
64 @ 1865	32,322	10,814 "	73 @ 1874	37,892	17,179 "
65 @ 1866	38,923	8,909 "	74 @ 1875	35,166	31,699 "
66 @ 1867	35,311	9,563 "		33,442	
	35,000				

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

May 29, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—May 22nd, British ship *Forward Ho*, from London; German barque *Saturnus*, from Hamburg; 26th, British ship *Norman Court*, from Sydney.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—May 22nd, British steamer *Glenartney*; British steamer *Bengal*; 25th, British steamer *Fleurs Castle*; 27th, British steamer *Glenearn*, all for London.

The English mail steamer *Hindostan* takes 195 bales of Silk, and 500 tons of Tea.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅞d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 310½ *a* 311. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 310½ *a* 311. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27½ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28. Gold Bars, Tls. 171.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.425 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 29th May :—

Banks.—Still no business reported. A few shares are on offer at 20 % dis.

S. S. N. Co.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 72 *a* 73 cash, and at Tls. 75½ for 31st July. Few, if any, shares are now obtainable at these rates.

Fire Insurance.—A few *Victorias* were placed early in the week at $165, but as the winding up motion was carried unanimously at the meeting on 25th inst., buyers offer $164, without finding sellers. A few *Chinas* are to be got at $142.

Marine Insurance.—*Yangtszes* have been done at Tls. 545 and are still on offer. Rumours of a proposal to wind up the *China & Japan Company* have raised quotations to Tls. 87, at which there are buyers.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—No business reported. There are buyers to a limited extent at Tls 90.

Loans.—*Imperial Bonds* are still wanted, but there are no sellers.

Municipal Debentures 1872, with Interest from 1st May, have been sold at Tls. 102, and 1873 Debentures, with Interest from 1st January—at Tls. 105.

The Weather has been unseasonably hot, the thermometer standing at 87 and 88 daily. Last night, however, heavy rain fell with a strong north-easterly wind, which has somewhat cooled the atmosphere. The thermometer has ranged from 63 to 88.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1875-6.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Deucalion ..... s.s.	May18	London	7,708.95	.....	7,708.95
Anadyr ..... ,,	... 22	,,	691.04	.....	691.04
Carried forward ...			8,399.99	.....	8,399.99

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Cleared.	For	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward					8,399.99
Glenartney ... s.s.	May19	London	.....	.....	16,919.65
Bengal ..... ,,	... 20	,,	.....	.....	15,355.03
Total.....			.....	.....	40,674.67

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Last Divid.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	4 p. c.	22 ½ dis. nomi.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	3 p. c.	73
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50		21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100		7 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	5 p. c.	Tls. 60
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 p. c.	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.10p.sh.	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	5 p. c.	85
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	5 p. c.	Tls. 138
French Gas Co. ..	50	6 p. c.	70
H'kong and China Gas Co. (Limtd)	£ 10		nominal
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	150 p. sh.	875
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 30	T. 300 ,,	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	660
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500		$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	7½ p. c.	Tls. 545
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	4 p. c.	Tls. 87
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	6 p. c.	$ 190
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	470
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	6 p. c. & Bonus 4½	164
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	6 p. c.	142
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	6 p. c.	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. ...	100	1 p. c.	90
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	first year	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	4 p. c.	102
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£100 Ex. 5/7

Exchange.

Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong.. 72⅜

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

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SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
LIFE BRANCH.
THE undersigned are prepared to issue Provisional Policies under the New Scale of greatly Reduced Rates. The Tables may be had upon application.
FIRE BRANCH.
Policies granted at current rates, less 20 per cent. discount, to the extent of Tls. 25,000 on any one risk.
Z 2313 GEO. BARNET & Co., *Agents.*
no-a-m 31ja-76 Shanghai, 1st Feb., 1873.

Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Company.
No. 11, Lombard Street, London (E.C.)
Established 1821,
And Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament.
Subscribed Capital—£2,000,000 Sterling.
THE undersigned having been duly appointed Agents of the above Company, are prepared to accept risks against Fire on the usual terms.
OLYPHANT & Co.
tf 2891 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

INSURANCE.
THE undersigned, as Agents for The British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (Limited), are prepared to issue Policies by the Ocean Steamship Co.'s Steamers as follows :—

	All Risks.	Free of Particular Average.
Hankow to London, Tea,	2¾ %	2¼ %
Shanghai to London, Tea,	2¼ %	1¾ %
Shanghai to London, Silk,	1½ %	1¼ %

Subject to an immediate cash discount of *Twenty-five per cent* 25 %.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
n 27ap to 3my *Agents.*
tf 2084 Shanghai, 27th April, 1875

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., NO. 421. SHANGHAI, JUNE 5, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₽ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

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San Francisco,	„ 17	Yokohama,	May 21
Hongkong,	May 29	Nagasaki,	„ 20
Tientsin,	„ 31	Foochow,	„ 26

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Mar. 11 } Received 17th April.
Shanghai, ... „ 5 }

DEATH.

On the 20th May, at Peking, JAMES HOPSON GIBBS, Assistant-Audit Secretary and Deputy Commissioner in the Chinese Maritime Customs Service, aged 39 years.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 9 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
May	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
29	30.000	70.5	73.0	65.5	69.0	63.0	6	N. E.	0.81
30	30.004	68.0	73.0	64.0	69.5	63.0	3	East	0.01
31	30.000	68.0	68.0	64.0	69.5	63.0	0	Z	0.11
Ju.									
2	29.802	67.0	67.5	63.5	66.5	66.0	7	E. N. E.	4.40
3	29.850	66.5	79.0	62.5	66.0	62.0	6	N. N. W.	0.08
4	29.852	71.0	81.0	65.0	71.5	65.5	2	N. W.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1875.

WE have now all the correspondence laid before Parliament, regarding the complaints of the Hongkong community against the Blockade; and we are more than ever surprised at the action our officials have taken in the matter. The movement originated with a petition by some Chinese merchants, and we are tempted to quote a proclamation, issued 34 years ago by Sir Charles Elliott, which they take as the basis of their position:—"It is hereby declared "to the merchants and traders of "Canton and all parts of the Empire "that they and their ships have free "permission to resort to and trade at "the port of Hongkong, where they will "receive full protection from the high "officers of the British nation; and "Hongkong being on the shores of the "Chinese Empire, neither will there be "any charges on imports and exports "to the British Government. It is "further clearly declared that there "will be an immediate embargo upon "the port of Canton and all the large "ports of the Empire, if there be the "least obstruction to the freedom of "trade and intercourse with the port "of Hongkong. Persons bringing in- "formation to the British officers which "shall lead to the detection of pirates "will be liberally rewarded, and the "pirates will be taken and delivered "over to the officers of the Chinese "Government for punishment." It is refreshing to hear the ring of decision in this document; and Lord Carnarvon would have done well had he required the present Superintendent of Trade to endorse it, instead of accepting the suicidal suggestion to help the Chinese to choke trade by planting a Chinese Consul in Hongkong. But the art of plain-speaking seems to have been lost of late. Diplomatic language is attenuated till it fails to convey a meaning, at any-rate to a people who regard despatches as playthings and are passed masters in the art of casuistry. The present action of the Canton officials tends to nothing less than a fiscal re-integration of Hongkong in Chinese territory, and the destruction of its status as a free port. There is but one opinion on the subject among all those to whom the petition was referred. A Commission of Enquiry, comprising the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, the Harbour-Master, and the Registrar of Chinese, unanimously endorsed the statements of the petition. The accusations of smuggling were unfounded, and the action of the Chinese Revenue cruisers oppressive and injurious. The Attorney-General delivers a formal opinion in the same strain, and the Chamber of Commerce support the case by a lucid memorial to the Foreign Office. The evidence and the argument are in fact all one side. On the other, strangely enough, we find our officials, Sir Brooke Robertson and Sir Arthur Kennedy supporting the Chinese in their encroachment, and Lord Carnarvon misled by their advice.

It was an ingenious idea to attach the term of smuggling to the Hongkong trade, at the outset of the movement. The old adage that "if mud is thrown, some is sure to stick," was never better exemplified. The difficulty that, Hongkong being a free port, its trade cannot be contraband, seems quite overlooked; the term smuggling-depôt is freely bandied about; and, under cover of that epithet, British officials are willing to permit the freedom of the port to be destroyed, and abet the Chinese in an endeavour to constitute it a squeezing-trap. There can be no smuggling so far as Hongkong is concerned.

It is a free port, and the duty of British officers is simple; they should assert and maintain its freedom. The idea of admitting a Chinese officer to levy taxes which we deliberately forego, is one of the most monstrous and suicidal that we have heard broached. Great Britain has constituted Hongkong a free port in order to encourage its trade, and yet British officials are to be found who advocate the admission of a Chinese official to collect a Customs revenue —for the proposed measure would amount to nothing less. As we have proved in another place, the accusation of smuggling is fallacious. Exports from Hongkong are taxed when they reach the mainland, and what the Chinese do by means of their cruisers is to levy a special tax for the benefit of the Canton Customs, to which that institution is by no means entitled. What duties the Chinese wish to collect, let them collect on their own territory —at the port of export if on goods destined for Hongkong; at that of import in the case of goods brought from the island. They are quite able to do this; and it is done effectually. It is true that duties so collected do not go to swell the revenue of the Foreign Customs; but that is a detail of Chinese Customs administration. If the Chinese revenue system is so imperfect that each petty mandarin is left to collect what he can, and his superiors content themselves with accepting a lump sum instead of detailed returns; if the system again is that each province shall deal with its own collections, instead of accounting for them to the Imperial Government, that Government must stand by it. It has no right to try to increase its revenue by poaching on the trade of a British colony. We can well imagine that the Peking officials grasp eagerly at any suggestion for increasing their receipts. They are only too glad that the revenue of the Foreign Customs, of which they do receive a large share, should be swollen, and would be exceptionally pleased that this should happen at the expense of a British Colony; but that is no reason why we should tolerate the interference; and we trust that the matter will not be let rest. Lord Carnarvon's language is rather that of a man over-persuaded than of a man convinced; and we can understand that he finds it difficult to act in the teeth of his local subordinates, whom he must assume to be well-informed. A grave responsibility rests upon those who have so misled him. It is for the Hongkong community to press the case, and to urge with vigour the arguments that lie to their hand. Not only is the matter one of vital importance to the Colony, but the principle is important in our general policy; and we hope to see a renewed effort made to bring back the Colonial Office to the more wholesome views which were impressed upon it by Sir Richard Macdonnell, during his term of office.

Summary of News.

There has been no mail arrival since our last issue.

A homeward mail leaves to-morrow, by the M. M. str. *Djemnah*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week :—

The Arctic Expedition sails to-morrow.

Captain Boyton has crossed the Channel.

THE OAKS.

Spinnaway ..... First.
Ladylove ..... Second.
Sister to Musket ..... Third.

Captain Boyton started from Cape Grisnez and reached Dover in 24 hours, only slightly distressed.

The South Wales strike has terminated, a reduction of 12½ being accepted.

General Grant refuses renomination for the Presidentship.

The King and Queen of Sweden are visiting Berlin.

Lord Derby, in replying to Earl Russell, said that Germany recently declared that she might be forced to strike the first blow in consequence of French armaments, but the intervention of England and Russia had averted the danger.

A Destructive Typhoon occurred at Macao on Monday afternoon and night. The Macao steamer *Poyang*, Captain Carroll, was totally lost on her passage to Macao. Only the Chief and Second Engineers and a few passengers were saved.

The meeting of the Victoria Fire Insurance Company, on the 25th May, seems to have been very short. A resolution in favour of winding up the Company was passed unanimously, and Messrs. André and Sassoon were appointed liquidators.

In view of the decision given by the arbitrators in the Yang-king-pang encroachment case, the French Council ask the English Council to join them at once in determining a future bund line. The construction of the Honan road bridge will be at once gone on with. This bridge, it will be remembered, was ordered before the difficulty about propertinate payment arose, and is paid for in equal shares by each Municipality.—A piece of land necessary to widen the Rue du Consulat near the Bund has been bought at the rate of Tls. 5,000 a mow. Another piece near the Rue Montauban has been bought at the rate of Tls. 1,000. The Jesuit Fathers have given up some other portions gratuitously.—The Council have delayed deciding upon Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's application to build a shed on their wharf.—The constitution of an assessment Committee was resolved on, in the manner we mentioned on Friday.—The Council wish to decide on a line of demarcation for the quays on the Hwangpoo off the French Concession, agreeing with the frontage line of the other settlements. The work has been entrusted to Mr. Kingsmill. The plan will be submitted to the Consuls when decided on, with a representation of the necessity for a uniform line being decided on.

The English Council are in correspondence with the Trustees of the General Hospital about plans, site, &c. The knowledge that the lease of the building on the French Bund expires on the 31st December evidently weighs on the Trustees, but it would seem impossible that a new hospital can be built and ready for occupation before that date, so there is no object in deciding hurriedly. An arrangement to continue for a while in the present building, or some other interim arrangement, will have to be made anyhow.—A rather warm correspondence has passed between the two Councils, on the subject of Yang-king-pang bridges. The French Council threaten to "appeal in the proper quarter" to have the discussion as to the proportion of expenditure on the two bridges decided in another manner than that proposed by the Engish Council, which they say is equivalent to trying whose patience will last longest. We do not exactly see where the authority exists, that is to constrain this Municipality to spend more money on bridges than it chooses. The proposal to halve the cost is a strictly fair one, and we presume it will be adhered to. It is unfortunate that the division of the foreign settlement into two municipalities allows such questions to arise.—The Council took the opportunity of Mr. Mitchell's departure from Hongkong, to acknowledge the desire he has always shown to consult the convenience of the community in working the Post office.

The A. D. C. gave their fifth and last performance for the season on Thursday evening; and, with marvellously good luck, hit upon a cool night for the event. On the day the first announcement was made, the thermometer stood at 88. Thanks to the subsequent change of weather, it had fallen to 67, and people could look forward with pleasure to the evening's entertainment. The pieces selected were "Tweedleton's Tail Coat," "Cox and Box," and "My Dress Boots." The first and last were rather trifling pieces, of which we can only say that the most was made by the actors. "Cox and Box" was the great success of the evening and, we think we may say, of the season.

A Naval Court of Enquiry sat at the British Consulate yesterday, to investigate the circumstances attending the wreck of the British brig *Georgina*, on the Blockhouse shoal on the night of the 9th of May. The Court censured Captain Mitchell for running so far up the Yangtsze at night without a pilot; but, taking all the facts into consideration, returned him his certificate of competency. A full report will be given next week.

The magistrate of Quinsan has come down to Shanghai for the purpose of trying the two men concerned in the attack on Mr. Cooper. But owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Cooper and others of the witnesses, Mr. Medhurst has arranged with him to let the case lie over till their return, when the magistrate will either come down again, or, if he prefer, try the case in the presence of a Consular officer at Quinsan. The wounded man has also been produced, and was examined on Monday by Dr. Johnston. The Quinsan Magistrate, Mr. Davenport, and Chên the Magistrate of the Mixed Court, were present. The man was led in in the usual Chinese style—when it is thought necessary to make a pretence of grave injury—supported by a bearer under each arm; but we understand that Dr. Johnston's examination quite substantiates Mr.

Cooper's statement. The man had certainly been hit, by about 18 shot; but so slightly that the greater part had either fallen or been picked out. The only one remaining was imbedded skin deep in the neck, and was at once extracted.

We hear that the tea market was opened in Shanghai, on Wednesday—if the term is applicable to what is only a continuation of up-River purchases.

We understand that the Polytechnic Institution has at last succeeded in purchasing a suitable piece of ground, at the top of Canton Road.

News has been received from Hongkong, that the str. *Poyang* had been lost in a typhoon. Only the Chief and Second Engineers and a few passengers were saved. It is reported the China Traders Co. had a $50,000 risk on her; we do not hear that any other local Company was interested in the hull.

We understand that the Japanese Government are negotiating in Europe for the purchase of several iron-clads.

H. M. S. *Vigilant*, with Admiral Ryder and Mr. Wade, left on Monday morning for Ningpo. The intention is, we believe, to proceed afterwards to Foochow and Amoy, and return to Shanghai in about ten days.

The str. *Rajamundhundhur*, which arrived from Glasgow on Monday, brings the sister ship to the S. S. N. Co.'s str. *Chusan* (lately lost off Ardrossan) in sections, to be put together at this port. Some of the sections weigh 26 tons; the total weight being about 900 tons.

The Engineer-in-Chief notifies that the wreck of the *Kiangloong*, off Hen Point, is now entirely under water, and that a red fixed light will be exhibited from a boat placed to mark the wreck. Vessels are, however, cautioned not to depend upon this light, as, owing to the strong current, the boat may not be able to retain its position in rough weather.

We believe the undermentioned dates and time will be found correct, of the Ocean steamers passing the Red Buoy :—

Glenartney, ...	May	21st,	9.00 P.M.
Bengal, ...	,,	22nd,	11.00 P.M.
Fleurs Castle, ...	,,	25th,	1.15 P.M.
Glenearn, ...	,,	27th,	7.00 A.M.
Lotus, ...	,,	31st,	4.00 A.M.
Glenfalloch, ...	June	2nd,	11.00 A.M.
Hankow, ...	,,	3rd,	6.20 A.M.
Russia, (at anchor)	,,	4th,	4.00 P.M.

We are enabled to give a completed list of the teaships dispatched up to the present date, and their progress, so far as can be ascertained from the agents :—The *Deucalion* (Butterfield and Swire) left Woosung on the 21st ult., and arrived at Hongkong on the 25th, since which date her movements have not been chronicled, and will not be known until letters are received from Singapore.—The *Glenartney* (Jardine, Matheson and Co.) cleared at Hankow on the 19th ult., and was reported to have passed the Lightship early on the night of the 21st ult.; she arrived at Singapore at 10.30 a.m. on the 30th, after a quick passage of eight days and a-half from thence, leaving again at five the same afternoon, at which hour the *Deucalion* had not arrived.—The *Bengal* (Drysdale, Ringer & Co.) cleared at Hankow on the 20th ult., and passed the Lightship on the night of the 22nd; she left Singapore at 4 p.m. on the 1st June.—The *Fleurs Castle* (Adamson, Bell & Co.) passed Woosung, from Hankow, on the morning of Tuesday, the 25th ultimo., and left Singapore at noon on the 4th instant.—The *Glenearn* (Jardine, Matheson & Co.) is reported to have passed Woosung on the 27th ult., but no further news has yet been received about her.—The *Lotus* (D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.) cleared at Kiukiang on the 26th ult., and was seen at 8 a.m. on the 1st inst., off Hiachu.—The *Hankow* (Siemssen and Co.) passed the Red Buoy at 6.20 a.m. on the 3rd, and as she goes through to Port Said without calling at either Hongkong or Singapore, it is unlikely that anything more will be heard of her until her arrival at the Canal.—The *Antenor* (Butterfield & Swire) left Shanghai on the 1st inst.—The *Glenfalloch* left Woosung at 11 a.m. on the 2nd, and was spoken off St. Giles' Beacon at 8 a.m. on the 3rd.—The *Russia*, from Hankow, anchored at Red Buoy at 4 p.m. yesterday.—The *Strasburg* was passed at anchor at the Beacon, at 9.45 a.m. on the 4th.

We have been rather interested, in looking through some old volumes of American diplomatic correspondence, to light on a memo. by Mr. Hart on the subject of Tonnage Dues and Coast Lights, which has fresh interest, in view of what has been lately written on the subject. It will be seen that his idea of a rival to Shanghai is no new one. In 1867, the action of individuals and of Municipal Councils was to cause the decay of the port and the growth of a rival elsewhere. Now, it is the imaginary uprising of the Kintoan flats and the closure of the Yangtze opposite Woosung. Then, nothing was to be done to the Woosung bar, until he had got engineers from Holland to inspect it. The engineers were never brought, and the foreign community are at last getting them on their own account. It will be interesting now to look forward to the next excuse. Mr. Hart's expressions about throwing sycee into the mud and walking down Regent street, were familiarly quoted at the time, but they will be new to some of our readers.

We have to acknowledge the thirteenth annual report of the Peking Hospital (for 1874). Dr. Dudgeon always imports into his reports a quantity of information interesting to the general reader, and the present one is no exception to the rule. Of course there is a great deal of detailed medical practice, which is not attractive, but there is a good deal of curious information intermixed, that will well repay perusal. The total number of patients prescribed for during the year was 20,000, of whom 9,000 were new. When we are told that the hospital has been supported by voluntary contributions, and find from the balance sheet that the cost has been only Tls. 365, we have additional reason to congratulate Dr. Dudgeon on the amount of relief afforded. Dr. Dudgeon has just gone home for a well-earned holiday, after eleven years' successful superintendence of the hospital; and Dr. Bushell takes charge during his absence.

We notice that the price of the Chinese Readers' manual has been reduced to $3.

The Acting Post Master General notifies that the New Zealand Post Office has declined to receive mails by the Torres Straits route, and that hence there is no alternative but to forward such correspondence *viâ* Galle. "Persons who are anxious to avail themselves of the Torres Straits steamers to communicate with New Zealand, should address their letters, &c., to the care of an agent at Sydney." The proceeding seems a singularly narrow one on the part of the New Zealand Government. Their object is of course to drive postal revenue into the line which they have subsidised; but the duty of a post office does not begin and end with raising revenue. Its primary object is to accommodate the public by delivering their letters.

Our NEWCHWANG correspondent notes the arrival of the regiment of foreign-drilled Chinese troops, of whose intended departure our Tientsin correspondent gave us information some days ago.—A Peking correspondent informs us that the insurgents with whom they are intended to cope are miners. The Chinese Government has been trying for generations, to repress mining in Manchuria, but the people persist. He adds that Chung-shih, a brother of Chung-how, has been appointed special Commissioner to settle the present difficulty, and is inclined to memorialise in favour of recognising and organising the industry, instead of endeavoring to repress it. It is to be hoped so sensible an idea will be carried out.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from CHINKIANG, on the 2nd June:—"We are at last in a position to report more favorably on our market for Grey goods, which is now fairly brisk for medium to good makes of Shirtings and T.-Cloths. Stocks are light; but in the absence of all activity in the Shanghai market, it is impossible to establish higher rates here."

The FOOCHOW tea market was reported on Wednesday to have been opened at rates somewnat higher than last season. But as several Shanghai firms which expected to be informed have failed to receive the news, it is suspected that the transactions must have been very small, and that the market can hardly yet be considered fairly open.—It is satisfactory to learn that final arrangements have been made for the construction of a telegraph line between Foochow and Amoy. The Chinese undertake to pay the Great Northern Company damages for the injury and loss of material caused by the attack on their works; and the Company is to go on and construct the line for and on behalf of the Government. The latter will pay for its construction, working, and maintenance by the Company, and derive whatever revenue may accrue from its use by the public.

Great disappointment has been caused in HONGKONG, by the receipt of Lord Carnarvon's reply on the blockade question; and some irritation at the successful special pleading on the behalf of the Chinese Customs by Sir Brooke Robertson, which has mainly conduced to mislead him.—Another serious case of interference with the Chinese residents in the Colony, will be found detailed in the summary of Hongkong news, under the usual "Outport" heading.

Editorial Selections.

THE YUNNAN OUTRAGE.

Everyone is asking what is being done in regard to the Yunnan outrage, and everyone is driven to conclude—nothing. It is generally understood that Messrs. Grosvenor and Baber are the officials designated to conduct the investigation, and the Chinaman who has been designated as their escort is here in Shanghai. Why do they not start? The investigation seems a necessary preliminary to any demand for reparation, and promptitude is essential to its success. It is necessary not only to convince the Chinese that we are in earnest, but in order that the enquiry itself may not collapse. The facts are clear enough. There is no doubt that Mr. Margary's murderers and Colonel Browne's assailants were Chinese, and that both crimes originated in the prefectural city of Teng-yueh (Momein.) What we want is to bring home the crime to individuals, in order that we may formularise our demands for reparation; and our Tientsin correspondent's recent letter shows how delay may be prejudicial to this end. Time is invaluable to the officials implicated, to enable them to obliterate traces of their crime. Time will enable them to remove evidence, in the shape of human beings, and to weave the explanatory cobwebs at which the Chinese are adepts. Material changes seem to be already going on in the personnel of the Yunnan officials, and every day will increase the difficulty of finding either evidence or culprits If ever there was a case for prompt action, it is the present one. The crime was revolting; popular feeling is strongly stirred by it in England, and the opportunity is good for such a display of vigour as may recover some of the prestige that has been gradually and surely slipping from us. Delay will not only weaken the enquiry, but will allow the popular impulse to subside; and it is hardly necessary to remark how much the action of Government will depend on that impulse, when the time for action arrives. There may of course be valid reasons for the delay, which it is not vouchsafed to those most interested to know. But it is difficult to conceive that any can exist, of sufficient strength to counterbalance the enormous disadvantages.

In the meantime, while matters seem to be stagnant on the Chinese side, there is excitement enough in Burmah. The suspected complicity of the King in the Yunnan outrage has come to widen the breach which had already been caused by his action with regard to the Karennee frontier. The King himself has entered on military preparations, and something very like a panic seems to have been excited, both in Upper and in British Burmah. The *Rangoon Gazette* of the 7th May says the King appeared then to be accepting more reasonable advice, and that a peaceful solution of all difficulties was being industriously predicated at Mandalay. But this was producing no salutary effect on the Chinese traders, who continue, as opportunities offer, shipping away their goods and families; many of them with the intention of going from Burmah entirely, on to the Straits of Malacca. Their apprehension seems justified by the tone of the Indian Government, which is clearly inclined to reduce the King once for all to his proper position, while he seems infatuated enough to think he can not only resist us, but recover some of his lost territory. Sir Douglas Forsyth's approaching mission will bring matters to a climax, and show us what we may expect. In the meantime, the British Resident seems to have retired from Bhamo under circumstances which will hardly allay the excitement. We are again indebted to *Our Chronicle*,—the newspaper published at Thayetmyo by the 67th Regiment, from which we gathered the first particulars of the Manwein outrage—for particulars of this later incident, which has a very curious interest. A number of Panthays, among whom were the former Governor of Momein and his two sons, fled across the frontier and sought refuge at the British Residency. Protection was accorded them, but the Burmese Governor demanded that they should be given up. Captain Cook refused, knowing that they would be surrendered to the Chinese and find little mercy. The Residency was then surrounded by a number of armed Burmans, and an attack was expected, which active preparations were made to resist. When the news reached Mandalay, the King was wise enough to authorise the removal of both Captain Cook and the Panthays, and an English river steamer was at once despatched to bring them away. The incident will hardly lessen the conviction of the Indian Government that a lesson is needed, which will dissuade Burmese officials from threatening our Residencies in the future; and a further rumour that a Chinese force was marching on Bhamo to capture the Panthays, and was only thirty hours distant when the party was brought away, is not without interest. Altogether, we are glad to think that the clouds are rather gathering than dispersing around Mandalay, and that there is a good prospect of our frontier being extended towards Yunnan. And the very fact that the Government of India is so well disposed to vigorous action, makes us regret the more the apparent inactivity on the side of China.

THE BLOCKADE OF HONGKONG.

Lord Carnarvon has called the native trade between Hongkong and the native ports of China "smuggling," — a term which apparently owes its origin to some over-zealous reports from Commissioners of Customs at Canton, who, annoyed that all the trade did not pass through their hands to swell the Foreign Customs revenue of the port, did not hesitate to make use of this epithet. We have had on several occasions to complain of the misuse of the word in these reports, and our remarks have apparently been so far effective that its use as characteristic of a trade perfectly legitimate, but doubtless not profitable for the Customs Collectorate at Canton, has been dropt out of the published Reports of the Commissioners. To judge from Lord Carnarvon's remarks however, it still, though banished from public notice, holds its own in the confidential and secret communications which seem to be the foundation of the Chinese policy of Great Britain. Now we have heard so much of the "smuggling" of opium by way of Hongkong, that it is really worth while to enquire into the legitimate ways by which the Chinese Government collects its revenue on that article; and fortunately we are not without information of a reliable nature on the subject. We use the term legitimate in contradistinction to the system of black-mail set up by the cruisers.

In the *Reports on Trade* for the year 1873, made by the Customs Commissioners at various of the Treaty ports, there is published one by Mr. Moorhead, on the trade of Swatow, to which we alluded at the time of publication, as carefully and conscientiously drawn up. Mr. Moorhead gives an account of the various routes by which opium intended for consumption in the interior finds its way into the province. Between the years 1848 and 1873, the import of opium at the port of Swatow had gradually risen from 4000 to 9000 chests per annum — in itself a pretty evident proof that no great amount of the so-called smuggling could have occurred. Besides the port of Swatow, other ports not open to Foreign trade have easy and extensive communication with the interior, and through these most of the opium sold at Hongkong found its way. Let us look at the terms under which such opium enters. Swatow is advantageously situated at the mouth of the Han, a considerable river, affording ready access to the Western districts of Fuhkien and, with a short land carriage, to considerable portions of Kiangsi. Hweichow is, for native craft, as advantageously situated on the East river, its port being Sheklung; and it competes in a great measure with Swatow, in its accessibility for Kiangsi. Besides these, the two main ports, Sinhwei, on the Western side of the Canton river delta, imports a considerable amount, its opium going up the valleys of the North and West rivers, and finding its way to the North-west of Kiangsi and Hunan. Mr. Moorhead gives us statistics of the duties collected at Hweichow, as compared with Swatow. Malwa pays as duty, Taels 28.4.5.4 per picul, against Taels 30 at Swatow, while Patna and Benares pay a little in excess of that levied at the Treaty port. The likin

taxes at Hweichow are, however, slightly higher than at Swatow, so that the opium imported by Hweichow, and therefore, according to the statements of the authorities listened to by the British Government, *smuggled*, actually pays more to the Chinese Government than that introduced by way of Swatow! It is quite true that Canton imports but little opium; as it is also true that, as a commercial emporium, Canton does not occupy the rank to which its position naturally entitles it. The reason is not far to seek. In addition to the other charges on opium, the Canton authorities make a levy of Taels 15 per chest over and above the other equally convenient ports.

What is true of opium, is true of other goods. Canton is avoided by trade, because the levies there are so excessive that trade goes to less burdened localities. It is really to extract these excessive taxes out of trade, not to prevent smuggling, that the cruisers infest the waters of Hongkong. Of all the ports open to foreign trade, Canton has been notorious in its infringements of Treaty provisions. No limit has ever been placed on duties levied in excess of treaty stipulations, and all attempts to introduce the Transit Pass system have hitherto been met with a direct refusal. Through its influence, again, the opening of the port of Kiungchow, in Hainan, has been put off from year to year, so that the natural trade of the West coast must perforce go by native vessels; and these are then stigmatised as smugglers, because they prefer the direct road to going up the river to Canton in defiance of all Chinese custom or usage. Again, the cruisers have not contented themselves with vessels proceeding to or from ports in Kwangtung. The memorial contains cases where junks trading with Formosa, in an entirely separate jurisdiction, had black mail levied on them at Canton. It might be pleaded that this is a matter affecting the Imperial Government, and that it would take means to repress such a system. Doubtless, even in Spain, the Central Government would take measures to prevent one province levying taxes at the expense of another; but China is not Spain, and, as we know only too well, in China all is fish that comes into the Imperial net. The Hoppo at Canton has to pay dearly for his post, and interference with him would diminish its market value. It seems, at Peking, a clever thing to squeeze two duties out of one voyage; one for the Intendant at Canton, and another for the Mandarins in Formosa. The practice, then, is to let the trader make the best terms he can. "To keep the trader down," is a tradition in Chinese administration, and if this results in the extinction of Hongkong as a convenient centre, the Government at the capital will not be too curious to enquire what have been the means adopted. It has always been held that duties are leviable not in the port of departure, but on their arrival at their destination. It has remained for the Chinese to levy them on leaving the the waters of a friendly Power, and for Her Majesty's advisers in China and at home to make the discovery that such a thing is legal or expedient. To the levy of duties at ports like Sheklung or Sinhwei, we have no objection to offer, provided they do not exceed tariff stipulations; for it must be remembered that we have as good a Treaty right to have our goods delivered there as in any other portion of the empire. Till, however, the Chinese Government affords us a guarantee that it, on its part, is able and willing to observe its part of the compact, it is little better than suicidal to permit the present state of matters to continue. Provided the practical end of gaining admission for our goods into China at tariff rates is obtained, we are not too careful to scrutinise the means adopted for collecting these rates. But as it is notorious that rates are levied in excess of those stipulated by Treaty, and as the Blockade of Hongkong has the effect of further increasing these charges, we are utterly at a loss to conceive by what process of reason any man can be brought to support a system aimed so directly at our interests and rights.

THE CUSTOMS AND THE MANDARINATE.

TRADITION tells of a certain foreign employé in the Customs service, who having once had occasion to interview the taotai of the port, borrowed the uniform of a friendly naval officer, and with all due attention to Chinese punctiliousness performed before the great man the kotow. Notwithstanding the bizarre accompaniment of the naval officer's uniform, there was some method in the poor assistant's craze. Fancying himself, doubtless, already a Chinese official, and on the road to prospective promotion, there could be no indignity in doing what his predecessors had done for ages before; it would, doubtless, be his turn at some future period to be himself kotowed to; and pictures of this and of the illimitable wealth which would fall to his lot when he had climbed the ladder of Chinese promotion were perhaps sufficient to turn even a stronger head. In those days, a Customs uniform had not been invented; but somehow or other in many peoples minds buttons are mixed up with power, so the only available rig was indented on, probably in the hope that the taotai's attainments in foreign lore did not extend to the minutiæ of naval uniform and oakleaf braid. The fledgling tea-taster from Mincing Lane, who has to go down to the warehouses with a bag on his back, bears in patience the jeers of the unsympathetic street boys, because he knows that generations of chaszes before him have undergone the same penance; and that long after he has himself had the honour of opening the tea market in Far Cathay, to the small content of his constituents, generations of youthful tasters will still enter the profession with the same time-hallowed rites and ceremonies. To have carried the bag is in fact the test of true chasze-ship; to have gained admission by other means is to act the part of the thief and the robber.

Some such liking for the preliminary ceremonies of mandarinhood must have actuated Mr. Twinem, Acting Commissioner of Customs at Tientsin, when presenting himself as the Taotai's deputy in the Court of the United States Consul, to take part in the trial of a collision case between the owner of a Chinese junk and the steamer *Shantung*. Complaint has been frequently made this year of the crowded state of the Peiho, and the want of order among the junks anchoring in it. On a recent trip, the steamer *Shantung* ran into and sunk a grain junk, on behalf of which a suit was instituted at the U. S. Consulate. We are not concerned, however, with the circumstances of the collision, and only mention them to explain the origin of the Court. Now the U. S. Treaty, like others, provides that, "if controversies "arise between citizens of the United "States and subjects of China, which "cannot be amicably settled otherwise, "the same shall be examined and decided "conformably to justice and equity by "the public officers of the two nations, "acting in conjunction." It is generally understood that the Court to be so constituted, is to comprise officials of equal rank; that a Taotai for instance is to sit with a Consul, or a Deputy with a Vice-Consul; and the admission by a Consul of a Taotai's Deputy to sit with him is a pure matter of courtesy and form. In any case, the inference is clear, and the understanding has always been, that the Deputies must be recognised Chinese, American, or English officials as the case may be. In the present instance, the Taotai was enable to attend, and, besides nominating two Chinese deputies to sit with Mr. Sheppard, asked that Mr. Twinem should also be admitted on that footing. Mr. Sheppard refused, on the ground that Mr. Twinem was not a Chinese judicial officer within the meaning of the Treaty; and, leaving all questions of personal position aside, we hold that his refusal was perfectly right. Mr. Sheppard, as Consul, was entitled to expect the Taotai on the bench; and although, for convenience to both parties, it is necessary that power to appoint a deputy should not be absolutely forbidden, it certainly behoves the officer consenting to sit with a deputy, to see that there should be fit and reasonable grounds for the appointment, and that the actual position of the latter should be such as naturally to lead up to his selection. The appointment of a junior Chinese official engaged in the same routine as the Taotai, though it may be in a subordinate

position, would in a case of necessity be open to no objection. If not a Taotai, the junior may hope to be a Taotai some day. He may be only carrying the bag, but the road to the tasting-table is open to him. The case of a Commissioner of Customs is very different. He is not a Chinese official at all; still less is he a Chinese judicial officer; and Mr. Sheppard has been perfectly right in refusing to recognise any attempt by Foreigners in the Chinese Customs service, to stand between Foreign and Chinese officials in the adjustment of international affairs. The position of a Commissioner of Customs in China is a perfectly honourable one, and certainly cannot gain in public respect by such frivolous attempts to shine by reflected light, as that of Mr. Twinem. The very object for which it was founded, namely to act as a check on the irregularities of Chinese revenue officials, should be a guarantee that its members will abstain from complications likely to interfere with their proper independence of action. Without judicial or executive functions, the officers of the service are appointed directly from the head of the department at Peking, to enable them to exercise a more complete supervision over the funds accruing from Foreign trade. In proportion as a commissioner steps beyond these limits, and permits himself to become mixed in local matters, he reduces his ability to properly discharge these functions. As Foreigners, we are largely interested in the integrity of the Customs establishment. We do not wish to see affairs return to what they were before the establishment of the Inspectorate, when each merchant had to make his own private arrangement with the Haikwan, as to the duties and squeezes to be paid. In a game of that sort, dishonesty must come to the front, and it is not advisable that dishonesty should be the ruling principle in trade. We must look with the most extreme suspicion, therefore, on any such complications as would have a tendency to involve the position of Commissioners of Customs with the ordinary functions of the local officials. No man can serve two masters; and in proportion as Commissioners come to make themselves the agents of Taotais or other local officials, so must their use as a check on the abuses to which all revenue matters in China are liable, become less and less distinct.

REVIEWS.

The China Review—Edited by N. B. Dennys. March-April, 1875.

The paper entitled "The last of the Chinese," with which the number opens, is a very interesting sketch of the closing scenes of the Mongol invasion in the 13th century. The effeminacy of the last of the Sung Emperors had enfeebled the whole body politic, when the Khan of the Mongols determined to invade the wealthy Kingdom which lay so temptingly open at his feet. In describing the then capital of the Empire, Hangchow, only eight years before its downfall, Marco Polo says:—

"The people of the land were anything rather than warriors; all their delight was in women, and nought but women; and so it was above all with the king himself, for he took thought of nothing else but women, unless it were charity to the poor. In all his dominion there were no horses, nor were the people ever inured to battle, or arms or military service of any kind. Yet the province of Manji is very strong by nature, and all the cities are compassed by sheets of water of great depth, and more than an arbalast-shot in width; so that the country never would have been lost had the people but been soldiers. But that is just what they were not, so lost it was." The paper before as opens with a graceful tribute, by Mr. Lister, to the memory of Mr. Bowra, from whose History of Kwangtung it appears to have been written by the two gentlemen in concert, some time before the latter's death. It opens with the death of the last Sung Emperor, in the year 1274, and the nomination of a child only four years old to succeed him on a throne already shaken to its foundation by the weakness of its rulers and the imminence of the Mongol attack. An attempt was made by the Empress Dowager to defend Hangchow, but she was embarrassed by traitors, who gave up the city, and was sent with her infant ward to the Mongol capital. The central figure of the succeeding adventures is Wen Ten-tsiang, who alone, among the officers of the fallen Empire, seems to have had honesty or decision of purpose. Before the fall of Hangchow, two of the Emperor's children had fled into the South; and, under the leadership of Wen, the elder of these was proclaimed Emperor, at Foochow, under the Regency of his mother, one of the late Emperor's concubines. Soon, however, they were driven back into Kwangtung, and their adventures during the close of the hopeless struggle maintained by their adherents, are invested by Mr. Bowra's facile pen with an almost romantic interest. After alternatives of victory and defeat, and the final overthrow and capture of Wen Ten-tsiang, they were at length driven to Yaishan, a town on the West coast of Kwangtung, of great natural strength, where a last desperate stand was made. We are tempted to quote at length the description of the final attack and the extinction of the last spark of resistance to the invader:—

As the tide rose, the renegade commander moved up his ships for a grand attack, the final stroke. Expectation of being seconded from the rear lent energy to the traitor's arms, and he succeeded in setting the line of ships on fire in several places, breaking, and throwing it into utter confusion. A tremendous storm of wind and rain came on and added to the horrors of the fight. It befriended the Chinese, in so far as it enabled Chang Shih-chieh to rally a great part of the fleet, to fight his way out, and to effect a retreat to sea. The Queen was in his charge, and, in the confusion, he probably thought that Lu Hsiu-fu was following him with the young Emperor. But Lu Hsiu-fu had fled up the river, nor had he fled far before he met the unexpected Mongol fleet coming down. Defeat and carnage were behind, fresh and unbreathed foes, burning for the fight, before. He was hopelessly hemmed in, and saw nothing before him but capture or death. The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune could be suffered no longer; he took the young prince on his back, and plunged with him into the stream. Chang Shih-chieh sailed on unknowing. Of those who did not get away with him, thousands followed the example of Lu Hsi-fu, and before night the remnant of the squadron was utterly dispersed. A week after more than ten thousand corpses were floating on the river. The Mongols searched everywhere for the body of the Emperor, and offered enormous rewards for its recovery, but they only succeeded in finding his seal, nor does it appear that the body of Lu Hsiu-fu was found. The simple inhabitants of the region never believed that their prince had perished, but, for years after, cherished the vain hope that he would come again. There can, however, be little doubt that both he and Lu Hsiu-fu were drowned.

Henceforth the Mongol rule was supreme, and Wen Ten-tsiang, detained a prisoner at Court, after refusing repeated offers of high employ in the invader's service,—was eventually executed. His name is immortal in Chinese history, literature, and tradition, as an instance of loyalty and constancy.

An interesting paper on Chinese Folk-lore comes next in succession, and promises to be the first only of a series in which the writer contemplates dealing very fully with the subject. We can well fancy that the mine at his disposal is inexhaustible; not only are the Chinese at that stage of civilisation, or semi-civilisation, when superstitution holds full swing, but the art of printing which they have so long possessed has been freely used to perpetuate all kinds of lore which in the West has greatly passed away. The doings of every Chinaman, from Emperor to peasant, are affected and guided by astrological portents, divinations, &c., in which even the more highly educated, who affect to despise them, place a practical trust. And in this lies the distinction between Chinese and European folk-lore. In the one case it is either a matter only of amused indifference or of interested research to all but the lowest classes of the population; in the other it represents an all-pervading system of regulations, believed in or complied with by high and low alike. The writer quotes numerous cases of similarity of belief in China and in the West. For instance—

The Scottish custom of opening the windows of the room in which a person has died, to give the soul free egress, is, in some parts of China, paralleled by the practice of making a hole in the roof. The Lancashire superstition as to the "first foot" on New Year's Day finds its Chinese counterpart in the dislike expressed to meeting a woman or a Buddhist priest under such condition.

It is natural that a matter having such importance in Chinese eyes as the birth of of a child, should be surrounded wth portents, and the writer gives a curious list of practices resorted to with a hundred different objects. We should be tempted to quote largely, but for the fear of expanding our review wearisomely, and must be content with the following:—

A wide-spread superstition exists at home against rocking a "toom," or empty cradle. Now, strangely enough, Chinese nurses in the South of China have precisely the same belief. A little four-year old girl, who is a very intimate acquaintance

of mine, not long ago began rocking the cradle in which her newly-born sister was usually laid to sleep. An amah who saw her, rushed at the child, exclaiming "You no makee rock so fashion! That baby b'long die, s'posie rock." As it happened the infant did die, as was fully expected by the medical attendant: but of course the amah found in the anticipated fact a verification of her prediction, and further enquiry has satisfied me that the superstition is identical with and quite as widespread as our own. The resemblance of belief here certainly seems something more than accidental.

Marriage also affords unlimited scope for allegories and portents. At the marriage of the Empress Ah Lu-tê, whose death has just followed so close on that of her husband, there were among the bridal gifts ten pieces of green and white jade, called *ju-i*—"Heart's delight"

They were of mystic import, being supposed to possess the power of conferring joy and happiness on their owner. The lucky days for the various ceremonies were fixed by the court astrologers, and nothing was done without reference to their predictions.

It would be difficult to select a case that should tend more strongly to dispel the superstition. The misfortunes which befel the young Empress seem to have been great in proportion to the care taken to avert them. But a thousand cases of failure are eclipsed by one—really of coincidence—apparently of success. People don't want to be disabused of the belief in which they have been brought up. They are both disinclined and afraid to get free, and prefer to hug the yoke.—It is curious to find a superstition anent matrimony, for which there is a very similar expression—though we do not know that represents a belief—among ourselves. When the time comes for bride and bridegroom to sit down together, she endeavours to sit on a part of his dress, and the inference, if she succeed, is adverse to the maintenance of lawful supremacy. But if he sits on her skirt, the spell is reversed. One more quotation, and we pass on to the next paper:—

Of the outward symbols of the married state there is, as we all know, a great importance attaching to the wedding ring. Now it is very certain that the Chinese did not take the idea of wearing wedding rings from us. Yet we find that in certain parts of China, and in Java, the custom of sending the "measure of the finger-ring" previous to marriage is well-known. Turning to Chinese annals, we find the preparing of a "united-hearts' finger-ring" mentioned amongst the preliminary ceremonies to marriage. More than that, just as the purchase of the ring is considered by us as having morally bound the intended bridegroom, so in parts of China it affixes *legal* responsibility upon him; a failure to carry out the marriage then subjecting him to the penalties of breach of promise of marriage.

Mr. Allen's translations of "Tales of the Liao Chai Chih Yi" are a somewhat cognate design to the paper we have we have been reviewing. They correspond to the fairly tales which interested us in our childhood, and are curiously illustrative of Chinese manners and modes of thought.

Mr. Hutchinson's account of a trip for "Three weeks in the interior," from Foochow, is rather too full a reprint of his diary, but will repay perusal. Some information regarding the progress of Christianity in the province is given in a more tangible way than in official missionary reports, because we are brought in contact with the converts, and see them talk and act.

Mr. Parker's paper on the Hankow dialect has a purely Sinological interest. Mr. Stent's poem, "The illness, death and funeral obsequies of Mr. Locust, with a slight account of the battle at his grave," is presumably a free translation from the Chinese. It is written in the racy, jingling verse at which Mr. Stent is an adept, and reminds one somewhat in plot of Homer's battle of the Frogs and Mice.—A few notices of literature, and some notes and queries, complete the number.

Seventh Annual Report of the Hospital for Chinese in Hongkew.

We have the seventh annual report of the Hospital for Chinese in the Hongkew Settlement, under the medical charge of Drs. Henderson and Zachariæ. A very large number of patients have been treated during the year, including 272 foreigners. The income of the Hospital during the year has been $1,693, which has covered repairs and working expenses, and left $400 to be set aside as the nucleus of a building fund, with a view to the eventual erection of a new house. The Rev. E. H. Thomson remarks on this head:—

"Some mention has already been made of the improvements in the grounds. This has now been extended to the building. A new ward for female patients has been added, the room for surgical operations has been fitted up and well lighted, all the wards have been newly plastered, and other improvements have been made, which add to the comfort and convenience of the patients. Still, it is the desire of the friends of the institution to have, in time, a new building erected, more thoroughly adapted to the purposes of a Hospital than the present one. It is also thought that a change of location to a short distance back would be both advantageous and agreeable. With this desirable end in view, the Rector has laid by the sum of $400, to be invested, for a time, as the beginning of a building fund, which he feels confident will before long grow to the needed amount.—This Hospital being near the large wharves and the various machine shops of Hongkew, the number of cases arising from accidents is very great, showing the need of such an institution near at hand. The endeavor to place Christian truth before the patients, earnestly, as opportunity occurs, is not neglected; yet care is taken not to weary them with that for which they did not come.—In presenting our thanks to the two medical gentlemen who have given their services to the Hospital, I would add, that the reading of their Report conveys but a faint idea of the amount of work and thought that they have really bestowed upon their charge.—I would add our thanks to Dr. Macgowan, for his kind and ready aid in cases of emergency, when the Surgeons in charge were absent.—The native assistant, "Chu" S. S., has shewn himself efficient in his duties."

Chambers' Index to Next of Kin—4, Cannon Row, London.

We have received a curious book entitled "Index to Next of Kin." It is simply an alphabetical list of people who have been advertised for, as likely "to hear of something to their advantage," and contains no less than 50,000 names of people wanted to come forward and prove their claims to property There is unquestionably a vast amount of property lying unclaimed in England. Heirs are less difficult to find now that communication with the Colonies is rapid and constant, than in the olden days when going abroad often meant more or less complete severance. But even now, the number of advertisements for next of kin, etc., proves that the difficulty often arises. By a return recently presented to the House of Commons, the amount of the suitors' stock and cash standing in the Court of Chancery is £60,425,400, and of this a large sum awaits claimants. There is also an enormous sum standing unclaimed at the Bank of England in the shape of unclaimed dividends; on the National Debt alone the amount was, at the commencement of 1872, nearly £1,000,000. Chambers' "Index to Next of Kin" gives 50,000 names of persons, who have been advertised for during the last 150 years in the *London Gazette*, *Times*, and numerous other London and country newspapers, and giving heirs-at-law, next of kin, legatees, etc., who have gone amissing; and will no doubt prove a valuable means of introducing some of these to the wealth that awaits the asking. The notifications are often unseen at the time of publication by the persons really interested, who perhaps may hear on their return from abroad many years after, that they have been advertised for. They are then naturally anxious to obtain a copy of the advertisement, and the index gives them the opportunity. The form of the index is this: The name of the person advertised for is given opposite a number. Anyone wanting information, has only to copy out the name and number, and send it to the publisher's office, when, on payment of a fee, the copy of the advertisement will be supplied. The Index contains dozens of Shanghai names. We recommend everyone to order out a copy. There is no saying what fortunes, now lying *perdues*, may not be recovered through it.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

Yesterday, the C. M. S. Co. steamer *Yungching* arrived from Tientsin with 800 native soldiers, and was followed by the gunboat *Chinhai*, having about 300 on board. On dit that several hundred cavalry are on the road also, and may arrive in the neighbourhood of Newchwang or Moukden in a few days. People were rather surprised to see the two steamers coming up river, with numberless flags flying, and crowded with men. The new Governor of the Province, or Tartar General, whoever is the great man in charge, from all accounts is a very determined fellow, and as many attempts made during the last few years to arrest ringleaders of robbers, rebels, or whatever those may be called who resist the authorities, have signally failed—in some instances the Imperial troops being made to bite the dust by hundreds—Li Hung Chang has been applied to, and the troops just arrived, conjointly with the cavalry on the way, are to thoroughly beat out the freebooters. I don't think foreigners need fear much, unless it be from the soldiers themselves perhaps occasionally upsetting the authority of their officers.

About twenty miles from here—at a comfortable corner of the river—is a village or town called Tien Chuen-tai—and the

people are more or less favorably disposed towards the lawless bands who shelter themselves there—and who have lately resisted the attempts to arrest some of their leaders, and have actually stockaded the place, as a kind of intrenchment in case of attack. On Sunday, three or four hundred soldiers were dispatched by the Taotai to clear out the brigands—and it is a question whether the people prefer these to the others. There is no doubt some tall squeezing is done by both kinds of blackguards—and whatever the result may eventually be, the poor harmless countrypeople are meanwhile great sufferers.

We hear this morning that Tien Chuen-tai is evacuated by the freebooters, so that the troops will be able to prey without fighting. There is no doubt Tsung Chieh (or Shih), the Governor of the Province, has shewn that he is not to be played with, for not only has he executed many robbers, but he has shortened by a head more than one official for receiving bribes, and if the root of the evil is got at thus, there is every chance of matters soon becoming quiet again. Unfortunately every Mandarin has his price, and Tsung will have to cut off many heads, if he deals justice to all. Whether the troops, "foreign-armed and drilled," will assist the Governor as effectually as he requires, depends on the General and officers as much as on the men, and the fact that some of the principal officers are Mahomedans may be a [illegible] Moukden and elsewhere are led by Mahomedans. Many, however, have had to clear out, to band themselves together no doubt, and we shall soon learn the effect in more ways than one, of the rigorous measures lately adopted.

25th May.

TIENTSIN.

If a western traveller had arrived at this place from Europe viâ Russia on the morning of the 21st instant, he would, if he had stood on the Bund at eight o'clock in the morning, when the usual daily gun was fired from the British gunboat and the flag of England hoisted, have been astonished to see the foreign anchorage of the port of Tientsin without a single foreign merchant vessel moored in it, either steamer or sailing vessel; and might, if he had never read of the trade of Tientsin, have naturally jumped to the conclusion that there was very little foreign trade carried on in this part of China. The next morning, at the same hour, the foreign merchant shipping was represented in this port by an American three-masted schooner, laden with Fuhchow wood.

About noon on the 21st instant the Regiment—one thousand strong—of foreign drilled foot soldiers, armed with muzzle-loading Enfields, which had been ordered to Newchwang by the command of the Central Government, marched down the Taku road, situated at the West of the British settlement, for Taku; where it would embark in the C. M. S. N. Co. steamer *Yungching* and the Chinese gunboat *Chinhai*, on the 23rd instant. On the 27th instant, the cavalry, five hundred strong, and the horses of the artillery also left Tientsin for Newchwang, but proceeded there by land through the Shanhai pass, and not by sea. It is stated that the commander of the forces at Tientsin, General Chin, was obliged to enrol, in order to make up the complement called for by the Central Government, a number of the men of the Southern legion, people say about thirty per cent. of the forces going to Newchwang. These are quite the men, from what we have hitherto heard of them, likely to join the insurgents as soon as they can conveniently do so, after reaching the field of action and coming face to face with rebels.

This morning, about seven o'clock, a south-west gale began, and all day since we have had it continue with much local dust. What is now wanted at Tientsin, to make us drink the full cup of bitterness, is an earthquake to shake the roofs of our houses over our heads; after that a change may take place in our favor, to make a residence in Tientsin bearable.

To-day is Her Majesty the Queen's birthday. As the gale we are having has prevented the British gunboat being dressed with her flags; and as the residents near to the men-of-war anchorage have objected to the vessels of war firing salutes, Her Majesty's subjects at Tientsin have had to dispense with any celebration of the day, and to be content with simply knowing that this day is Her Majesty's birthday, and wishing her many returns of it.

24th May.

A correspondent gives us some particulars of a very serious burglary committed about a month ago at the house of Mr. Boad, at Taku, and for which no redress has been yet obtained. It seems that Mrs. Boad was awoke one night, in her husband's absence, by hearing people in the room, and on asking them what they were doing, received the cool reply, "belong rob the house." And two of the burglars forthwith attempted to strangle her. Being a strong woman she was fortunately able [illegible] the robbers decamping with their gains. The case has been reported by Mr. Vice-Consul Middleton, and Li Hung-chang promised Mr. Mongan that he would send orders to have the thieves arrested. Nothing has however yet been done, and it is important that the case should be again urged strongly on the authorities. The Chinese about Taku are a very rowdy lot, and, if they find these ruffians are not arrested, will draw their own conclusions that foreigners are powerless to obtain redress and may be robbed and maltreated with impunity. We ought to insist on the establishing of some better means of keeping order at Taku. The officials, if they can be so called, who are at present charged with the duty, live in places where Shanghai people would not like to see their Chinese servants housed, and have not much better pay than those servants receive. How can they be expected to keep up a fitting position, or to inspire respect among the people? It is no use urging the present case on them; it must be taken higher, and redress be insisted on.

Since last steamer left, I have learnt no political news from Peking. Here, likewise, nothing has taken place of importance to be mentioned in the Press. I am told that altogether two thousand men—foot, horse, and artillery—left this place and Taku for the seat of trouble in Manchuria. The rumour is that some natives of Tientsin are the leaders in the insurrection, and that their forces have up to the present been beating the Imperial forces wherever they have met in the field. They are said to be fully armed with foreign rifles, and even field-pieces of foreign make. The population here have no hopes that the force which has just left here will be able to stand up against the rebels. We shall soon hear, I imagine, of a fresh war-tax being levied to pay for the expenses incurred through an army being sent from China proper to Manchuria.

We are now having hot, damp weather, and which we may consider our usual summer weather. The thermometer generally rises to over 80° Fahr. at present. Summer, according to the Chinese reckoning, began on the 6th inst., so we ought to have hot weather.

26th May.

AMOY.

H. M. S. *Growler* arrived here yesterday, she will remain here four weeks, leave for Formosa and return again, and then be dispatched for Hongkong, which she is expected to reach at the end of July, to remain a few weeks.—The *Braemar Castle* is in our waters and the *State of Virginia* is daily expected.—Report says a new British Consulate Establishment is to replace the present one, at an outlay of $24,000.—Things can go crooked here, as well as at Hongkong and other places. To-day we hear that a native Cotton merchant, Long Sieng, has "cracked up," his liabilities being estimated at 15 to 20,000 dollars.

A curious sort of impromptu Court has been held at Chapel Island, to enquire into a row which took place there some time ago, between two light-house keepers named Naudin (a Frenchman) and Bothelo (a Portuguese.) The Court of Enquiry was held, according to the *Hongkong Times*, "at the instance of the then Acting Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Lord. The members of the Court consisted of Captain Cocker (S.S. *Linfeng*), President; Mr. Maitland, Vice-President, and Mr. D'Arnoux, 3rd Assistant Imperial Customs, and the result was that Mr. Daniels (an Englishman), the Chief, was suspended pending instructions from Peking, Mr. Naudin was reprimanded and transferred to the Foochow Light-house, and Bothelo dismissed the service." The Customs seem inclined to constitute themselves a distinct hierarchy, having even a judicial system of their own.

On Saturday, the 22nd instant, a strike took place among the several boatmen of the Imperial Customs at Amoy, on account of the Commissioner wishing them to pull the punkahs at their leisure, which they declined to do. Only the coxswains of the several boats remained in the service, and they are the only ones who are performing the duties just now.—Mr. Moran, 3rd class Tide-surveyor and Acting Harbor-Master, was threatened with suspension, on account it appears, of the boatmen refusing duty.

On the evening of the 23rd, a thunderstorm of unusual force caused all the junks opposite Messrs. Paseday & Co.'s to get foul of each other, doing considerable damage to the British three masted schooner *Empress of China*, breaking the ends of her fore-yard and her studding sail boom, and carrying away her gangway ladder, besides doing some damage to the other side.—*Hongkong Times.*

FOOCHOW.

H.M.S. *Hornet* has relieved the *Kestrel* on the Foochow station.—The *Foochow Herald* is informed, on very reliable authority, that the Foochow-Amoy telegraph difficulty is completely at an end. The line will be constructed by the Great Northern Telegraph Company, and worked by them for the Provincial Government; but the Company stipulate that the wire shall be open to foreigners at all times, when not absolutely required for Government purposes.—The annual report of the Foochow Chamber of Commerce has been published. A strong opinion is expressed in favour of telegraphic communication with Amoy.—The neglect of the Chinese Authorities in refusing to prevent the plunder of the wrecked steamship *Canton*, is referred to in strong terms.—The question of damage to teas by heating on board steamers is adverted to, and its importance fully recognised.—The *Herald* expresses regret that the increasing spirit of encroachment, and insolent dictation to independent foreign traders, repeatedly manifested by the Tea Guild (and inspired, it believes, by certain Compradores in the employ of leading firms), should be passed over in silence.—An

unusually severe thunder storm passed over Foochow at about 7 p.m. on the evening of the 17th inst. In the Settlement, the residence of Messrs. Silverlock & Co. was struck, and several articles of furniture destroyed in the dining-room. Fortunately, nobody was injured, although it might have been otherwise had the accident occurred about half-an-hour later, when, in all probability, the members of the Hong would have been at dinner, and —as the dining table was completely swept—escape from more or less injury would have been almost impossible. Loss of life occurred in the city and the Southern suburb.—It is so rare that we hear of any effort by Chinese to safe from drowning, that the following case reported by a correspondent of the *Herald*, is worth quoting:—About noon on the 13th, while there was a heavy freshet running, a sampan woman fell off one of the outside boats moored near the "long bridge." She sank at once, but, without a moment's delay, a boatman from another sampan jumped in after her, and when he again appeared on the surface of the water, had the woman in his arms. He evidently had a hard struggle to prevent himself being swept through the arches of the Bridge, as the tide was running like a mill stream, but luckily succeeded in swimming to a sampan, just in time, when he was quickly hauled in with his burden.

HONGKONG.

The most important news from Hongkong is a case of pressure from the mainland, upon a Chinese resident in the Colony, which we give in the words of the *China Mail*:—"One of the most scandalous cases of persecution we have ever yet heard of even in much-oppressed China has, within the past few days, been brought to the knowledge of the Colonial Government. A few months ago a scoundrel named Lee Lum Kwai was sentenced by the Supreme Court of this Colony to terms of imprisonment extending over two lives and a few odd years, for conspiracy to effect the death of a native resident. It now appears that the relations or friends of this double-dyed villain have presented a petition to the Viceroy, accusing the Club compradore of having conspired with the plaintiff in the case (Yeong Amow), to commit piracy and murder, and with having also *conspired to effect the death of Lum-kwai*, the said compradore having been one of the principal witnesses at the trial of that worthy. Now, the Chinese cannot, of course, get hold of the compradore, so the usual pressure has been brought to bear. A body of soldiers has been billeted on the village where his relations reside, and a guard boat has been placed at the entrance of the river leading to it, to maintain strict blockade. It is calculated that the annoyance thus caused to the villagers will make the elders insist on the compradore giving himself up—and those who know how family ties can be availed of to induce natives to appear when wanted, are aware what this pressure means. If the man gives himself up, his life will not be worth a week's purchase. We forbear any comment on this atrocious attempt to put pressure on a resident in this Colony, until we learn what steps the Colonial Government intend taking. We have the fullest confidence in its determination not to put up with it, and may of course hope that the Viceroy will take stringent measures to suppress it." The case is exciting much and deserved interest in the Colony. A correspondent of the *Mail* remarks:—"It does appear to be monstrous that a Chinaman can be told, as the Club Compradore was at Lum Kwai's trial, that he is to speak the truth, and that he need not be afraid, as the Court will protect people who come there to give evidence against criminals, and then that he should find that Court to be perfectly impotent to carry out its promise. Who can blame a Chinaman for lying, and doing his best to prevent the execution of justice, if he knows that, in the event of his doing or saying anything which runs counter to the opinion of some petty mandarin on the mainland, his property may be seized, his father and mother locked up and tortured, and his relations even to the fourth or fifth degree most cruelly abused?" We quite agree, and thoroughly endorse the common-sense remarks made by the *Mail* in an article on the subject which we reprint.

The *Daily Press* says Captain Holcomb, of the schooner *Scotland*, has come down to renew the charter of the vessel. The box of treasure reported to have been recovered, turns out to be a box containing money, probably a Chinese passenger's box. The treasure tank has not been got at yet, there being so much *débris* above it, which fouls the divers' robes and tubes. They expect shortly to be able to reach it, and the *Scotland* will still remain by the wreck.—Some sharp shocks of earthquake have been experienced at Manila, but have done no damage.—H. M. S. *Thalia* has been released from quarantine.—The Queen's birthday was kept as a general holiday in Hongkong. The ships in harbour were gaily decked with flags, &c., and at noon a Royal salute was fired from the Cathedral bells also sending out a merry peal. It had been intended to hold a military review in the afternoon, and to distribute Medals to some of the Engineers who had served in the late Ashantee war, but the pouring rain prevented any such display.—Mr. W. W. Toller has been appointed Crown Solicitor during the absence on leave of Mr. Sharp.—The continued dry weather led to such decrease in the water in the Pokfoolum reservoir, that a notice was published in the Government Gazette urging the necessity for economy in its use. "British, Foreign, and Native householders are earnestly requested to adopt all possible precautions against a lavish use of water obtained through the mains from the Reservoir. They are specially desired to prohibit their servants from procuring water from that source for the irrigation of gardens, which is reported to be done at the European houses along Caine and Bonham roads to the same extent as when the Reservoir was overflowing." The *Daily Press* adds—Happily the long desired rain has come at last, but we trust notwithstanding that this notice will be heeded for the future. We give ourselves a great deal of worry about our water in Shanghai, but we at least have always enough. —The Court held to enquire into the grounding of the *Viking* on the Paracels shoal, has suspended the master's certificate for three months.

The Great Northern Telegraph Co. have brought an action for $15,000 against Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co., the owners of the steamer *Yesso*, for damage done to their telegraph cable. The *Yesso* put into the outer harbour at Amoy, on the evening of the 6th April, through stress of weather, while on her voyage to Foochow, and anchored. When the anchor was hove in the morning, the telegraph cable came up, and was cut to free it. The defence is that, there was no notice up indicating the locality of the cable, that it was not recognised as telegraph cable, that every effort was made to get free; and that is was only cut when the ship was in danger of drifting in to the Taitan Shoal. The case is not concluded.—The O. & O. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Oceanic*, destined to ply between China and San Francisco, has arrived, and is favourably spoken of.—The German corvette *Hertha* arrived from Manila on the 27th. The usual salutes were exchanged between her, the commodore's flagship, and the battery.—The burlesque of "Aladdin" has been very successfully performed by the Hongkong A. D. C. The *Mail* says the local hits were very well received by the audience, and were somewhat freer than any which have enlivened previous performances. The China Traders, the late Indo-Chinese Sugar Company, godown charges, the cutting down of directors' fees and numerous other matters which have of late furnished gossip to the Colony, were touched upon in a way that "brought the house down" on each occasion—a sure sign that the state of affairs at present affords abundance of room for "chaff."—Heavy rain has fallen, and has been welcome, both as tending to fill the reservoir, and flush the drains.—A new Government steam-launch was launched from the Kowloon Docks, on the 26th, and was christened by Miss Dods the *Victoria*. The *Mail* says, the dimensions of the boat are 65 feet between the perpendiculars, 12 feet extreme beam, with 7 feet depth of hold. She is being fitted with a high pressure boiler and a double engine of 20 horse power. She is a very pretty and useful little craft, and reflects much credit on her designer and constructor. She is expected to realise a speed of 9½ knots.

COREA.

Japanese Government has despatched two vessels to Corea to reconnoitre, and to acquire information about its coast and harbours. The vessels are to proceed up the river to the capital. Should the Coreans adopt the same hostile policy as that adopted towards the Americans, the chances are that the vessels may be fired on, in which case something serious may arise out of the affair. Some time ago a rumour prevailed that the Coreans were less hostile towards the Japanese than of late years they had been; but the report has lacked confirmation, and the action taken by the Japanese Government would seem to indicate that they either intend to bring affairs to a crisis, or that they expect that the knowledge they seek to gain of the vulnerability of the Corean peninsula will be of use, should hostilities be declared between the two countries."

HIOGO.

The *News* says all those interested in the condition of the harbor will be glad to learn that a nuisance which has existed for four years and a half has at last been removed. On the night of the 11th of October, 1870, the *Hiogo*, (late *Fohkien*) filled and sank at her moorings, and till now there she has remained, cumbering the harbor. An offer to remove the wreck made by Messrs. C. J. Strome & Co. was recently accepted, and with the aid of large charges of gunpowder the work of demolition has been nearly completed. The removal of this wreck will be a great boon to the shipping, insomuch as it renders available for anchorage a portion of the harbor peculiarly well suited for mail and other steamers, of which there are now two regular lines, in addition to the P.M.S.S. Co., plying to and through this port.—Buoys are shortly to be laid down off the Railway pier, which is now nearly ready for vessels to discharge at.—The season for making pilgrimages, together with the present fine weather, is keeping up the Railway receipts to a high average, seven thousand dollars a week having been reached several times lately, and last week returns showing nearly eight thousand. We hope, adds the *News*, that this may continue, for nothing else will so much

impress the Government with the immensity of advantage to be obtained by improving in every way the internal means of communication in the country.—A correspondent, writing of Exhibitions, wonders "why Osaka does not have one—they seem to be all the rage now. On my way to Sakai the other day I stopped at Sumiyoshi, and had a look at the Exhibition which is being held in the grounds of the great temple there. It is a small affair, not much larger than that held at the Kusunoki temple, Kobe, last autumn. Besides the usual minerals, shells, arms, armour, etc., there were, amongst other novelties, a coloured picture of the burning of the *Fuy-maru*, a made up mermaid (price $150) and a set of 'pukkah' pandean pipes, the first I remember to have seen in Japan."

YOKOHAMA.

A large floating iron target is being moored in the bay of Etchu-jima, near the mouth of the Sumida-gawa, Tokio. It is to be used in practising with the big Whitworth and Armstrong guns recently received from England.—Burglaries and robberies of all kinds have again become so frequent in Yokohama, that the *Herald* complains that they are constant proofs of the already well-established fact that the police of Yokohama are inadequate, in point of ability if of the inhabitants from robbery and to detect robbers.—The *Mail* hears that it is intended to send a small detachment of troops to the Loo-choo Islands, avowedly with the view of "protecting the inhabitants."—The *Hochi Shinbun* says that an officer of the Imperial Government is going to China for the purpose of expediting the payment of the remaining portion of the indemnity.—The *Echo* says that the newly-discovered lead mine in Satsuma will yield an inexhaustible supply. A European offered 1,000 yen for 10,000 pounds of the metal.—The *Choya Shinbun* says the engines built for the gunboat *Seiki-Maru*, launched at Yokoska some little while ago, have been found to be too large, and that it will be impossible in consequence to navigate her.—There is a restaurant at Kiyo-bashi, Tokio which is in great favour with the public. It is generally well patronised by four o'clock in the afternoon. This is no doubt owing to a rule which obtains there daily, that when the number of guests exceeds three hundred in that day, the landlord gives a present to every customer, all of whom then greet him with three cheers—not a bad way of advertising.—The *Gazette* states that in March last, Noguchi Masa-aki, the man who first manufactured beer in Japan, made a proposition to *Sa-in*, to the effect that all taxes on goods manufactured in Japan after the European style—instruments and utensils for tradesmen, articles of food, and various drinkables—should be abolished, so that by the natural development of manufactures the export of such goods might be increased and their import diminished. The project is held over for the future consideration of *Sa-in*.—A 6th Class Officer of *Kangiyoriyo* (Section of Industries), has visited Yokohama, to select and approve of exhibits for the American Centennial Exposition. A 9th class officer is to proceed to Melbourne (Australia), as the representative of Japan at the Intercolonial Exhibition there.—On the 11th inst., 10,032 persons patronized an exhibition of wrestling at Yekoin, Tokio.—The Regulations of the Tokio Public Library (the premises formerly used as a Confucian Temple) have been published in the *Nichi-nichi Shinbun*. It is open to both Japanese and foreigners between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., every day except national and general holidays. Books cannot be taken from the premises, except by special permission of *Monbu-kiyo* (Minister of Education.) The regulations are altogether ten in number, and are similar to those in force in other countries.—A case of slander—R. S. Livingston *versus* E. Lewis—was heard on the 19th inst., before C. W. Goodwin, Esq., and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff, for $25 and costs. The defendant had said in public that the plaintiff had been guilty of arson.—On the 15th inst., a Buddhist service for those killed in battle was performed at Uyeno, Tokio. Numbers who had lost relations during the late war attended.

SAIGON.

The *Independant* of Saigon states that the information given in its last number concerning the Annamite treaty has been, tacitly at least, confirmed by a note in the *Journal Officiel*, and it can positively state that the Treaty of Commerce concluded with the Court of Hue only awaits the sanction of the National Assembly to be put into force. M. Regnault de Prémónil, chief of the governor's staff, has left for France, not merely to offer to the President of the Republic the King of Annam's presents, but to smooth away any difficulties which might arise on the subject of the treaty and its sanction by the legislative authority.

A recent number of the *Moniteur de la Flotte* contains a report, under the Marquis [illegible] tally the French Colonies in Cochin-China are alluded to and described as of the first importance in a military, commercial, and political sense, although the most recent acquisitions of France. In 1860, but a handful of soldiers and sailors were established at Saigon, and the experiment of establishing a colony involved an expense of some twenty millions of francs annually. By 1867, the rich provinces of Bien-hoa, Saigon, and Mytho were settled, and shortly afterwards three provinces in lower Cochin-China were acquired. There is now under French rule a population of some two millions, and the country by no means relies like British Burmah upon one staple; the most varied cultivations apparently thriving well there. The port of Saigon has now a trade of the annual value of sixty millions of francs. Sixty inspectors suffice to administer the entire Colony, and the local receipts, which amounted in 1861 to five millions, had risen in 1873 to fourteen millions and a half. All that is required, it appears, is that the income of the country should so far as possible be expended upon its development. Under such conditions, writes Admiral Dupré, "we shall, at no cost to humanity, establish an empire less extended than that of British India, and possibly less brilliant; but which as regards solidity will have no occasion to envy the magnificent establishments of which Calcutta and Batavia are the capitals."

SINGAPORE.

The great prison mutiny murder trial, which has occupied the Supreme Court for some days, has been concluded. There were 42 prisoners in all, arraigned upon two indictments for the murder of Henry Digby Dent, Superintendent of Prisons, on the 13th February last, during the mutiny in the criminal prison. At the outset, eleven of the prisoners pleaded guilty, each in turn declaring he had wilfully done the deed. The other 31 were put upon their trial before a special jury, who then found seven of them guilty on the capital charge, 11 guilty on the lesser counts of the indictment, and acquitted 13. The 11 who pleaded guilty and the 7 found guilty by the jury were sentenced to death; the other prisoners were remanded for sentence. The *Singapore Times* is in favour of commuting the sentence of death passed on the 18 convicts, to penal servitude for life. It urges that the interests of justice and order were avenged by the death of some 20 prisoners at the hands of the Europeans who quelled the outbreak, and shrinks from further sacrifice of life.—Sir William Jervois, the new Governor of this Colony, arrived by the French mail steamer on the 8th inst., and was sworn in by the Chief Justice at the Town Hall on Monday last, the 10th inst. The ceremony, at which the community were fully represented, was presided over by Sir Andrew Clarke, until Sir William Jervois' commission had been read, when he vacated the chair in favour of his successor. After the oaths had been administered, the new and the retiring Governors were lustily cheered, and Sir William Jervois, thanking the public for the warm reception given him, promised to use his best endeavours worthily to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor in office,—an assurance that was received with much satisfaction. Sir William Jervois, as if to lose no time in following in the footsteps of Sir Andrew Clarke with respect to his dealings with the Native States, has despatched Mr. Swettenham in the Colonial steamer *Pluto* to visit the Bandahara of Pahang, and invite him to Singapore to attend a conference, at which the boundaries of the Native States may be definitely settled. This is a question of very great [illegible] may prevent serious misunderstandings, and will remove a fruitful source of disagreement between some of the native rulers.—A somewhat interesting rifle match was contested on the 19th May, between the members of the Singapore Volunteer Corps and the 1/10th Regiment, the contestants having 7 shots at each range of 200 and 400 yards,—the Volunteers using the Snider rifle, and the 1/10th the Henry-Martini. This is, we believe, the first match held in the East in which the two arms have been pitted against each other. Notwithstanding the admitted superiority of the Henry-Martini, the two highest scores were made with the Snider. The results were.—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	Total.
S'pore Vol. Corps	153	147	280
1/10th Regiment,	151	141	292

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 26th.—(1) A monthly list of vacated posts issued by the Civil Service Board.

(2) Edict, dealing out sentences of punishment on certain Manchu soldiers, quartered at Yang-chen, for making a disturbance in the Brigadier-General's office. A report of the affair had been laid before the Throne, and the case delegated for investigation to Muh Teng-awe, from whose memorial it appears that the troops, being clamorous for their rice-allowance, crowded into the Yamên, and there caused some damage to the furniture or building; but no fighting is ascertained to have ensued. Two of the soldiers are found guilty of breach of discipline, and sentenced to be transported, flogged, and cangued, and to be dismissed at the expiration of the term of banishment with a final castigation. Several of the officers are further reproved for their inability to maintain discipline.

(3 and 4) The Governor of Shantung, Ting Pao-chên,—also holding rank of Junior Guardian to the Heir apparent, reports on the adjudication of two appeal cases referred to his decision. In one case, the appellant accuses Liu Yuh-tang and others of murdering his sister, Lü-menze. The latter, who had not finished a pair of stockings—in hand for her husband, Liu Pau-chiu—was accused by

him of idleness and beaten about the arms with a hempen rope; she stormed and raged at him in return, and received a further application of the rope about the back. Mortified by the humiliation thus subjected to, she committed suicide by swallowing brine. The husband was bambooed according to law by the Chehsien; but the appellant, suspecting that the father and mother-in-law of the deceased were guilty of beating his sister to death, lodged his accusation accordingly. In the other case, a nephew of the appellant Liu Ting-chi, was stabbed and found dead in the street; and Liu Chi-ting, with whom the deceased had been stopping, was accused of being guilty of the act. Both charges are found by the Governor to be untrue, although the suspicions which prompted the accusations are not without some shadow of reason. The two appellants, by repairing to the capital to lodge false accusations are notwithstanding brought under the penalty of the law relating "to doing that which you ought not to do," and sentenced each to eighty blows of the bamboo. But, in virtue of the Act of Grace of the 15th of 11th Moon of Tung-chi, the sentence was not to be carried into effect.

April 27th.—(1) Edict. Two military officers are reprimanded and deprived of their buttons, for failing to apprehend certain criminals guilty of murdering five individuals and wounding others. A date is further ordered to be fixed within which the said officers will positively be required to produce the prisoners.

(2) Two more edicts—one commanding the Civil Service Board to consider and report on a recommendation that an Under Secretary of the Criminal Board, who has distinguished himself in capturing certain criminals, be promoted. Another, commanding the Governor of Hunan to select an officer to fill the vacant Prefecture of Nan-chang—a post of considerable importance—from the other incumbent prefects under his jurisdiction.

(3) The Commander-in-chief of Kweichow, Chen Tah-wou, reports that he has brought to a satisfactory close the financial troubles connected with the disbanding and payment of the Ts'ou (Honan and Hupeh) forces. "Your slave left the provincial capital of Szechuen, C'heng-tou, on the 21st of the 9th moon of last year, and arrived at Chung-king on the 6th of the following month. With the exception of the rear detachment of the force—three regiments, which had been also ordered on from Kweichow to be disbanded—the various battalions had all arrived, and were encamped at different places in the vicinity of Chung-king. Of the funds ordered to be contributed by Szechuen, Tls. 200,000 had been furnished, and the feelings of the soldiers had been somewhat quieted in consequence. Your slave at once called together the various Generals in command; informed them of the absence of funds in the Provincial Exchequer of Szechuen; that it would be impossible to pay more than 70% of the arrears, and that unless measures could be devised of commuting for the deficiency by the "pau-chuen system," *i.e.* bestowal of honorary distinctions (Note.—報捐 pau-chuen is used for the acceptation, supposed to be willingly, of a "button" in lieu of money due; being really a "get what you can" arrangement), it would be most difficult to fix a date for final settlement. In dismissing them with instructions to carry out these measures, words exhorting them to be inspired by patriotism and disinterestedness were also not omitted, and subsequent reports were received to the effect that the proposition had been successfully carried into effect by each General. The amount of contribution due by Imperial allotment, and still remaining unpaid by Szechuen, amounted to Tls. 940,000—but deducting from this Tls. 119,000 borrowed by the Province from the finance office of Kweichow, which by Imperial assent is not to be returned, the balance at present due stands at Tls. 825,000—while the total sum which the Provincial authorities have on two separate occasions agreed to provide is only Tls. 580,000—to go specially towards liquidating arrears of pay. In addition to this, Tls. 100,000 were payable to meet the monthly expense of feeding the troops after their pay ceased, and while waiting to receive the arrears due to them. Notwithstanding great economy, this latter has been insufficient, and the deficiency has had to be otherwise made good. Without taking this into account, Tls. 240,000 are still required to complete authorizable requirements. As the payments of contributions have come in, your slave has employed the funds in disbanding and paying off first such troops as urgency dictated; the most important being those who have been long in active service, and whose thoughts are strongly directed to their homes. As regards the contributions actually stipulated for by the Szechuen authorities, there is an amount of Tls. 90,000 still to be paid over in monthly instalments by the Fuh-yung finance office. But these instalments run on till the middle of the 4th moon—too late to administer to the pressing needs of the day. Arrangements have therefore been made with the Taotai, Chian Ching-yuen, and the Prefect of Chung-ching, Chui-heng, to obtain the money, by loan, in advance. From the 10th moon of last year, to the commencement of the 1st moon of the present year, your slave, assisted by the various officers in command, has been busily engaged in all the details entailed by the disbanding of the troops—*i.e.*, of issuing pay, receiving back weapons, and of delegating officers to accompany the men in detachments to their respective homes; and, with the exception of the Wu character (武 the last character of the Commander-in-chief's name) battalion, the whole of the Ts'ou force under my control has been disbanded. The Wu battalion men, belonging principally to Hunan, will be taken to I-chang, and there paid off. These arrangements having one after another been satisfactorily made, the uneasiness amongst the troops was thereby allayed, and for the last few months this place has been restored to tranquility." The Commander-in-chief finishes his memorial by announcing that, on the 6th of the 2nd moon, he will proceed with all haste, viâ Hupeh and Honan, to kneel before the Throne and listen to the Imperial will.

(4) A supplementary memorial to the above, setting forth the extremely critical position of affairs when the Ts'ou troops first arrived in Szechuen, owing to the want of funds to pay their arears, and recommending for promotion or honorable mention those officers, civil and military, who distinguished themselves by responding to financial exigencies and by allaying the dissatisfaction of the soldiers.

(5) Another supplementary memorial, giving a brief review of the successful compaigns against the rebels in the various Provinces of China. The many obtacles to overcome, the determined resistance of the rebels at every step; the ravages of disease from malaria during the hot weather, and "the defeat of your enemy before taking your morning rice"-spirit of the troops are all expatiated upon, and the number of soldiers attached to the Commander-in-chief's original corps—afterwards led by Li Yan-won—who succumbed from beginning to end by death in the ranks and disease, is instanced as amounting to 10,500 *a* 10,600 men. Other temples have therefore been erected, at places to which the men principally belonged, in their memory, and the local officials are ordered to repair thither every Spring and Autumn to sacrifice to their manes and thus commemorate their loyalty.

(6) A Chi-shien in Honan had been impeached for being short in the payment of public moneys, and deprived of his button. The Governor now requests that, in virtue of the sum having been made good, his button be returned, to which the Imperial consent is given.

April 28th.—(1) A decree gazetting a long list of promotions.

(2) A memorial from the Cabinet Minister and Governor-General of Chihli, Li Hung-chang, Earl of first grade. An inhabitant of the Yung-cheng district had lodged an accusation at the capital against some tax clerks, Kwoh Pei-cheng and others, for extorting money and being the cause of his father's death, who endeavoured to commit suicide, when confined in prison for not paying his taxes, by piercing himself with a nail. It is found that the father recovered from the injury self-inflicted, and died afterwards from ordinary disease. The appellant is therefore brought under the law of doing that which he ought not to do, *i.e.*, lodging a false plaint, and sentenced to 120 blows of the bamboo. But this, in virtue of the act of grace since the offence, is remitted.

April 29th.—(1) Two Imperial Edicts, commanding two cases of appeal to be investigated and adjudicated upon by the Governor-Generals of the Provinces concerned.

(2) A memorial by the Censor Kwei-ling and others. A member of the Imperial clan Ching-tsing, formerly holding the position of General in the army, was stripped of his rank for certain conduct, but still continued to render assistance as a subordinate. It was in this position that he was killed at the capture of I-li by the rebels in the fourth year of Tung-chi, when fighting manfully on the ramparts; while his entire family—male and female—swallowed poison and sacrificed themselves to preserve their honor. The nephew, En-show, sent a messenger to ascertain the true circumstances of the case, of which he had only heard a rumour; but the road was intercepted by rebels and no information was then procured. Recently a servant, who was at the time in Chang-tsing's employ, has returned and given a full and reliable report of the proceedings. The Imperial assent is therefore craved, in accordance with the law existing on this subject, to graciously allow Chang-tsing to be restored posthumously to his previous honors.

(3) The newly appointed Chief Justice of Shantung, Chen Sz-cha, reports having taken over his seals of office.

(4) The Governor of Honan, Tsien Ting-ming, memoralizes in respect to a Che-shien being found, after his death, to be short of public money to the extent of Tls. 20,800, which the family, in view of the death of the Che-shien, think it not incumbent on them to make good. Orders had been issued to make searching enquiry as to what money was left in the hands of the family, and also to sell any real estate that may be left.

(5) Liu Chong-yin, Governor of Kwang-si, memorialises in regard to official movements within his jurisdiction.

April 30th.—(1) Several nominations of high officials are Gazetted, to personify certain officers sent off to their posts, also to examine into other public affairs. A monthly list of officials nominated in the different provinces also appears.

(2) The Governor of Shen-si, Shan Heng-yi, represents to the Throne that in the case of Lama chiefs from Tibet repairing to the capital to present tribute, or to relieve their countrymen resident there, it is the custom for the local officials to supply them with food en route, and beasts of burden to convey their effects. On passing the border at Szechuen, it is further the rule to depute Chinese officers

to act as escort. But evil practices appear to have sprung from these regulations. The escort officers enter into league with the interpreters, require two or three times more beasts of burden than are necessary, and tout for the conveyance of merchants' cargo at reduced rates. They also trump up false charges, accusing people of stealing the tribute articles, and make this a means to extort money; in fine, "words are insufficient to narrate the way impositions are practiced." Remedial measures, as suggested by two Che-shiens, are proposed; *i.e.*, that when the Lama missions cross the border, a full inventory of the articles conveyed should be at once taken; that the various boxes should be labelled with a list of contents and particulars of weight of each; and that the total number of beasts of burden required should be plainly specified for the information of the officials of each province when passing into their respective jurisdictions. The Imperial command is therefore solicited, to be given to the Governor-General of Szechuen to carry the above suggestions into effect.

(3) A memorial from Shan Heng-yih, Governor of Shen-si, on measures to be taken in his province to render more efficient the working of the "virtue reward office." The morals of the people are represented to be vitally connected with the effective bestowal of posthumous marks of distinction for deeds of heroism, acts of merit, and lives of virtue, &c., &c.; and although the above establishment [illegible] names of civil and military officers, gentry, soldiers and wives and daughters, as worthy of distinguishing marks, it is to be feared that owing to the difficulty of enquiry caused by the devastation of war, there must still be many incidents which have escaped enquiry, *i. e.*, deaths in the ranks when fighting or defending towns, people captured and preferring death to submission to the enemy, and of women dying to preserve their virtue, which time and circumstances have obliterated from memory: and it is desirable that not one of these should be allowed to pass unnoticed. To this end, the merit-reward establishment has been amalgamated with the military or volunteer office, which it is supposed will assist the enquiries to be made. The Imperial assent has been published by the Cabinet.

(4) Another memorial from the same officials wishing to retain a Manchu officer in his former position.

(5) A memorial from Ching Liu Kwei, in charge of affairs beyond the border. A system was inaugurated in the 4th year of Hien-fung, of issuing certificates, classed red and white, to troops, entitling them to certain reward, or payment, of money at a future date, and issued in view of the reduced state of public finance at the moment. During recent years, the Provincial exchequers have been so low as to render the redemption of certain of these certificates impossible, while the condition of the holders is stated to be so poor that they are unable to pay for funeral services and rites to their relatives. The redemption of the red class certificates has been in abeyance by special order since the 4th year of Hien-fung, and the white since the 10th year. It is at present requested that the redemption of the white certificates, issued to the troops under the memorialists' command, be now made.

Rescript: Let the Board consult and report.

May 1st—(1) Edict commanding that pothumous honors be conferred on Fuh Tsi-ou, who fulfilled the post of Governor of Anhwei in Hien-fung's reign, and whose death Li Hung-chang reports.

(2) Two Manchu officials, Tung-sheng and Toh-ko-tuan, memorialise, impeaching certain officers with carelessness and neglect of duty. A previous report of the circumstances connected with the impeachment had already been reported to the Throne, and a narrative, as elicited from the prisoners examined, is again given. The case is one of a very daring attack on the Gaol of How-lan Ting, near Jehol, by a band of over 30 mounted and foot robbers. After making known their intention to the inmates of the prison, they effected their entry during the stillness of a moonlight night, released the fetters of the prisoners, overawed and wounded some of the gaolers, and finally set at liberty over 50 prisoners. Some of these were afterwards captured, and others delivered themselves up; but 43 are still at large. Punishment is requested to be dealt out to the officers who shewed neglect, a time to be fixed for bringing to justice the robbers and escaped prisoners; and the prisoners recaptured are to be dealt with according to law.

May 2nd.—(1) Thanks are returned by several officers for appointments received.

(2) Edict, commanding an examination to be made at the Pau-ho-tien (peace preservation hall), Peking, into the capabilities of the various Examiners before appointing them to the different provinces. (Note.—This is in anticipation of the extra, or act of grace triennial examination, to be held this year in the 8th moon, in virtue of the accession of a new Emperor to the throne.)

(3) The Governor-General of the two Kwangs and Governor of Kiangsu both report on investigations made into the character and capabilities of expectant officials within their jurisdiction.

May 3rd.—(1) A decree commanding [illegible] and direction of military affairs in Chinese Turkestan, and ordering Chin-shun to act as assistant administrator.

(2) Kwei-yuh and Heng-shun memorialise requesting that surplus banner men at Cheng-tu—the provincial capital of Szechuen—be drafted to Nanking. The authorised number of troops at Cheng-tu, entitled to the issue of rations, is two thousand six hundred odd; but, owing to the growth of their families, a large excess of strong hale and intrepid young men exists who are a great burden to those on the roll, and while anxious to serve their country, cause actual want in the encampment. At Nanking, on the other hand, the full complement has not been made good since the ravages of civil strife, and the Imperial consent is craved to allow of 500 cavalry being transferred thither from Cheng-tu. Rescript.—Let it be as desired. The proper Board will take note.

(3) A memorial from the Governor of Shan-si, respecting the filling up of the vacancy caused by the death of a Brigadier General while under commission.

(4) The foregoing Governor, Pau Yuen-shen, reports to the Throne on the virtues displayed by a lady of Shansi, and requests, in deference to an influential petition received from a long list of gentry, that a memorial monument be erected to immortalize her name. The lady Ho was married at eighteen, to Lu Shu-yung, son of a Che-shien. The husband, while living with his parents, was taken ill in the autumn of the 12th year of Tungchi (1873). The disease shewed early symptoms of a dangerous character, but the lady, although occupied every night in secretly burning incense and offering up tearful prayers, maintained during the day a cheerful countenance, that the parents might not be overcome by dejection. For months she changed not her raiments, but devoted herself sedulously to administering to the wants of her husband, and finally as a last recourse she cut from her arm a piece of flesh to mix with the medicine. But her endeavours were of no avail, and her husband succumbed to the disease. The lady Ho was then overcome with grief, and fainting several times was recovered only by medical appliances. But she had already resolved not to outlive her husband, and after privately writing to her sister-in-law to come and attend upon the two parents, already advanced in years—she swallowed a gold ring, and at the age of thirty-four thus sacrificed her life on the altar of conjugal virtue. Rescript.—Let the virtue of the lady Ho be commemorated as desired.

May 4th.—(1) An edict, ordering Ching-shun to be Commander of the forces at Ou-lou-moh-tsi, in Chinese Turkestan—(Note.—Ching-shun was gazetted on the 3rd, to assist Tso Tsung-tang)—and Ching-lien to be commander of the White Banner Chinese force; the latter having to repair at once to the Capital to take up his post.

(2) The Governor of Honan, Tsien Ting-ming, reports on the trial and award of a case of manslaughter, lodged at the Capital and referred to the decision of the provincial authorities. The appellant's father, Li Ting-yung, in 1872, arranged the sale of an ox and an ass to the accused's father, Chau-fuh. Subsequently, an altercation arose on the subject of payment with the buyer's son, Chau-chün. Li Ting-yung struck a blow at Chau-chün, which the latter managed to avoid, but, picking up a vegetable knife to frighten his antagonist, he accidentally stabbed him in the abdomen while making a feint thrust, which caused his death within a short time afterwards. The deceased's son, the appellant, Li Sing-chieh, lodged a charge of murder at the Prefect's yamên, and the case was thence referred to the District Magistrate for adjudication. Here the appellant for some [illegible] about making an appearance. In the meanwhile, his cousin was summoned to the bar, and the appellant, hearing false rumours to the effect that the yamên men had been extorting money, and that his cousin had been subjected to coercion and punishment, thereupon resorted to a higher tribunal—*i.e.*, first to the Provincial Court and lastly to the Capital. The Governor, after a full investigation, finds that the death wound was beyond all doubt given unintentionally, but that, according to the law of "homicide" during an affray, no matter by what means, sentence of strangulation should be passed upon Chau-chün—the said sentence to be carried out in the autumn. In virtue, however, of the act of grace passed since the commission of the crime, the punishment will be commuted to one hundred blows of the bamboo and transportation to a distance of 3000 *li*.

(3) The above Governor presents a further memorial, suggesting that the district of Kau-cheng, now included under the jurisdiction of the Wei-yau Prefecture, should revert again to the Prefecture of Kwei-teh. The change in the course of the Yellow River led to the original transfer; but, in consequence of a subsequent further alteration in the course of the stream, the approach to Kau-cheng from Wei-yau is intercepted by the river, and a re-transfer thus rendered desirable, in the interest of officials as well as the people.—Rescript: Let the Board consult and report.

May 5th.—(1) An Edict degrading several officials in Fungtien (Manchuria) for remissness and suspicious conduct in respect to the banditti in that neighbourhood; also handing over other officials to the Board for investigation and punishment.

(2) Two more Edicts relating to official movements.

(3) A memorial relating to the convalescence of a Brigadier-General, Ou-leh-hing-aw, and to his return to his duties at Ning-kou-tah in Manchuria.

(4) A memorial from Yeh-yung and Yih-ai, high Manchu officers, setting forth that at the recapture by the Imperialists of Ning-kou-tah, which fell to the rebels last year, a general of the left, Yung-lien-yun, and his nephew, a Captain of Artillery, Wen-shuy, are accused by certain of the soldiers and officers of using their influence

to stop the pursuit of the insurgents, and of also escorting some of their number away in safety. The two accused, it appears, were captured by the rebels during their seizure of the town, and their lives were spared only through the entreaties of the resident merchants; their subsequent action being probably actuated by gratitude. Owing to the distance of Ning-kou-tah—some 800 *li* to the East of the Provincial town of Shengching, it had been difficult to summon and procure at once the necessary witnesses; but that officers of the Imperial army should meanly cling to life by the favor of rebels, is already casting disgrace on their cloth, and the Imperial sanction is asked to allow that the two accused be at once stripped of their rank preparatory to a full investigation.

(5) Ting Pao-chen, Governor of Shantung, reports on the marvellous intervention of the River Gods during important works at Chia-chuang. The embankments to be repaired are represented to have been a work of singular difficulty; the hearts of the officers and men engaged were dismayed at the danger to be surmounted, and even the Governor himself could not but confess to feeling considerable trepidation. On 18th of the 2nd moon, while at a total loss as to what measures should be taken, the "Golden Dragon, No. 4 Great King," gloriously revealed Himself to earthly eyes (in the metamorphosed form of a snake.) The Governor, then, with his subordinates—civil and military—all devoutly prayed that divine assistance might be vouchsafed. On the 20th, 21st, and 24th,

The Yellow great King,
,, Vermillion do.
,, Exalted do.
,, Nine Dragon General.
,, Yangsy do.
,, Tang do.
,, Liu do.
,, Tsau do.

all respectively manifested themselves in metamorphosed form, and on the last date mentioned a hurricane suddenly rose up and the force of the waters became abated. That the works were finally completed, is ascribed to the divine assistance thus vouchsafed, but that the Gods should thus intercede in the interest of the country, is doubtless due in great measure to the virtues of their Imperial Majesties, the Dowager Empresses and the Emperor, by whose devoutness the Gods have been influenced. In regard to increased posthumous honors to be conferred on the above Gods, see Imperial edict in *Gazette* of 21st April.

May 6th.—( ) Several Edicts about official movements.

(2) A memorial from the Governor-General of Fukhien and Chekiang, respecting the interchange of officials within his jurisdiction.

(3) Ting Pao-chen, Governor of Shantung, impeaches a magistrate, Chong-yuh-yuen, for failing to carry out instructions in regard to the conservation of the Yellow River. It is requested that he be suspended and that his rank be withheld until the orders given are satisfactorily carried out. The request is assented to.

(4) Ting Pao-cheng charges a Colonel, Wang Hioh-li, who had acquitted himself formerly with credit in the campaign against the rebels, with abandoning himself to lust and opium, and also with making deductions from the pay of the officers under his control. The dismissal of the Colonel, and after-examination, is asked for and assented to.

Several short memorials follow, having reference to civil service changes.

May 7th.—This *Gazette*, as well as a portion of that of the 8th, is taken up with a lengthy report by the grand secretary and secretary of the Board of War, Kwang-shen and Hai Tung-shan, on alleged embezzlements and corrupt practices connected with the Ping-chai-chuh 兵差局—a system of establishments to provide accommodation for troops *en route* throughout the province of Szechuen. In the *Gazette* of 24th April is an Edict having reference to the present report, and embodying the important features of the subject under investigation.

8th May.—Edict. From the commencement of spring, great scarcity of rain has prevailed around the Capital. The "opening of summer" term has now passed, and the fields are in urgent want of the moistening bounties of Heaven. Great solicitude cannot but be felt, and it is fitting that prayers should be devoutly offered up to secure the benign favors required. The Princes of Tun, of Kung, and others, are therefore ordered to repair on the 11th to the various Temples, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

(2) A report from the two foregoing officials, on an investigation instituted into an allegation made by the Cabinet Minister, Kwang-an, respecting affairs in Szechuen. For every one Tael of Imperially fixed land and grain tax, with the ordinary addition for waste, it is alleged that extra collections, to the extent of Tls. 7 *a* 8, are made, which are demanded under all kinds of subtle names—to wit, for difference in scale, packing sycee subscription, &c. The memorialists had made enquiries of the Governor-General, from whom it appears that the land and grain taxes of Szechuen are fixed at a total of Tls. 660,000, to which Tls. 100,000 are added for the ordinary 15 per cent. allowed for expenses; that the nett amount has to be accounted for by officials according to "Treasury scale" and "Treasury touch;" that the scale currently used amongst the people shows a difference of 3 per cent., and that the touch of the silver in circulation is also inferior; for all of which calculation has to be made; further, that in some poor districts, where silver is scarce, *cash* has to be received in payment, and has to be changed into sycee at the wealthier towns. But the collection thus made in varied form is a measure designed to accommodate the people, and no undue demands are made. Apart from this, contributions have been rendered necessary for repairing city walls, banks, bridges and roads, and for attending to the conservation of rivers, &c., all of which are necessary works, while the collections are not made without proper authority. To the charge that exactions are made under the cover of subtle excuses, the Governor-General makes an emphatic denial. The memorialists, in view of the Governor-General's statements, which appear satisfactory, deem it unnecessary to institute further examination into the past, but are of opinion that an addition of 7 *a* 800 per cent. has actually been made to the taxation; and while pointing out that the vitality of the people is likely to be sapped by such burdensome taxation, they recommend that the Governor-General be enjoined to exercise increased vigilance in stopping extortion and malpractices, and in not allowing contributions to be demanded too lightly. "Although there may be a work which, for ten thousand reasons, cannot be avoided, still should full consent be first obtained from the higher authorities before the collections, are authorised?" The Minister, Kwang-an, further suggested that the Szechuen li-kin barriers should be closed. In answer to this it is argued that, although the province is now relieved of internal troubles, precautionary measures cannot be entirely renounced, and that the expense of the troops still retained must as a necessity be met. That, as expediency admits, the surplus soldiers will be disbanded, and that the barriers can be gradually closed as the disbanding takes place. Three barriers are at present to be removed, but 16 others are pointed out which will have to remain for the time.

Official Papers.

MR. HART ON THE WOOSUNG BAR AND THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, IN 1867.

Mr. Burlingame to Mr. Seward.

March 29, 1867.

SIR,—I am happy to enclose a Memo. from Robert Hart, Esquire, Inspector-General of Customs, from which you will learn what great progress the Chinese are making. They have decided to appropriate the entire tonnage dues to the building of lighthouses and for the improvement of harbours on the coast of China.

This result, so creditable to the Chinese and so advantageous to us, is entirely due to the patient and enlightened efforts of Mr. Hart. It is also, with the increase of trade, an indication of the faith of those who believe in reason and kindness more than in brute force.

I have, &c.,

ANSON BURLINGAME.

Extracts from Memorandum Enclosed.

. . . . . Much therefore as the appropriation of funds for the purpose of lighting the coast may do towards insuring against the few dangers that do exist, it may almost be said to have for its object the *convenience* of navigators rather than the security of life and property at sea. . . . .

Since the capture of Nanking, it has gradually become less necessary to divert any portion of the tonnage dues from the purposes for which foreigners hold they ought to be set apart, and the termination of the large payments (for indemnities) may be said to have completely freed the fund in question from all calls for the supply of deficiencies elsewhere.

Mr. Hart then proceeds to enumerate the works which have been done, and what is going to be done at the various ports. With reference to Shanghai he says:

"This, the port most frequented by shipping, is also the one least easy of approach; its difficulties are, however, of a kind which will always demand a good hand in the chains, and attention to both helm and sails. Collisions excepted, steamers come and go in absolute safety, and for sailing vessels it is the tug-boat that is requisite, rather than the light or the buoy. The Saddle Islands and Gutzlaff are sufficient guides to the mouth of the Yangtsi to the south; and the high island, known as Shaweishan, to the north, is a very conspicuous object. With Shaweishan in sight, and a chart on board, nothing but absolute carelessness would run a vessel on the only rocky dangers in the approach to Shanghai, viz., the Amherst and Ariadne Rocks. The real difficulty of the approach is to keep in the channel when once in the river. After leaving the Saddles, Gutzlaff, or Shaweishan, a vessel will make the lightship—a light that has been kept up for the last 10 years—in the vicinity of which a pilot is sure to come on board. From the lightship, the pilot has no great difficulty in taking the vessel far enough up the river to sight the Beacon, a lofty tower on the shore below Woosung; the Beacon passed, Woosung is soon sighted.

Inside Woosung there is a bar in the Shanghai (Hwangpoo) river, but on a flag flying at the house of one of the Harbour-master's staff at Woosung, is always to be seen the number of feet of water on the bar; and, at the bar itself, marks have been put up of a kind to enable vessels of the proper draught to pass in safety. At Shanghai, a

Harbour-master and a large staff are employed, from the employment of whom has resulted much order and regularity in the anchorage, but whose powers require to be defined, and whose office must be respected and supported, in order to—I shall not say the improvement—but the conservation of the harbour; filling at various points to low water mark, and the construction of wharves and jetties along its banks, have tended much to spoil it as an anchorage for ships, and while increasing the temporary value of front lots, have sown the seeds which will produce decay *there* and a rival *elsewhere*.

A lighthouse is now about to be built either on the Ariadne or on one of the Saddles. A light will also be placed on Gutzlaff, one on the Beacon, and another at Woosung. Those lights once placed, the navigation will be as easy, so to speak, as would be a walk down Regent street when the gas is lit.

Before attempting to do anything with the bar inside Woosung, a competent engineer will be brought from Holland, and on his opinion will depend the measures to be proposed . . . . In the absence of the opinion of a man at once scientific and practical, who has made such works his study, my advice to the Chinese is to do nothing rather than to bury sycee in the mud. . . . . .

Having now gone through the ports one by one, I proceed to make a few general remarks bearing on the subject.

Knowing the monetary difficulties of the Government I have now attempted to prevent the authorities from diverting a considerable portion of the tonnage dues from such works as harbour improvements, and lighting of rivers and coasts, to military uses; knowing that temporary pressure alone caused them to avail themselves of that fund, once they began to understand the light in which foreigners viewed it. . . . . .

The suppression of the rebellion, the quieting of the seaboard, the payment of the indemnities, and the authorization at length about to be issued by Imperial decree (which, hoping against hope, I have for more than 5 years been laboring to obtain) allowing and inviting Chinese to build and own vessels of the foreign kind, both steamers and sailing craft, all combine to render easy of execution what a few years ago it would have been almost suicidal to attempt. . . .

The amounts hitherto expended from tonnage dues for harbour improvement, &c. have been small,* but it may now be stated with confidence that the Chinese Government will do its share of the work faithfully and well. It will provide funds and secure the services of first class men, and the only assistance to be asked for is one which treaty powers are, by exterritorial privileges, bound to afford, and that is, to join in the prevention of all acts on the part of foreigners settled at the ports, be they the acts of individuals or of Municipal Councils, pronounced to be of hurtful tendency by the Chinese agents, and to recognize and support those agents in the performance of their duties.

Robert Hart,
I. G. of Customs.

January 31st, 1867.

* Annually, during the last 5 years, about Tls. 45,000, and for special purposes during the same period, lighthouses, beacons, buoys, repairs &c., about Tls. 50,000. The revenue (tonnage dues) for the 5 years has been, say, Tls. 1,000,000; and the expenditure, say, Tls. 275,000, or more than one-fourth.

† Since writing what precedes, I have received official instructions from the Tsungliyamên (board of foreign affairs), authorizing me to carry out all that this memorandum sets forth. The annual collections under the head of tonnage dues are not likely to exceed Taels 300,000 (£100,000), or to fall below Taels 210,000 (£70,000). In order, therefore, to effect as much as possible with the funds at my command, while employing professional men specially educated for special work, I shall endeavour to incorporate the bulk of those employed with the Customs establishment rather than create a new service. * * *

Robert Hart,
I. G. of Customs.

March 16th, 1867.

Public Meetings.

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

An extraordinary meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the office, Queen's Road, Hongkong, on the 25th ultimo, to take into consideration a proposition to wind up the Company. There were present:—Messrs. A. André (chairman), F. D. Sassoon, Sands, Hayllar, Q.C., C. P. Chater, Landstein, W. H. Bell, Anton, Wheeler, J. T. Chater, Middleton, Nicaise, H. Cope, J. Greig, H. H. Nelson, Sandeman, McCulloch, J. J. dos Remedios, Kruse, Elwell, Karberg, da Costa, Head, Marafelt, Burrows, Hancock, Joost, Hubbe, &c.

The Chairman, having read the notice calling the meeting, read the following letter which had been received by the directors:—

"Hongkong, 30th April, 1875.

"To the Directors of the Victoria Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

"Gentlemen,—We the undersigned, Shareholders in the Victoria Fire Insurance Company, Limited, have to request, in accordance with No. 51 of the Articles of Association, that you will be good enough to call an Extraordinary Meeting of Shareholders to take into consideration a proposition for voluntarily winding up the said Company, and for appointing Liquidators for said purpose.—We are &c.,

"(Signed) S. E. Burrows,

"and 36 others, representing 500 Shares."

The Chairman then said: Before I request any of the gentlemen who have signed this letter to place a motion to that effect before the meeting, I consider it my duty to express to you the views of the directors in regard to winding up this Company. Owing to the absence of any large conflagrations during late years, the financial position of the Company is at present very satisfactory. On the other hand the directors cannot close their eyes to the fact that the premia account shows a constant decrease, and any disaster coming over us would easily wipe out the profits of one or more years. The directors, on their part, do not wish to advocate any steps either to one side or the other; but they cannot help thinking that if the Company is to be wound up, no better time than the present can be chosen. The shareholders now will get a very fair return for their shares, while the future is uncertain, and it would not be wise to expect that we shall continue to be spared from losses. I have nothing else to say on behalf of the directors, but will be glad to receive a motion from one of the gentlemen who signed the requisition.

Mr. Burrows then proposed that the Company be voluntarily wound up forthwith.

Mr. A. H. Chinoy seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. C. P. Chater proposed

"That Messrs. André and Sassoon be appointed liquidators, and that their remuneration be at the rate of one per cent. on the total amount distributed to the shareholders."

Mr. Hancock seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said there would be another meeting held in a fortnight to confirm the resolution which had just been passed.

Mr. Middleton asked if the confirmatory meeting could not be held sooner?

The Chairman said it could not be held sooner, as the local ordinance required a fortnight.

Mr. C. P. Chater said that, as the proposition to wind up the Company had been carried unanimously, he would suggest that the outstanding risks be reinsured at once.

The Chairman said if that were left in the hands of the liquidators they would see to it.

The meeting then terminated.—*Daily Press.*

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 27 Avril, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents:—M.M. A. Hennequin, F. D. Hitch, E. Leroy, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. H. Scott, J. F. Seaman; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Approbations des propositions émises par le Comité des Finances relatives:

A la remise à faire à M. John Pook de £1.12.2 pour frais d'assurance des pierres lithographiques du plan de la Concession.

A la reponse à donner au directeur du grand théatre du quartier de l'Est, au sujet de sa demande de réduction sur l'impôt locatif Chinois.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général de France par laquelle il approuve la nomination de M. Voisin comme Président du Conseil, et celle de M. Hennequin comme Vice-Président, et confère à M. Voisin les pouvoirs nécessaires pour remplir les fonctions auxquelles il est appelé.

Communication d'une autre lettre de M. le Consul-Général, informant le Conseil qu'en raison de son départ en congé, le Consulat-Général sera géré provisoirement par M. Lemaire, Consul à Foutchéou, en attendant l'arrivée de M. le Comte de Chappedelaine qui continuera l'intérim pendant son absence.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul-Général, en date du 24 Avril, transmettant au Conseil la sentence arbitrale rendue par M. Medhurst, Consul de S. M. Britannique, et par lui dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-kingpang. Le Conseil est heureux de voir que cette sentence, en laissant les choses dans l'état, ménage ainsi les deniers des deux Municipalités et conserve l'usage de quais au public tout en prescrivant, pour l'avenir, une entente qui doit éviter tout malentendu. Dans ce but, et conformement aux termes de la décision des arbitres, le Président est chargé d'écrire à celui du Municipal Council pour lui proposer de faire procéder conjointement à l'étude des lignes de quai nord et sud du Yang-kingpang et pour l'informer, en même temps, que les travaux de reconstruction du pont No. 4 vont être repris sans délai.

Le Président est chargé de conclure avec M. Hanssen, représentant des mineurs Webb, au prix de Taëls 5,000 par mow, fixé par les arbitres, l'acquisition de la parcelle de terrain nécessaire à l'élargissement de la rue du Consulat partant du Bund jusqu'à l'établissement connu sous le nom de North German Home.

Le Président est également chargé de conclure avec les Rds. Perès Jésuites, au prix de Taëls 1,000, l'acquisition d'une parcelle de terrain s'étendant au coin de la rue Montauban et de la rue du Consulat depuis l'établissement dit Hôtel des Colonies rue Montauban, jusqu'à la maison occupée par M.M. Oliveira et Cie., rue du Consulat. Quant aux parcelles placées en avant des maisons occupées par M.M. Baron et Paul compadore, les Rds. Perès Jésuites qui en sont les propriétaires, ayant bien voulu en faire gratuitement l'abandon à la communauté, le Secrétaire est chargé de leur transmettre les remerciements du Conseil.

M. Guidicelli est nommé comptable en remplacement de M. Renucoli décédé. M.

Sauné est nommé percepteur, en remplacement de M. Guidicelli, et M. Babey est nommé expéditionnaire en remplacement de M. Sauné.

Le Conseil renvoie à une prochaine séance l'examen de la demande de M.M. Butterfield et Swire, relative à l'érection d'un hangar en fer sur leur Wharf en avant du quai du Wampoo, et prescrit de faire procéder, dès à présent, à l'étude de la ligne de démarcation que pourraient avoir les quais de la Coucession par rapport à un alignement d'ensemble avec les concessions voisines.

Le Secrétaire est autorisé à faire la commande des registres à souches pour l'éxercice 1875-1876.

Pour procéder à la révision des impôts, le Conseil propose de faire appel à une commission composée des principaux propriétaires d'immeubles sur la Concession et de quatre Conseillers Municipaux ; ainsi que de s'assurer le concours de quatre notables Chinois à même de fournir des renseignements dont cette commission aurait besoin.

Le Conseil trouvant préférable de ramener l'année Municipale dans les limites de l'année ordinaire, decide qu'à l'avenir l'excercice commencera au 1er Janvier pour finir au 31 Décembre de la même année.

Examen des raports des Chefs de Service.

La Séance est levée.

Séance Générale du 12 Mai, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents :—M.M. A. Hennequin, F. D. Hitch, E. Leroy, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. F. Seaman ; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Lecture d'une lettre de M. Lemaire Consul de France à Foutchéou, informant le Président qu'il a pris le service du Consulat-Général de France à Shanghaï à la date du 20 Avril le priant d'en faire part au Vice-Président et aux autres membres du Conseil.

Par sa lettre en date du 29 Avril, le Municipal Council propose au Conseil Municipal, l'augmentation de la taxe sur les Jin-rick-shaws et la mise en vigeur d'un réglement de police plus sévère pour leur circulation.

Le Conseil est d'avis qu'il ne peut émettre son opinion avant d'avoir reçu une communication exacte des modifications proposées.

Conformément à la décision prise relativement à l'étude des lignes du Yang-king-pang, la lettre suivante a été écrite au Municipal Council :—

"MONSIEUR,—Ayant reçu communication de la décision Arbitrale dans l'affaire d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, le Conseil a lu avec plaisir que Messieurs Medhurst et Godeaux recommandent que de part et d'autre les choses soient laissées dans l'état, mais que les deux Conseils concluent pour l'avenir une convention tenant compte à la fois des besoins de la navigation et de ceux de la circulation des quais, laquelle convention, accompagnée d'un plan, serait soumise à l'approbation de l'autorité chinoise, et préciserait, en fixant des points de repère, la largeur à attribuer désormais au Yang-king-pang. Les Arbitres recommandent, en outre, que toute construction de quai ultérieure de chaque côté du Canal, soit l'objet d'un accord préalable entre les deux Municipalités.

"Conformément à ces recommandations, je viens, au nom du Conseil, vous proposer de faire procéder conjointement à l'étude des lignes de quai Nord et Sud du Yang-king-pang, et je m'empresserai de lui transmettre toute proposition que vous pourriez avoir à me faire à ce sujet.

"Me reportant aux termes de votre lettre du 15 Février, 1875, je profite de cette occasion pour vous informer que l'Administration Française va faire procéder sans retard à l'erection du Pont en fer No. 4. Elle désirerait que, de votre côté, les travaux de consolidation de la culée Nord, que vous avez pris à votre charge fussent poussés de telle façon que l'ensemble des travaux ne souffrit pas de retard.

"Veuillez agréer, &a.,

"Le Président du Conseil,

"(Signé) A. VOISIN."

A cette lettre, le Président du Municipal Council a répondu en ces termes :—

"SIR,—Owing to the press of work consequent on the approaching Ratepayers' Meeting, the Council regret they are unable to give your letter of the 29th ult. the very careful consideration it requires.

"As soon as the metting has taken place, as little time as possible shall be lost in addressing you on the subject.

"I am Sir, &c.,

"(Signed) J. G. PURDON,
Chairman."

Le Conseil prescrit en consequence, la mise en place du Pont No. 4, dont les travaux avaient été provisoirement suspendus.

Le Capitaine Roberts ne pouvant s'occuper immédiatement de l'étude de la ligne de quai du Whampoo, le Conseil est d'avis de confier ce travail à M. Kingsmill, et charge le Secrétaire de lui écrire dans ce sens.

Le Conseil décide de soumettre aux Consuls, le résultat du travail fait pour l'étude de la ligne des quais du Wampoo, en leur représentant l'importance qu'il y a pour le port en général et la Concession Française en particulier, à ce qu'une prompte entente ait lieu relativement a la ligne d'ensemble des dits quais.

La réponse à faire à la demande d'érection de Wharfs de M.M. Butterfield et Swire, est donc ajournée.

Autorisation du paiement à M. Henri, d'une somme de Taëls 150, pour le plan du Yang-king-pang du Pont No. 1 au Pont No. 6.

Examen des rapports des chefs de Service.

La Séance est levée.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 24th May, 1875.

Present :—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, W. Kidner, A. A. Krauss, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, S. D. Webb, and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting was taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

The Cash State for the 22nd May was laid on the table for inspection.

Appropriation—Widening Nanking Road.—Compensation was authorized to be paid to the Lessee of the old Hongkong and Shanghai Bank premises for loss of space, &c. sustained by the surrender of land to widen the Nanking Road.

General Hospital.—The subjoined letter from the Trustees of the Hospital was considered, and reply as under, agreed to :—

Shanghai, 20th May, 1875.

SIR,—In pursuance of my motion which was passed at the late Ratepayers' Meeting, regarding the General Hospital, I beg to inform you that Mr. Kidner has been requested to lay his plans before the Municipal Council, and to request that you will favor the Trustees with your views on the site and plans, at as early a date as possible, so that, if approved, the building may be begun at once.

The lease of the present building on the French Bund, I may mention, expires on the 31st December next.

(Sd.) W. KESWICK,
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Shanghai General Hospital.

J. G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council for the Foreign Settlements North of the Yang-king-pang.

Shanghai, 25th May, 1875.

W. KESWICK, Esq.,
Chairman Board of Trustees, Shanghai General Hospital.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 20th instant, the Council desire me to state that they will be glad to be put in possession of the plans of the New Hospital, as also of Estimates or Tenders of Contractors for carrying out the same.

The Board would further be obliged by your informing them as to what sites the Trustees have ever been offered, or have been in treaty for, and the terms ?

Whether the property of the proposed New Hospital is free from any claim whatsoever on the part of Shareholders in the existing Institution ?

Whether any arrangement has been made with the French Municipal Council for their continuing their contribution of Tls. 1,000 per annum, and whether it is likely they will do so for the term over which the debt is to extend ?

A memorandum of the yearly expenditure in detail would also be useful, as there are one or two items in the Report recently published, such as house expenses, etc., about which the Council would like to ask for information.

The Board note that the lease of your present premises expires on 31st December next, and recognize the desirableness of giving the Trustees their views of the scheme under discussion, at the earliest possible date.

They therefore, after receiving and considering your reply to this, propose to invite the Trustees to meet them to discuss any alteration that may seem needful.

(Sd.) JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

Volunteer Corps.—The Election of Sergt. G. J. Yeo as Lieutenant of No. 3 Co., vice Lieut. H. Mylne, resigned, was approved and confirmed.

Bridges Yang-king-pang.—The following letter from the French Municipal Council was read:—

MONSIEUR,—Au nombre des motions proposées par votre Conseil à l'adoption de l'Assemblée des "Ratepayers" se trouve celle-ci :

"Que de nouveaux ponts ne soient pas bâtis et que des réparations ne soient pas faites aux ponts déja existant sur le Yang-king-pang, à moins que la Municipalité Française ne consente à supporter la moitié de la dépense."

Le Conseil Municipal de la Concession Française n'a pas la prétention d'intervenir le moindrement dans vos relations avec vos constituants, mais comme cette motion est contraire aussi bien aux intérêts des quartiers Sud que des quartiers Nord du Yang-king-pang, le Conseil doit s'en préoccuper et il s'étonne de la voir proposée par votre Administration.

Dans le cas où vous y donneriez suite, j'ai mission de vous informer que le Conseil compte faire appel à qui de droit afin que la discussion de la quotité des dépenses des ponts soit réglée d'une autre façon que le moyen proposé par vous qui équivaut à traiter en patients, pour ainsi dire, et à mettre à la question les populations des différentes Concessions afin de faire crier merçi à la moins forte ou la moins patiente.

Je suis également chargé de vous faire remarquer que les deux Conseils en 1874-1875 ont décidé qu'un pont en fer pour remplacer le pont No. 1 était préférable à un pont en bois, et que mes collègues et moi apprennent seulement aujourd'hui, par hasard, en parcourant le rapport de gestion du Municipal Council de 1874-1875, que le Municipal Council a fait figurer au budget la somme simplement suffisante pour un pont en bois. Le Conseil Français est, donc, encore mis dans l'alternative ou d'accepter forcément le changement d'idées de votre Administration, ou de se trouver à nouveau en désaccord avec elle, et devant un non possumus Municipal basé sur les prévisions du budget ; c'est dénier à notre Conseil même le droit d'avoir une opinion.

Veuillez, Monsieur, agréer l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée.

Le Président du Conseil,
A. VOISIN.

Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
Président du Municipal Council.

Shanghai, le 18 Mai, 1875.

[*Translation.*]

SIR,—Among the Resolutions proposed by your Council to the Ratepayers is the following :—

"That no new Bridges be built, nor repairs

be made to existing Bridges across the Yang-king-pang Creek, unless the French Municipality agree to bear half cost of same."

The Municipal Conseil of the French Concession does not presume in the remotest degree to interfere in your relations with your constituents, but as this resolution is equally inimical to the best interests of the dwellers on each side of the Yang-king-pang, this Conseil is forced to give it its consideration, and is astonished that the measure should have been proposed by your Administration.

In the event of your giving effect to it, I am directed to inform you that this Conseil will appeal in the proper quarter so that the question of the division of expenses on the bridges be determined in a different manner than that proposed by yourselves, which makes the residents of the different Settlements, sufferers, and causes them to be pressed till the least strong and the least patient of them cries for mercy.

I am also requested to call your attention to the fact that the two Councils in 1874-75 decided that an iron bridge to replace the No. 1 was preferable to a wooden bridge, but my colleagues and myself only learn to-day, by chance, in looking over the Municipal Budget, that your Council only allow sufficient for a wooden bridge. The French Council is thus again compelled (nolens volens) to accept this change of views on the part of your Administration, or to find itself, for a second time, placed in antagonism to you, and in face of a Municipal non-possumus based on the provisions of the Budget. This is to deny to our Council even the right of having an opinion on the subject.

(Sd.) A. Voisin.

And reply as under agreed upon :—

A. Voisin, Esq.,
The President of the French Council.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 18th inst., in which, after informing me that your Council do not claim to interfere with the relations between this Council and its constituents, you go on to say that you are astonished that we should ask the sanction of our Ratepayers to our bearing only one-half the cost of the Bridges over the Yang-king-pang, and to threaten us that if we give effect to such sanction, you will appeal to some other quarter to have it determined in a different manner. Passing over the fact that this seems to this Council to bear a very close resemblance to interference between them and their constituents, I may point out that in effect your position amounts to this:—you claim the liberty of saying how much you will pay towards maintaining the Bridges, but deny us the same privilege. This Council content themselves with saying they cannot alter the determination to pay only one half of the cost.

They at present bear *all* the expenses of the large and costly bridges over the Soochow and Hongkew Creeks, as well as those over the Defence Creek within this Settlement, all of which are as much of a necessity to residents on your side as the Yang-king-pang Bridges are, and they consider they are acting very liberally in offering to pay in addition, one-half of these latter.

With regard to the change from the proposed iron bridge to a wooden one, at the Bund, you will agree with me no doubt, that it was quite within the province of this Council to obtain the opinion of the Ratepayers before they suggested the change to the French Council, for had that opinion been in favour of the iron one, there would have been no need to suggest any change. As it is, this Council will have the pleasure of placing before you the reasons that induce them to think a wooden one preferable, but as no definite action was taken, this Council consider they are in a position still to agree to an iron one should it appear, after discussion on the subject with you, desirable; and if in the meantime the bearing the half-cost of the bridges is agreed to by your Council.

(Sd.) J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Mr. F. W. Mitchell, Postmaster-General, Hongkong.—The following correspondence was ordered to be published :—

9th April, 1875.

F. W. Mitchell, Esq.,
Postmaster-General,
Hongkong.

Sir,—Learning from the public papers of Hongkong that you are about to resign the office of Postmaster-General, and to leave that Colony, I take the opportunity of expressing the thanks of this community for the benefits derived from your able administration of the Hongkong Post-Office and its Shanghai branch. It is true the latter is not connected with the affairs of the Municipality, yet as far the largest part of the correspondence which reaches this port comes through it from your head office, I feel sure that this community owes a great deal to your efficient management; and while many in your position might have been content with the ordinary well working of the Department, you have ever appeared anxious to inaugurate plans that would result in greater facilities to the merchants here, for the dispatch and receipt of their correspondence.

Wishing you a pleasant voyage and continued prosperity.

(Sd.) J. G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1875.

Sir,—I do myself the honor to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of the 9th instant No. 75/320, and to beg the favour of your expressing to the Municipal Council my deep sense of gratitude for the honor conferred upon me by that letter, which I highly value.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
F. W. Mitchell,
Postmaster-General.

John G. Purdon, Esq.,
Chairman of the Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Extension of Broadway.—A proposition by Mr. C. E. Kofod, to sell, for the sum of Tls. 500, a portion of his property situated on the other side of the small creek at the East end of the Broadway, so as to permit of that road being carried on in a straight line, was not entertained, the Council being of opinion that the probability of extending the road was very remote.

Reports from Heads of Departments were read and considered.

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and passed for publication.

Amusements.

THE A. D. C. PERFORMANCE.

"Tweedleton's Tail Coat" is a farcical comedietta of the most attenuated character, depending entirely on the degree of comicality that can be thrown by the actors into a complication of coats. Toby Tweedleton (*Mr. Drinkwater*), invited to dine with Mr. Bracebutton a retired tradesman, can only muster for the occasion an extremely seedy old tail coat once belonging to his grandfather, in which he is making his way to the party, when a servant girl who is brushing her master's (Mr. Pantile) coat at an upper window, lets it fall on Toby's head. He seizes the opportunity to effect an exchange, and hands his own old coat to the girl, when she comes out for the one she let fall. But it chances that Mr. Pantile is also going to this party, and Toby is in an agony of apprehension that he will be discovered and denounced. His efforts to get back the coat to its master, and to get hold of his own again without detection, form the plot of the piece, and involve a ludicrous series of exchanges and misunderstandings. Toby Tweedleton is the central figure, and *Mr. Drinkwater* sustained the part with his accustomed humour. He is always *Mr. Drinkwater*, but he is always humourous, and always has the sympathy of the audience. Evelina (*Miss Castor*), as the retired tradesman's daughter, was charming, as she always is, and the final scene in which Bracebutton consents to her marriage with Toby, was enacted by the two with an extravagant comicality that fairly "fetched" the house. *Mr. Montressor* utterly mistook the character of the young farmer desired by Mr. Bracebutton as a husband for his daughter. Blackberry Thistletop is a yokel no doubt,—that is to say, he is not a gentleman farmer, and has nothing in common with a girl like Evelina. But *Mr. Montressor* made him a ploughman with a dash of the buffoon. Indeed it would be difficult to find a ploughman more broad in accent, more extravagantly awkward in gesture. The part was redeemed here and there by a dash of naturalness—as for instance where he leaves in a passion to rejoin the "honest folk" at Thistletop Farm, and concentrates his disgust in the epithet of "haberdasher" which he hurls at Mr. Bracebutton for a farewell. But the part was on the whole, the least successful we have seen *Mr. Montressor* take up. There was, perhaps, a trace of overacting in the sprightly activity of *Mr. Rewerb* as Bracebutton, but it was very slight, and was quite redeemed by the care with which he acted the rest of the part. Kitty Spruce (*Miss Carpenter*) was a very fair maidservant, and Mr. Pantechnicon Pantile was well personated by *Mr. Barkins*. That the piece was not a success, was not the fault of the actors, but of its own innate feebility.

If the sympathy of the audience was not warmly enlisted by the first piece, however, it was carried by storm by the second. Of "Cox and Box," we have only to say that it was excellent, and to congratulate the A. D. C. on one of the greatest successes they have achieved. We remember only one parallel, in their first representation some years ago of the Nigger Minstrels; and we have heard strong wishes expressed for a repetition of the performance in this case, as in the other. The piece is a difficult one in many ways. It requires good singing, careful accompaniment, word-perfectness in part, and a thorough sympathy between the actors. The plot is so well known that it would be absurd to sketch it; suffice it to say that there are only three people in it, and that they had to act at high pressure without an interval, for over an hour. It is not enough, as in ordinary pieces, that they carry on the scene; a lull in "Cox and Box" would be intolerable; it must be kept going; there is no medium between thorough success and utter failure. We have exceptional pleasure in saying, then, that the three Amateurs who acted it on Thursday achieved unqualified success. The dash of burlesque thrown by *Mr. Francis* into a perfect operatic style, was exquisite,—so faint that it left you in doubt whether you did not imagine it, yet sufficient to convince you that the actor saw the humour of his part. *Mr. Giovannelli's* get up as a journeyman printer was perfect—the pallor, the sleepiness, the general seediness of the man's appearance after having been all night setting a leading article, were typified to the life, and his acting throughout was excellent. The part of Sergeant Bouncer was well-conceived and well sustained by *Mr. Will Honeycomb;* and the pianist's important share in the piece was admirably carried out by an amateur to whom Shanghai audiences have been often indebted. The whole of the music, in fact, vocal as well as instrumental, was well executed; and two of the songs were encored with a determination that expressed the delight of the audience, though, we fear, some want of consideration for the effort entailed on the actors. The piece was frequently and loudly applauded throughout, and the curtain fell amidst a storm of applause which was prolonged until, and after, it had been again raised and dropped.

The entertainment should have closed here. It was a quarter past eleven before the second piece was ended, and people would have gone home thoroughly satisfied with the amusement they had enjoyed. The addition of a third piece was an unnecessary effort on the part of the A. D. C.; and a much better Farce than "My Dress Boots" would have failed to revive the enthusiasm which had been exhausted on "Cox and Box." It is to the credit of the actors that they did succeed in interesting an audience somewhat

blasé by what they had already heard. As in the case of Tweedleton's tail coat, the plot is a mere sketch, to be elaborated or marred by the skill of the actors. The chief burden of it again falls on *Mr. Drinkwater* who, as Marmaduke Mivins, sustained the part of a jealous husband and suspicious father with excellent humour. *Mr. Walbro'* as Tamerlik Brown, resisted the temptation to over-burlesque the professional singer, and *Mr. Honeydew*, as Bob, made a very good representation of a combined boots, ostler, and waiter at a country inn—who has been up all night at a ball with the Mivins' maid servant, Jemima Ann. The latter part was again taken by *Miss Carpenter*, with the care to which the same actor accustomed us in "Pangloss;" and we must not pass on without mentioning that the A. D. C. are indebted to her for coming forward at the last moment, to supply the place of a lady who had been previously cast for the part, but who, a week since, was inopportunely removed to Hankow. Not even the character of Mrs. Anastasia Mivins, a somewhat elderly lady with dyed hair, could suppress the charm of *Miss Castor's* acting, and her nervous anxiety lest her husband should discover the fraud which the loss of hair dye threatened to disclose, was well feigned under somewhat difficult circumstances. There can be no question, however, that the part which most took with the audience was not that which the author had intended to be most prominent. The marvellous get-up of *Miss Julia Brussels*, as Celestina Mivins, inspired with a romantic attachment for Mr. Tamerlik Brown, of which the latter was unconscious; the irresistible absurdity of her soliloquies to his photograph, and her general bearing, elicited such laughter that even the actresses were affected, and the piece was more than once threatened with interruption. The laughter was different certainly, but scarcely less hearty than that elicited by the finished comedy of "Cox and Box." The *taille* itself, of a lady supposed to be pining in unrequited affection, tickled the house at the outset, and the actress's keen enjoyment of her rôle kept up the hilarity.—This was announced as Mr. Drinkwater's last appearance on the Shanghai stage, and he was loudly summoned before the curtain at its close, to receive a warm parting greeting from the friends and spectators whom his acting has so often gratified.

Altogether, the spectators dispersed, at 12.15, well pleased with the evening's entertainment, and feeling indebted to the Shanghai Amateurs for the pains taken to amuse them throughout a successful season.

THE TIENTSIN RACES.

Our races, which took place on the 13th, 14th and 15th inst. were a decided success. The weather was all that could be desired and though the heavy state of our course, abrupt turns and heavy weights, prevented *Tien Kwang's* time being excelled, I should gladly see at least one of our cracks meet yours of the South on level terms. The Ladies' Purse was gracefully presented, and responded to with that amount of brevity characteristic of these occasions. The general arrangements reflect great credit on those on whom the duty devolved. In the Trial Stakes, one of your crack Southern Jockies in his endeavors to show us provincials how to finish on the post, cut it a little too fine, and only got a dead heat for his pains.

FIRST DAY, 13TH MAY.

TSZE-CHUH-LIN STAKES.—½ mile, weight for inches.

Mr. Vapereau's *Croquemitaine*, 153-lbs..... 1
,, Frazer's *Polonaise*, 156-lbs. 2
,, Random's *Spark*, 147-lbs..... 3
,, Newman's *Polaris*, 150-lbs. 0

Time, 1m. 2½s.; won easily.

MAIDEN PLATE.—1 mile, weight for inches.

Mr. Random's *Sulky*, 153-lbs..... 1
,, Frazer's *Punch*, 153-lbs..... 2
,, Count d Imecourt's *Cadet Roussel* 156-lbs 3

Time, 2m. 12s.; won easily.

WELTER STAKES.—Once round, weight 12 stone.

Mr. North's *As-you-like-it*..... 1
,, Mongol's *Mischief* 0
,, Sedroc's *Morning Star* 0

Time, 2m. 44s.—The riders of the last two ponies came to grief.

MERCHANT STEAMERS CUP.—1½ mile, winner of Maiden Plate 7-lbs. extra.

Mr. Random's *Sulky*, 161-lbs. 1
Count d'Imecourt's *Belle Rose*, 153-lbs. 2
Mr. Frazer's *Tyro*, 153-lbs..... 3
,, Sebrof's *Bras de fer*, 152-lbs..... 0

Time, 3m. 26s.

PEIHO STAKES.—¾ mile, winners 7-lbs. extra.

Mr. Vapereau's *Croquemitaine*, 160-lbs..... 1
,, Scandinave's *Surprise*, 153-lbs..... 2
,, Newman's *Polaris*, 150-lbs..... 3
,, Random's *Spark*, 147-lbs. 0

Time, 1m. 36s., won easily.

LADIES' PURSE.—1½ mile, winners 1st race, 7-lbs.; 2nd race, 10-lbs.

Mr. Frazer's *Punch*, 153-lbs..... 1
,, ,, *Tyro*, 163-lbs..... 2
,, Hart's *Blackbird*, 150-lbs..... 4

Time, 3m. 26s., close race.

SECOND DAY. 14TH MAY.

PEKING CUP.—1 mile, winner 7-lbs extra.

Mr. Random's *Sulky*, 160-lbs. 1
,, Vapereau's *Croquemitaine*, 160-lbs 2
,, Scandenave's *Surprise*, 153-lbs. 3

Time, 2m. 15s., won easily.

CHALLENGE CUP.—2 miles.

Mr. Frazer's *Punch* walked over; *Sulky* started to make a race but pulled up.

TAOTAI'S CUP.—1¼ miles, winner, 1st race, 7lb.; 2nd race, 10-lbs.

Mr. Random's *Sulky*, 163-lbs. 1
Count d'Imecourt's *Belle Rose*, 156-lbs..... 2
Mr. Hart's *Blackbird*, 150-lbs..... 3
,, Frazer's *Punch*, 160-lbs..... 0

Punch pulled up. Time, 2m. 49s. won easily.

TRIAL STAKES.—1 mile, weight for inches.

Mr. Random's *Sulky*, 153-lbs..... 1
,, Vapereau's *Croquemitaine*, 153-lbs..... 1
,, Frazer's *Polonais*, 156-lbs..... 3

Dead heat; owners divided. Time, 2m. 11½s.

CONSOLATION STAKES.—1¼ mile.

Count d'Imecourt's *Belle Rose*, 156-lbs..... 1
Mr. Hart's *Blackbird*, 150-lbs..... 2
,, Frazer's *Tyro*, 153-lbs..... 3
,, Newman's *Polaris*, 150-lbs. 0
,, Sedroc's *Morning Star*, 153-lbs..... 3

Time, 2m 49s.

THIRD DAY, 15TH MAY.

VISITORS' CUP.—1¼ mile, winner, 1st race, 7lb.; 2nd race, 10-lbs.

Count d' Imecourt's *Belle Rose*, 160-lbs..... 1
Mr. Frazer's *Punch*, 163-lbs..... 2
,, Hart's *Blackbird*, 150-lbs..... 3
,, Frazer's *Tyro*, 153-lbs. 0

Time, 2m. 47s.

The meeting was wound up with the usual mafoo and sailors' races.

RESIDENT.

Correspondence.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—"Kissing goes by favour;" and so I presume does proxy-voting at Ratepayers' meetings, for otherwise it would be difficult to explain the peculiarities of many of the divisions which occasionally take place. Proxy-votes are something like the little pigs which ran about the streets in the olden time, crying "who'll eat me? who'll eat me?" for the great majority of those who are willing to part with their personal right of voting are equally indifferent as to whom they will grant the right to represent them. Municipal government in fact does not much interest the general public, but this is in a great measure to be attributed to the fact that, for the last few years, municipal government has been reduced to a sort of humdrum affair, overshadowed on the one side by the encroachments of the Chinese, and on the other by the immunity of foreign officials. In fact, in the want of interest in the well being of the Settlement, evidenced by the nature of the late undertakings of successive Municipal Councils, and by the apparent apathy of the great body of ratepayers, we see but the reflection of what is taking place elsewhere in China—the dying out of enterprise, and the apparent extinction of that superiority of practical ability which used, till a few years ago, to distinguish the Western from his worn out brother in the Far East. The political revolutions of the last fifty years were, for the most part, an unwholesome development of this spirit of energy, and they have unfortunately produced for their effect such a reduction to a dead uniformity of the whole body politic, that the energy itself which led to them seems to be rapidly dying out under their influence.

The dread of responsibility is one of the strongest and strangest signs of the new reign of mediocrity, and it is curious to remark its influence extending from the highest, through intermediate, to the very lowest ranks. To judge from recent remarks, the dread of responsibility sits as heavily on the head of a modern Municipal Councillor as it does on that of a Minister himself; one and all shiver and come under the vague shadow which they are unable to define, but which sits brooding over their actions like the sphinx over the doomed city. Municipal government, to judge from recent reports, seems to confine itself mainly to the relation of petty squabbles between Council and Council, or between Council and Ratepayers, while the great aim of Municipal government, the wellbeing and good order of the Settlements, and the formation of a solid nucleus of civilising vigour and energy, seems to have entirely and utterly dropt out of mind.

The code of revised Land Regulations submitted by the Committee appointed for the purpose, is not a production of which any one concerned in its composition need be proud. Even looked at as a bare series of instructions for the subsequent formation of a code, it is weak and unsatisfactory. The old code seemed to have erred through a deficient knowledge of the English language; if this have escaped the charge, it has only done so by the substitution of utter weakness for incomprehensibility. Still, though, to judge from their report, the members of the Committee are by no means proud of their bantling, they seem to have had some hope that the very vagueness of the formulæ might have afforded some play for the exercise of discretion to a fairly energetic Council. The remarks of the latter, circulated at the meeting of Tuesday last, show how little hope there is for such an event. Feeble as are the proposed Regulations—and we may say that the force of feebleness could scarcely further go—the remarks of the Council were of a feebler nature still. The Committee, indeed, in its report, seems to have been in favour of a more definite and decisive code, but, with the prevailing dread of reponsibility, to have finally decided on submitting the draft now presented to the Ratepayers, in the hope that they or the Council, influenced by a tittle more energy of spirit, would supply the *vis* so sadly needed. If this were their hope with regard to the Council, they

have probably already seen their mistake. It was hoped that the election of the Councillors by the residents would lead to the choice of energetic men, as opposed to the nominees of absent property-holders. The result has been in strange contradiction to such hopes. As a rule, the members of the Council, under the new Regulations, have been men against whom no objection could be offered. Still we miss the energy which sometimes used to mark the conduct of the Council in the old days, and I am sorry to have to add that the same want of energy seems to attach itself to the debates at the Annual Meetings. Misdirected energy is sometimes better than stagnation, but I fear that at the present time the latter is in the ascendency.

Yours truly,
CITIZEN.

DOLES FROM THE SOUTH.

The man who invented writing took upon himself a rather serious responsibility—fancy what a "pair o' dise" (as our Scotch friends say) this world would be without butchers' bills, billetdoux, I.O.U.'s and effusions such as this—to disturb the happiness of its inhabitants. Yet the "fourth estate" is not without a certain amount of appropriateness and usefulness. When Mr. Hart's predictions have been fulfilled, and a Loochoo Islander, enacting towards Shanghai the rôle that Lord Macaulay has chalked out for his prospective New Zealander—sits on the parapet of Hongkew Bridge, and with a countenance marked with melancholy and marred with betel-nut, meditates over the ruins of palatial Hongs, and the dried-up bed of a once noble river—the Historian of the future will turn to the *North-China Daily News*, filed in the British Museum, and learn what manner of men lived on the banks of the Whangpoo. Continuing his research, he will turn to Mr. Maclean's Circular, also filed at the B. M., and therein find, in language worthy of an Iliad, a record of mercantile transactions from which it will not be difficult to make the deduction that merchants in China in those days bought and sold, but they didn't make gain.

The *Foochow Herald*, a promising literary bantling, not yet quite free from the diseases incidental to infancy, has lately given its readers a treatise on the Tea Trade, replete with a good many aphorisms that were much in vogue in the "Lane" about twenty years ago, when many of us old hands now in China were youthful jobbers—filled with ignorance and arrogance, and quite confident in our own powers of putting things straight in China. —*Veni, vidi*, but didn't *vici*; and the trade has continued, with few exceptions, pretty well ever since in that chronic state of muddle in which it seems to have pleased Providence to place it. The Press is quite right to lift its voice in warning, but the effect produced upon that spirited body of men called ch'a szes (we are indebted to the *Celestial Empire* for this improved orthography) will probably be analogous to pouring water over a duck's back. If the angel Gabriel interested himself in the Tea Trade, and thought proper to blow a blast of warning from his trumpet, he would probably be told irreverently that "tooting his horn" was a mere waste of breath.

The same journal cavils over the recent appointment to the Managership in London, of a local Bank, and, writing perhaps with inspiration, suggests that the selection might have fallen upon one of the Bank's own staff, in which are many men of "well-known ability and experience." Just so; and may be some inquisitive shareholders would like to know whether the "ability and experience, have, during the past year or two, been on "fixed deposit" or only "absent without leave."

The Earl of Carnarvon has been poking fun at us residents in the South. It is all very well for the Foreign Office to make light of public meetings and petitions, and otherwise indulge in official jokelets (they never allow fun to reach maturity in the Foreign Office); but when the head of the department makes game of our wealth, the matter becomes serious. He ought to remember his latin grammar, which taught him, or at least ought to have done, to "*De mortuis nil nisi bonum.*"

PESSIMIST.

Miscellaneous.

THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES MAIL PACKET "DJEMNAH" (ANGLICE "JUMNA.")

As this magnificent new steamer now in our port on her first voyage, is undoubtedly the finest vessel which has yet visited China, a few notes on her admirable proportions, qualities and arrangements will interest our readers.

The *Djemnah* was constructed at Ciotat between Marseilles and Toulon, 4 or 5 months since, at the establishment of the Messageries Maritimes, at whose works the engines were also built and fitted. The hull, which in form resembles those of the *Irouaddy* and *Anadyr*, is scarcely capable of being improved, as it combines most happily the required qualities of stability, speed, capacity, manageableness and easy motion. To a naval architect, the model is beautiful, the entrance and run hollow and sufficiently, but not too much, prolonged. There is a long floor with an easy rise to give the ship weatherly qualities under steam or sail alone. Indeed, if the machine should become disabled, the vessel could disconnect her screw and complete her voyage expeditiously under canvas alone. We are sorry to say very few steamers which now come to China possess this quality so necessary for safety, and we fear that some day we may hear of dreadful disaster in consequence of the helplessness of vessels when their steam power cannot be applied. As is the case with all the Messageries fleet, the *Djemnah's* hull is built of fine fibrous, well-tempered iron which has a tensile and tranverse strength of about 20 or 25 per cent. greater than that of the material put into most of the vessels now built in North England by the gross. The *Djemnah* has 3 iron decks and enormous longitudinal and diagonal strengthening about one-fifth in excess of the requirement of Lloyds rules for a ship of her size and class. If the ship is kept in good order and regularly painted, there is no reason why the hull should not sustain the wear and tear of 100 years. It is difficult to estimates the endurance of a ship of such admirable material and construction.

The engine is compounded with 1 high-pressure and 2 expansion vertical cylinders and a 3-throw crank. The principle is that of Dupuy de Lome, and is a perfect example of symmetry, simplicity, and strength. The high-pressure steam is cut off in the central cylinder at ¼ of the stroke, and afterwards expanded in 2 cylinders in which the steam is carried to the end of the stroke at about 10 to 11 lbs. pressure, and then passed into the surface condensers which are very large to afford condensing power even in the hot waters of China. There are 3 cylindrical boilers which give an abundant supply of steam at 80 pounds pressure, with an economy of fuel consumption hitherto unknown, for with an expenditure of 28 tons Welsh coal or patent fuel the screw is turned 62 times a minute, by a horse-power of 2,500 effective. The coal consumption of 1 lb. 2 oz. per horse-power effective, has we think never before been equalled in economy; even Holt's steamers, which are the most successful of their class, consume at least 1½ pounds coal per horse-power indicated. The *Djemnah* engine works very easily, and at full speed there is scarcely any noticeable vibration. The stroke is 1.1/10 metre. The screw is a Hirsch 4-bladed of about 7 metres pitch. The vessel was guaranteed to have 14 knots speed loaded with 70 revolutions of the screw, but her performance has exceeded the guarantee. On one occasion during her voyage, she ran 25 miles in 1 hour 35 minutes, without help of sail, and in general terms may be depended on to run with ease 300 knots daily average.

A few details may be interesting. The measurements are in metres of 3 feet 3⅓ inch.

Length	124.90	metres.
Breadth	12.07	,,
Depth	10.00	,,
Draft average	6.20	,,
Decks	3	
Displacement loaded	5,410	tons.
Capacity—cargo	3,500	,,
Coal	510	,,
Stores 4 months for 400 people.		
Screw 4-bladed	4.80	diametre.
Cabins, 45 first-class for 107 passengers.		
,, 10 second do.	45	,,
third do.	36	,,

She has 60 European sailors and officers, 15 engineers and machine staff, 28 stewards and cooks, and a full complement of Asiatic stokers, boatswain and deck hands.

The interior fittings of the saloon are of maple and mahogany, and each cabin has a large gunport fitted with venetian blinds. The fittings of the cabins, bedding &c., are simple but most comfortable, and suitable for hot climates. The bath rooms, 6 in number, are fitted with large marble tanks, and the lavatory and other accommodation is the best we have ever seen. All the saloon arrangements also admirable. On deck there is a large kitchen, in which a banquet for 200 guests could be prepared easily. The upper-deck is of teak, and all the deck fittings are of varnished teak and wrought iron. The vessel is well fitted with fire engines, boats and arms, and is in short the *ne plus ultra* of safety, comfort, speed and seaworthiness.

She has three wooden lower masts, with iron tubular yards. The fore and main lower yards are 26 metres long; double top-sails are fitted, and the ship has a great spread of canvas.

This magnificent ship is commanded by Capt. Flambeau, an experienced officer of the French Navy, assisted by a full staff of excellent officers.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, June 3rd.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge, sitting in Admiralty.*

THE STEAMER *Fusing v.* THE STEAMER *Ocean. Collision.*

Mr. DRUMMOND and Mr. EAMES appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT (solicitor for Peter Denny, of Dumbarton, Scotland, the owner of the *Ocean*) and Mr. HANNEN, for the defendants.

This was an application on the part of the *Fusing* to amend the petition in the late trial, in order that the decree pronounced by the Court might be similarly amended. The decree ran as follows:—"Upon the hearing of this cause of damage, this Court finds that both the defendant's steamship *Ocean* and the plaintiff's steamship *Fusing* were to blame; and it is this day ordered and decreed that the damages and losses sustained respectively, be added together, and that one-half thereof be borne by each of the said steamships; and that it be referred to the Registrar and Merchants to ascertain and report to the Court the amount of the said damage, the question of costs to be disposed of at the final hearing."

Mr. DRUMMOND said he had to ask his Lordship to amend the petition and the antecedent details of the cause by the insertion certain words, and then to settle the decree in the form in which he had drafted it and submitted it to the Court. The words he asked to be inserted were, "and of the master and crew thereof, and the passengers thereon (or, on board of), for their money, clothes, and private effects." Those words were copied from the Appendix to "Williams and Bruce," p. 104.

Mr. HANNEN said there was nothing there about passengers.

His LORDSHIP asked if the words read by Mr. Drummond had reference to a case of collision?

Mr. DRUMMOND said yes; and the present application was made because the decree as it stood could only be made to apply with regard to those who were parties to the suit. Therefore, if those words were not added, the master, crew, and passengers would be left out entirely.

His LORDSHIP asked if Mr. Hannen could not now make the amendment he had previously suggested. It was very questionable as to whether the persons alluded to in the present application could recover, and he would like to hear it argued. If the authorities were in favour of the application, he could amend his judgment. What he would suggest was, that the pleadings should be amended, which could be done by consent.

Mr. HANNEN thought that course was not absolutely necessary. He could show his Lordship authority for the decree that was given, with very little alteration, in the case of the *Seringapatam*.

Mr. DRUMMOND said there were authorities on the other side, equally strong.

Mr. HANNEN said he thought not. He had looked for some, but could not find any. As for the *Ocean*, they on their side really wanted nothing, and there was therefore no reason why they should consent. He thought they could arrive at an arrangement to allow the plaintiffs to amend their petition in the way they had stated, if they would pay the costs of the day, and upon the understanding that, on the part of the defendant, the application to vary the decree by inserting words to cover the claims of passengers, officers, and crew was not agreed to. Then that question could come on for argument

His LORDSHIP said that what he intended in his previous observations, was that the pleadings should be amended; and then the question would be whether he intended in his judgment to give the master, crew, and passengers their damages. He would like to hear this point argued. It would be better, if the case was going before the Privy Council, that the point should be argued—the question being—Did the Court mean to include in the damages, the effects of the master, crew, and passengers of the *Fusing*? Counsel could then give the Court authorities on the point. Perhaps it would be better, before proceeding further, if Counsel held a consultation, with the view of coming to some understanding as to the amendment to be made in the pleadings.

This suggestion was adopted, and the Court adjourned.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, May 28th.

Before C. F. R. ALLEN, Esq., *Acting Magistrate.*

R. *v.* MATTHEW JORDAN.

Attempted Suicide.

The defendant, who had been remanded from Wednesday, on a charge of attempted suicide, the particulars of which have already appeared, was again brought up.

Chief Constable Tyler said that the opinion of the medical officer was that the prisoner was perfectly sane.

Defendant informed the Court, that from May 5 he had been drinking heavily; and that on May 26 he and two other men drank about five bottles of Hollands.

His WORSHIP cautioned the prisoner, and allowed him to depart.

June 1st.

R. *v.* JOHN KENNEY.

Defendant is a sailor-boy, belonging to the *Fire Queen*, and had leave to come ashore on Monday. P.C. Boysen saw him the same day, in Hongkew Village, very drunk, and followed him to a steep landing place, formed with planks, down which he slipped and was nearly falling into the water. The constable then took him to the Police Station, and locked him up for safety.

His WORSHIP said defendant was very young to take to drinking, and would come to no good as a sailor if he persisted in it. He would be discharged this time with the caution that if he was brought up again, he would be punished. His Worship also told Boysen to see that the lad went on board his ship.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, June 1st.

Before the Chinese Magistrate, CHEN, and Dr. YATES, U. S. Assessor.

Stealing a Jinriksha.

A native thief, well-known, was charged with stealing a jinriksha, the property of Captain Burr, of Hongkew. The vehicle was kept under a verandah at the house of the prosecutor, and about twelve p.m. on Monday night the prisoner was detected by a native Municipal constable in the act of wheeling it away. In his haste to get it off the premises, he had broken down a gate and some palings. —Chen sentenced him to 100 blows with the bamboo, and a month's cangue.

Robbery from the Person.

A jinriksha coolie, who had been apprehended by the French, and handed over to the English police, was charged with stealing a watch and appendages from the person of a foreigner. The prosecutor did not appear, but it was stated that, on Monday night, being intoxicated, he got into the prisoner's vehicle, but did not know where he was taken. Yesterday morning he found himself still in the vehicle, in the neighbourhood of the Ningpo joss-house, the prisoner being near him. His watch and chain, worth $130, were missing. Prisoner was remanded until Thursday, for the production of evidence.

Larceny.

A coolie was charged with stealing a decanter from the Temperance Hall, on Monday morning. The article was taken from among a number of other things deposited for safety by a former boarder at the Hall, and on being asked why he took it, prisoner said there were more there, and he thought he might take one to put his samshu in. Sentenced to three days' imprisonment.

Charge of Embezzlement.

A shroff, in the employ of a foreigner in Hongkew, stands charged with the above offence. Some days ago, he was sent out to collect accounts, and at one place received Tls. 600. Of this sum he accounted to his master for only Tls. 500. The fact that he had received the full amount came out in a conversation the person had with the prosecutor a day or two afterwards. The prisoner, who was present, made some excuse, and immediately handed over the missing Tls. 100. In the meantime, it was found that the Compradore had absconded, and a hasty investigation of his account showed a deficiency of Tls. 200 or Tls. 300. The case was not further proceeded with to-day, prisoner being remanded.

June 3rd.

Charge of Forgery.

Two Chinese were charged with forging and attempting to pass an order for Tls. 300, on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Sufficient evidence was taken to justify the detention of the accused, and they were remanded for a fortnight, to enable further enquiry to be made.

NAVAL COURT.

Hongkong, 17th May.

Before C. MAY, First Police Magistrate; H. G. THOMSETT, R.N., Harbor Master, &c.; H. L. DALRYMPLE, Un-Official Justice of the Peace; R. H. CAIRNS, Government Marine Surveyor; N. W. HASELWOOD, Commanding P. & O. Steamship *Gwalior*.

The following is the Report of the Marine Court of Inquiry into the grounding of the British steamer *Viking*.

1.—We find, that the British steamer *Viking*, Official Number 71,662, of Glasgow, 1,685 tons register, while on a voyage from Glasgow and London to Hongkong with about 3,000 tons of cargo on board, grounded at 2.30 a.m. of the 14th April, 1875, on the East side of the Bombay Shoal in the Paracels Group, China Sea, remaining there about 57 hours; when, after jettisoning about 500 tons of cargo the vessel floated off the Shoal, and proceeded on her voyage, arriving at Hongkong on the 18th ultimo, with but a small portion of the remaining cargo damaged.

2.—We find, that shaping a course to pass 20 miles Eastward of the Paracels Group was an error of judgment.

3.—We find, that the evidence shews the Captain left the deck at about 10 p.m. of the 13th, the Chief Officer being at that time Officer of the Watch. There is conflicting evidence as to perfect clearness of the horizon during the night of the 13th, but it is certain that no attempt was made to get a star observation, nor was any reference made to the subject when the master and first mate consulted the chart between the hours of 9 and 10 p.m. The Court are of opinion that an effort should have been made to correct the uncertain position of the ship.

4.—We find, that the master, officers and crew behaved in a seamanlike and energetic manner to get the ship afloat, and the Court express their approval of their conduct after the vessel had grounded.

After a due consideration of the circumstances, the Court hereby adjudge that the certificate of competency of Robert Tannock, Number 19,481, be suspended for *Three Months* from this date.

Extracts.

PRESSURE PUT UPON CHINESE IN HONGKONG.

(China Mail.)

A correspondent draws attention to a state of affairs regarding Chinese residents in this Colony which demands the most careful attention on the part of the Government. It appears to be an indisputable fact that the so-called immunity guaranteed to Chinese witnessess in the Hongkong courts is practically a myth. Although the native authorities cannot possibly get hold of an individual residing in this port, they can put in force the pressure so graphically described by our correspondent with immense and often successful effect. The witness himself may indeed remain in personal safety. But his property on the mainland may be seized, his wife, parents, children and relatives imprisoned, tortured, or even killed, and he himself reduced to the verge of beggary. The sole offence for which he suffers is that he has given adverse evidence against some Chinese rascal whose relations have sufficient money and influence to set all the infernal machinery of Chinese procedure in force. Under such circumstances, it is not to be wondered at that testimony such as can be relied upon is difficult to get. The only wonder is that adverse testimony is ever to be got at all in cases where the criminal has the slightest influence or position.—And the natural question suggests itself, How is this to be stopped?

The difficulties in the way are, we know, great, and though we have the utmost confidence in the desire entertained by the Colonial Government to deal effectively with the question, must confess that it has no light task before it. Nothing contained in the Treaty will touch the point. Of course the *ostensible* cause of persecuting a family is never stated to be the evidence given by one of its members in a Hongkong court. Some trifling charge is invariably trumped up, and, despite the most absolute moral certainty that the whole affair is a scandalous outrage, it is almost impossible to prove that the mandarins have not acted upon the most sufficient information. Such questions are in fact gordian-knots which we much fear can only be treated in the same way as that historical puzzle. They must be dealt with by main force, and discretionary power to that effect must be vested in the British official appointed to settle them. In the present case it is of course possible that the Viceroy has given, or will give, orders that the persecution in

question shall be stopped. But if such be not the case, whatever the excuse given, there will, to our view, remain but one course to pursue —*i.e.*, for Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, or the Chief Naval authority here, to dispatch a gunboat to the neighbourhood in which the sufferers reside, with instructions to her commander to release them from the pressure put upon them, and exact heavy security from the elders of the neighbourhood for their remaining in future unmolested. It is all very well to say that this would be making war on China. It would be making war anywhere else, but to say that this reasoning applies out here, is to talk unmitigated rubbish. Residents of a few years back will recollect that British subjects, under the sanction of our own Government, were actually collecting dues on behalf of the Chinese when our troops were marching on Peking! Surely, in a country when such a state of affairs was not long since possible, it is no great anomaly to send a gunboat to enforce our views on a district magistrate while maintaining friendly relations with the Central Government.

The case which has given rise to these remarks—that of the Compradore of the Hongkong Club, whose relatives are being imprisoned at the instigation of the friends of the notorious scoundrel Lee Lum-kwai,—is one of the highest importance to every Chinese resident in this Colony, and the whole of the native community is awaiting the result with the most anxious attention. A failure to secure its just settlement will have the most injurious effect upon the administration of justice in Hongkong, as witnesses possessing families or property in the mainland will in future refrain from placing them or it in jeopardy by adverse evidence against powerful criminals. The greater the rascality of the man charged, the greater will be the difficulty in proving it through native evidence. On the other hand, success not merely in obtaining release of the compradore's friends, but in also obtaining the punishment of their accusers, will mark a new era of Chinese life in Hongkong. Such persecutions as that we record are of constant occurrence on the mainland, but are seldom heard of, for two reasons. Firstly, the victims here are, as a rule, afraid to complain; and secondly, few Chinese are known to so many foreigners as the Club Compradore. An unusual deal of foreign interest has consequently been felt in this case owing to accidental circumstances. We can only express a hope that it will bring forth good fruits, and we are glad to know that, if it does not, it will not be from want of effort on the part of the Colonial authorities.—*China Mail.*

AFFAIRS IN BURMAH.

(Our Chronicle.)

At length the dull monotony of our existence at Thayetmyo is broken, and all of a moment we find ourselves in the midst of stirring events. In our last issue we recorded the return of Colonel Horace Browne's mission, and as much of the circumstances connected with it as we could pick up from what was narrated to us by those who took part in it. Since then Lieut. Adamson paid us a visit when on his way to Mandalay with a despatch to the King of Burmah, from the Governor General of India, announcing that Sir Douglas Forsyth would shortly visit him to arrange a boundary question which had been in abeyance for some time. This question had more especial reference to a mountainous district to the east of Burmah, inhabited by an independent tribe known by the name of Karennes, whose country has been already described at some length in *Our Chronicle.* It appears the Burmese lay claim to the district, and have been lately making inroads into it. The Chief, who has been always on terms of friendship with us, and has given facilities for obtaining the supplies required by our troops at the frontier station of Tonghoo, which adjoins the district, insists upon his independence and looks to us for protection; he has even offered us his territory. If Karenne was an undisputed portion of Burmah proper, the line which we chose to separate British from native Burmah, would run through a portion of it. We maintain that having brought our line to Karenne, it should be deflected so as to admit its partial or complete independence. Our view of the question does not appear to be at all palatable to His Majesty, who appears to be disposed not to yield an inch of what he claims to be his own, and in whom the hope of recovering the lost portion of his dominions has never been absent from his mind, and who shows by passing events that he is disposed to defend his rights to the utmost. Every steamer from Mandalay brings us news that the King is making war preparations on a large scale. Forts were being built here and there along the course of the river Irrawaddy, to dispute the passage. His steamers, of which he has several, were being strengthened and armed with guns for active service. A high hill overlooking Mandalay was being made a sort of Gibraltar of. Everyone thought of the coming war, and spoke of it openly. The Burmese said the King was too good to fight, and when asked why all these preparations for war?—said it was on account of a prince who had rebelled. In Rangoon the excitement was, by all accounts, very great. Trade was at a stand-still. The up country steamers returned with the same cargoes, and others passed up the river, almost empty, to bring back the merchandize they brought up shortly before. On one of these empty steamers there were six Italians, who made no disguise of their military calling, and of their intention to take service under the King.

As time passed on, every one, anxious to hear the news, visited the steamers as they touched at Thayetmyo on their way down the river. They all reported the continuance of the work at the forts, on some of which there were large numbers of people employed. One fort was being built close to the frontier at Minlah. Then there was a rumour of Captain Cook, our political resident at Bhamo, being besieged by an armed force of Burmans in the Residency, along with about one hundred Panthays who had reached the place and sought his protection.

After an absence of a fortnight, Lieutenant Adamson returned to Thayetmyo on his way back to Rangoon. He was received with much outward civility and politeness by the King, who said that he hoped there would not be any war. Altogether, if our worst surmises come true, the King must be a strange compound of amiability and villainy, and he may be under the impression that these two opposites are necessary to hold his own under the peculiar circumstances of his position, or he may be tempted to practice both in a bare-faced manner under the conviction that he possesses consummate skill in making the one combine with the other with impunity; but just as the ordinary cunning trickery of the Burmese character is of the flimsiest kind and easily detected, this double dealing must eventually lead to his ruin.

Then came the news that Sir Douglas Forsyth had deferred his visit to Burmah, and had gone with Colonel H. Browne, who had just arrived at Calcutta, to visit the Governor General at Simla.

The rumour of Captain Cook and the Panthays being besieged in the Residency at Bhamo turned out to be quite true. A few days ago a steamer arrived with the Resident and the Panthays, among whom was the former governor of Momein, Ta Se Kon, and his two sons, who, with his followers, lived among some friendly Kachyeens, since their overthrow in Yunnan. These people, who would have received no mercy from the Chinese on the one hand, nor from the Burmese on the other, appear to have made rather a hazardous venture to reach the Residency. They disguised themselves as Shans, and were nearly detected at Bhamo, on passing a Burman guard, who minutely overhauled them, but it being quite dark—2 o'clock in the morning—they escaped detection. When it came to the knowledge of the Burman Governor of Bhamo, he demanded them from the Resident, who refused to give them up. The Residency, which stands in a large compound or enclosure, was then surrounded by a number of armed Burmans, who for some time showed a disposition to make an attack, and kept every one in the Residency on the alert. To add to the strength of the defence, the arms which had been taken from the Panthays on their entrance into the Residency were given back to them. When the reports reached Mandalay, the King sent a steamer with a number of armed men and some guns to Bhamo, and two days later he gave a mandate authorizing the safe removal of the Resident and Panthays. It was fortunate that a fast steamer, the *Fytche*, was available at Mandalay. Her commander, Capt. Paterson, put on all speed and reached Bhamo before the King's steamer. There was no time lost in getting all on board and steaming down the river again. By all accounts it must have been a welcome sound to those in the Residency when the whistle of the steamer was first heard, as their patience was nearly exhausted, and to add to their anxiety there was a report that a Chinese force, who were despatched to take the Panthays, were marching on Bhamo, and were only thirty hours distant. Thus possibly a second tragic episode was happily averted.

ANOTHER BANK ROBBERY IN YOKOHAMA.

(Japan Daily Herald.)

Scarcely has the excitement caused by the late embezzlement at the Comptoir subsided, when it has become known that another bank robbery has taken place, of which the Deutsche Bank is the victim. Up to the 3rd instant, it was believed that the cash corresponded with the cash account. Periodical examinations have from time to time been made, and the coin and notes shroffed. Next morning, however, the compradore King Yao calmly announced to the astonished accountant that he had taken at various times *satsu* and gold *yen* to the extent of 28,000 *yen*. He was at once given into the custody of the Japanese authorities, and awaits examination. An immediate re-examination of the cash and notes was made, which occupied the entire morning, when it was manifested that in some of the packets supposed to contain gold *yen*, copper coins had been substituted, and packets and part packets of *satsu* had been abstracted from the bags containing them. The amount of the ascertained defalcation corresponded with the compradore's statement. It is supposed that some of the Chinese shroffs in the employment of the bank may have been the confederates of the compradore, but of this nothing certain is known. The culprit says that he has lost the money in speculations. Why he should have voluntarily confessed to the robbery is a mystery, as he might have probably gone on for some time longer without being found out.

On the following day, the whole of the six Chinese shroffs at the Deutsche Bank were given into custody, on the suspicion of their having been in collusion with the compradore. One fact has been ascertained since the discovery of the robbery, which places matters in a rather alarming light. It appears that nearly the entire Chinese community—certainly a large and responsible portion of it—and presumably the Chinese Guild, knew that King Yao was a convicted felon, yet not one word of warning was given to any one, and he was recommended to Mr. Mammelsdorff by two of the most trusted compradores in the place. The defaulting compradore was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Birley & Co., of Hongkong, and it was from them that he committed the robbery which resulted in his condemnation to a term of imprisonment at that place.

In a subsequent leader, the *Herald*, commenting on this robbery and also on that by Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co.'s compradore (which will be found noticed in another column) say:—"The occurrences of the past few days have given a shock to the confidence hitherto reposed in the compradores in foreign employment; and persons, taking the alarm, are considering whether they had not better endeavour to dispense with such dangerous servants as these, of whose antecedents and character little or nothing can ever be learnt. The members of the Chinese Guild will discover bye-and-bye how very short-sighted their policy has been in tacitly winking at rascals getting into positions of trust, without the Guild putting foreign employers on their guard. At the present time general distrust prevails, and in order that a few scamps may find employment, the whole Chinese community is made to suffer."

The *Gazette* says it appears that King Yao has already served a term of fifteen years in Hongkong, for the embezzlement of no less a sum than $60,000 from a leading firm there, and that immediately on his release he came to Yokohama. How, under such circumstances, he succeeded in obtaining so responsible a position here seems, on the face of it, strange indeed. We believe he has a son employed as compradore in the French Bank,

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 4TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From London, the steamships *Rajanattiannuhar*, *Tartar*, *Tchihatchoff*, *Glenlyon*, *Cheviot* and *Viking*.

TELEGRAM.—No change in the quotations of last week.

PIECE GOODS.—The disposition on the part of the natives to remain idle this week has been very strong, seldom stronger. Rainy weather and "settling day" have been the sedatives. But the auctions have been powerfully instrumental in compelling the traders to do business, and, strange to say, for once, they have neither resented the occasion, nor taken any serious advantage of their friends—the auctioneers. Everything offered—*Long Ells* and *Spanish Stripes*, C.P.H. Scarlet, excepted—brought the prices of 27th ultimo, but *Long Ells* realised a handsome decline, and *Spanish Stripes* are reported to have dropped 2 *a* 3 cands. per yard from the value current in the native market on last mail day.

From this general maintenance of former quotations, private sellers are gleaning encouragement and hope. In their opinion it proves a bare market, and the expectation of a better business when the causes of the prevailing quiet shall have been removed—and, indeed, there are signs of improvement already apparent. At the close there is more enquiry for common 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings*, for *Drills*, of which recent sales and re-sales amount to 8,000 pieces, and some of them at better prices, for 7 and 6-lb. ordinary Mexican *T-Cloths*, for English *Sheetings*, for *Chintzes*, and *Turkey Reds* of the lightest weight, for *Velveteens*, *Crapes*, and for 9¾ *a* 10-lb. *Grey Shirtings*, and in each article progress has been made. It is true that *heavy Shirtings* have again receded, but this is perhaps owing to so many rejections for *Mildew* ex late arrivals. Nearly 8,000 pieces of Dewhurst's Eagle in a mildewed state have been put on the market, and resold at rates ranging between Tls. 2.55 *a* 2.60 per piece, which is not so very serious under the circumstances. Sound Goods—Eagle—were parted with early in the week at Tls. 2.70, and for a more ordinary make the dealers, only yesterday, paid Tls. 2.55 *a* 2.57½ per piece. Moreover, buyers are not unwilling to go on moderately at about these latter figures, which argues fairly well for the immediate future. Regarding the other weights of this article, the sales of the week (exclusive of those effected at auction, and which will be found in their usual place) comprise 2,500 pieces 7-lb. Eagles, mildewed, at Tls. 1.50; and 3,000 ordinary at Tls. 1.42 *a* 1.48 per piece; 7,500 pieces 8¼-lbs. Common to Good at Tls. 1.62½ *a* 1.80 per piece; and about the same quantity damaged ex *Ulysses* at Tls. 1.60½ *a* 1.78 per piece; and 7,500 pieces, heavies—sound, at Tls. 2.55 *a* 2.70 per piece.

White Shirtings.—Sales of sound—4,000 pieces of fair to good 64 reeds at Tls. 1.90 *a* 2.00 per piece, and 1,000 damages at Tls. 1.90 *a* 1.91 per piece.

T-Cloths.—A rumoured transaction—7,000 pieces—in Dewhurst's T., to arrive, at Tls. 1.16, has rather shaken confidence, but the cloth is wanted for immediate clearance, while there is scarcely any here. 7-lbs. common Mexicans asked for at Tls. 1.40. Moderate sales at Tls. 1.41 per piece against Tls. 1.42½ per piece three weeks ago. The lower counts are saleable at Tls. 1.28 *a* 1.30 per piece. 8-lbs. special chops still realise fair rates. There has been business at Tls. 1.66 *a* 1.68, and a cloth—at present out of stock—that sold at Tls. 1.72½ during the excitement, is worth to-day Tls. 1.70 per piece.

Drills.—14-lb. English and Dutch continue in request, and 15-lbs. are likewise improving in this respect. The SZECHUEN dealers are the chief buyers, and latterly stocks have been diminished by the exports to Hankow on their account. M.M.D. sea-damaged Drills—(American) have realised at auction Tls. 3.24 *a* 3.26 per piece.

Jeans.—No. business excepting a few pieces damaged ex *Ulysses* at low prices. To-day, 500 pieces of good have found a merchant at Tls. 1.88 per piece.

Sheetings.—Neither has there been anything reported in these, beyond damages. English goods are, however, asked for and the market will probably re-open at or over last quotations. There are few on hand.

Fancy Cottons.—Light *Turkey Reds*, *Cotton Lastings*, and whatever has been going cheap, have found a little favor in the eyes of the Japanese buyers. But that market is evidently in a very bad way and won't stand anything expensive, although—oddly enough—*Muslins* had to be brought over here from Hiogo, raised in value, and then returned to that port for final disposal. YOKOHAMA wants low priced assorted *Chintzes;* and some damaged *blue Chintzes*, and *blue printed T-Cloths* have found their way into Maloo shops to be retailed at Tls. 1.34 and Tls. 2.60 per piece, these rates to cover the local tax, in regard to which and with a view to its abolition, and to the abolition of all local native taxation on foreign merchandise, our Chamber of Commerce has issued a circular to the members soliciting authentic information, so as—presumably—to establish a case for the consideration of the Treaty Consuls. That there is a heavy local taxation and an unjust, most people freely allow. Yet, the matter of substantiation is one attended with great difficulty, inasmuch as scarcely a native dealer will be got to give evidence in its favor, and the probability is that if called upon officially—or if they suspect official interference even, they will—in a body—deny the existence of the evil, or will say that it does not in any way hurt them. It is needless to give the reason here.

Woollens.—Scarcely anything has transpired beyond what has been sold at the Auctions. The results of these tell their own tale. They are as follows :—

		1st June.		*3rd June.*
Camlets—C.P.H. Scarlet	400 pcs.	at Tls. 13.45 *a* 13.50	per pce...	400 pcs. S.S.G., asstd., av., Tls. 13.05 p. pce.
Spanish Stripes—C.P.H. Scarlet	240 ,,	,, 0.56½ *a* 0.56¾	per yd....	378 ,, T.T.B., ,, ,, ,, 0.56¾ p. yd.
Long Ells—C.P.H. Scarlet	1,500 ,,	,, 6.55 *a* 6.58	per pce.	
Purple	100 ,,	,, 7.10 *a* —.—	,,	
Orange	100 ,,	,, 6.80 *a* 6.75	,,	
Green	100 ,,	,, 6.92½ *a* 6.97½	,,	
Lastings—Lion Gentian and Black	80 ,,	,, 12.15 *a* 12.02½	,,	
—Elephant Do.	80 ,,	,, 10.55 *a* 10.42½	,,	
Grey Shirtings—Red Lion, 8¼-lbs.	1,000 ,,	,, 1.75¾ *a* —.—	,,	
— ,, 7-lbs.	600 ,,	,, 1.43¾ *a* —.—	,,	
—Green Lion, 8¼-lbs.	1,000 ,,	,, 1.64¾ *a* —.—	,,	
—Peacock, 8¼-lbs.	850 ,,	,, 1.60¾ *a* 1.61	,,	and 4,000 pieces at Tls. 1.60 *a* 1.60¼.
— ,, 7-lbs.	1,900 ,,	,, 1.37¼ *a* 1.38½	,,	
T-Cloths—Green Lion, 7lbs.	400 ,,	,, 1.31½ *a* —.—	,,	

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	13.5.0	13.4.0	13.3.0	12.8.0	13.8.0	...	...	12.3.0	12.4.0	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	6.5.5	6.9.0	6.2.0	6.9.5	6.7.5	...	...	7.1.0	6.2.5	...
Spanish Stripes, ...per yard ... ,,	0.5.6½	0.5.4½	0.5.4½	0.6.0	0.5.4	0.5.4	0.5.2	0.5.4	0.5.5	0.5.5

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 3RD JUNE, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve	Brown
S.S.G. Camlets p. pce. ₹	13.27½/13.35	12.62½/12.67½	13.17½/13.15	12.62½	13.70	...	13.52½/13.77½	12.15	12.12½/12.15	13.60	...
T.T.B. Sp. Stripes p. yd., ,,	0.57¾/ 0.58½	0.55 / 0.56	0.54¾/0.55¼	0.61¼	.....	0.58½	0.54¾	0.59	0.55¾/ 0.56¼	...	0.54¾

		T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—				
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...	₩ pc.	1.2.8	to	1.3.4
7lbs.	,,	1.3.7	,,	1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.5
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.	,,	2.5.0	,,	2.7.0
Tun Sin	,,	2.9.0	,,	nom.
G. E. White Shirtings—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₩ pc.	1.5.5	,,	1.6.5
60 reed	,,	1.7.0	,,	1.8.0
64 ,,	,,	1.8.5	,,	2.0.0
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.0	,,	2.1.5
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.2.5	,,	2.5.5
Best	,,	2.7.0	,,	3.2.0
Drills, Am. 40 yds 30in 15lbs.		...3.3.5	,,	3.4.7
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs.		...2.3.8	,,	2.5.0
Do. Fine to Finest ,,		...2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.		...2.3.7	,,	2.4.3
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb.		...2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8½lbs.		...1.8.0	,,	1.8.8
American ,, ,, nom.		...2.7.5	,,	.....
Sheetings—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs.		...3.7.0	,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs.		...2.9.0	,,	3.0.0

T-Cloths—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.1.3	,,	1.1.8
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.2.8	,,	1.3.3
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.8	,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,,	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.5.7
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.6.2	,,	1.8.0
Better kinds and XX		1.8.5	,,	2.2.0
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in.	₩ dz.	0.4.8	,,	0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White	₩ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.5.0	,,	2.6.5
Brocades—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed	,,	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0	,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.5.5
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.		...1.9.2½	,,	.....
50/52 ,,		...3.7.0	,,	4.9.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2 *a* 3lbs. 32in.		,,	1.5.6	,, 2.1.0
Do. Best	,,		2.3.0	,, 2.5.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8	,,	0.1.9
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3¼	,,	0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.1

Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5	,,	0.0.6½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5	,,	1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,,	0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S	,,	12.5.0	,,	13.5.0
G G	,,	13.1.5	,,	.....
S S G	,,	13.0.5	,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.4	,,	0.5.6
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.6¾	,,	.....
,, H.H.	,,	0.5.9	,,	.....
Long Ells—				
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H	₩ pc.	6.6.5	,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.5.5	,,	.....
Assorted, H H	,,	6.5.5	,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.6.0	,,	.....
,, G G	,,	6.5.0	,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,,	12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.1.0	,,	3.4.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.5.0	,,	3.8.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron:*—2,400 bundles Dawes' best at Tls. 3.00 clean, and 2,000 bundles M. M. Crown at Tls. 2.65 less commission, make up the business of the past week. Stocks of all kinds are increasing, and rates shew signs of a farther decline. *Lead.*—Only a-hand-to-mouth trade going on, and that of the smallest dimensions. Prices entirely nominal. *Steel* has been quitted in small quantity at 1 mace decline. *Tin* remains quiet at last quotations, and there is no alteration to be noted in either the position or value of *Japan Copper*, which is still occasionally asked for.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

			Tls. m. c.		
QUICKSILVER		per Pcl.	105.0.0	*a*	107.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10		per Box	6.1.0	*a*	6.2.0
Small ,,		,,	.....		.....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	nominal	per Pcl.	6.5.0	*a*	6.7.5
18 ...	no demand.	,,	7.0.0	*a*	.....
19/23		,,	7.7.5	*a*	8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing		,,	19.3.0	*a*	.....
Fok Chok	nom.	,,	18.8.0	*a*	.....
Common Chops... ,, ...		,,	13.7.0	*a*	.....
STEEL		per Tub	3.5.0	*a*	3.6.0
Bamboo		per Pcl.	4.3.0	*a*	4.4.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger	none ...	,,	.....	*a*	.....
Slab, best ... ,, ...		,,	18.5.0	*a*	18.7.5
Ore ..... ,, ...		,,	.....	*a*	.....
HOOP IRON		,,	3.2.0	*a*	3.3.0
PIG IRON		per Ton	25.0.0	*a*	26.0.0
NAILROD IRON—					
Dawe's Best	Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.0	*a*	3.1.0
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	,, ...	,,	2.7.0	*a*	2.7.5
Belgian	,, ...	,,	2.3.5	*a*	2.4.0
M. M. Crown	,, ...	,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.6.5
Bar—Dawes	,, ...	,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.0.0
Round		,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
LEAD—L B	Nom.	,,	6.0.0	*a*	6.0.5
Japanese & Common Brands	,, ...	,,	... ..	*a*	.....

			Tls. m. c.		
COTTON—Common New		per Pcl.	8.6.0	*a*	9.0.0
,, Medium		,,	9.4.0	*a*	9.8.0
,, Best		,,	10.4.0	*a*	11.0.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1		Nom. ,,	5.7.0	*a*	6.4.0
,, 2		,,	5.2.0	*a*	5.8.0
,, 3		,,	4.6.0	*a*	5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1		,,	5.0.0	*a*	5.4.0
,, 2		,,	4.6.0	*a*	4.8.0
,, 3		,,	4.4.0	*a*	4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best		,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
Common ...		,,	2.6.0	*a*	2.8.0
,, —Canton,		,,	3.0.0	*a*	3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...		,,	2.4.0	*a*	2.6.0
PEPPER—Black		,,	8.5.0	*a*	8.7.0
—White		,,	15.0.0	*a*	18.0.0
RATTANS—Common		,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.6.0
—Good to fine		,,	3.8.0	*a*	4.0.0
—Best		,,	4.2.0	*a*	4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...		,,	2.8.0	*a*	3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.		,,	1.8.0	*a*	2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea		,,	3.6.5	*a*	3.7.0
Timor		,,	9.0.0	*a*	10.0.0
Malabar		,,	16.5.0	*a*	18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK		,,	0.7.0	*a*	1.3.0
FLINT STONES,		,,	0.4.5	*a*	0.5.2

COTTON.—The market continues quiet, but the little demand for export, in the face of the very limited receipts from the country, enables the hongs to command very full rates. At the present time—the country people being all so busily engaged in gathering the old and planting the new cereals—supplies of cotton do not exceed 300 bales a-week, and the bulk of them consists of inferior quality.

EXCHANGE.—Just before the departure of last mail, Sterling rates experienced a further decline and at the close 5s. 9¼d. was the best rate quoted for Bank paper. For this mail, the market opened with a strong demand for merchants' bills at 5s. 9⅜d., and subsequently Credits were placed at 5s. 9⅝d *a* 5s. 9½d. At the same time, Bank paper was to be had at 5s. 9⅜d. The market has since improved, and rates are firm at quotations. On India, a fair amount of business was done early in the week at Rs. 310½, and later on at Rs. 311½ and 312. Buyers are now holding for higher rates. On Hongkong, very little has been done, and the rate remains as last quoted.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

On London.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 8d.	₩ Tl.
,, ,, at 6 m/s.	5s. 9⅜d.	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d.	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 10d.	,,
On Paris.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.25	,,
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 7.35	,,
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Frs. 7.35 *a* 7.37½	,,
On Calcutta.—Bank Bills, demand,	Rs. 312	₩ 100 Tls.
On Bombay.— ,, ,, ,,	Rs. 312	₩ 100 ,,

On Hongkong.—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅝ per cent. discount.
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 28 per cent. disc.
Interest.—7 *a* 9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

Mexican Dollars.—73.6 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
Carolus Dollars.—79.9 ,, ,, ,, ,,
Pekin Gold Bars.—98 Touch, 172.5 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
Haikwan Sycee.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
Canton Sycee.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
Bar Silver.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
Copper Cash.—1,590 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—Business on this market has not yet fairly commenced, but only two small parcels of Ningchow have been purchased at about 33 Taels, and it is said that offers up to Tls. 22 for Shontam kinds have been declined.

Teas are coming down very slowly at present, the stock on offer being only about 8,000 chests, and composed chiefly of common low grades of Oonam and undesirable parcels of Ningchow, which have been neglected in Hankow.

SILK.—The last public telegram dated London, 1st instant, reports the silk market quiet, and quotes Red Peacock, 14s. 6d.; mid. No. 4½ Tsatlee, 13s. 9d.; fair No. 5 Tsatlee, 13s., and common No. 5 Tsatlee, 12s. 6d. per lb.

Settlements since the English mail are about 1,100 Bales, the silk being eagerly competed for on arrival at slightly higher prices. The supplies have been chiefly common Tsatlees and coarse Taysaams and Skeins; only a few parcels of well-known or chop silks having yet been placed on the market. The chief purchases have been made by Continental houses, and the following prices are reported to have been paid:—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Gold Lion, Nos. 3, and 4	Tls. 330 & 310	Ex. 5/10—16/6 & 15/6 *a* T. 7.35	Frs. 45.92 and 43.20
Donkey Chop, No. 4	Tls. 330	16/6	Frs. 45.92
Blue Elephant	Tls. 327½ } rejected	16/4	Frs. 45.60
Yellow do.	Tls. 307½ } rejected	15/4	Frs. 42.90
"May-foong" Elephant	Tls. 320	16/0	Frs. 44.56
Black Lion, No. 4	Tls. 295	14/9	Frs. 41.16
Tsing-chan-kee "Van-yuen"	Tls. 290	14/6	Frs. 40.48
Market No. 4½	Tls. 300 *a* 310	15/0 *a* 15/6	Frs. 41.84 *a* 43.20
Market No. 5 Tsatlee	Tls. 280 *a* 290	14/0 *a* 14/6	Frs. 39.12 *a* 40.48
Common Tsatlee	Tls. 250 *a* 270	12/7 *a* 13/6	Frs. 35.03 *a* 37.75
Coarse Taysaam	Tls. 235 *a* 245	11/10 *a* 12/4	Frs. 32.99 *a* 34.35
Market Skeins (Laeyang)	Tls. 232½ *a* 245	11/ 8 *a* 12/4	Frs. 32.65 *a* 34.35

The wet weather which was experienced after the departure of last mail prevented supplies arriving, but during the past day or two arrivals having increased, the unsold stock is put at 500 bales.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 2nd June, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 119 @ 124, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	10,600	11,650	2,600	8,520	3,200	17,950	1,450	200	...	350	5,599	...	...	3,950
T-Cloths .... ,,	8,975	4,010	3,334	7,180	5,985	23,532	1,650	800	...	...	1,000	1,000	...	4,350
White Shirtings .... ,,	610	400	250	1,680	549	9,840	400	...	...	108	237	...	...	1,340
Drills .... ,,	300	400	...	18,030	350	5,160	1,208	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Jeans .... ,,	60	...	...	1,830	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	5,445	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	250	100	...	...	...	249	...	...	...
Spots, White .... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White .... ,,	...	...	...	250	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	60	...	50	140	150	900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	280	80	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes .... ,,	160	60	300	240	...	700	60	120	120	...	1,150	...	...	580
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	...	50	...	300	530	460	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	50
Velvets .... ,,	...	...	...	378	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	84
Velveteens .... ,,	...	24	...	24	...	...	264	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	...	200	600	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,400
Muslins ....Pcs.	...	...	...	200	100	200	880	...	...	...	400	...	...	...
Dimities .... ,,	...	200	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	36	18	54	306	102	288	48	6	6	...	...	...	...	108
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	18	18	36	54	70	22	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	144
Camlets .... ,,	40	150	200	370	110	500	40	140	...	...	80	...	...	90
Long Ells .... ,,	...	40	160	260	...	...	20	...	...	40	120	...	...	60
Lastings .... ,,	60	...	80	260	...	230	240	20	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crape Lastings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	40	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	350	...	...	50
,, Figured .... ,,	60	400	50	820	845	260	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	220
,, Crape .... ,,	...	...	...	50	50	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ....Pcls.	651	2,448	...	126	...	...	...	...	3,360	231	42	...	...	...
Pig Lead .... ,,	427	198	1,220	2,052	250	63	125	135	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 4/6/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	66,069	1,769,169	134,990	1,681,643	1,135,400	1,000,700
T-Cloths .... ,,	61,816	1,110,493	88,961	778,885	274,000	597,900
White Shirtings .... ,,	15,414	303,160	44,366	357,860	130,500	59,000
Drills .... ,,	25,688	253,614	3,506	158,993	149,300	360,400
Jeans .... ,,	1,950	126,913	21,236	188,498	90,100	47,600
Sheetings .... ,,	5,445	34,785	700	44,725	11,600	25,400
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	599	18,353	3,247	37,436	21,900	.....
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	.....	447	3,526	3,900	2,300
,, Dyed .... ,,	.....	.....	750	1,550	.....	.....
Brocades, White .... ,,	750	8,957	.....	6,280	.....	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	1,400	22,016	49	17,288	24,300	27,900
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	495	8,703	300	7,795	6,200	5,800
Chintzes .... ,,	3,490	79,892	5,770	44,032	52,600	96,200
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	1,430	42,561	7,050	51,515	35,300	8,400
Velvets .... ,,	612	18,089	964	20,973	10,600	19,000
Velveteens .... ,,	336	5,275	241	7,230	3,200	8,700
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	3,200	83,429	2,006	46,755	36,100	72,300
Muslins ....Pcs.	1,780	19,986	347	20,793	11,900	18,500
Dimities .... ,,	360	9,860	1,000	2,530	8,400	9,300
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	972	19,128	220	20,412	12,000	28,300
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	372	8,876	124	9,424	11,000	19,500
Camlets .... ,,	1,720	37,650	630	30,663	15,100	15,100
Long Ells .... ,,	700	31,280	2,400	35,340	13,100	14,200
Lastings .... ,,	890	17,388	.....	13,808	8,800	4,100
Crape Lastings .... ,,	140	5,860	300	3,619	6,900	2,800
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	570	7,720	1,500	9,559	5,900	10,700
,, Figured .... ,,	2,715	71,315	2,565	32,181	89,400	113,900
,, Crape .... ,,	250	9,890	1,250	8,739	20,000	13,600
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	4,470	44,612	1,665	26,599	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	6,858	58,296	2,101	91,550	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Rajanattianuhar, Tartar, Cheviot, Tchihatchoff, Viking, Glenlyon, Antenor, Agamemnon, Hindostan, Galatea, Horriang, Craigforth, Djemnah, Forward Ho, Saturnus, Zambesi,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

June 5, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—None other than Coasters.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—May 31st, British steamer *Lotus*; June 1st, British steamer *Antenor;* 2nd, British steamer *Glenfalloch;* 3rd, British steamer *Hankow;* 4th, German steamer *Strasburg,* all for London.

The French mail steamer *Djemnah* takes about 1,000 bales of Silk, and 750 tons of Tea.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅝d. *a* 5s. 9¾d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅞d. *a* 5s. 10d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.27½. Private, Frs. 7.35. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 312½ *a* 313. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 312½ *a* 313. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅛ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.625 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.30 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 4th June :—

Banks.—Still no business reported. Shares are on offer at 22% dis.

S. S. N. Co.—The demand having fallen off, rates fell on 3rd instant to Tls. 71, at which a limited number of Shares are obtainable.

Fire Insurance.—*Victorias* may be quoted $164 nominal, there being no business. A few *Chinas* can be got at $140. *Hongkongs* are wanted, but there are no sellers.

Marine Insurance.—There have been sales of *Chinese* at $192, and of *North Chinas* at Tls. 725. *China & Japans* rose to Tls. 92 on 1st inst., and a few shares are obtainable at same rate. *Yangtszes* continue to be forced off, a sale having been made at Tls. 542 for 30th June.

S. & H. Wharf Co.—A small business has been done at Tls. 90.

Loans.—*Imperial Bonds* are wanted at £100.10, and *Municipal Debentures* at quotations.

The Weather has been much cooler during the week. Heavy rain fell on Monday and Tuesday, and the thermometer fell 20 degrees from the previous high register. The last two days have been fine, and it is again getting gradually hotter. The extreme range has been 63 to 80.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1875-6.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Vessel's Name.	Date	Cleared at	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Deucalion ..... s.s.	May18	Shanghai	7,708.95	.....	7,708.95
Glenartney ... ,,	... 19	Hankow	16,919.65	.....	16,919.65
Bengal ..... ,,	... 20	,,	15,355.03	.....	15,355.03
Anadyr ..... ,,	... 22	Shanghai	691.04	.....	691.04
Lotus ..... ,,	... 26	Kiukiang	2,771.10	.....	2,771.10
,, ... ,,	... 26	Hankow	15,728.53	.....	15,728.53
Carried forward ...			59,174.30	.....	59,174.30

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

Vessel's Name.	Date	Cleared at	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Brought forward			59,174.30		59,174.30
Glenearn ..... s.s.	May23	Hankow	16,877.25	.....	16,877.25
Fleurs Castle... ,,	... 24	,,	19,839.16	.....	19,839.16
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 29	,,	17,948.88	.....	17,948.88
Strasburg ..... ,,	... 28	,,	20,190.76	.....	20,190.76
Antenor..... ,,	... 31	Shanghai	12,703.78	.....	12,703.78
Total.....			146,734.13	.....	146,734.13

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Divid. Last Year.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	....	22 % dis. nomd.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	7 %	71
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50	....	21
North-China Steamer Compy.	100	....	7 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	10 %	Tls. 60
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 %	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.20p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	10 %	85
Gas			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	11 %	Tls. 138
French Gas Co. ..	50	11 %	70
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	$150p.sh	875 nomd.
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	....	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	725
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500	....	$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl.500	15 %	Tls. 542 30 June.
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	....	Tls. 92
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	12 %	$ 192
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	475
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	12 % & Bonus 4½	164 nominal
China Fire Ins. Co (Limited)	100	12 %	140
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl.850	12 %	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	5 %	90
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	....	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	8 %	102
Do. ,, 1873.	100	8 %	105
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£100 10s.
Theatre Debentures	25	8 %	Tls. 20 nomd.
Exchange			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			72⅝

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

PASSENGERS.

Departed.—Per M. B. str. *Kanagawa Maru,* for Nagasaki—Mr. A. F. Tyree. For Yokohama—Mrs. Pond, infant and servant, Messrs. W. Grover, C. Utchida, Sue Yue Foo, Lee Cheong Kow, Sue Su Foo, Su Mr. Szu, and San E. Szo; 1 Malay in steerage. Per str. *Dragon,* for Foochow—Messrs. J. Bartasheff, and H. C. Müller. Per str. *Agamemnon,* for Foochow—Capt. Reynell and family. Per str. *Antenor,* for London—Mr. Hurst. Per P. M. str. *Golden Age,* for Nagasaki—Lieut. Callwell, R.N., and Mr. J. Laurie. For Hiogo—Messrs. C. E. Endicott, G. Piron and H. Frossard. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Petersen, Mrs. Platt, Messrs. C. V. Housman, H. Chamberlain, W. Chamberlain, and Capt. Hoskiar. For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Davenport, Messrs. W. C. Manghan, and A. Harcourt and servant.

Arrived.—Per P. M. str. *Golden Age,* from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and child, Mr. and Mrs. Rennie and child, Miss McClatchie, Mrs. McClatchie and son, Mrs. A. R. Platt, Mrs. and Miss Evans, Dr. J. Johnson, Messrs. F. Sandeman, A. Harcourt, W. C. Borlace, Fitzgerald, J. B. Hogarth, J. Main, E. Major, Papps, and W. Shaw; 11 in steerage. Per M. B. str. *Tokio Maru,* from Japan—Mrs. Antisell, Mr. and Mrs. Heyden and servant, Mrs. Deslandes, 2 children and servant, Miss Martin, Miss Colburn, Miss Antisell, Mr. and Mrs. Bayley, Mrs. Birt, 3 children and servant, Miss M. Laren, Messrs. G. G. Hopkins, W. Fowler, E. P. Weaver, Robins, Glover and servant, A. S. T. Clifford, F. Wheeler, Wilson, Goldman, J. P. Shann, H. Hornby, W. B. Pryer, Yamaguchi, Girault, Mitzukawa, Kallaskessky, Yamada, Yokohama, Joojima, Kawabe, Fukushima and son, Takeda, Tsunetoshi, Mambu, Oka, Neshimura, Masuta and servant, Twaiji, and Kasana; 1 Foreigner, 14 Chinese, and 4 Japanese, in steerage. Per str. *Hankow,* from Hankow—Mrs. Walter, Messrs. Boyce, and Findlay. From Chinkiang—Mr. Kilner. Per str. *Haining,* from Tientsin—20 Chinese. Per str. *China,* from Hongkong—62 Chinese. Per str. *Glengyle,* from Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Petersen, Mr. Gunther and 3 children, Mr. Sturrock, and Mr. Irimininger. Per str. *Fychow,* from Hankow—Mr. Hague. Per str. *Shanghai,* from Hankow—Messrs. Hague, Campbell, Overbeck, Hawes, and Rodewald. Per str. *Aden,* from Tientsin Per str. *Tartar,* from Hongkong—Lieut. Callwell, R.N. Steerage—Mr. Monument; one Japanese; three Portuguese. Per str. *Viking,* from London—Mr. and Mrs. Davenport, and Mr. Vaughan. Per str. *Glenlyon,* from London—Mr. Wiper, Dr. Mackenzie. Per str. *Nanking,* from Hankow—Mr. Cooper. Per str. *Fuyew,* from Tientsin—Mr. Price. Per str. *Olympia,* from Swatow—34 Chinese.

Leaving.—Per M. M. str. *Djemnah,* for Hongkong—Messrs. A. G. Wood, J. W. Hart. For Suez—Messrs. J. Sandeman, W. C. Bootan and J. Hunklebridge. For Marseilles—Mrs. Law and 3 children, Messrs. Gallagher and J. Belly.

JUST OUT.

A

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OF THE

PEKING GAZETTE

FOR

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29th March, 1875.

7, Hankow Road. tf 2828

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THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	Apr. 30	Hankow,	June 9
San Francisco,	May 1	Yokohama,	May 28
Hongkong,	June 5	Nagasaki,	,, 28
Tientsin,	,, 4	Foochow,	June 5

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Mar. 18 } Received 24th April.
Shanghai, ... ,, 12 }

BIRTHS.

On the 18th April, at Vanbrugh-park, Blackheath, Mrs. F. D. BARNES, of Shanghai, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 11th June, Mrs. J. P. BISSET, of a son.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
Ju.	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
5	29.900	74.0	83.5	66.5	76.0	72.0	0	Z	..
6	29.950	72.5	76.0	70.5	73.0	70.0	1	S. E.	0.11
7	29 850	69.0	77.0	63.5	68.5	68.0	0	Z	0.71
8	29.800	66.5	68.5	63.5	65.0	63.0	5	N. N. E.	0.06
9	29.950	68.0	77.0	61.5	68.0	64.0	0	Z	0.01
10	30.000	70.0	79.0	68.0	71.5	68.5	3	E. N. E.	..
11	30.000	74.0	81.0	70.0	74.0	72.0	2	S. S. W.	0.09

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.00 P.M.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.—Per P. M. str. *Nevada*, from the United States—Dr. C. W. Gravitt, U.S.N., Messrs. F. J. Green and S. P. Barchett and child. Steerage—one European. From Yokohama—General T. B. Van Buren, U.S. Consul-General, Yokohama; Mrs., Miss and Master Van Buren, Messrs. Rice, O. B. Bradford, C. H. Thompson, J. Leckie, J. H. Vail. Steerage—seven Chinese. From Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Mowat, and Mr. T. H. Bateman. Steerage—one Chinese. From Nagasaki—Mr. Kier; three Chinese. Steerage—ten Chinese. Treasure—$37,000. Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—Mr. Otin. From Chefoo—Messrs. Nils Moller and Dreger; 42 Chinese. Treasure—$83,000. Per M.B. str. *Niigata Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Ostaga, Messrs. Thomas, Ring, Fajarel, Hirano, Vidian, Hyren and Giseim; 6 Chinese. Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—65 Chinese. Opium—10 chests. Per str. *Dragon*, from Foochow—Mr. Le Bretton; one European; 28 Chinese. Per str. *Achilles*—Capt. Hoseason; 13 Chinese. Per M.M. str. *Tigre*, from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Loup, Messrs. Dyce and Jeaurenand. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Dyer, Messrs. Sassoon and servt., Puthon, Faray and Wai Chun and servt. Per str. *Taku*, from Tientsin—30 Chinese. Treasure—Tls. 38,836. Per str. *Fire Queen*, from Hankow—Mr. Daniel. From Chinkiang—Mr. Tata. Per str. *Formosa*, from Hongkong—8 Chinese. Per P. & O. str. *Nizam*.—From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Goldenburg, Messrs. Schmidt and servant, Chang Shu Ho and servant, Sayle, and Bascott. From Calcutta—Mr. Reed. From Singapore—Mr. Beasley. Opium—972½ chests. Treasure—£37,107 and $523,096. Per str. *Fychow*, from Hankow—Mr. Malteau. From Chinkiang—One French Missionary.

DEPARTED.—Per M.M. str. *Djemnah*, for Hongkong—Messrs. A. G. Wood and J. W. Hart. For Suez—Messrs. J. Sandeman, W. C. Bootan and J. Hunklebridge. For Marseilles—Mrs. Law and 3 children, Messrs. Gallagher, T. H. Bateman and J. Bailey. Per M.B. str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. A. Datton and Robt. Wyper. Steerage—13 Chinese; one Japanese. For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Knoop, Mr. and Mrs. Albers, Mrs. E. C. Bade and servant, Messrs. P. H. Hunt, P. Goldstein, T. Nagai and W. R. Kahler. For Yokohama—Mrs. Antisell and child, Messrs. C. Wagner and A. Steinmetz. Per P. M. str. *Nevada*—General T. B. Van Buren and family, Mr. and Mrs. Godenrath, Messrs. J. Leckie, W. C. Newbigging, P. Waller, and M. Ullman. For Hiogo—Mr. H. Reynell. Per str. *Taku*, for Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Drew, Messrs. Moxham and Kilner.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong—Captain Haselwood, Mr. E. Lobin. For Southampton—Mr. H. V. Russell.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1875.

THE experiences on the part of the British and Chinese Governments which led up to the wars of 1842 and 1858, seem to have very readily dropped out of the recollection of both parties. On the part of the British we find the same absurd yielding to one encroachment after another, and on the part of the Chinese the same insensate desire, having gained one point by obstructiveness, instantly to push it so as eventually to produce cause for a rupture. At present, the energies of the native Government of Kwangtung are being turned to the practical extinction of Hongkong as a port; and the British Minister in China, and more strangely still the British Authorities in the Colony, as well as the Ministry at home, fail to perceive what is really the drift of the matter. A certain sympathy with the Chinese officials at Canton, induced by long residence and many social amenities, induced the British Consul, in an evil hour, to listen to certain propositions on the part of the native Government, the ulterior object of which was evidently concealed from him. We have little wish to run down a Consul like Sir Brookes Robertson, whose urbanity and conscientious discharge of what he considered to be his duty, have earned him the respect of his fellow-countrymen, as well as of the native authorities. While, however, we feel a little surprise that he should have failed to see the drift of the propositions to which he unluckily lent the influence of his name and position, we must find room for something like indignation against those who, without being exposed to the peculiar influences with which Sir Brookes Robertson was thrown in contact, have been only too ready, not only to endorse

but actually to go beyond his suggestions. The question at Hongkong is not merely a matter of whether or not junks sailing from the Colony should submit to what we have learned for the first time are the "Revenue Laws" of China; but whether, in the first instance, junks hailing for the British Colony could be subjected to interferences and exactions from which, as craft pursuing their avocations, they would ordinarily be free; and in the second, whether, while the Chinese are allowed to treat as waste paper all the given clauses of the treaties, we are further to help them in establishing a system of espionage and extortion which must eventually end in the extinction of all legitimate trade with the Colony. When the Colony was established, it was expressly notified by Sir Charles Elliott that no interference with the legitimate trade of the new port would be permitted, and that protection would be extended to such native merchants as found it to their interest to settle there. Such a notification seemed so natural to the Chinese authorities that it was not till recent years that any serious attempts were made to interfere with the development of the trade of the place.

The proceedings of certain cruisers, more or less connected with the Foreign Customs establishment at Canton, led, about the end of the year 1865, to certain remonstrances being made, which were met by the issue of a proclamation by the Viceroy, who had not then thrown in his lot with the Hoppo's schemes, denouncing these vessels as pirates. Unluckily, the Colonial Authorities seem to have gone to sleep after this very explicit declaration of the true position of affairs; for, notwithstanding the gloss attempted to be put on the proclamation, and to which unfortunately Sir Brookes Robertson has allowed his name to be attached, there is no doubt that these cruisers, acting under the authority of the Haikwan and the Foreign inspectorate, were really alluded to. Seeing the success attending this first serious interference with the trade of the Colony, and doubtless influenced by the prospective increase of Revenue to be obtained by an extension of the system, as well as by the evident apathy on the part of the Colonial Government, which promised immunity from any consequences likely to be unpleasant, we next find the Haikwan cruisers in some measure identified with the Viceroy's establishment; and later on we discover that the system which, under some over-zealous Foreign commissioners, had been commenced with the object of harassing small native craft plying about the internal waters of the Canton river, was extended into a practical levying of black-mail on all native craft which had the temerity to make use of the British harbour of Hongkong. It was natural that the officials at Canton, whose exactions were driving away all trade, native as well as foreign, from the provincial capital, should look with envy at the comparative prosperity of Hongkong. It was not natural that they should take the proper measures to remove the inequality between the two—namely, to remove those exactions which were ruining alike their own revenue and the prosperity of their port. Had Sir Brookes Robertson, in the first instance, pointed out to them the causes of the decadence of trade and, in consequence, of their own revenues, it is likely that we should have heard no more of the Blockade question. Unfortunately he did not do so; and more unfortunately still, those to whom he was immediately responsible, or with whom he came officially in contact, failed to see the drift that matters were taking. It never occurred to the British Consul that there was no valid reason why a junk sailing from Hongkong should labour under greater disabilities than one from any of the ports, say, of Siam, Annam, or even of the coast of Kwangtung itself. The premisses were accepted without the slightest enquiry, and with them all the arguments which Chinese casuists and their foreign advisers could heap up on such insecure foundations. By persistently shutting their eyes to the real points at issue, and listening to irrelevant discussions on smuggling and revenue laws, so effectual a cloud was raised that, under its cover, one encroachment after another was made, till practically, while setting aside the treaties in the open ports, the Chinese authorities have succeeded in likewise persuading us to stand by and see our native trade as coolly extinguished.

Finding that so far their exertions to effect the ruin of the Colony were meeting with unanticipated success, Chinese would not be Chinese did they not advance one step further. Hitherto the Courts of law at Hongkong have been respected, and those who, in pursuance of the promises held out in Sir Charles Elliott's proclamation, committed the grievous sin of settling on alien soil, had been allowed to do so without punishment. But Chinese Mandarins have now taken to review the decisions of the Supreme Court. The Colonial Government found it necessary to sentence to a long term of imprisonment a notorious scoundrel named Lee Lum-kuai. The said scoundrel had friends, however, amongst the Mandarins; and, unluckily, under the jurisdiction of those friends lives the family of one of the principal witnesses in the case. So good an opportunity of interference with the Colony was not lightly to be lost sight of. Previous encroachments having been permitted with impunity, it was naturally concluded, and as yet apparently with perfect justice, that no serious opposition would be encountered in carrying the inroad against the Colony a step further. The trade of the Colony had already been effectually reduced, but so long as Chinese were afforded protection, and were enabled to live under just and equal laws, it would not be utterly extinguished. If Hongkong were made uninhabitable for Chinese, the much desired result would, however, doubtless be arrived at. To set at nought the decisions of the tribunals, and to hinder all attempts at punishing or discovering crime, was aiming a blow at what was felt to be one of its most sensitive points. So a battalion of soldiers is quartered on the village where the aforesaid witness' family reside, and it seems to be doubted in Hongkong whether the man will not be persuaded to give himself up, in order to remove this pressure from his relatives. We look with interest to see what course will be taken in this conjuncture. That marked out by Sir Charles Elliott is perfectly clear, and is the only feasible way of meeting such an attempt; but previous experience tells us that casuistry will be again at work; and that, meanwhile, it will be inferred amongst the natives at Hongkong, that neither our laws nor our troops are of any avail when matched against the machinations of the Provincial officials. More seriously, in the interests of Foreign trade, than even the public opinion of Hongkong, have we protested against the apathy which has allowed matters to drift into their present position. So far as the influence of Shanghai can be exerted—and that, unluckily, in the present state of matters is but small,—we are willing to exert it on behalf of the sister port in the South. We suffer from much the same evils, though modified in detail, and are oppressed with an apathy scarcely less dense than that which broods over the Colony.

Summary of News.

The American mail of the 1st May arrived on Saturday, by the *Nevada*.

The French mail of the 23rd April arrived on the 8th, by the *Tigre*.

The English mail of the 30th arrived on the 9th, by the *Nizam*.

A homeward mail leaves to-morrow by the *Zambesi*.

Several matters of interest were discussed at the meeting of Treaty Consuls on the 3rd instant. An endeavour will be made to have the foreign settlements of Shanghai constituted a separate judicial district.—The Dutch Engineers engaged to survey the Woosung bar are unable to come for the present.—The Taotai is issuing further proclamations in regard to the protection of telegraph cables.—The desired alterations in the Land Regulations, regarding Proxy voting and the change in time of holding the annual meeting of Ratepayers, were approved.—The Consuls will assist in obtaining land for the new roads from the Cemetery to Au Chalet and from Markham's road into the Jessfield Road.

The French Municipal Council purpose erecting rails on the Sikaway Road where the narrowness of the road renders this

desirable, and widening the 4th bridge.—Mr. Kingsmill is engaged in surveying the foreshore; as soon as the work is finished, the Consuls will be urged to have the new bund line authoritatively recognised.—The contract with the Gas Company is to be submitted to the Consul-General, to ask whether he considers there is ground for an appeal to arbitration on the question of the Council's demand for a reduction in price.—An explanation of negociations which preceded the Yang-king-pang Arbitration, will hardly interest people now the matter has ended. What they cared about, was whether the encroachment opposite Honan Road was to remain or be removed. It is to remain, and there the matter ends; we don't want to recur to preliminary details.

Ratepayers will be gratified to learn that the Municipal Cash State has again been laid on the Council table for inspection, and that the summons calling the meeting (to inspect it) was taken as read. Mr. Camajee has agreed to sell the land required for Seward Road; the terms are not mentioned.—It is thought that a jetty would be useful at the end of Honan Road.—The Hongkew Wharf seems to have been encroaching on the road; it is requested to rectify the error.—Messrs. Oliver and Henry are appointed on behalf of the two Councils to consider the question of a future bund line for the Yang-king-pang, and a mean height for the bridges. The latter vary at present from 5ft. 3in. to 9ft. 1¼in., the lower level neutralising the height of the more elevated.

The new iron bridge to be placed opposite Honan Road has been placed on board a pontoon at the Old Dock, and will be towed to its destination shortly. The pontoon itself, the hull of the *Horatio*, is also intended to be moored in the place of one condemned, at Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's wharves.

A meeting of the Asiatic Society was held on Monday evening. Dr. Macgowan presented a work, describing the various kinds of wood found in Japan and giving illustrations of various industries—which had been handed to him, for the Society, by the Japanese Commissioner of Agriculture.—An interesting paper by the Rev. C. Holcombe, describing the provinces of Shense and Shanse, through which he has been lately travelling, was read.—Dr. Macgowan then read a short paper on the characteristics of Shanghai water, drawing a conclusion in favour of Yangtze water (and therefore the Yangtze-poo site for Water Works), as against Lunghwa.

The operetta of "Cox and Box" was successfully repeated at the Lyceum on Thursday evening, together with the one-act comedietta entitled "A Cup of Tea."

H. M. S. *Vigilant*, with Admiral Ryder and Mr. Wade on board, visited Keelung on the 3rd inst. They inspected the coal mines at Coal Harbour and Keelung. The *Vigilant* left on the 4th, bound for Foochow, but in all probability would call at Tamsui on her way.

The *Courier* has reported a serious burglary which was committed on the morning of the 8th June, near the West Gate. Two rice shops were broken into, two of the inmates badly hurt, and some $200 and other money, and various other property carried off. Some forty soldiers are stationed at a guard-house 200 yards off, but failed to put in an appearance till the robbers had decamped.—The Che-hsien has been actively investigating the occurrence, but the thieves have not yet been discovered. The *onus* of catching them has been more especially laid upon the officer in command of the soldiers who proved such an inefficient guard. It is suggested that the robbery was most likely committed by some disbanded soldiers on their way down the Yangtze, and the inmates of the shops say they recognised their dialect as Northern. It is thought likely they may be still hanging about the neighbouring villages, and be detected. It is curious that one of the pictures of the Tientsin massacre, which were so current in 1870, was found inside one of the books in the house. Of course it is not suggested that this has anything to do with the robbers. It is only curious to find the pictures in such free circulation, as to turn up nearly five years afterwards in a village rice-shop.

The body of a Chinese was found floating in the river near Hongkew Creek Wednesday morning, and was taken charge of by the Life-boat Association.

A sampan used by a washerman was upset, owing to the strength of the tide and mismanagement, alongside H.M.S. *Modeste* on Monday morning. The men were rescued by some other sampanmen, but the contents of the boat, including a large basket of linen, were lost.

A serious case of cutting and wounding occurred on board the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*, about one o'clock on Sunday morning. Some of the men had returned from leave ashore, amongst them being two firemen, one of whom was a native of Bombay. The Bombay fireman was drunk, and the other did his best to get him on board quietly. He succeeded in doing so, and they afterwards went into the forecastle. This man had gone to the opposite side of the forecastle, and was lying on a box, when the Bombay man went to him, and with a razor or other sharp instrument, cut him several times very severely about the right arm. An alarm was raised, and the rascal secured; the wounded man being attended by the surgeon of the ship.

Yesterday, in H.B.M.'s Consular Court, before W. H. Medhurst, Esq., Consul, and Sung, the Taotai of Shanghai; A. Davenport, Esq., Vice-Consul, and Chen, the Mixed Court Magistrate, being also on the Bench—a suit was commenced against Capt. Brown, the master of the British steamer *Ocean*, on behalf of the relatives of 63 persons drowned in the collision of the *Fusing* with that vessel on the 4th April. The damages were laid at Tls. 63,000. The Court stands adjourned till Friday next.

The case of the "steamship *Fusing v.* the steamship *Ocean*," was again before Sir Edmund Hornby at the Supreme Court on Thursday, for the purpose of hearing arguments on an application on the part of the plaintiffs to amend the petition by altering the opening paragraph as follows:—"The petition of Tong King-sing, of Shanghai, merchant, or behalf of himself and others, owners of the Chinese steamship or vessel called the *Fusing*, and of the cargo on board thereof, and of the master and crew thereof, and of the passengers thereon, for their money, clothes, and private effects."—Messrs. Wainewright and Hannen, for the *Ocean*, opposed the application, but after an hour's argument, consented to accept the amended petition on condition that the answer should be also be amended, as subjoined:—In clause 5, by the addition of the words, "The *Ocean* herself sustained extensive injury by reason of the said collision;" and in clause 9, "The owners of the said steamship (*Fusing*) are Chinese, and are not within the jurisdiction of the honourable Court."—The pleadings being thus amended, the next question to be argued was whether the words, "and of the master and crew thereof, and the passengers thereon (the *Fusing*) for their money, clothes and private effects," should be inserted in the decree of the Court, on the further application of Messrs. Drummond and Eames on behalf of the plaintiffs.—Mr. Hannen, *contra*, contended that no case whatever had been cited on the other side, showing that the officers, crew and passengers, were entitled to any remedy in a case where both ships were held to blame. He had taken care to look into the cases bearing on the point, but there was not a single case in any of the books which made the concession in favour of the officers and crew, where both ships were to blame, and with regard to the passengers they must be dealt with by Common Law, and not by Admiralty Rule. In support of this contention, he referred the Court to a number of cases.—Mr. Drummond, in reply, said the real point of the case seemed to be that there were four parties concerned—the owners of the *Fusing*, the owners of cargo, the passengers, and the officers and crew. The application now made was that the owners, the passengers, and crew should have their damages added together and entered in the decree to go before the Registrar and Merchants. If the owners of the cargo were entitled to recover by Admiralty Rule, he contended that the passengers, who stood in similar relation to the ship, were equally entitled, and that these claims must be settled by Admiralty Rule, and not by Common Law. With respect to the crew, they were in the same position as the owners of the ship. The gist of the whole question was as to the contributory negligence of the plaintiffs; for contributory negligence, although a bar at Common Law, was not so in Admiralty. He submitted that the decree should be settled in the way he had now presented it to the Court, when any question arose upon it could come on at a future stage—on appeal, perhaps, from the Registrar and Merchants. At the close of a lengthy, but strictly legal argument, the Court took time to consider the points raised.

On Wednesday, in the Supreme Court, before Sir Edmund Hornby, an unusual case was heard—"Norman Hill *v.* E. A. Reynolds." It was a claim, in equity, for settlement of partnership account in one-fourth share of the steamer *Iron Prince*. The circumstances upon which the suit was based occurred so far back as the years 1862 and 1863; and the plaintiff and two witnesses being now resident in England, a commission was issued to take their evidence for transmission in the usual way to Shanghai. The present suit was commenced in September last, Mr. Wainewright appearing for the plaintiff. Mr. Eames was retained for the defendant only on Saturday last. The plaintiff in his petition alleged that in July, 1862, the defendant and himself purchased from Adam Scott & Co., of Hongkong, a moiety or half-share of a small auxiliary screw steamer, of which Scott was sole owner, for $12,000. The plaintiff and defendant each paid half the purchase money in equal shares, whereby each of them became the owner of one-fourth part of the steamer, the object of the purchase being a resale at a profit. Scott retained the other half-share. A large sum was expended in repairs, and it was afterwards resolved to sell the vessel if possible in Nagasaki, to which port she was sent for that purpose. She waited for some time in the vain hope of finding a purchaser, and then returned to Hongkong. The defendant went with the vessel to Nagasaki, his name having been substituted for that of the plaintiff in the register, as sole owner. On her return to Hongkong, the vessel was restored to the management of Scott. The plaintiff left Shanghai for England, on the 9th of December, 1863, and before leaving settled all accounts with respect to the vessel with the defendant up to April, 1863, the month in which Scott resumed the management. The vessel was sent by Scott on the 6th July, 1864, to Hakodate, consigned in the plaintiff's name to Mr. Alfred Howell, Messrs. Dent & Co.'s agent, for the purpose of being sold. On the 6th of October, 1864, Scott was in England, and wrote to the plaintiff there a letter enclosing copy of account, dated Hongkong, July 7th, 1864, which showed a balance due to Scott & Co., in respect of receipts and disbursements on account of the ship, of $12,803.73, of which $1,083.92 had been incurred previous to the 3rd July, 1862, the date at which the purchase of the one-half share by the plaintiff and defendant took place. On the 5th of April, 1865, plaintiff paid to Scott £532.17.9, being his proportion of the losses incured as shown by the account rendered, and on the 20th June, 1865, Scott sent to plaintiff a further account of receipts and expenditure, made up to the 31st December, 1864, and showing a further loss of $2,670.28. But this included various items of sums said to have been expended in Japan, and for which no vouchers were sent. The amount of these was $2,320.41, which being deducted from the amount before named, left a balance of $357.87, the defendant's share of this being $89.48, which was paid by the plaintiff to Scott, on the 12th March, 1866. The vessel was ultimately sold for $1,054, and Messrs. Dent's disbursements on her account, after deducting that sum, amounted to $4,995.72, which was paid by the plaintiff, who subsequently received one-half of the amount from Scott in respect of his half-share. In February, 1871, Scott filed a bill in Chancery against the plaintiff, which the plaintiff compromised by the advice of counsel, and paid to Scott £1,050, in full satisfaction of his claim; with £194 5*s.* 9*d.* for costs, the two amounts being paid in respect of the joint interest of the plaintiff and defendant in the vessel, and the former now claimed a total balance from the defendant of $5,121.—Mr. Eames, on the part of the defendant, submitted no answer to the petition, resting his case solely on the Court's sense of equity and justice, with a denial that a partnership had existed between the three—Scott, Hill, and Reynolds. He also contended that the plaintiff had failed to prove that Reynolds was considered a partner by Scott, and that the defendant had never authorised the plaintiff to pay any money, settle any matters, or make any arrangements on his account, in respect of the *Iron Prince*.—The case was argued at considerable length by Mr. Wainewright. Mr. Eames declined to address the Court, simply calling attention to the length of time that had elapsed since the date of the occurrence, and the consequent staleness of the cause of action, though he was precluded pleading the Statute of Limitations.—The Chief Judge took time to consider his decision.

The barque *Westbury*, from Freemantle, Western Australia, has brought a consignment of six horses; a seventh died during the passage, which was a lengthy one of 84 days.

A correspondent suggests, in view of the success of the Flower Show, that another Exhibition should be got up of Meat, Poultry, Vegetables, etc., to be held in December next—"for instance, 1st prize, best surloin of Beef; do., best round do. For the best Shanghai bred and fed Turkey; do., Goose; pair of Fowls; Southern bred do., but fed at Shanghai. Best loin of Pork, English breed; do. leg best fed Chinese Pork. The exhibitor to state age and time of feeding, and where fed, and so on. The vegetables in season—viz., Cauliflower, Savoy Cabbage, Kale Cabbage, Parsnips, Carrots, etc., etc. All the above can be produced with a little care, in time for the 'Xmas dinner. Let a subscription list be got out at once,—all European exhibitors to be subscribers, and Chinese *gratis*. This will cause the last named to strive for a 1st-class prize, and be the cause of our getting better meat, etc., at that festive season. If the thing is started now, there is ample time to get a first-class show; and I do not see why we should not do here what is successfully done in the old country. There are a number of gentlemen now having gardens round Shanghai, who would take part and interest in such a show."—Our correspondent's suggestion seems a very feasible one, and we should like to see it carried out. The meat we get in Shanghai will stand comparison with English beef and mutton; but the quality of the vegetables and poultry—especially the latter, is very inferior. Anything that would tend to stimulate more careful rearing in the one case, and cultivation in the other, is to be advocated.

Shen Pao-chen, the late Special Commissioner to Formosa, is to be Viceroy of Nanking.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from Chinkiang on the 9th June:—"During the early part of the week now under review, an active business was done in Piece Goods, but the heavy rain of the last few days has checked clearances. The demand however continues good, and so soon as the dealers are enabled to move off their late purchases to the interior, there is every prospect of business being resumed with spirit.

The latest news of the Hankow tea market will be found in our commercial pages. Settlements have been going on actively. Musters of second crop are expected on the 15th. The export to date is 22,238,315 lbs., against 15,359,271 at the same period last year, exclusive of an increase of some 2,400,000 lbs. in re-exports. Eight steamers have left for London, two for Russia, and one is loading.

There has been a serious outbreak by smugglers in Foochow. There seems to be a village near the Pagoda Anchorage, whose business is opium smuggling. A Customs officer lately seized a quantity. Vengeance was sworn, a reward offered for the heads of several Customs employés, and an attack on the Customs premises organised. This seems to have been deranged, but an affray occurred between snake-boats and the steamer *Namoa*, in which a Foreigner was shot. It is said the Viceroy has detailed a force to burn down the offending village.

The *Foochow Herald* has advices from Formosa, of a heavy engagement between the Imperialists and Aborigines, resulting in the abandonment of an entrenched position by the former. With characteristic veracity, the Chinese claim a victory. The *Herald* hears of extensive preparations on the part of the Imperialists, and mentions a rumour that the foreign drilled troops under the command of Captain MacMahon, are expecting orders to proceed to Formosa for service. Shen Pao-chen, the Imperial Commissioner in Formosa, is about to relinquish his office. The Footai of Fuhkien will give his special attention to the Government of the Island.—From Tamsui, the tea crop is reported to be very inferior, owing to the heavy rain experienced during the picking.

There has been a heavy gale in Hongkong and neighborhood, by which much damage was done. Particulars will be found elsewhere.

Canton does not seem to have suffered very badly, though Whampoa was nearly destroyed.

The gale was felt with the utmost severity at Macao. Hundreds of junks and small boats were seen keel upwards or smashed up—consequently the loss of life must again have been very great. Much damage was also done to property in the city, and the Governor's house was half blown down. The *Chen Jui* (Chinese revenue cruiser) went ashore, but came off the next day.

Editorial Selections.

SIR ANDREW CLARKE'S POLICY IN THE STRAITS.

Two years is not a long time to effect a practical amelioration in government; yet less than two years under Sir Andrew Clarke at Singapore has had the effect of drawing from the Chinese residents a high testimonial as to the amount of good effected by a vigorous and impartial policy. Under the rule of the previous governor, trade had languished; its practical avenues had been closed by a feeble and vacillating policy; Sumatra had been given up tied and bound to Holland; and every petty headman on the Malayan peninsula had been allowed to exercise exactions at his own discretion. It was in fact becoming a China on a small scale. The residents appealed time after time to the home Government against this position of matters, but ineffectually; and the Chinese residents followed with a petition at once quaint and practical. "In former times," said the petitioners, "the governors of the Settlements were as fathers, and the rajahs of each Malay state as their children." All this had, however, been changed—no supervision was exercised, no redress for injury granted; the stereotyped answer given to each complainant was, that he undertook to carry on trade on his own responsibility and he must take the consequence. It is, therefore, satisfactory to find, within two years later, the same people coming forward and willingly testifying to the effect produced by a change in the system of government. The Chinese at Penang take the opportunity of Sir Andrew Clarke leaving the Government of the Straits' Settlements, to present him with an address. They had had occasion in their dealings with the native headmen, to appeal to the new Governor. Fortunately, they found him made of different stuff from his predecessor. "Through the superior, searching and exhaustive way in which your Excellency has undertaken to restore these territories to tranquility, they now assume a very probable and propitious aspect of flourishing again with respect to trade." Sir Andrew Clarke, on first taking office, found that the apathy of his predecessors in office had rendered the use of some degree of physical force necessary. Once people were convinced, however, that the new governor was in earnest, affairs very soon assumed a settled aspect; and we believe that, so far from needing any undue interference with the native rulers, the tenure of office of the late Governor was marked by fewer hostile displays than that of his predecessors in office. Undeniably, the first to advantage by this new state of affairs were the very rajahs themselves. It is idle to expect that semi-barbarian tribes can be got to look beyond the mere interest of the moment, to develope a settled policy. A headman at Laroot will, if permitted, plunder a trader because he gets an immediate benefit. He will always, or for a long time, fail to see that he is thereby injuring his own future. In a case like this, the Government which takes a firm stand and makes itself respected is but fulfilling its duties, not only towards its own people, but to those towards whom for the moment it is compelled to use coercive measures. There are so many instances in the world of the evils brought on by misgovernment, that it is a pleasure to be able to bring forward so practical a case of the improvement capable of being effected by sound administration. In every quarter of the globe we can see nations capable of occupying a distinguished a place in the history of the world, utterly ruined by a corrupt and feeble administration. The government of the rajahs of the Malayan peninsula is not very different from what we see in countries like China or Persia. In dealing with States reduced to this level, the firmest policy is ultimately the most satisfactory for both parties. We have not heard that Sir Andrew Clarke has incurred the enmity of the rajahs whose eccentricities he kept in check. It is more consonant with human nature to suppose he has gained their respect, if not affection. In a political sense, no policy can be worse than one of vacillation. It is sure to lead to mutual distrust and, with inferior races, to intensify the tendency to duplicity which is the great obstacle to improved intercourse.

BURMAH TRIBUTARY TO CHINA.

It would be interesting to have a direct translation from the original of the letter from the King of Burmah to the Emperor, which is published in the *Peking Gazette* of the 15th May. We know that China claims a kind of suzerainty over the neighboring States; but we have also seen that these States do not always recognise her claim; and it would be interesting to know how far the tone attributed to the King is justified by the Burmese text of his petition. We remember, some years ago, a similar memorial from the Governor of Fohkien, relating how the King of Siam had begged to be allowed to send tribute, and forwarding a petition fully equal in humility to that of the King of Burmah, begging for a renewal of the relations which had been interrupted. The memorial set forth how the sovereigns of Siam had from generation to generation been invested by the Celestial sovereigns, and paid tribute without intermission; and wound up by saying that the present ruler, having lately ascended the throne, was anxious to pay tribute as customary and begged directions how to proceed. The Fohkien authorities remarked upon the document, that Siam was a small and insignificant spot in a remote corner of the Ocean, from which tribute has been forwarded through successive generations; and submitted it to the Throne. Nothing could have been more decorous and grandiloquent. But a few months after, came a letter from the Regent of Siam, addressed to the *N.-C. Herald*, disclaiming any idea of tribute, and declaring that presents were sent only in order to maintain friendly relations and secure facilities for trade. It was true that Siam wished to send an embassy; but she wished to do so by way of Tientsin as other nations do, provided it would be treated somewhat in the same way as those of Western nations. But the Chinese insisted that it should follow the old overland route through Canton; and so the matter had dropped until they should be willing to receive it in what Siam conceived to be a proper manner.

Now this document rather staggers our belief in the tributary anxiety of the "outer nations," and suggests a doubt whether the King of Burmah has used quite the servile language which the Chinese translation conveys. According to it, the King designates himself by a term less than even the Ministers of China adopt, in memorials to the Throne, and addresses the Emperor in a strain of adulation and self-depreciation, which could hardly be excelled if the petition came from the meanest slave in his dominions. Oriental imagery and Oriental hyperbole tolerate much, but a doubt will arise whether even the Court of Mandalay would use language so absolutely grovelling as that of the present document. However, that Burmah is in some sense tributary to China seems beyond doubt. The Yunnan Governor's allegation in regard to the decennial presentation of tribute, finds curious confirmation in the very reclamation from Siam, to which we referred at the outset. In reviewing the relations of China with her neighbours, the Regent remarks that Burmah made war against China in the last century, to get rid of the obligation; but in 1867, 8 and 9, the Chinese sent successive armies into the country, and the Burmese eventually "yielded and begged to pay tribute once in ten years as before." The Governor of Yunnan now tells us that, for eighteen years, the practice has been interrupted, owing to the Mahomedan rebellion; but in 1872, after the restoration of Imperial rule, a Burmese officer came to the provincial capital to ask for instructions as to the matter of tribute. The Governor commanded him to act in accordance with the established custom; and now at last we have the result. There seems little doubt that this Embassy is the one which preceded Colonel Browne's expedition, and thereby strengthened the suspicion, in India, that the Court of Mandalay was privy to the attack. There seems to have been nothing so unusual in the event as to entail that inference, though it is

quite likely to be true. Whether the facts will ever be unravelled, prophecy only could foretell. That they had an independent object, is no reason why the Ambassadors should not have talked about current events; and the time of their journey was opportune for a conspiracy, if such did really exist. However this may be, we learn now that they reached the frontier on the 1st February, with five elephants and a quantity of presents destined as tribute for Peking, and had reached no farther than the Provincial capital, by the 1st of April following. They must, therefore, have been in the district of Momein at the very time of the outrage; it would be interesting to read the reports on the incident, which will have been sent back by them to Mandalay. The Mission is now well on its way to the Capital, and the next we shall probably hear of it will be an announcement in the *Gazette* that the Emperor has received it in audience, as he received the European Tributaries in 1872, and probably in the same building.

CHINESE COOLIES IN PERU.

Mr. Clements R. Markham, C.B., reviews, in the December number of the *Geographical Magazine*, a memorial presented to the Congress of Peru by the Minister of State. The review is written in a friendly spirit, and from Mr. Markham's personal knowledge of the country, we may be assured that this friendliness is not without foundation. The abuses of the coolie trade from Macao had turned the minds of all right principled men against the continuance of a traffic which led to the undoubted enormities we have so frequently had to chronicle. We pointed out, all through, that these abuses were inseparable from a system of contract emigration, and that the very need of introducing such a system seemed to prove there was something essentially wrong at the foundation. Mr. Markham's paper will remove many misconceptions, and probably enable us the better to arrive at an understanding of the circumstances whose abuse led to the undeniable atrocities of the Macao coolie trade. So many conflicting statements have at various times appeared, as to the treatment of the Chinese emigrants in Peru, that an authoritative statement like that put forward by Mr. Markham cannot but be received with satisfaction. On the one hand we had the statements of those who told us of the miseries and injustice to which the emigrant Chinese were subjected; on the other, we were told of the ease and comfort which awaited the emigrant in his new home. It is possible that both were founded equally on truth, and yet that both were equally likely to lead to a false impression. Mr. Markham's paper, while possibly painting the lot of the Chinese coolie settled in Peru in rather too glowing terms, shows what steps have been taken by the Peruvian Government to ameliorate his position, and what are really the ordinary feelings of the Peruvians themselves—on the subject of contract labour. He points out that Peru, of its own motion, took an early and independent action in the abolition of slavery; that the country no sooner had gained its own independence than it adopted a scheme for the gradual abolition of slavery; and this was before such a project was seriously discussed even in the Parliament of Great Britain. The emancipation, it wisely considered, should be gradual, and of this policy it never lost sight, one step being taken after another till, in 1855, the emancipation of slaves became complete and entire. The disposition of the cultivators in Peru has been of a like nature with that of the body of the State. As a rule, they are kindly and considerate employers of labour, a fact which probably accounts for the possibility of gradual emancipation, which elsewhere has been found almost if not quite impossible. The Peruvian Government, actuated by these principles, has provided machinery for the suppression of any attempts at cruelty or oppression towards the emigrant coolies;—and, altogether, one is left with a feeling of surprise that so much wrong should have been done, under the shadow of so many precautions for good.

It is not denied, however, that abuses of a grave kind have taken place with regard to the introduction of emigrants from Macao, and Mr. Markham does not attempt to free the Government from blame. He however points out what were the defects in the system, and as these seem to be understood, and were about to be acted on by the Peruvian Government, it may be hoped that in future a wholesome emigration may be established. Great Britain has found it necessary to jealously supervise all systems purporting to introduce labour into the several colonies. Such cases as that of the notorious *Carl* prove that no nationality can trust such matters to private hands. The Peruvian Government must have been for many years aware of the abuses which were being enacted apparently with its full sanction; but public feeling does not appear to have sufficiently aroused itself to the necessity of getting rid of the imputations thereby cast on the policy of the Government, till the case of the *Maria Luz* drew the attention of the world to the position of affairs. It must be remembered that, for years previously, the attention of the two Governments of Peru and Portugal had been drawn to the abuses of the traffic, but that remonstrances had been vain in procuring a diminution of the objectionable element of making contracts with private individuals for the supply of labour. It is the remembrance of the indifference with which all such representations were treated by the two Governments concerned, which induces on our side a little hesitancy as to the full acceptance of the very favourable report of Mr. Markham, as to the happiness and prosperity of the Chinese emigrants. However, out of the *Maria Luz* case much good did come. It induced the Peruvian Government to send a mission to China, under an able officer, Captain Garcia of the Peruvian navy. The irritation which the conduct of the Japanese Government undoubtedly caused in Peru seemed to show that, of many of the worst details of the system of emigration till then in vogue, the Peruvian Government was ignorant. Captain Garcia's mission probably enlightened him, as well as his Government, as to the true condition of affairs, and his proceedings in Japan and China reflect credit on his judgment and ability. It is equally to his credit, and to that of his Government, that in the face of the prejudices which had grown up strongly against him and them, he was able to negotiate the Peruvian treaty with China. We have already spoken in approving terms of the conditions of that treaty, and Mr. Markham's paper affords us some hope that, in the conditions provided for the well-being of the Chinese emigrants, the Peruvian Government have been actuated by motives of sound and consistent policy. Free emigration between China and Peru cannot fail to be of great mutual advantage; if the Peruvian Government will undertake to carry it on in proper vessels and under proper supervision, it cannot but meet the approval of all. The example of the British Colonies in the West Indies shows that, in the practical carrying out of such a system, difficulties will arise; but, doubtless, Peru has advantages for the bonâ fide emigrant not possessed by Demarara or the other West India Colonies; and the example of San Francisco shows that a passenger traffic once started will continue to maintain itself, if left unfettered.

THE MIXED COURT.

A correspondent calls attention to a case lately tried at the Mixed Court, during which Chên informed the defendant (a Chinese) that he was anxious to assist him against the plaintiff (a foreigner); and asks whether it is not time that a Magistrate who so openly avows partiality were —promoted. We doubt whether anything would be gained by the process. The next Magistrate might be more guarded in his expressions, but he would equally incline to take the Chinaman's side in any case where Chinaman and Foreigner were at issue. What is wanted is a complete re-organisation of the Court, on the basis laid down by Art. XVII of the Tientsin Treaty. It is not there contemplated that an Englishman, having complaint against a Chinaman, is to sue him before a Chinese Court with a foreigner sitting helplessly by; but before a really Mixed Court, comprising a British as well as a Chinese official. Of course it is hopeless

to get justice in a Court where the Magistrate openly confesses that he takes the side of his countryman. The only result could be that the Foreign co-judge would pull the other way, and then a compromise might be arrived at. But even to do this effectually the Foreigner needs some power, whereas the whole power is at present in the hands of the Chinese Magistrate; and when a case is so glaring that he cannot escape from it otherwise, Chen declares this power to be insufficient and passes it on to the Che-hsien. There is no doubt however that his power is often insufficient; and Foreign Ministers should insist on the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai being made a separate district; but then Foreign Ministers never insist on anything now-a-days. As matters stand, the Foreign Associate may induce the Chinese magistrate to pass a sentence of 1,000 blows, but may also rest assured that the man will not get one inflicted, unless in a police case, when the police can be required to stay and witness the flogging. Civilly, all the power is in the hands of the Chinese Magistrate. Supposing that the Assessor concusses the Magistrate into giving a decision favorable to the foreigner, how is he to get it executed? As a last resource he may get the defendant imprisoned, but alas! two days afterwards, the poor defendant is seized with prison cholera and has to be bailed out. Seeing then, that both actually and nominally all the power of the Court is in the hands of the Chinese Magistrate, what hope is there for Foreign suitors when the latter declares in open Court, that he is on the side of his own countrymen? It is a notorious fact that, never since the Court was established, have Foreign suitors ever obtained the whole of their claims presented at the first hearing. And this is what we are content to accept as "deciding equitably," according to treaty.

The reports on the working and power of the Mixed Court, which we publish on another page, will be read with much interest. Before taking steps to endeavour to improve the Court, the Treaty Consuls very rightly asked for reports from the officials who had had opportunity of observing its working. It will be seen that Messrs. Alabaster, Haas, and Yates concur in advocating that the Settlements should be erected into a separate jurisdiction. Mr. Alabaster, in the course of his elaborate and interesting report, adds a suggestion that the office of Foreign Assessor should be a permanent one; and we quite agree with his argument.

REVIEW.

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Peking Hospital—1874.

WE always glance with interest through the pages of a Chinese Hospital Report, and through none with greater interest than that of the Peking Hospital under the care of Dr. Dudgeon. Apart from the interest attaching to Mission Hospital work—and there is none done in China that is so well calculated to conciliate a liking for foreigners—the Practitioner in charge of such a Hospital, understanding as he generally does the Chinese language and brought in contact with all classes of people, is in a position to pick up much quaint information with which to lighten the pages of his report. And Dr. Dudgeon is *facile princeps* in this direction. It may be doubted whether any other foreigner in China comes so much in contact with Chinese of all grades of society, as he does. Besides the thousands of the lower class who attend the hospital, he tells us that he is often consulted by mandarins of rank, from whom he has had gratifying marks of appreciation. He himself remarks:—

It is generally believed that the Chinese are destitute of gratitude, or at all events that they fail to express their thankfulness for benefits conferred upon them; that gratuitous medical work among them is especially a thankless one, and that time, money, labour, and skill spent in this way are unrequited. This charge, it seems to me, is entirely without foundation. I have experienced kindness and have had marked politeness and gratitude manifested in words and looks, exhibited in the Dispensary and on the public street by virtue entirely of the hospital work. Other foreigners too have reaped advantage, or have had kindness and politeness shown them by virtue of their connection or supposed connection with the foreign Doctor. Places of interest, officially barred at times against foreigners, through some wanton injury committed by Southern visitors on the persons or places, have been opened to the doctor and his friends, in person or by card, by grateful patients. The same connection has carried the writer and friends through crowds not favorably disposed to foreigners, when the brickbat or the opprobrious epithet or the cry for life in times of excitement, were hurled at one.

Located at the Capital, and therefore in a nest of mandarins, supported probably in some measure by his honorary connexion with the Legation, and speaking Chinese with fluency, Dr. Dudgeon has no doubt had rare opportunities of intercourse with officials; and we can well believe that the result has been favourable. Prejudices, superstitions, and unfriendliness are more readily removed by means of the foreign medical practice among the Chinese, than by any other cause. We cannot follow Dr. Dudgeon through the details he gives of the direct and tangible proofs of gratitude shown by his patients. They have taken every form, from thanks and kotows, to the more tangible ones of fruit, scrolls, tablets and money. One high official, cured of a serious ailment which the Chinese practitioners were utterly powerless to affect,

"presented several pieces of handsome silk, boxes of tea, cakes, fruit, jars of wine, handsome scrolls and a small honorarium or honorific trifle. not worth mentioning, and sent merely as necklaces (pin money as it were) to the writer's daughters, viz. 100 taels; another sent a present of 15 taels; and a third of 10 taels, all which are acknowledged in the proper place in the Report. One reigning Prince, the descendant of the celebrated Prince of the Tourgouth Tartars, sent 100 catties of rice, and on another occasion,—and this last is by no means uncommon,—a Chinese dinner, served up in innumerable little dishes. The same Prince is preparing a handsome wooden tablet for erection in the hospital. He has been cured of opium-smoking, and the thousand ills that some times follow in its train."

The quaint incidents which Dr. Dudgeon introduces into his surgical statistics are legion. We take at hazard the case of a man who came complaining of aches and pains, sleeplessness, visions, want of appetite, &c., which he attributed entirely to a fox having passed him in the public street:—

The fox, according to the Chinese, is strategetic and full of suspicions; the fox cries like a child; his smell is disagreeable; his superior magical or demoniacal power is such that the very evil spirits fear him; he is said to have three virtues, fine hair, of which garments can be made; he is small in front and large behind; and when he dies, he selects a suitable place for a grave; he has so quick an ear that he can hear ice freezing, and will put his ear to it to test it before he ventures to cross water upon it; in his interior he has a pearl; and it is by means of this that he exercises his talismanic influence over people, and is able to transform himself into a man or woman. When he lives one hundred years, he worships the North star; by striking his tail on the ground at night he can produce fire; he is afraid of dogs; when a thousand years old, his deception and tricks can be discovered by burning a piece of wood of equal age before his face; or if a rhinoceros bone be thrown into his den, he will not enter it. In some places, the foxes have nine tails and will eat human beings.

Dr. Dudgeon notes a remarkable increase in the number of ague patients, "not from its intrinsic importance, but from its universal prevalence in Peking, a circumstance almost unknown a few years ago." And it is curious to take in connexion with this, a remark by the Rev. J. Gilmour, the missionary for the London Missionary Society in Mongolia:—"Ague is not common, but not altogether unknown. It greatly alarmed part of a tribe once by spreading itself among them. The lamas did not know what to make of it, and at last concluded that it was a contagious disease introduced into the country by the Mongol soldiers who had gone on Government duty into China."—Six cases of attempts at suicide by opium were treated during the year, of which five recovered. Dr. Dudgeon specially notes that he did not use atropine, which is curious, considering the marked advantage Dr. Johnston has found from its use in similar cases in Shanghai. There was also a case of death by gold poisoning, and on this Dr. Dudgeon remarks:—

It is difficult to explain cases of poisoning by gold. It is frequently practised in China and with success. Some suppose it is by suffocation, the gold leaf obstructing the larynx. In some Chinese books it is asserted that crude gold is poisonous, but not the prepared article; and the latter, they say, comes from the Corea and foreign countries; elsewhere the great Herbal is contradicted, and it is stated that it is not poisonous, that the workmen employed in digging for the metal frequently swallow it; also that gold leaf is used medicinally and is free from poison, and that it may be taken for palpitation. They have had recourse to various theories to account for its supposed poisonous property;—one, that the serpent left his teeth in the stones from which the metal is dug;—a third, that it is the dung of a poisonous bird deposited on the stone. The widespread opinion in China, and doubtless the result of numerous observations, must have some basis. The official work on Medical Jurisprudence states that, in gold poisoning, the bones are yellow. Oily substances are recommended as antidotal.

It would have delighted Thackeray to learn that "family jars with mothers-in-law" are fruitful causes of the wounds which come in for treatment.—Some curious particulars are given of the Emperor's illness. As is well-known, he was attacked on the 9th December, the day of the transit of Venus, and the Chinese mind at once drew a parallel and a connexion between the incidents. As the natural sun was obscured by a dark spot, so the Emperor's face was darkened by the eruption of the "heavenly flowers." He appeared to get better for a time, and "on the 24th December, the 15th day of the disease, the most extensive and expensive offerings were made to the goddess of small-pox, the burning of paper, etc., taking place in front of the South gate of the palace. It is reported that as much as two or three hundred thousand taels were spent in this frivolous and superstitious ceremony. A relapse took place, and on the 6th January he was not expected to recover. He sank and died on the 12th. Rumours of all kinds were afloat regarding his illness, but without better evidence than has yet come to our knowledge, it would be rash perhaps to deviate from the original and published diagnosis. It was said he had small-pox when a child at Jehol. His illness has at least demonstrated the fallacy of the opinion, that only children are subject to it. Regarding the nature of the disease, it may be said however that there was much in many of the symptoms to excite suspicion; and the banishment of several eunuchs afterwards, as being accessory to the Emperor's death, lent a colour to these doubts. Very shortly after this event, the Emperor's sister and the only remaining child of the Emperor Hien-feng, died also, having given birth to a premature child. Both brother and sister seem to have inherited very weak constitutions. It is said the sister died also of small-pox, caught during her confinement, the same two medical men having charge also of the princess."

The present Emperor has been vaccinated.—Among other matters, Dr. Dudgeon remarks on the great age of some of the patients whom he has visited. Instancing the case of man aged 73, whose mother was 92 and in the enjoyment of all her senses, he adds that he has found, in many cases, patients between sixty and seventy years of age had their mothers alive and in good health. He has been lately attending the mother of one of the highest officials in the Empire, aged 84. And he draws from such figures a natural inference as to the healthiness of the Peking climate.

Adjoining the Hospital is a little shop "for the sale of anti-opium pills and diffusion of knowledge." The admixture is a curious one, but the idea seems to work well in practice. Dr. Dudgeon at any rate found so may literary persons congregated there, that he started a reading room in connexion with it, and obtained for it from the President of the Board of Civil office, the sanction of his name and a Tablet. Much interest seems to be taken in the books offered; a number of copies having been sold of various translations of scientific works, besides 7,000 anti-opium pills, during the year. Dr. Dudgeon believes greatly in the Peking Magazine, to which he attributes a very beneficial and wide-spread influence. Indeed he is more enthusiastic generally, as to the spread of foreign ideas, than his countrymen in China are inclined to be. Certainly we can see very little practical result from the process of education which the Chinese are said to be undergoing. But we are able to agree with him in believing in to the beneficial influence of Hospitals, and repeat that his report is an interesting one in very many ways. There are appended to it, some "Notes on Mongol practice," by the Rev. J. Gilmour, which have literary as well as medical interest, and to which we may perhaps revert at another time.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

The soldiers who arrived per *Yung Ching* steamer, left a few days ago for the scene of operations near Takushan, five hundred *li* from this, where the cavalry will meet them from Tientsin overland. If I hear of any fighting, you shall know in due course.

We hear that Captain Crowell has to make room for another commander on cheaper pay, and that we shall not have him next trip. It does not seem that the S. S. N. Co. will get the shares up to par by reducing the earnings of well-tried and popular men like Captain Crowell, but it is probably the beginning of a general reduction, and people must meet the times, as the storekeepers say when they charge a dollar for a tooth brush instead of a tael as in better days. The community are raising a testimonial to Captain Crowell, who well deserves whatever good can be laid to the charge of any one.

Grey Shirtings, 8¼-lb. are quoted	Tls.	1.65
English Drills, 15-lb.	,,	2.40
American do.	,,	3.30
Black Lastings	,,	12.20
Exports—Beancake	Tls.	3.70 per 10 ps.
Peas	,,	2.30 ,, 300 c.
Oil	,,	2.38 ,, picul.

The steamer *Foochow* is loading for Swatow. The *Shanse* takes beancake *viâ* Chefoo. Thermometer, coldest 60°; during day, 80° Fahrenheit.

1st June.

TIENTSIN.

Li Chaou-tang, the new Customs Taotai at this port, arrived here yesterday morning in the steam-lighter *Lee Hang*, having the day before come to Taku from Shanghai in the C. M. steamer *Leeyuen*.

Sun-sze-ta, the Acting Customs Taotai, wrote to the Consuls to-day, informing them that he will to-morrow morning hand over the seals of office to his successor; and after that that he will cease transacting the business of the Customs at this port. As Sun-sze-ta has had considerable experience with the transaction of diplomatic business at the Tsung-li yamên at Peking and at Tientsin, it is thought by some people here that Li Hung-chang may retain him on his staff, to assist in the transaction of Foreign affairs at this port. Other people say he will leave soon for Shanghai.

Some time ago I was told that Chin-kin, who ceased holding the post of Customs Taotai at this port last July, died at his native place in Shantung, shortly after his reaching there at the beginning of last winter. I have been told again to-day that he really died at the time mentioned. He did not, then, live long to enjoy, in his native valley, the large fortune he made at Tientsin.

The weather is now hot during the day time, the thermometer rising yesterday to 86° Fahrenheit. We are much in want of rain, and the Emperor has lately been praying for rain to fall in the North of China.

31st May.

About six o'clock this morning, Li Chaou-tang, the new Customs Taotai at this port, formally took over the seals of office from Sun-sze-ta, who had been acting Customs Taotai for the past eleven months. There were present, besides these two officials, Ma, the prefect of Tientsin-foo, and Jin, the magistrate of the Tientsin-heen, and a number of petty officials belonging to the Customs. During the previous two days Li Chaou-tang had called upon Li Hung-chang, the Governor-General, and the principal Chinese territorial and other functionaries stationed at this city. Proclamations have been issued, notifying to the Chinese public that Li Chaou-tang had taken office as Customs Taotai at this port.

Weather hot. The thermometer rose to-day to 88° Fahrenheit. It stood at 62° at daylight this morning. For several days back the difference between the min. and max. has been 26° Fahrenheit. The country around here is much in want of rain.

1st June.

The new Customs Taotai, Lee Chaou-tang, yesterday morning early, sent despatches to the Consuls of the port, acquainting them that he had, on the 1st instant, taken over charge of the Foreign Customs at Tientsin as Taotai.

Chinese rumour says that the proceedings of the Sultan of Kashgar, in Eastern Turkestan, are causing the Peking Cabinet and Tsung-le yamên great uneasiness. The intelligence which was conveyed to the public in China in the *North-China Daily News* of 22nd May, to the effect "that the envoy of the Khan of Kashgar had arrived in Constantinople," will not tend to make them more easy regarding the state of affairs; for no doubt their foreign employés at Peking did not fail to inform the Yamên that the Sultan of Turkey is regarded as a chief of the Mussulmans; and has in his army many experienced Mahomedan officers, who are fully competent to teach the forces of the Sultan of Kashgar European military drill and tactics, which would render them formidable opponents in the field. I have always understood that the language spoken by the Mahomedan population in Eastern Turkestan was the same as that spoken by the Turkish population in Asiatic and European Turkey. This fact, added to both peoples being Mussulmans, will bind them together more closely. Should the object then, of the Ameer, in sending an Envoy to Constantinople, be to obtain the physical support of the Sultan by the aid of experienced military officers, China may make up her mind to lose, ere long, the whole of Eastern Turkestan. From everything we have all along heard, the Mahomedans in Kashgar will easily obtain ample supplies of munitions of war from the Russian merchants who trade with the people of Central Asia. We shall no doubt, before long, learn some news more definite, through the Chinese, and also Russian officials, regarding the actual state of affairs in Eastern Turkestan, that will enable us to form a more accurate conception of them than we at this moment possess; and guide us to a clear idea as to the probable course which events will take by the Sultan of Kashgar going to war with China.

To-day, in a completely shaded place in the verandah, and out of the wind, the thermometer at 4 P.M. stood at 96° Fahrenheit. There is a hot south-west wind blowing, which accounts for it rising so very high. At daylight, the thermometer stood at 63° Fahrenheit.

In the Peking *Gazette* of the 30th May there is an Edict appointing Shên-paou-chen 沈寶楨 (at present High Commissioner to Formosa), Governor-General of the provinces of Keang-suh, Keangse, and

An-hwuy (Leang-Keang Tsung-tuh) and High Commissioner for Foreign affairs in the South of China. Lew Kwan-yeh has been commanded to remain in charge at Nanking as acting Governor-General till the arrival of Shen Paou-chen.

PURITAN.

3rd June.

FOOCHOW.

A Foochow Correspondent writes :—Admiral Ryder arrived on the 3rd. There are five British men-of-war and one German corvette in port. The *Herald* suggests that the opportunity of Admiral Ryder's visit should be taken by the Chamber of Commerce, to point out the expediency of affording the British community of Foochow a more ample naval protection throughout the year. Amoy, a place of far less consequence so far as British interests are concerned, is the rendezvous of one or more gunboats all the year round ; while we are deprived of naval protection for nearly half that period. Recent events at the Pagoda Anchorage have sufficiently demonstrated the folly of indulging in any kind of belief in the power or willingness of the Native authorities to afford adequate protection to the persons and property of foreigners.—Mr. James Hart (the present Commissioner of Customs at Foochow) is to be transferred to Shanghai.—The Mandarin in charge of the gun foundry has been called on to pay Tls. 1,000 compensation to the family of the man who was recently killed by the bursting of a gun !—A review of the bow-and-arrow troops in garrison commenced on the 29th ultimo at the South Camp, and was continued on the following day. As a semi-theatrical display, it was somewhat imposing. As a military effort, supremely ridiculous.—The coolies employed in the matting of tea packages were on strike a few days ago. Their demand for an increase (nearly cent. per cent.) of wages was, the *Herald* understands, promptly acceded to by certain foreign hongs. Strikes are not unknown out of China, but a sweeping demand for double wages—in a country where all the necessaries of life are uncommonly cheap—is a serious matter, even in these golden days.—The *Herald* waxes facetious about the opening of the Hankow tea market. Referring to comments by Shanghai papers, it says, "the undue haste shewn in opening the season's business was, no doubt, foolish, and deserving of condemnation ; but our contemporaries apparently lose sight of the important fact that profits on Tea are not looked for now-a-days, and that, consequently, nobody is disappointed."—A meeting of the Race Club was held on the 24th ultimo. The accounts showed $1491 in hand. Messrs. Paterson, Tennant, Hart, Pomeroy, Sheppard, Tatham, and Walkinshaw were elected stewards for the current year.—The *Herald* publishes details of the agreement come to in regard to the Amoy telegraph line. They agree with what we stated to be the case last week.—The *Herald* relates a bold attack by smugglers upon the Customs' establishment at Pagoda Anchorage. A short time ago, two chests of Opium were smuggled from one of the steamers in port, and landed in a village at the back of Nan-tai. The Customs' officer in charge of the steamer obtained information which led to the discovery of the smugglers, and subsequent confiscation of the drug—a result by no means pleasing to the contrabandists—who, Chinese fashion, immediately set to work to discover the informers. Suspicion was fastened on a sampan man in the employ of the Customs : and on Saturday night (22nd) about 10 o'clock, an armed snake boat pulled up to the Customs House jetty, attacked the sampan in question, wounded the boatman's wife, and carried off their son—a lad of fifteen. On the night of the 27th ultimo—between 1 and 2 a.m.—an armed snake boat went alongside the steamer *Douglas*. It was evident that the men were there for an unlawful purpose, and the Customs' officer in charge of the steamer (Mr. Blacklock) ordered them off ; they however refused to go, whereupon Mr. Blacklock fired into them ; the fire was immediately returned, and Mr. Blacklock was killed on the spot. The officers of the steamer were by this time roused, and all the available fire arms on board were brought to bear against the crew of the snake boat, with, it is believed, considerable effect. The smugglers now retreated, and immediate assistance was rendered to Mr. Blacklock, but all was unavailing, as his death must have been instantaneous. The Native Authorities were again appealed to for assistance, and responded, this time, to the extent of sending a guard to the Custom House—a necessary proceeding in view of the fact that the entire foreign staff were now threatened. The miscreants are still at large, but we believe that the Authorities *are meditating* an attack upon the village—the inhabitants of which are, it is stated, in open revolt.

The Foochow Market Report of the 28th May says :—The new season's Pehlings began to arrive in quantity on the 14th instant, and about 15,000 boxes, costing Tls. 31 *a* Tls. 33½, and consisting principally of contract chops, were sent forward by the English mail leaving Hongkong on the 22nd instant. The earlier settlements shew an advance upon last year's opening rates of about two taels, and since then about 54,000 boxes have been settled at at Tls. 24 *a* Tls. 37, which owing to the competition among buyers shew a further advance of from two to three taels. Generally the teas are inferior in make to last year's, though about equal in cup. About 100,000 chests of country teas have been placed on the market, the quality of which is generally considered to be decidedly inferior to last year's crop, those from some districts appearing to have suffered from the unfavourable weather which has prevailed during the picking.—The steamers *Glenfinlas, Braemar Castle,* and *State of Virginia* are the only vessels now on the berth for London, and have been circulated to load at £4.10 per 40 cubic feet. Expected, for London, steamers *Montgomeryshire, Agamemnon, Statesman,* and *City of Baltimore* ; sailing vessels, *Nyassa, Thermopylae,* and *Black Prince* ; for Australia—*Nautilus* and *J. H. Jessen.*

AMOY.

H. B. M.'s Birthday was the occasion of the usual display of bunting by the vessels in harbour and the Consular Flagstaves, but no salutes were fired, as the local representative of Her Majesty's fleet is below saluting power. The subscription Ball at the Club, in the evening, was a great success. The Committee had spared no pains in the preparations to ensure the comfort of the dancers. The Ball room was covered with stretched canvas, and was tastefully decorated with flags, while the temperature was kept moderately low with the aid of punkahs and ice.—We are no longer dependant on Foochow, by the bye, for our supplies of this article, for Dr. Jones, whom the community has to thank already for so many contributions to its comfort, has built an ice machine that turns out beautifully clear slabs about two inches thick.—The supper was all that could be desired, and particular attention was paid to the *Champagne frappé*, whose hissing and gurgling down the parched throats of the dancers was delightful music. The party dispersed after a very enjoyable evening at 3 a.m.—We have lately been visited with some terrific squalls from the N.E., of wind and rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning. These squalls are very sudden, and are first observed in the form of a dense black mass of cloud, with forked lightning darting to and fro in its midst. This cloud steadily advances till it is overhead, when the gale bursts in all its strength, and blinding torrents of rain fall that obscure everything a yard ahead. During a recent squall of this description, the *Growler* dragged her anchors and touched slightly the mud bank, and several junks broke away from their moorings. The sampans take timely warning and mostly haul up, or the loss of life would be very great.

A Regatta took place on the 29th, and, like most regattas, was not very exciting, and gave more pleasure perhaps from affording a holiday than from any merits of its own. The day was very fine, but very hot, and it seemed almost sinful to allow Europeans to pull under such a scorching sun. The *Ling-fêng* was hauled up to Messrs. Douglas Lapraik's buoy to act as Flag-ship, and all the races were started and won between her and the Koolang-soo shore.

After the races came the pig at the end of the greasy pole, the wash-tub race and all the other minor accessories of Regattas. Four pigs were captured, and the wash-tub race afforded a deal of amusement.—The *Growler* left the same evening for Foochow in pursuance of telegraphic instructions.—*China Mail.*

30th May.

CANTON.

The gale on Monday night at Canton was terrific, the river is filled with wreckage, and nearly all the houses at Whampoa are blown down. The barometer at Canton fell till one o'clock, when it registered 29.32 ; it then began to rise again. The steamer *Bombay* which was in the Canton River the whole of Monday night, and arrived here yesterday morning, seems to have encountered the full force of the hurricane. There was a large quantity of wreckage in the river, and she was successful in picking up no less than twenty men, women, and children, who were floating on spars and wrecked sampans.—Messrs. Deacon & Co.'s Market Report, of 3rd June, says :—In Tea, a large business has been transacted during the past fortnight, and prices have generally ruled in favor of buyers.—It is difficult to arrive at settlements of New Silk since the market was opened ten days ago. 700/800 bales are reported to have changed hands, but it is probable that there are further dealings under contract, which have not transpired. Purchases were made, prior to departure of last French Mail, on a basis of $320 *a* $325 per picul for No. 4 Tsatlee, but prices have since advanced, and $335 is now the figure for that classification, and the tendency is upward. Nos. 4, 4½, and 5 qualities have been chiefly in demand. The Silk is an improvement on ordinary first yields, and shows tolerably clean thread, of very fair quality. It is too soon to speculate regarding second crop, but advices from the country are to the effect that the worms are favorably progressing. —*(Daily Press.)*

HONGKONG.

A heavy gale occurred in Hongkong on the 31st ulto., during which the str. *Poyang* was wrecked near Macao, with the loss of many lives. No serious injury seems to have been sustained by the foreign shipping in harbour, though several vessels were more or less damaged. Several junks foundered. On shore, two or three houses were blown down, and others damaged. A number of trees were blown down, and the Public Gardens have again unfortunately come in

for a large share of harm, just as they were beginning to recover from the effects of the typhoon of last autumn. The *Daily Press* gives the following readings of the barometer, taken at Messrs. G. Falconer and Co.'s :—

9 A.M.	29.892	8 P.M.	29.684
1 P.M.	29.808	9 ,,	29.630
5 ,,	29.740	10 ,,	29.600
6 ,,	29.728	11 ,,	29.586
7 ,,	29.720	11.30 ,,	29.600

The French mail steamer experienced fine weather throughout, and it is therefore evident the storm did not extend far in a southerly direction.

The *Daily Press* says :—The Chinese prophecy that on the 10th day of their sixth month—that is, 12th July—a much larger typhoon than that witnessed last year is to visit the Colony, and unless the main force of it is spent outside, it will undoubtedly ruin Hongkong. — Colonel Browne arrived on the 3rd in the *Thales*. —A tiffin has been given on board the P. & O. steamer *Oceanic*, which seems to be creating a sensation in Hongkong.—The *Daily Press* says that the services of Mr. Manning, the well-known diver, who recently arrived in the steamer *Statesman*, have been secured to aid in the recovering of the treasure from the wreck of the P.M. steamship *Japan*. He left in the *Hailoong* for Swatow on Wednesday. In addition to the schooner *Scotland*, the American schooner *Lizzie* and a large steam launch are rendering assistance at the wreck.—A revivalistic effort, inaugurated by the visit of the Rev. Sholto D. Campbell Douglas, B.A., of Derby, is going on in the colony. Circulars signed by the various ministers of religion have been sent round, asking attendance at special services to be held at half-past five o'clock every afternoon, from to-day to Saturday inclusive. "After mutual deliberation, says this document, it has been determined that the Chancel of the Cathedral is, for the convenience of all, the best place for holding these services in. Called by different names in the Church of Christ, we yet unite in entreating you all to attend these services.

* * * * * *

The hour at which you are asked to attend is, we know, one usually devoted to purposes of health, so important in a climate like this. We venture, however, considering the great object at stake, to beg you for a few days to forego your usual occupations that you may think of the health of your souls.

Soldiers, policemen, and other officials who may be free to come at the hour mentioned and stay for a longer or shorter time, are earnestly invited to attend."

The invitation bears the signatures of the Bishop, the Colonial Chaplain, the Revs. James Lamont, A. B. Hutchinson, E. Klitzke, E. J. Eitel, and J. C. Edge.—The Danish steamer *Asia*, from Saigon, lost her propeller outside, and was towed into harbour by the S. S. *Riga*, which put back for that purpose, having left Hongkong on the [illegible].

It is so rarely that we hear of an attempt by Chinese to save from drowning, that we have pleasure in quoting from the *Daily Press* a case brought to light last week at Hongkong :—"A little girl about eleven years of age, attempted to commit suicide by jumping into the sea near the Harbour Master's office. Strange to say a boatwoman jumped into the sea at the risk of her own life and saved her. The girl was taken to the station, and at the Police Court she said she had often been severely beaten by her mistress, and in consequence she determined to end her existence by drowning. After enquiring into the case, which he ended by sending the girl to the Convent, the Magistrate sent for the boatwoman, and told her that she had committed an act she ought to be proud of all her life. It is not generally the custom of the Chinese to save life when they see people drowning ; this was a meritorious exception to the bad rule, and she had risked her own life to do it. He would mention the circumstances to H. E. the Administrator." We lately noticed a similar instance of humanity at Foochow, where a Chinaman saved a woman from drowning at the risk of his own life. But in contrast to the above, we find a case recorded in Hongkong on the following day, when a totally different course was pursued. "Three gentlemen started in a sampan for a sail across to Kowloon, but finding the wind rather too strong against them turned back when they had accomplished about half the distance. They then told the boatman to take in a sail, but he replied that he knew his "pidgin" and paid no further attention to the order. Almost immediately after, the boat suddenly capsized, and the occupants were struggling in the water. Captain Drewes, of the steamer *Amoy*, who witnessed the accident, lost no time in getting out his gig and proceeding to the rescue. Happily he was successful in his attempt, though one member of the party had a very narrow escape. A sampan steering directly towards the spot, altered its course when the occupants were aware of the occurrence. This is, we regret to say, a characteristic of the Chinese boat-people, and one that does not redound to their credit."

MACAO.

Another terrible and destructive typhoon has visited this unfortunate place, causing great damage to property and considerable loss of life on the water, though happily nothing like so disastrous in its general effects as that which occurred on the 23rd September last—an ever memorable date here.

The weather began to grow rough and boisterous on the evening of the 30th ultimo, and it continued so until the next day, blowing hard all the time from the East. At about one o'clock p.m. the wind increased considerably in violence, and was accompanied by rain. This was followed by occasional squalls. The barometer was steady up to the hour just mentioned, but after that time began to fall gradually until 11 o'clock p.m., when it had gone down to 28.80, and subsequently rose gradually until the gale abated, about 3 o'clock the following morning. The destruction at sea amongst the native craft is reported to be very great, and the loss of life serious, but no definite particulars have yet been received. A Chinese revenue cruiser is ashore, and great numbers of junks and hundreds of sampans are floating about bottom upwards or broken up.

On shore the damage done is also extensive, more especially in the inner harbour. At the Praya Grande, the chief sufferer from the fury of the typhoon was the Government House. This is almost a wreck ; the greater part of it came down with a frightful crash, burying about eleven persons in its ruins. The aide-de-camp of His Excellency the Governor was much injured, and was carried to the Military Hospital of St. Januario. His Excellency the Governor himself had a very narrow escape from being overwhelmed in the falling mass. A soldier fortunately saved him, but only just in time. His Excellency intends removing with his family to the premises of the Viscount do Cercal as soon as practicable.

Numbers of other buildings have sustained more or less damage, by being partially unroofed, windows broken, verandahs destroyed, and venetians carried away. Some of the roads are also in a deplorable condition, and the trees, as usual, have fared ill in the storm. The roads and pathways were after the typhoon thickly strewn with branches, and littered with broken tiles and rubbish. I cannot stay now to particularise, but am glad to say that although the injury is widespread, fortunately in most cases it has not been very serious—*Daily Press*.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says Royal salutes of 21 guns were fired by the United States corvette *Ashuelot*, and from the Japanese fort at Desima, on the occasion of Her Majesty's birth-day ; the English gun-vessel *Curlew*, carrying less than the regulation number of ten guns, was prohibited joining in the token of respect. She, however, dressed ship along with the other men-of-war in harbour.—A Corean, one of a number who have recently visited Nagasaki, while walking the streets a few mornings ago, took a fancy to a cake exhibited for sale ; but having no money to purchase it, he pocketed it without, as he thought, being observed. But the vendor was on the *qui vive* and raised an alarm. The culprit made off, with a policeman after him, who finally succeeding in overtaking him. The Corean, however, showed fight, and wresting the policeman's baton out of his hand, commenced to chastise the officer for daring to arrest him. Another policeman coming up at the time, the Corean found that resistance was useless against odds, and allowed himself to be captured. What was done with him afterwards, is not stated.

HIOGO.

The Queen's birthday was well observed in this Settlement, but there being no British man-of-war in port ranking as a saluting vessel, the day passed over, says the *News*, with the quietness which is normal in Kobe. H.B.M.S. *Challenger* and *Mosquito*, however, "dressed ship," and in the evening A. A. Annesley, Esq., H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, gave a ball and supper in honor of the occasion, to a large party of residents, the officers of H.B.M.'s ships, and the gentlemen attached to the scientific department of the "*Challenger*" expedition. H.B.M.'s Consulate was tastfully decorated with bunting and lanterns, the Band of the *Challenger* (by kind permission of Captain Thomson and the officers) attended, and dancing was kept up to a late hour.—A serious fray occurred on the 24th ulto, between two Japanese lately working in partnership in a stevedoring establishment. It is supposed that, owing to some difficulty in arranging the dissolution of partnership, ill-will arose. However that may be, one of them rushed on the other and inflicted a cut on the arm with a short sword ; following this up, when the victim tried to escape, by a deep slash on the shoulder, which nearly severed the arm from the body. The aggressor, after his victim was gone, appears to have had some idea of disembowelling himself, but only just cut the outer skin of his stomach.—It is intended to open an Exhibition and Museum at Osaka, the former to be open one hundred consecutive days in each year, and the latter on certain specified days in each month all the year round. The scheme includes the exhibition of all articles of foreign and native trade, is laid out to have a nine years' existence, and is avowedly in furtherance of commerce.

YOKOHAMA.

The Queen's birthday was observed here as a general holiday. The Banks were closed, the newspapers were not published, and, at noon, most of the men-of-war in harbour, with the Kanagawa forts, fired salutes of twenty-one guns each. Nearly all the ships in the bay, men-of-war and and merchant vessels, dressed ship. The weather was beautiful, continuing fine, with a fresh breeze blowing from the S.W.,

throughout the day, and amongst the amusements arranged were a sailing race for open boats and a yacht race. The former was won by Mr. Timothy's *Anonyma*, beating six others, and the same boat won another match in the afternoon. The yacht race was won by the *Tantivy*, beating the *Torment*, *Hibernia*, and U.S.S. *Monocacy's* cutter.—On Wednesday, the 26th ultimo, Sir Harry Parkes gave an official dinner in honour of the Queen's birthday. After dinner, Lady Parkes had a *soirée*, which was attended by many Japanese and foreign officials of distinction, and by a large number of ladies and gentlemen of the Yedo community. The band of the Imperial Japanese Marines performed during the evening.—A Flower and Vegetable Show, held at the Grand Hotel on the 22nd and 23rd ultimo, was highly successful, so far as foreigners were concerned, but the Japanese did not, says the *Gazette*, show up in force, there being only one who exhibited any quantity of plants. There were, however, plenty of visitors, both native and foreign, for whose additional enjoyment the band of the French ironclad *Montcalm* played some choice selections of music.—The torpedo-boat constructed for the Japanese Government by Messrs. Whitfield and Dowson, whilst being conveyed to Yokoska for the purpose of being put to the proof, was struck by a severe squall and sank, the steam-tender towing her narrowly escaping the same fate. She was raised two days afterwards, and found to have sustained no material damage.—Early on the morning of the 23rd ultimo, four Chinese were detected, by the Custom House Officials at the English Hatoba, in the act of smuggling opium. They were given into custody, and taken to the police-station.—It is said that the Mitsu Bishi Steam-ship Company have established a line of steamers to run between Yokohama and Hakodate.—34,385 persons paid for admission to the wrestling exhibition at Yeko-in, Riogoku, during 10 days. The interest felt in the national sport seems to have by no means abated.—A case, in which it was alleged that a Japanese junk was sunk by the P.M.S.S, *Oregonian*, on the morning of the 23rd February, has been heard in the U. S. Consular Court. Judgment was reserved.—The *Echo du Japon* states that, in view of the complaints which are current in Italy as to the bad quality of the Japanese silk-worms' eggs, the Italian Government has instructed Sig. Castelli, Consul at this port, to institute an enquiry into the cause of this deterioration, and to ascertain if the eggs are really attacked with the disease which has committed such ravages in Europe.

SINGAPORE.

Before leaving Singapore, Sir Andrew Clarke was presented with two more addresses couched in warm terms, one from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, which was signed by all the leading mercantile firms in the colony, and one from the Eurasian community, bearing 98 signatures. Sir Andrew, in return, expressed his gratification at these expressions of friendly feeling, and tendered his warmest thanks for them. Sir Andrew and Lady Clarke left Singapore on the 26th ult. in Messrs. Apcar & Co.'s steamer *China*. The *Singapore Times* says that, notwithstanding a heavy downpour of rain that set in shortly before noon, there was a goodly attendance at Johnston's Pier to witness the embarkation and bid farewell to the late Governor. H. E. Sir William Jervois, H. H. the Maharajah of Johore, and all the military and civil officers, and many of the residents, were present; and a great many ladies braved the weather to show their respect and esteem for the departing Governor and Lady Clarke. The covered portion of the pier was handsomely draped with flags and evergreens, and Messrs. A. L. Johnston & Co's. verandah, which was filled with spectators, was decorated with flags. A guard of honour of the 1/10th was in attendance, but after getting thoroughly drenched they were withdrawn. Sir Andrew and Lady Clarke arrived somewhat late, having been detained doubtless by the heavy rain, and after a great many leave-takings, stepped on board the fine steam launch belonging to the P. & O. Co., which was kindly placed at their disposal by Captain Caldbeck, the Agent of the Company. Three hearty cheers were given for Sir Andrew Clarke, and three more for Lady Clarke, after which the launch moved rapidly off towards the steamer, which lay far out in the roadstead; the company stood watching her for a long way out, straining their eyes to catch a last glimpse, and many would not leave their positions until the Ensign, hoisted at the steamer's foremast, signalled their arrival on board.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

May 9th.—(1) Several official appointments are gazetted.

(2) Kwang-sheu and Hia-tung, of the Board of War, in a long memorial extending over two *Gazettes*, report on further investigation made into Szechuen affairs. On the 9th of the first moon they had reached the Kwang-yun district in Szechuen, when they received en route a despatch from the Ministers of the Cabinet to the effect that, on the 23rd of the 12th moon, the Imperial command had been received stating that information had been received of a disturbance amongst the "Tah" character garrison troops in Szechuen, who, in order to intimidate their officers into paying their arrears, had forced an entry into and taken up their quarters in the Prefectural town. The case was, therefore, delegated for enquiry to the two Commissioners. The troops in question were on garrison duty in the Prefecture of Sü-chew 叙州. The arrears due had accumulated to the extent of 18 months' pay, and many of the soldiers being anxious to return home, made importunate demands in person on the paymaster, Hia Teh-ying. The latter having no funds wherewith to meet the claims, fled to avoid danger. Hereupon, the troops left their encampment, and took up their quarters within the city of Sü-chew. The Governor-General hearing of the affair, at once degraded Hia Teh-ying, reprimanded and deprived of his peacock's feather the commanding officer, Ching Hioh-teh, and appointed other civil and military officers to proceed to the spot, and take such measures as expediency might require. Subsequently, funds were forwarded to the Prefecture. The troops received their arrears, and discipline was restored. Statements are referred to, of the soldiers having fired off guns within the city, and of the people having been exhorted not to leave the place: but it appears to have been found by the Commissioners that the troops comported themselves quietly during the reign of confusion in the city, no acts of violence having been committed. The result of the investigation is that the Commander, Ching Hioh-teh, having proved himself incompetent to maintain discipline, his conduct should have been reported for punishment, a mere reprimand from the Governor, accompanied with the stripping him of his peacock feather, being a correction inadequate to the gravity of the occasion. The Imperial command is therefore asked, requiring that Ching Hioh-teh be handed over to the Board to be dealt with according to the merits of the case. The Governor-General, Ou-tang, is also charged with undue laxity in not impeaching the commander; and the case is also asked to be referred to the consideration of the Board. The two Commissioners further report on several subsidiary cases brought under their cognisance, *i.e.*:—

(1) In the District of Ee-piu, owing to the large requirement by Government officials and troops *en route* for horses and beasts of burden, consent had been obtained by the magistrate through the various channels up to the Governor General's yamên, to increase the contribution demandable from the local people. Although he found that no embezzlement was made of the funds thus collected, it was the duty of the magistrate in terms of the application made, to render a monthly account of incomings to the Prefect. Having failed to do this, the magistrate is guilty of misdemeanour, and his conduct is desired to be referred to the Board.

(2) An ex-magistrate of the Canton province, Hwang, was summoned before the magistrate of Pa-shan to answer to an accusation respecting the ownership of land. Hwang displayed some temper in Court, and was beaten on the palm of the hand by order of the presiding magistrate. After being bailed out, fearing to be subjected to further disgrace if he appeared again, he committed suicide by swallowing poison. The infliction of corporal punishment on an official in a trivial case arising from a suit about land, is declared to be a violation against established regulations, and the action of the Pa-shan magistrate is impeached.

(3) A dismissed magistrate, Sung-yün, also holding the literary degree of Tsinsz, was accused by an elder brother, by whom he was supported and educated during his youth, of renouncing all paternal claims, in fact, of treating his brother as a stranger. The case was tried, and Sung-yün, being very obstreperous and insolent in Court, corporeal punishment on the hand was also administered, and the accused further kept in confinement. After his release, he died within a short time. Sung-yün, although dismissed from his magistracy, had it appears been re-appointed in an acting capacity to other duties, and the application of corporeal punishment was rendered by such reason unjustifiable. The officials implicated are therefore reported for punishment by the Board.

The above concludes the personal investigations of the two Commissioners in Szechuen, who report that they propose returning with their subordinates to the capital.

May 10th.—*Gazette* is taken up principally by the conclusion of the foregoing report; it contains besides—

(1) An Edict dismissing a Prefect in Kwangsi, for resorting to artful and low expedients to make a name for himself.

(2) Another memorial from Kwang-cheu and Hia-tung respecting the abolishment of establishments in Szechuen for providing quarters and beasts of burden to officials, etc., *en route* through the province; and for particulars in respect to which see edict in a previous *Gazette*.

May 11th.—(1) An edict from the Dowager Empresses, in reference to repairs to the "Wei" Imperial sepulchre.

(2) The Minister, Li Hung-chang, and others, on their knees memorialise in reply to the Imperial command made known as follows:—"Her late Majesty, Meen-chia-shun, a lady of perfect virtue and of a family elevated by its refined breeding, was affianced to His late Majesty, and became Queen Consort of the 'Central' Palace; her benevolence suffused itself throughout the Court. The fountain head of the 'female element,' and the first symbol thus of the earth, she centred around her an atmosphere of virtue illimitable in extent, and responded to the divine scheme of nature by co-operating with and assisting the 'male

principle.' Her gentleness and excellence formed a pattern for study, and her strict rectitude exerted influence throughout the six Palaces. Her comportment was retiring and modest, and for the three years that she graced the Court, while making manifest the excellence of her rule over 'inner' affairs, she further shared in the anxieties and toils attending the administration of Government. As successor to their Majesties the Empresses Dowager, she further displayed her filial devotion by her attractive and winning ways; and the many feminine qualities thus illustriously exhibited have been evident to every inmate of the Palace. In conformity with the regulations handed down by our ancestors, it is fitting that a glorious epitaph and posthumous title be selected for Her departed Majesty; and the Ministry is hereby commanded to examine and carefully note the records and ceremonial canons, and to respectfully make a suitable selection. The Ministers, while paying additional tribute to the memory of Her departed Majesty, remark with the greatest humility that where the virtues (of an Emperor and his consort) harmonise, the effect may be compared to the sun and moon beautifying the Heavens—(Note: the sun is another emblem of the male and the moon of the female principle)—and that where the two natures accord, the female acts in unison with the male and the scheme of nature is thus carried out. In obedience to the Imperial command, the Ministers submit two selections of epitaphs, each 12 characters, and both embodying the two characters of the deceased Queen's life-title of Chia-shun 嘉順 "excellent" and "yielding." In reply to the memorial, the following 12 characters have been marked out by the vermillion pencil:—

孝哲嘉順淑慎賢明憲天彰聖(毅皇后.)

"(Queen Ee—Ee, the posthumous term of "the late Emperor) the filial, wise, excellent, yielding, chaste, careful, virtuous, "and intelligent, who governed her actions "by the laws of Heaven, and whose life "added lustre to the teachings of the "Sages."

(3) A memorial, in reference to repairs required to public granaries, which, owing to the want of funds, have fallen into a state of great dilapidation. It is suggested that they need not all be repaired at once, but that Tls. 2,000 to 3,000 should be allowed annually, and the work done gradually. It is also recommended that the long process of memorialising in each trivial instance should be dispensed with.—Rescript: noted.

(4) Another memorial, respecting the disposal of a surplus of 2,000 to 3,000 piculs of old stores of wheat, which it is feared, if left longer, will rot and become perfectly useless.

(5) A memorial, from Li Han-chang, Governor-General of Hupeh and Honan, in reference to exception being taken at the appointment of a Taotai within his jurisdiction, and which was stated to be not *en règle*.

May 12th.—(1) An edict, promoting several officers who distinguished themselves in suppressing an outbreak, in the 10th moon of last year, at a place in Szechuen called O-pien.

(2) Tso Tsung-tang, Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, reports on the reconsideration of and re-investigation into the heroic conduct of a former Acting-Prefect of Kwei-teh, Chen-shun, and his family and subordinates, all now deceased. Chen-shun entered into his duties on the 8th moon of the first year of Tung-chi (1862), just at the time when the Mahommedans raised the standard of rebellion. All the neighbouring towns fell, one after another, to the fury of the insurgents, but Kwei-teh, owing to the energetic and gallant defence of Chen-shun, held out bravely for six years. Forlorn and unassisted, the hearts of the people were strengthened to resistance by the exertions of their Prefect; but during the night of the 16th of the 2nd Moon of the 6th year of Tung-chi, the rebel chiefs, with over 1,000 followers, surprised the town. Cheng-shun ascended the battlement and fought manfully—hurling down a rain of stones on the enemy; but treachery had already shewn itself within the walls. The gates were opened and the rebels poured in. Chen-shun now gathered together his followers, and with sword and knives fought hand to hand in the streets. Seventeen of the rebels had fallen before them, when a band attacked them in the rear, and Cheng-shun was felled to the ground by a stone hurled at his head. The insurgents crowded around him, but Cheng-shun railed at them in a furious tone. They cut off his left arm, and he railed with increased vehemence. Finally, they cut off his right foot and quartered him. Cheng-shun's two brothers then led their mother to the scene of his death, and the three, while weeping with grief and abusing the perpetrators, were despatched by their spears. Valour of so rare a character should be specially commemorated, and the mark of honor previously conferred by the Throne on Cheng-shun is considered to be inadequate. It is now suggested that higher posthumous distinctions should be granted, and that the Imperial consent should in addition be given to the dedication of a temple to the memory of Cheng-shun and his family.

(3) A memorial, by the former Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, Yang Yuh-ou, who had repaired to the Capital on a visit of condolence at the death of the late Emperor, to be allowed to return to his native place and attend upon his parents during their declining years.

May 13th.—(1) A fine of 6 months' stipend imposed on a president of the Criminal Board, Ts'ung-shih, is remitted.

(2) A memorial requesting that the distribution of rice from the various relief depôts in the capital be prolonged for two months beyond the usual date. An edict granting the request has already appeared. The number of recipients of charity at all the depôts is here stated to be seven to eight hundred, or perhaps over one thousand individuals.

(3) A Manchu official, Fung Săn-toh, memorialises the Throne recommending a marine, Wang Liang-min, for Imperial mark of favor. Wang Liang-min is represented to be seventy six years of age and, including and counting from himself, five generations are at present in existence, *i.e.*, "together in the family hall." The memorialist himself summoned before him and witnessed—1, the Patriarch Wang: 2, his son: 3, three grand children: 4, six great grand children: and 5, one great great grand child—all of them in different degrees of health and vigour, *i.e.*, the old man still hale and cheerful, others in full manly strength and the little fellow with his corner tufts of hair looking brave and hopeful. So remarkable an instance of family felicity is represented to be due to the fostering care of the "one man" (the Emperor) for his children, the people, to whom prosperity and long life are thus vouchsafed; and it is deemed fitting that this happy example should be brought before the Imperial notice.—Rescript: Referred to the Board of Rites.

(4) An account of the disturbance amongst the Banner soldiers quartered at Yangchow, by Muh Teng-au—referred to recently in an Imperial edict. The pay of these troops has, according to custom, been provided for out-grain contributions due by the district of Tantu, and discontent arose amongst the soldiers owing to the money-value paid, *i.e.*, 2,400 *cash* per sheh, being under the market price. The magistrate had applied for orders as to what action should be taken, and delay consequently arose in the issue of the pay. Beyond the trampling down and injury of a few articles in the yamên, no violence was committed.

May 14th.—(1) Edict appointing Shuy-chang to the Intendantship of Shaoshing in Chekiang.

(2) A memorial from the Governor of Kwang-tung and also Acting Governor-General of the two Kwangs, respecting the result of military measures taken to repress brigandage in the Districts of An-ping and Kai-ping. The disorder and lawlessness existing previously in these localities were sufficient to cause fear of graver difficulties. In the 9th moon of 1873, the Customs' station of Kai-ping was looted, and two guards killed and wounded. In the 10th moon, an acting Colonel, while escorting his family, was attacked, and some of his soldiers wounded at An-ping; and other cases of daring robbery were daily cropping up. Accordingly, during the 10th moon following, a Taotai, Ho Ying-chi, who had had every experience in military affairs, and Colonel Hwang Tseng-teng, were despatched at the head of 400 men to root out and destroy all the lawless people of the place. The mountainous and inaccessible character of the country, and the shelter and means of escape afforded by the neighbouring islands, are brought forward as offering great obstacles to the action of the troops; but good service was performed, and the robbers, of whom twenty-two were executed on the spot, were thoroughly extripated and subdued. After settlement of the affairs of the two Districts in question, 400 soldiers were told off on the 19th of the 4th moon of last year to proceed to Kwang-ning, and there enquire into a feud fight and reprisals long going on, between two clans—Sie Chung-kwan and Chun Chung-ling. Here great difficulties had to be surmounted, and it was found necessary to enlist 300 soldiers to act as guides and render general assistance in the cause; it was also necessary to burn and clear away the trees and bamboos of a certain mountain, in order to deprive the insurgents of shelter. After much hard work and the further execution of fifty-seven malefactors, order was restored, and the Governor finishes up his memorial by requesting that a suitable reward be conferred on the officers in charge of the expedition.

May 15th.—(1) Edict. Yih-siang, a member of the Imperial family petitions to the effect that it will take time to recover from his illness, and desiring that his salary be suspended. Yih-siang is hereby allowed to renounce his official duties but, as a mark of especial favor, to continue in receipt of his previous emoluments.

(2) The Governor of Yunnan, Chen Yoh-ying, also holding the acting post of Governor-General of Yunnan and Kwei-chow, memorialises the Throne in respect to an envoy having been despatched from Burmah to present tribute to China. Burmah, it is represented, has long since been ranked among the tributary allies of China (外藩), and it has been an established regulation that the Yunnan authorities should on the decennial presentation of tribute, appoint officers to convey the mission through Chinese territory to the Capital. But during the sixth year of Hien-fung (1856) internal troubles commenced in Yunnan. All the dependencies of the Teng-yeh Ting, 騰越廳 (Momein), in the Prefecture of Yung-chong 永昌府, and bordering on Burmah, fell into the possession of the rebels. Communication with that country was thus intercepted, and the presentation of tribute to the Court of China was in consequence suspended for eighteen years. In the 11th year of Tung-chi (1872), after the defeat by the memorialist of the Tou 杜 Rebels of 大理 Ta-li-fou, a Bur-

mese officer Tien-i-ya-sah-ua-erh-ta came to the camp on a mission of enquiry; and, after the re-capture, in the following year of the Shun-yun 順雲, and Teng-yeh cities, by which the entire Province was again brought under Imperial rule, the aboriginal prefect of Meng-ting 孟定土, Han-chung-pang 罕忠邦, subject to the jurisdiction of the Imperial Prefecture of Yung-chong, escorted a Burmese officer Ma-han-tso-ting-yah-jü-yah-ta to the Provincial capital to ask for instructions as to the matter of tribute. The Governor therefore commanded him to act in accordance with the established custom, and the circumstances were at the time submitted by memorial to the Throne, as shewn by records existing. During last year the Governor received instructions from the Imperial Guard Office to buy some elephants for Court requirements, and instructions were forthwith sent to the Prefect of Yung-chong, Chu-peh-wei 朱百梅 and the sub-Prefect Ou Chi-liang 吳啟亮 to despatch messengers to purchase the elephants in Burmese territory. The King of Burmah, on hearing of the circumstance, and desirous of shewing his friendly feeling, sent officers with two tame elephants to the capital of Yunnan, which they reached on the 27th of the 11th moon of last year, and requested that the animals might be forwarded to Peking. Information was also given to the effect that articles of tribute, according to custom, were in course of preparation and would be shortly offered. But, owing to it being then mid-winter and the line of road covered with snow, it was arranged, as reported to the Throne, that escort officers should not be sent to the frontier to meet the mission until the season became milder. Subsequently, the acting garrison commander at Teng-yeh, Tsiang Tsung-han 蔣宗漢, and the acting sub-Prefect of Teng-yeh, Ou Chi-liang, petitioned stating that on the 15th of the 12th moon (1st Feb.), the Burmese mission had arrived on the border at Teng-yeh, consisting of the chief tribute-envoy Chih-yeh-to-chi-mun-tso-mun-tien-tsou-sou with an assistant envoy, interpreters, servants and elephant-slaves, in all, over fifty individuals, in charge of five elephants and a quantity of tribute presents. Orders were at once issued to depute officers to meet and escort the mission; which latter arrived at the Provincial capital on the 25th of the 2nd moon (1st April). A copy of the letter from King Meng-tun 孟頓, of Burmah, with a list—all in Burmese—of the names of the envoys and of the articles brought, were then received and duly examined. The Governor here alludes to instructions received at the death of the late Emperor, to stop all tribute offerings for the period of three years; but the preparations made by Burmah in this instance were commenced before the receipt of the news of his late Majesty's death and, moreover, the length of time Burmah has been precluded from offering tribute is considered to offer sufficient ground to justify a departure from the orders received. The mission had therefore been sent on, and a list of officers charged with its escort to the capital is given.

Appended is a translation of the King of Burmah's letter and of the list of tribute offerings, running as follow :—

King's Letter.

Meng-tun, King of Burmah, respectfully lays a petition before the Throne of the great Emperor of the Heavenly dynasty.—Your vassal (here 臣, the same character as that employed by Ministers of the Chinese Government, to designate themselves in their memorials, is used, with the addition of *Siao* 小 —small—before it) would, with all humility, set forth that under the universal sway of his Holiness the "streams and hills" are all objects of his fostering care, the kingdoms of the distant ocean become converted to his civilising rule, and as the sunflower bows before the sun, so does all mankind turn with adoration towards the Imperial person. Succeeding to your barren and far off dependency of Burmah, your vassal is impressed with the deep favors conferred by your Heavenly Dynasty when permitting his country to be enrolled amongst the territory of Yu 禹 (the founder of the Hia Dynasty); and, in offering up according to rule the tribute prescribed, the land of Burmah is thus included under the heaven of Yau 堯 and all within the Realm join with one voice in the Sung 嵩 cry to His Imperial Majesty. (Note.—Sung is a mountain where an echo supposed to proceed from the spirits of the Hill was audible, crying out "happiness! long life! male issue!!") Recently, owing to war and rapine on the borders, communication has long been intercepted; but the horrors of strife are now happily ended, and the universe returned to tranquility. It is fitting, therefore, that your humble vassal should at once offer tribute. This letter has, consequently, been respectfully drawn up in letters of gold, and is accompanied by an image of the God of Longevity, five tame elephants and with articles of manufacture and productions of the country. These are sent under the care of an Envoy (name as above), as representative of your vassal; who is charged to respectfully convey them to the palace gate, and to humbly crave that his great Majesty, the Emperor, will deign to receive the offerings and will further graciously lend ear to the feelings of obedience, respect and submission entertained by your vassal. While writing this letter your vassal is overcome with pleasurable feelings of extreme gratitude, and in concluding his petition he humbly wishes his great Imperial Majesty long life for ten thousand; for ten thousand thousand years.

List of Presents:

One Letter in Gold.
A Burmese stone image of the God of Longevity.
Five tame elephants.
A pair of ivory tusks, weighing 90 catties.
Three jade stone articles, weighing 210 catties.
Eight gilt framed and inlaid mirrors.
Two red jewel gold rings.
Two gold rings set with "Ya-tsing."
Eight pieces of yellow, red and green Spanish Stripes.
Ten pieces of thick heavy Shirtings.
Ten pieces Foreign Crape.
Ten fine Handkerchiefs.
Twenty foreign Carpet Rugs.
10,000 sheets of Gold Leaf.
Do. do. Silver do.
Eight catties of Sandal Wood.
Nine Do. red do.
Ten bottles scent.
Ten bottles pomade.
Four No. 4 size ornamented boxes.
Fifty No. 5 do.
Five Pictures of elephants.
Fifteen Peacock's tails.

(3) A memorial from the same Governor in reference to carrying out the Imperial order and causing two officials within his jurisdiction, whose names comprise the character 活, the last character in the name of the present Emperor, 載活, Tsai-tien, to remove a stroke, *i.e.*, the bottom one of the right compound 舌 which thus stands as 舌.

Official Papers.

CHINESE ADDRESS TO SIR ANDREW CLARKE.

The following address was presented to H.E. Sir Andrew Clarke, late Governor of the Straits Settlements, by the Chinese inhabitants of Penang :—

To His Excellency Sir Andrew Clarke, Companion of the most honourable order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the most distinguished order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Colonel in the Army, Governor, Commander in-Chief, and Vice-Admiral of the Straits Settlements, &c., &c.

Humbly sheweth,

That we the undersigned Chinese inhabitants of Penang being aware of the eve of your Excellency's departure from the shores of the Straits Settlements, probably for ever, to assume a more important office in India, feel anxious to give expression to the feeling which exists among us, created by our observation of the manner in which your Excellency has discharged the duties of your high and sublime office of Governor of the said Settlements during the period of your Excellency's Governorship, since November, 1873, until now.

The people who had during your Excellency's Government, appealed and sought redress from Your Excellency, were principally, we may say, ourselves, who by our business connections in trade at Perak and Laroot were very frequently compelled to appeal to Your Excellency, anent the injustice we suffered from the hands of the Native Chiefs of these places, but through Your Excellency's superior, searching, and exhaustive way in which Your Excellency has undertaken to restore those territories to tranquillity, they now assume a very probable and propitious aspect of flourishing again with respect to trade. The efforts and achievements of Your Excellency's labours in this matter cannot therefore be too highly appreciated by us, as well as that done by your Excellency at Siam and Klang.

Feeling anxious that your Excellency should take away from our shores a token of our real respect, esteem, and good feeling in which we the undersigned Chinese Inhabitants of Penang hold you, among whom you have administered with such remarkable impartiality, independence and good judgment which has obtained for your decisions the respect and esteem of the public in general, we now present Your Excellency with this address, and hope that it may now and again remind Your Excellency of our shores, with lively and kind feelings of the time spent by Your Excellency as Governor among its people.

We now with regret beg to take leave of Your Excellency, with fervent wishes for the prosperity and happiness of your Excellency and Your Excellency's family, and we subscribe ourselves at Penang on this eighth day of May, A. D., 1875.

125 Signatures.

Public Meetings.

MEETING OF TREATY CONSULS.

Minutes of a Meeting of Consuls held at Shanghai, on Thursday, the 3rd June, 1875.

Present, the Consular Representatives for Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britian, Japan, Netherlands, Spain and the United States.

A letter from Mr. Vignale expressing his inability to attend the Meeting, was placed on the table.

A copy of the Harbor Regulations as amended at the last meeting, and printed by the Harbor Master, was approved.

The reports * of Messrs. Alabaster, Haas, and Yates on the system of punishments at the Mixed Court and the power of the Court were considered. It was the opinion of the meeting that as a first step an effort should be made to have the foreign settlement constituted an independent judicial district, as recommended in the several reports. Mr. Medhurst was asked to bring the subject before the Taotai, in order to secure if possible his support of this proposal. Upon receipt of his report, the several Consuls will address their respective superiors at Peking on the matter.

Letters from Messrs. Escher and Ryke, the Dutch Engineers in the Japanese service, and from the Consul for Japan inclosing a letter from the Superintendent of the Department of Architecture in Japan, were read. The Engineers by their first letter accept the offer made to them, and state that they will leave for Shanghai in about three weeks to make a report upon the Bar. In their second letter they state that the Government has unexpectedly concluded to enter upon certain works which will require their personal attention, but offer to make a report upon the basis of existing surveys and certain further *data* which may be prepared and transmitted to them. The Superintendent of Architecture expresses his regret that the application for the the Engineers has not come sooner, and states that it may be possible to give the services of one or more of the number in the course of the next winter. Messrs. Medhurst and Seward were asked to write to the Engineers, and the Japanese Consul to his Government, that the survey will be deferred until the Engineers can be given leave, reserving however to the Consular Body the option of withdrawing from the matter if steps shall be taken by the Chinese Government, or the survey can be accomplished in any other way, at an earlier moment.

The Committee having in charge negotiations with the Chinese Authorities for the more perfect protection of telegraph cables, submitted a correspondence with the Taotai, in which he states that he has given orders for the issue of further proclamations by the officials near the Yangtsze Cape and upon the island of Tsung Ming, and transmits copies of certain proclamations. Also a correspondence in regard to recent interruptions of the cable near the Beacon below Woosung.

Letters from the Municipal Council, dated the 21st April and published with their Annual Report, in reference to Wharfage Dues, were considered, and Messrs. Medhurst and Seward were appointed a Committee to confer with the Council and the Authorities in regard to the same.

In this connection a letter from the Council dated the 22nd May was considered. This letter transmits the usual quarterly statement of the Taotai's Commutation of Wharfage Dues, and asks that it be transmitted to the Taotai, if negotiations in regard to the general question do not make it desirable to withhold the claim in favor of the increased claim urged in the letters of 21st April. It was the opinion of the Meeting that the settlement of the general question will require much time, and the Senior Consul was asked to transmit this account as presented.

Letters from the Council, dated the 21st and 22nd May, asking the Consular Body to consider and approve the Resolutions passed at the recent Ratepayers' Meeting :—1st, to Amend Article XIX of the Land Regulations (in regard to Proxy Voting), and 2nd, to Amend certain Articles, as stated, in order to change the time of holding the Municipal Elections and Annual Meeting, were considered. The proposed amendments were approved by the Meeting, and the Senior Consul was asked to submit them to the Consuls not present at the Meeting, for their action.

A letter from the Council, dated the 25th May, asking the support of the Consuls for the Council's efforts to procure land for roads from the New Cemetery to Au Chalet, and from Markham's road to Jessfield road, was approved, and Mr. Haas was authorized to act in the matter on behalf of the Consular Body.

Certain detail correspondence in regard to the postponement of the Ratepayers' Meeting, and to petty difficulties with the people along the line of the Yang-tze-poo road, was laid on the table.

W. Annecke.
A. de Garay.
F. E. Heyden.
H. de Chappedelaine.
W. Keswick.
Joseph Haas.
E. Shinagawa.
J. E. Reding.
W. S. Fitz.
A. H. de Carvalho.
E. Morel.
L. Vignale.
George F. Seward,
W. H. Medhurst.

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* The following are the reports from Messrs. Alabaster, Haas and Yates, on the working of the Mixed Court, referred to above :—

Shanghai, 15th Feb., 1875.

To

Arthur Davenport, Esq.,
Vice-Consul for Great Britain ;
Joseph Haas, Esq.,
Vice-Consul for Austria-Hungary; and
Dr. M. T. Yates,
U. S. Vice-Consul General.

Gentlemen,—At a Meeting of Consuls held on the 12th inst., the questions were raised:—

1st.—Whether the system of punishment at the Mixed Court is satisfactory ? and

2nd.—Whether the powers of the Court are adequate ?

It was decided to ask your opinions upon these questions, the Consuls believing that, from your connection with the Court, you are well able to deal with them.

The Consuls in asking your views would point out that it is desirable for you to consult in this connection informally with the Magistrate of the Court, and that pains should be taken to reach conclusions which may be of practical value. They would also point out that the Court upon its criminal side is to be considered as essentially a Chinese Court, and that any improvements in it may best take a course in consonance with the Chinese judicial system. Upon the civil side, the Consuls would ask you to keep in view the ruling recently made in the British Supreme Court, in regard to the trial of mixed cases. It is not to be undertood however that the Consular Body is committed to this ruling.

(Signed) George F. Seward,
Consul-General and Senior Consul.

Dr. Yates' Report.

Shanghai, 10th March, 1875.

I have had the honour to receive your dispatch of February 15th, 1875, addressed, &c.

* * * * *

I have no hesitation in saying that the powers of the Magistrate are inadequate.

The Magistrate is now a Wei Yuen or deputy, and as such is disinclined to deal with the graver criminal cases, which come before the Court, and prefers to refer them to the District Magistrate. This is unsatisfactory because there is no provision for the presence of assessors in the Court of the latter, or for the appearance of foreign prosecutors. Offenders who have been sent to him for trial and punishment, and against whom the evidence has seemed clear, have often been seen in the street after two or three days.

Again, the Mixed Court Magistrate appears to be unable, or to fear, to bring to bear in important civil cases any means to enforce his judgments, excepting persuasion, the promotion of compositions between the parties, and the imprisonment of the judgment debtor. Such a thing as the seizure and sale of a debtor's property is almost unknown in his Court.

In my opinion the Mixed Court should be made a Foo Ming Tong Chi Yamên, with jurisdiction over the three settlements. The full title would then be 上海租界會審撫民同知衙門. French cases could be tried at the present office, or the Magistrate could sit periodically at a place provided in the French Settlement.

These changes would give the Mixed Court Magistrate the judicial authority of a District Magistrate, for the district comprised within the settlements, and as a consequence do away with many of the vexatious difficulties which are now met.

The system of punishment is essentially Chinese. I do not see how it can readily be changed, and I am not sure that any change which could be proposed would be beneficial. Hardened offenders would not care for the chain gang, or for solitary imprisonment so much as for the bamboo. For those not hardened the cangue and bamboo answer very well.

I think that appeals from the Mixed Court should go to the Taotai and Consuls, as at present.

Mr. Haas' Report.

Shanghai, 13th April, 1875.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your circular letter of the 15th February last, and I beg to apologise for not having replied earlier, but the task devolved upon me by you and the other members of the Consular body is of such a difficult and delicate nature that it was beyond my power to answer your questions in a proper manner at once.

Even now it it is impossible for me to give a detailed report. I beg to make at present a short resumé of my report which I shall have the honour to deliver as soon as finished.

The first question of your above mentioned letter is :

"Whether the system of punishments at the Mixed Court is satisfactory ?"

I think not, as the regulations at present in force—"Regulations for the office to be established in the Yang-king-pang," in 10 articles—are vague, and give nearly no power to the Chinese Magistrate.

I propose that the "Proposed Regulations for a Chinese Court within the foreign quarter in Shanghai," as drawn up by Mr. Alabaster, should be accepted, these being clearer and more distinct. But whatever the regulations should be, they ought to be made known to the public, and especially to the Foreign Assessors, Municipal Employés, to the Heads of the native guilds, and to the Tipaos.

As regards the second question, viz., "whether the powers of the Court are adequate ?" —I think not.

The reasons are :

The actual position of the Chinese Magistrate is not the one of a real Magistrate, but of a Delegate of the Taotai. I do not think, as long as he is a delegate of an Intendant, that a promotion in his rank will give him more power, whether he is a red or gold button mandarin. His title should be changed instead of "Delegate" to the one of "Tung-chi" (同治). Once having this title, it is understood that he will have also the powers of a Tung-chi, which will be sufficient for his position. An increase in his salary for keeping a better and more numerous staff will also in some way increase his powers. I take this opportunity to draw attention to the actual state of the Mixed Court Yamên. As far as its position is concerned, it is too far from the centre of the settlements, it is besides an old, therefore dirty, but also an extremely small place. There are now two prisons, in each of which sometimes, even in summer, at 90-100° Fahrenheit, are crowded from 25 to 30 people. This state must cease. And I think it would be opportune to have for Hongkew a branch of the Mixed Court under the superintendence of his Honour Chen.

In the present condition of Mixed Court affairs the system of sending prisoners into the city must be abandoned. The City Magistrate, if necessary, should come in the Mixed Court, and judge and punish there. The prisoners once in the city are beyond any police or Consular control. This city-sending system is no doubt a degradation for the

Chinese Magistrate as well for the foreign Assessor.

Last but not least, let the Municipal Council insist that the Inspector of Police should learn Chinese ; or if this measure is too late, let the Council engage an interpreter. There is at present not one foreigner who understands the language of 50,000 natives ! The native detectives may be good, but even of those we had quite lately some instances in which they have abused their powers.

Mr. ALABASTER'S REPORT.

Shanghai, March 1875.

In reporting on the Mixed Court it is necessary to consider it separately as a Criminal and Civil Court, the two jurisdictions being utterly distinct, though they happen to be exercised by the same officials. As a Criminal Court, although in taking the place of the system under which in old days thieves, &c., taken up by the Municipal Police were sent into the City with the charge and summary of evidence only, and tried in the absence of witnesses and even prosecutor, the Mixed Court has been productive of immense advantage—it must be admitted that it is very far from perfect, and I think chiefly from the following reasons :—

I.—The absence of a definite Code of Law.
II.—The nature of its Punishments ; and
III.—The want of permanence in the officers attached to it ; and perhaps in a lesser degree the dependent position of its Chinese Magistrate.

So long as the law to be administered is left entirely to the Judges as in the Mixed Court is practically the case, there must be too glaring inequality in the sentences for satisfactory results. No Judge can carry in his head the exact punishment he meted out in the hundred previous similar cases he has dealt with. No Judge is so superior to temper that he shall always view the same circumstances as in any way of equal gravity.

A Code indeed will merely render the punishments approximately equal ; but without one, the observer must necessarily be scandalized, as he is in the Mixed Court, by a robbery being one day punished with a sentence ridiculously light, while the next a petty theft is visited with the punishment of burglary. Without a Code, and with continually changing Judges, there can be no pretence even of fair and even justice.

The readiest mode of meeting the difficulty would appear to be to direct Judges of the Mixed Court to administer the provisions of the elaborate Penal Code the Chinese Government have published, save in those cases where to remedy the difference of Eastern and Western habits of thought and manner of viewing crime, special provision may have been made by agreement between the authorities of the various Nations interested in the settlement.

But when you come to look into the matter, so different are the views entertained by Chinese and Europeans of the most ordinary offences, that the Code, suited to the conditions of ordinary Chinese life, must fail utterly in a mixed community like that of the settlement.

To instance,—wrecking, an offence we, as a maritime nation, treat with great severity, the Chinese thinks quite justifiable ;—forgery, which used with us to be a capital offence, they regard as venial ; and receiving stolen property as no offence at all ; while petty assault leading to a scratched face or the effusion of a drop of blood, they visit almost as aggravated manslaughter : in short, their law is as solely directed to the repression of personal violence, as ours is to the protection of property once acquired.

It would seem better therefore if possible, and I cannot think that this is not so, to induce the Chinese to adopt the Code Napoleon, or better still the Indian Criminal Code, as the bases of the Classification of crime and the measure of its punishment. I say the Indian Criminal Code, in preference to the Code of Napoleon, not only because it is of later date, but because it has been drawn up with special reference to oriental conditions.

In any case, whether a foreign Code be formally adopted or not, a difference should be drawn between petty police offences and graver crimes, and while the former must be left as now to be dealt with summarily, the graver cases should tried more formally and deliberately, with the care and deliberation the infliction of any but trifling punishment renders desirable, the prisoner being as in European Countries committed for trial, and the exact nature of the charge to be brought against him, and the precise issues to be determined, carefully weighed and considered, before he is put on his trial. It is not fair to Judge, prisoner, or public that important cases should be disposed of in the hurried way they are at present.

But an even graver objection to the Court, as it at present exists, is the nature of its punishments, which it is scarcely too strong language to say, reflect discredit on all concerned, whether the authorities who authorize them, the officers who inflict them, or the public who permit them.

As a satisfaction to men's vindictive feelings torture may answer a purpose, but although in the old Jewish times this consideration might have weighed, the more advanced intelligence of the present dispensation would rather consider it an argument against a system of justice that it had this effect ; we no longer hold punishment to be a conpensation on the part of the criminal to the sufferer. We go further and condemn as vile, revengeful, and unchristian, the feelings that would prompt people to desire such compensation.

As a deterrent. as a means of striking terror, and so preventing other persons committing similar offences, the punishments inflicted in the Mixed Court have been to a certain extent effectual in regard to certain classes of crime.

Receiving stolen property is not by any means the common offence it was before some of the chief offenders were sent to the chain gang ; house boys do not venture to rob so unblushingly, now they are cangued when caught ; and the fearful floggings in the Beacon case certainly had an effect in increasing the respect felt for foreign life in the country round ; it may even be said that the fear of cangue or flogging does prevent a considerable amount of casual crime, but its effect on crime generally is admittedly insufficient, while in regard to hardened offenders, to the professional thieves and criminals, the punishments are utterly ineffective. Petty thieves are brought up and flogged weekly, and burglars come back to the cangue so regularly that there is a general complaint the Court is no good whatever.

Nor do I think the proposed panacea of the reintroduction of the chain gang calculated to be more than to a certain and limited extent effective ; it is better than canguing, it is better than flogging, for it is neither purposeless nor brutal torture, it appeals to the sense of shame, and to a certain extent enforces the moral lessons that enforced labour hard and disagreeable, that loss of liberty, chains and slavery, follow the commission of those actions which society disallows ; but the very severity of the sentence renders it applicable in certain classes of crime only ; for no one could seriously uphold the sending his fellow creatures to the chain gang for any but the most serious offences. But there is another objection to the chain gang, that so far we have not discovered in Shanghai, how to carry out the system with that regard for the health of the prisoners which humanity requires. When tried before, it had to be given up in consequence of the death of several of the convicts, and the Judges of the Mixed Court would no more than they did then, continue to sentence prisoners to a punishment which seemed to involve the risk of life.

In the higher sense in which alone it would appear that punishment is really justifiable at all, the hope of thereby reforming the criminal, and returning him to the world a useful member of society, the system breaks down altogether ; there is no possibility of its working good, for the moral side of the criminal is never even appealed to ; he does not even appear to be frightened out of his evil courses, but a disgraced and broken man, his mind full of passions against the tyrants who have so brutally ill-used him, he goes back to the world to thieve more cunningly but less reluctantly than before. Nor, unless machinery can be provided by which long terms of imprisonment can be awarded, and some such system as has been established in the Alipore and other Indian jails be instituted, is there possibility of the Mixed Court being in this way effective.

In the jails I refer to, two which I have personally had opportunities of studying, the criminal is considered simply as a subject for a course of treatment under which the energies which are ruining him and injuring society may be so directed that he become a valuable member of the world from which his conduct has caused him to be temporarily relegated, and by a well regulated system of classification the habit of acting rightly is nurtured in the criminal, whose status in prison is made to vary with his behaviour. Before he leaves even he has risen to a position of considerable responsibility, is accustomed to find others respect him and to respect himself, and more than free before his term has expired, he goes back to the world with some useful trade acquired, able to earn a livelihood, with some small capital in hand to help him on, and with the courage to seek employment ; not that shame is dead within him, but that he has worked himself clear of his disgrace.

It is hopeless to expect that such a well organized system could be at once established ; it needs an enthusiast to take the matter in hand, and only through repeated failure could the necessary experience be attained ; but it might be held in view, and waiting until the time comes when it could be carried out, steps might be taken to substitute imprisonment and hard labour for the brutal punishments of bambooing and the cangue, even if at first confinement in a Chinese jail and the rough and unsatisfactory machinery of the chain gang were put in their place.

It is unnecessary to go into, here, the arguments which in Europe have led to the abandonment of the pillory and whipping post. Suffice to say that flogging within proper limits has little or no effect, and that when carried out in a way to act as a deterrent, it is so brutalizing to all concerned, Judge, victim, or assistants, that the evil far outweighs the good, and though the system which we could institute in its place would be at first most imperfect, it would be far in advance of that at present existing.

Eventually the Municipality or the Chinese Government must have a jail, and if arrangements could be made for getting that erected by H. M.'s Government, the system of imprisonment might be tried,—care being taken to remember that the selection of the head jailer, whitewash, drill and discipline, admirable although in their way they may be, do not constitute the end sought, or the best means of its attainment ; for the reformation of the prisoner you require a man of such intelligence that he can enter into and follow their thoughts and feelings, a man of as much culture and ability as is needed for the higher dignity of Judge of the Court.

As a matter of expense at first, the institution of a jail, even if H. M.'s Government were willing now, as they were once, to give the building they possess here for a nominal sum, would cause considerable outlay ; at first every restraining power would have to be free and paid ; but as the system got into work, the expenses of supervision would almost disappear, the higher class prisoners guarding and controlling, as is done at Alipore, those less advanced, while the industrial arts practised by the prisoners would in time make the institution almost if not entirely self-supporting.

In any case, and however imperfectly the system be carried out, it is worth the while to try if we cannot deal with crime without brutality, and it will make many breathe the more freely that the instruments of torture, the bamboo and cangue, are even only temporarily banished from the settlement.

The third point in which I think the Mixed Court is deficient is in the want of permanence in the Foreign Assessors ; constantly changed, they have neither time to learn their business or gain the influence they should exercise over the Chinese Magistrate, much less to acquire that acquaintance with the conditions of the place and people which can alone shew them what is just and what expedient. With the exception of myself, I do not know a single English Assessor who has sat in the Court two years, and I can remember when four succeeded each other in rapid succession within a month. With a well defined Code of Law, with a well ascertained procedure, with their own countrymen alone to deal with, a Judge may be replaced without serious inconvenience ; but in a Court which has not only to administer but to build up a system of Law, which has to gain strength and authority as it goes on, in short which

needs to create everything out of nothing, and bring order out of chaos, change in the personnel is fatal; for perfect knowledge of the past history of the Court, a definite prevision of its future, as well as simple ability to deal with the present circumstances, must be united in the officer who directs it before any satisfactory result can be attained. The Assessor should look forward to it as his career in life, and then, and then alone, would there be ground for hope of seeing some consistent plan perfectly carried out.

The most natural way to secure this permanency would appear to be for either the Chinese Government, the various foreign Governments, or the Municipal Council to appoint a permanent Foreign Assessor, removable only in the case of grave misconduct; his salary being met by contribution from the Chinese, the community, and the various foreign Governments who now each pay a special Assessor for the Court, and although the salary of the Assessor were calculated on the liberal basis which would be necessary to secure efficiency and independence, it would be a saving to the various Governments concerned, supposing them to appoint and pay him, as it would be an advantage either to the Chinese Government or to the Municipality to have such an officer in their pay.

As regards the fourth point, the necessity of making the Chinese Magistrate more independent than he is at present, and the giving him more extensive powers, than he at present posseses, there is no doubt that it is most desirable that the present conflict of jurisdiction between the Magistrate of the Mixed Court and the District Magistrate of Shanghai should be set definitely at rest; and this it would appear can only be done by erecting the settlements into a distinct Chinese jurisdiction, and for many reasons it would be better that there should be machinery within the settlement for dealing with all cases arising within it, which could only be done by giving the Mixed Court Magistrate more extensive powers; but the mere nominal right to do justice, the mere apparent jurisdiction, will not materially effect the state of crime in the settlements unless the administration be given the strength which only comes from permanency, and unless it is supplied with the machinery for carrying out its labours. Without a Code of Criminal Law, without defined precedure, without a sensible system of punishment, the simply changing the Magistrate from a Taotai's deputy as he is at present, into a pucka Sub-Prefect and the making the settlements into a Sub-Prefecture or even a Prefecture, Circuit, or Province, will be practically of but small utility.

As regards the special point submitted, the best means of dealing with the increase in petty theft which is said to have become noticeable, the only scheme I can think of as likely to be effective is that of the establishment of the Municipal Jail and system of industrial reform already suggested.

The causes which lead to the offence are misery and idleness, and until means are found to give the hundreds who live by petty theft habits of industry and means of making an honest living, there is no possibility of stopping it.

As the habitual criminals are known to the police, it would perhaps seem possible to some to keep them out of the settlements by arresting and flogging them whenever found within the limits, but to a great extent this has been tried and failed; thieves are continually sentenced to deportation involving their arrest and punishment if found hereafter within Municipal jurisdiction, and entirely without effect. Nor is the other plan which has been suggested, of stationing policemen at every bridge and preventing their entry into the settlement, more practicable; the settlements are too large and their conditions too peculiar to admit of any attempt even to introduce the system, for not only would the restriction of free ingress and egress which it would involve be intolerable to a community like that of Shanghai, but the system of espionage to which it might easily give rise, and the increase of police power it would necessitate, would be unendurable.

I do not say that even a perfect system of reformatory imprisonment would extirpate crime, but every criminal redeemed would represent a real diminution of the evil from which we suffer, whereas so far as I have seen all other systems, amounting merely to harassing and worrying the criminals, do not in any way affect the prevalence of crime. It may gratify the authorities and occupy the police to make criminals continually move on, it may even satisfy the public who imagine something is being done for their benefit, but circulating felony is as obnoxious as when left undisturbed, perhaps even more so.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 18 Mai, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents M.M. E. Leroy, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. H. Scott, J. F. Seaman; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M.M. Hennequin et Hitch, empêchés n'ont pu assister à la séance.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité des Travaux et de la Police, relatives

A l'exhaussement de la rue des Pères et des terrains en contre-bas du quartier Ouest de la Concession après l'époque des fortes chaleurs; au remplacement d'un candélabre à gaz rue du Weikwé par une console, ainsi que l'installation de trois nouvelles lanternes à gaz dans cette rue et rue Palikao.

A l'établissement de barrières en bois sur la route de Sikaway aux endroits où cette précaution est nécessitée par le peu de largeur de la voie et à l'élargissement du pont No. 4 sur cette route; à la réparation d'un éboulement du quai de la Pagode et à la pose sur ce quai et celui du Wampoo, aux abords du pont de pierres, des chaines qui servaient de garde-fou sur le quai du Yang-king-pang.

A l'achat de 100,000 briques, au prix de $45 les dix mille.

A la construction d'un corps de dépendances pour la Garde Municipale, dépense estimée à Tls. 1,800; à l'achat de briques cassées et granit pour l'entretien des rues.

Au prolongement du drain de la rue de l'Est.

Et enfin, à la transformation du perron de l'Hôtel Municipal et de la tour de l'horloge, dépense estimée à Tls. 1,100, environ.

Informé que M. Kingsmill à bien voulu se charger de faire l'étude d'une ligne de démarcation des quais du Wampoo, le Conseil décide qu'aussitôt que cette étude sera terminée des démarches pressantes devront être faites prés des Consuls pour arriver à faire reconnaître par les autorités compétents la nouvelle ligne de quais.

Examen d'une réclamation de M. Nail tendant à rendre l'Administration responsable d'un accident qui lui est arrivé rue du Consulat, par suite d'une tranchée ouverte pour la construction d'un drain. Les mesures nécessaires paraissant avoir été prises pour empêcher les accidents, le Conseil décline toute responsabilité.

Pour la convenance de certains habitants du quai du Yang-king-pang, le Conseil décide de ménager au garde-fou en fer qui doit être installé sur ce quai entre les ponts 3 and 4, l'ouverture de deux portes.

Le Conseil décide de soumettre à M. le Consul de France le contrat passé avec la Compagnie du Gaz, en le priant de décider si d'après les clauses qu'il contient il y a lieu de recourir à une interpretation arbitrale pour obtenir une solution à la demande de reduction dans le prix du gaz fourni à l'Administration.

Le Conseil pense que l'attitude prise par l'Administration Française dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang n'a pas été représentée, telle qu'elle a été, par l'exposé qui en a été fait dans le compte rendu de la gestion du Municipal Council distribué aux Ratepayers.

Le Conseil, en effet, a fait tout ce qu'il a pu pour répondre au désir du Municipal Council exprimé par ses délégués pour précipiter la solution de la question avant l'assemblée de ses Landrenters et par conséquent avant le départ de M. Godeaux arbitre du Conseil Français. Ce dernier a même bien voulu retarder son départ pour permettre aux Conseils de terminer leurs mèmoires.

Celui du Municipal Council était annoncé et en préparation depuis deux ans, tandisque celui du Conseil a dû être fait à la hâte au moment où la clôture de l'exercice impose le plus de travail à l'administration.

Le Municipal Council avait été prévenu le 3 Mars par les délégués du Conseil et le 24 Mars par lettre posant les points à soumettre aux arbitres, qu'une contre réclamation basée sur *des* empiètements et non *un* empiètement, serait et était introduite par la Municipalité Française. Or, la décision des arbitres n'a eu lieu que le 23 Avril.

Enfin le plan qui a été placé devant les arbitres a été dressé par M. Henry, d'après des plans mêmes envoyés autrefois par la Municipalité Nord et existant encore dans ses bureaux. De plus M. Henry a fait connaître sans restriction, pendant le cours de son travail, au personnel du bureau des travaux du Municipal Council, les empiètements qu'il constatait sur les deux rives, et a même soumis le relevé de son plan à l'Ingénieur du Municipal Council, qui aurait, de son côté mis la plus grande courtoisie dans la communication de plans et renseignements dont M. Henry avait besoin. Enfin devant les arbitres le President a été l'interprète des vues conciliantes du Conseil en accédant sans difficulté à la demande du Président du Municipal Council, à l'effet de poser une nouvelle question aux arbitres, pour savoir si les travaux reconnus des empiètements doivent être détruits, et en n'insistant pas pour maintenir cette question lorsqu' après réflexion le Président du Municipal Council ne voulût plus que cette question fut posée.

Les explications sont provoquées par la manière dont les faits sont représentés par le compte-rendu du Municipal Council, et le Conseil désire qu'elles soient rendues publiques afin de dissiper l'impression qui pourrait exister qu'il n'a pas mis le plus grand empressement à accepter l'arbitrage dans la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, et ses conséquences, ou qu'il a pris au dépourvu le Municipal Council en faisant presque à son insu une contre-réclamation pour des empiètements importants commis sur la rive Nord.

La Séance est levée.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 31st May, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, A. A. Krauss, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting was taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

The Cash State for the 29th May was laid on the table for inspection.

Appropriation. — The Chairman read letter of 24th May from Mr. Camajee, in which the latter offered to sell the portion of his land required from the Canton Garden; and also that portion of the Bund southwards from the Seward Road to the end of Mr. Camajee's lot.

Plan, showing what the Council were paying for, was laid on the table.

The Appropriation required was then voted.

Staff.—It was decided to engage Mr. W. S. Percival during the absence of Messrs. Pond and Jones.

Yang-king-pang Creek. — The following correspondence with the French Municipal Council was read:—

Shanghaï, 26 Mai, 1875.

MONSIEUR,—J'ai soumis au Conseil la lettre que vous m'avez écrite le 20 de ce mois, pour me prévenir que le Municipal Council, proposait, pour arriver à déterminer la largeur qui devrait être conservée à l'avenir au Yang-king-pang, d'en faire d'abord faire l'étude par les Ingénieurs des deux Municipalités qui communiqueraient à leurs administrations respectives le résultat de leurs travaux.

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil, entrant dans les vues de votre administration, a chargé M. Henry du travail spécial que l'étude de la ligne future de quais de Yang-king-pang nécessitera. Le Conseil met à la disposition de votre Ingénieur et de M. Henry tous les documents, ayant trait à cette question, appartenant aux archives municipales, et il espère que votre administration voudra bien de son côté, faciliter les recherches nécessaires à l'étude que ces messieurs seront chargés de faire. Votre lettre, au reste, répond à une proposition de ce Conseil exprimée dans la lettre que le Président a eu l'honneur d'adresser le 29 Avril dernier à son collègue du Municipal Council, mais elle ne répond pas à une autre partie de sa lettre. En effet, il informait le Président du Municipal Council que l'Administration Française allait faire procèder sans retard à l'erection du pont en fer No. 4 et qu'elle priait votre Administration de faire pousser, de son côté, les travaux de la culée Nord de façon à ce qu'il n'y eût aucun délai apporté à la pose du dit pont. Cette partie de la lettre du Président n'a pas reçu de réponse.

Relativement à la culée Nord il serait utile de savoir si votre Administration entend la renforcer en lui laissant la même inclinaison ou en lui donnant une inclinaison plus prononcée pour augmenter sa force, tout en laissant la base de la culée dans la position où elle se trouve placée.

Je suis aussi chargé de vous faire remarquer que les ponts du Yang-king-pang présentent des hauteurs différentes au dessus du niveau de l'eau, ainsi que vous pouvez le remarquer dans le relevé suivant.

Hauteur à haute marée ordinaire.

		Metres.		Pieds et pouces anglais.
Pont No.	1	2.47	=	8.1
,, ,,	2	2.50		8.2
,, ,,	3	2.70		9.0½
,, ,,	4	2.78		9.1¼
,, ,,	5	1.67		5.5½
,, ,,	6	2.18		7.0½
,, ,,	7	1.85		6.1
,, ,,	8	1.61		5.3

Le peu d'élévation de certains de ces ponts annihile l'avantage pour la navigation que présentent les ponts les plus élevés. Le Conseil pense qu'il serait bon qu'une hauteur fixe fut déterminée pour chaque pont par les deux administrations, et serait d'avis que si quelques ponts sont trop bas, le pont No. 4, en revanche, le plus élevé de tous, présente peut-être une trop grande élévation au dessus de l'eau si l'on tient compte de la position en contre bas des abords Sud et Nord du pont.

Espérant, Monsieur, que vous voudrez bien me transmettre une réponse aussitôt qu'il vous sera loisible de le faire, je vous prie d'agréer l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Le Secrétaire,
H. SAYN.

Monsieur E. B. SOUPER,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council.

[*Translation.*]

Shanghai, May 26th, 1875.

SIR,—I have submitted to the Conseil the letter which you wrote me under date of 20th inst., informing me that the Municipal Council proposed,—in order to definitely fix upon a width which should be observed in future for the Yang-king-pang,—to have a survey made by the Engineers of the two Municipalities, who would communicate the results obtained to their respective Boards.

I have the honour to inform you, that in pursuance of your views, this Council has directed M. Henry to carry out the work which the study of the line for the future width will entail. This Council also places at the disposal of your Engineer, as well as of M. Henry, all documents bearing upon the case and at present in the Municipal archives, and hopes that your Council will, on its part, help in every way possible, the work with which these gentlemen are entrusted.

Your letter in effect replies to a proposition of this Council as explained in the letter of the 29th April, which our President had the honour to address to his colleague of your Council,—but it does not reply to another part of said letter. Indeed, it informed the Chairman of the Municipal Council that the French Administration would proceed without delay to the erection of the iron bridge No. 4, and it begged that your Administration would do its utmost to hasten the work of the Northern abutment, so that no delay may be caused in placing the bridge in position. This portion of our President's letter has received no reply. Respecting this Northern abutment, it would be useful to know whether your administration intents to strengthen, while leaving it the same inclination, or by giving it additional inclination to thereby increase its strength, always leaving the base of the abutment in the same position as at present.

I am also directed to call your attention to the fact that the bridges of the Yang-king-pang are of different height above the water, as you can judge from the following memorandum :

Height at ordinary high tide.

		Metres.		Feet & inches (English.)
Bridge No.	1	1.47	=	8.1
,, ,,	2	2.50		8.2
,, ,,	3	2.76		9.0½
,, ,,	4	2.78		9.1¼
,, ,,	5	1.67		5.5½
,, ,,	6	2.18		7.0½
,, ,,	7	1.85		6.1
,, ,,	8	1.61		5.3

The small elevation of some of these bridges counteracts all the advantages to navigation which the higher ones offer. This Council thinks it would be well to determine upon a height for each bridge, and that moreover if some are too *low*, No. 4 is perhaps too *high*, especially if the position of the approaches on each side, be taken into consideration.

Hoping, Sir, that you will give me an answer so soon as convenient, I am,

&c.

28th May.

Line of Yang-king-pang Creek.

SIR,—I have submitted your letter of the 25th inst. to the Works' Committee, and, in reply, they direct me to convey their best thanks for your offer of any documents which may assist Messrs. Henry and Oliver in defining a line for the Yang-king-pang Creek and fixing a convenient height for the Bridges. Mr. Oliver has been instructed to communicate with Mr. Henry, and you may rely on everything being done by the Council which will tend to facilitate these gentlemen's labours.

On receipt of their report, the Council will have much pleasure in discussing it with you.

The Council's letter of 20th instant was not intended as a reply to yours of 29th April, the Ratepayers' meeting prevented the Council giving it the early attention it called for, but that as little time as possible might be lost in settling the Yang-king-pang bund line, they considered that Mr. Oliver and Mr. Henry might in the meantime be usefully engaged in discussing the best scheme.

Bridge No. 4.—The Engineer has been directed to strengthen the abutment on the North side of the Creek, so as to admit of the bridge being completed.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD B. SOUPER,
Secretary.

H. SAYN, Esq.,
Secretary,
French Municipal Council.

Landing Accommodation—Jetty—Honan Road.—The Works Committee were requested to see if a jetty could not be built is this neighbourhood to facilitate the landing and shipping of cargo.

Roads—Chaou-foong Road—Encroachment by the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf.—It was decided to write to the Manager of the wharf, requesting him to replace the M. C. R. Stones and to move back the fence now encroaching on the road. The road having been 30 feet wide at the time Hongkew became incorporated with the Municipality, the Council could not give up possession of land which had thus been used by the public for a number of years.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were approved and passed for publication

Reports from Heads of Departments were read and considered.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FOOCHOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Present.—Peter G. Laurie, Esq., Chairman; Messrs. Hales, Haslam, Krohn, Leith, Harton, Hickling, Bathgate, Smith, Dermer, Tatham, Lübbes, and Mitford (Secretary.)

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The following Report was then read by the Chairman :—

REPORT.

"The Committee have now the pleasure to present to the members the usual Annual Report.

"*Market Telegrams to Shanghai Chamber.*—During the past season the Committee have supplied the Shanghai Chamber with bi-weekly telegraphic Market Reports, the latter Chamber defraying the cost of the telegrams and two-thirds of the subscriptions to the Amoy-Foochow line of Couriers. Your Committee only considered it necessary to request the Shanghai Chamber to reciprocate when anything of more than ordinary importance occurred.

"*Telegraphs.*—In accordance with the resolution passed at the last Annual General Meeting of the Chamber, the Committee placed themselves in communication with the various Treaty Consuls on the subject of the establishment of a telegraph line between the Settlement and the Pagoda Anchorage, and they are happy to say the concession was granted without any demur on the part of the Authorities, and promptly placed in the hands of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, who lost no time in carrying out the project. No difficulties were met with in the establishment of the line, and although the officials at one time made some trouble, owing to a few of the poles at this end of the line having to be placed in paddy fields (it being originally proposed that the posts were to be placed between high and low water marks) the villagers and country people themselves offered no objections, and the poles have remained standing ever since.

"The Great Northern Telegraph Company subsequently made an effort to establish telegraphic communication between this port and Amoy, and for some time received the support and co-operation of the Chinese Authorities. Owing, however, apparently to the termination of the Japanese difficulty and to instructions received from Peking, the officials subsequently interposed, placing every impediment in the way of the carrying out of the project, and troubles ensued which for a time have compelled the Company to postpone their operations. The establishment of a telegraph line between this place and Amoy, thereby placing the community in immediate direct communication with both Hongkong and Shanghai, is a consummation much to be desired, and this Chamber cannot sufficiently express the importance and value which it attaches to the carrying out of the project.

"*Pilot Regulations.*—The Committee are happy to say that during the past year the dissatisfaction which was at one time displayed by the pilots has not been renewed, and matters appear to have worked satisfactorily.

"*Wreck of the Steamer 'Canton.'*—This vessel was wrecked on the Min Reef on the 7th August last, and intelligence of the disaster reached the Settlement the following afternoon, Messrs. Siemssen & Co., the Agents of the vessel, in company with Messrs. Gilman & Co., Lloyd's Agents, at once placing themselves in communication with H.B.M.'s Consul, begging that assistance might be sent to the wreck, to stop the wholesale plunder which is usual in China on such occasions. No English gunboat being in port at the time, the Chinese Authorities were requested to provide the requisite protection and aid, but, notwithstanding the fact that they had three foreign built gunboats lying idle at the Anchorage at the time, no steps whatever were taken to protect either life or property. At a meeting of the Committee of this Chamber, at which the Agents of the local insurance offices were

invited to attend, the following resolution was passed, viz :—

"'That a communication be addressed to H.M.'s Consul, formally protesting against the inaction and supineness displayed by the Chinese Authorities in neglecting to afford protection to the wreck of the steamer *Canton*, thereby causing the unnecessary loss of much valuable property. Also, that H.M.'s Consul be requested to urge upon the Naval Authorities the desirability of always having a gunboat on the spot for the protection of shipping and commercial interests.'

"A correspondence with H.B.M.'s Consul upon the subject ensued, which was published at the time for the information of those interested. As might have been expected, no direct results were obtained from this protest, the Chinese simply meeting the subject with their usual evasiveness ; but it is to be hoped that the notice taken of the matter upon this occasion may not be without its advantage and influence hereafter.

"With regard to the latter portion of the above resolution, having reference to the desirability of always having a British gunboat on the station, Vice-Admiral Sir Chas. Shadwell replied it was impossible that this suggestion could be complied with, owing to the amount of Naval Force allotted by H.M.'s Government for service on the China Station not being sufficient to allow of a vessel being exclusively stationed at Foochow.

"*Conveyance of Mails.*—The regularity with which the steamers of Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co. have recently been plying—starting upon fixed days both from this side and from Hongkong—has proved a great boon to this community, which cannot sufficiently express its recognition of the promptitude and courtesy displayed by the owners in thus making arrangements for the regular conveyance of its mails. The Chamber feels that it would be wanting in its duty were it to pass over this matter without acknowledgment, and without expressing a hope that ere long some arrangement may be made by the Post Office Authorities by which Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co. may receive some more tangible recognition of their services in this repect than the mere verbal expression of the thanks of this community.

"*Damages to Teas by heating.*—A considerable amount of attention has recently been drawn to this subject, which is one of great importance to this community. There cannot be a doubt that teas stowed near the engine room of a steamer are liable to get damaged and injured by the great heat which is thrown out. So completely was this recognised, that only a few years ago the opinion was freely expressed that teas would not bear shipment by steamer ; and that the supply of the leaf, notwithstanding the inroads of steam, would still continue to go forward by sailing vessels. This has not proved the case, and we have now to find the remedy for the evil complained of. Of course it would be very easy for shippers to stipulate that their teas are not to be stowed in the neighbourhood of the engines, but such stipulation, even if made, is liable to evasion, as the steamers would have to sacrifice a very considerable cargo space in accepting such an understanding. Captain Saunders, who is Marine Surveyor to many of our local offices, has suggested as a remedy that steamers should be provided with a false deck in the neighbourhood of the engine-room, leaving a clear unoccupied space of say 10 to 12 inches between the main deck and the proposed false deck, and a similar clear unoccupied space at the side round the iron bulk heads of the engine-room, and that the through current of air and ventilation so caused would in a great measure tend to obviate the evil. The proposition is worthy of consideration, and may perhaps be the means of producing some further suggestions from those interested in the subject.

"*Freight Engagements.*—A case, which has recently been before the Court in Shanghai with reference to the subject of freight engagements, renders it desirable, with a view to avoiding disputes, that a clear understanding should exist on this point. It has always been understood to be a custom in Foochow that in the event of a vessel reducing its rate of freight, all prior shippers are entitled to the benefit of the reduction, and it rests with this Chamber to decide if this rule is to be understood as binding in Foochow for the future.

"*Members.*—Messrs. Piatkoff, Molchonoff & Co., and Tokmakoff, Sheveleff & Co. and Mr. M. W. Greig have been elected provisionally members of the Chamber, subject to confirmation by the present meeting. The following members have resigned during the past year, Messrs. Ivanoff & Co., Messrs Augustine Heard & Co., and Mr. Latham.

"*Committee.*—The term of office of the present Committee having now expired it will be incumbent on this meeting, under the provisions of Clause VIII. of the Rules, to elect a new Committee for current year.

"*The Chamber's Circular*—Continues to meet with the support of the mercantile community, and its circulation increases slightly every year ; receipts for the circular during the past season shewing an increase of $18 upon those of the previous year.

"*Funds.*—From the Secretary's account current for the year ending 31st instant, which has been audited by Mr. Masfen, it will be seen that the finances of the Chamber are in a satisfactory condition, there being a credit balance of $335.75 against a similar balance at the same time last year of $69.14.

"In consideration of the increase of work in the secretary's department, the Committee considered it expedient to raise that gentleman's salary to $600 per annum, and they trust that this will meet with the approval of the members."

Mr. Dermer enquired whether the Chamber proposed to take any action relative to the placing of bulkheads round the engine room, with a view to prevent the damage to teas by heating.

The Chairman repied that he did not think that the Chamber could take any action in the matter, but it had been referred to in the Report with a view to eliciting discussion, and possibly some further suggestions on the subject.

Mr. Dermer said that Captains might object to making any alterations in their vessels.

The Chairman said in that case shippers had the remedy in their own hands. He did not think that either Captains or owners would object to any reasonable alterations, if they secured freight more readily. He had only that morning received a letter from the Captain of the *Glenfinlas*, who informed him that he was having alterations made in his vessel with a view to remedying the evil complained of.

Mr. Haslam asked if the proposed alterations could be carried out here.

The Chairman said he believed they could be carried out without any difficulty. The matter had merely been put forward in the form of a suggestion at present.

The Chairman then called attention to the question of freight engagements, remarking that the recent decision of the Judge of the Supreme Court in Shanghai rendered it desirable to have a clear understanding on this point. Some discussion ensued, the sense of the meeting apparently being that the matter would find its own remedy, Mr. Hickling remarking that any one who departed from the existing custom would simply lose all future support from shippers.

It was then proposed by Mr. Tatham, and seconded by Mr. Hickling, that the Report and statement of accounts for the past year be passed, and this was carried unanimously.

The following gentlemen were then elected to form the Committee for the ensuing year, viz :—Messrs. Paterson, Haslam, Pim, Young, and Walkinshaw.

After some complaint in regard to the amount of shipping information obtained through the Courier service with Amoy,

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.—*Foochow Herald.*

Miscellaneous.

THE TRAGEDY AT FOOCHOW.

We have been favoured with the following extract from a private letter from Foochow (dated 2nd June), written by a gentleman who recently left Shanghai :—

"We arrived in due time on Tuesday morning, to find the Pagoda Anchorage Custom-house in a state of siege. It appears that when the *Quantung* was here some weeks ago, one of the Customs officers, Mr. Le Bretton, seized about $1,800 worth of smuggled opium. The smugglers swore vengeance, and when the *Douglas* arrived last Thursday, Mr. Blacklock was put on board to keep watch, with instructions to allow no boats to come alongside during the night. About one in the morning, two or three snake boats went alongside the *Douglas*, and were ordered by Mr. Blacklock to keep away. They refused to do so, and he went to get his revolver. He fired one chamber over the heads of those in the boats, when the fire was instantly returned. He fired three other chambers, killing one man and wounding another. The engineer of the *Douglas* came out to see what the firing was about, and was just in time to see Blacklock fall stone dead, shot through the heart. Captain Burnie, the chief mate, and the engineer then became alarmed for the safety of the ship, and went for their firearms, with which they fired right in to the crews of the boats, killing some and wounding others. The boats then went away, and the men landed to attack the Custom-house, but a body of natives led by Europeans repulsed them. At the present moment, the Custom-house is guarded by several hundred men, all in a state of excitement. The smugglers have offered $600 for Le Bretton's head, $400 for that of a friend of his, and $5,000 for Captain Bisbee's, the harbour-master."

Mr. Le Bretton, who is now in Shanghai, confirms the statements contained in the above letter, and says that, on its becoming known that Tls. 500 were offered for his life, Mr. Hart considered it prudent to send him away as soon as possible, although he protested against it. He adds that the boy captured by the smugglers out of the sampan, was kept captive until the day after Blacklock was shot, when he was sent back to his parents unharmed. He says the smugglers questioned him a good deal, and asked him if he thought if Le Bretton were taken, he could pay the value of the opium he had seized, $1800, as a ransom. The instructions given by the Viceroy to the Tetai commanding the 3,000 troops sent to guard the Custom-house and punish the smugglers, were to destroy their village, and convert the site into paddy fields. No news of this having been done had, however, been received when the *Dragon* left. Before the arrival of the troops, the Arsenal authorities despatched Mr. Harwood, the instructor of gunnery, with twenty armed seamen of the Chinese corvette *Yanghoo*, and nine Mandarin gunboats, to assist in protecting the Custom-house, an attack on which was hourly expected. On the same night as the affray between the snakeboats and the *Douglas*, ten on twelve other snakeboats were seen making for a water-pass, a sort of wide creek, leading up to the smugglers' village, and it was openly stated to be their intention to muster 1,000 men, and then return to the attack of the Custom house. They ascertained, however, the precautions taken for its security and deferred their intention, the arrival of the soldiers afterwards effectually putting a stop to it. That the promptitude with which the troops were despatched to the scene prevented further bloodshed seems

beyond doubt, for on the afternoon following Mr. Blacklock's death, a strong party of the smugglers occupied a small village in the rear of the Custom-house, and to this place messengers were sent to borrow spears from the villagers to help in the defence of the building. The villagers were, however, too much afraid of their formidable visitors to lend the spears, and the messengers returned in haste to report the failure of their mission and that the village was occupied by the contrabandists. Their presence there was evidently to create a diversion by falling on the rear, while the real attack was made in front. Another incident tends to show that the whole affair was premeditated. On the night of the fatal occurrence with Blacklock, a great disturbance was heard at the back of the Custom-house, and Mr. Sanderson, tide-surveyor, and Mr. Stevens, examiner, who were on duty, went to see what it was about. It ceased as suddenly as it commenced, and on their return, they heard the reports and saw the flashes of the revolvers alongside the *Douglas*. The disturbance was beyond doubt got up to distract the attention of the officers from the snake-boats just on the point of setting out for the ship. In addition to the snake-boat that closed in with the *Douglas*, two others lay a little distance off, and in the nearest creek were several others, all full of men, and armed. What the precise object of the attack on the ship was, can only be imagined.

WRECK OF THE STR. "POYANG."

The following particulars are extracted from Hongkong papers, of the wreck of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Co.'s str. "*Poyang*:—

We have to report, with much regret, the loss of the Company's steamer *Poyang*, which left Hongkong at two o'clock, on her return to Macao, on Monday, May 31st. Finding the violence of the wind too strong to turn back, and the sea making a clear sweep of the deck, Capt. Carroll was compelled to anchor off the "Nine Islands," about 6 p.m., about seven miles from Macao, and about 11 o'clock p.m., she heeled over and went down. On the news reaching Macao the authorities endeavoured to get boats to put off, but not one could be obtained, all being damaged. H.E. the Governor was asked about the gunboat, and the *Camoens* was sent out at once.

The survivors, Mr. Murphy, chief engineer; Captain Wade (Chen Jui), passenger; Mr. White, second engineer; two watchmen, two pilots, four sailors, three firemen, Captain's boy, and Chinese passenger—in all 16 in number—were picked up by a fishing boat and brought to Macao at 9 a.m., yesterday. Amongst those drowned we deeply regret to record Captain Carroll, for whom every one had a kind word; Mr. Drummond (chief officer), Mr. Colah (merchant, Macao). We believe the *Poyang* had its usual number of native passengers—report says, but not accurately known as yet—about 130.

As soon as the loss became known—bad news flies quickly—the Canton Wharf was besieged by the Chinese, in the hope, anticipating the return of relatives and friends, that they were not numbered with the lost. When the survivors were made known, the scene was most afflicting.

Mr. Murphy, the chief engineer, with the other survivors, were saved by clinging to the walking beam.

Among the passengers were the Captain and officers (Europeans) of a Portuguese vessel recently sold at Penang.

The Captain wore a live-preserver when he was drowned; and everything was done that could be done to safe life. Passengers would not take to the boats, but preferred to remain and take their chance on board the steamer.

The cargo was but trifling, some 18 chests of opium and 50 slabs of tin. The *Poyang* was insured for 35,000 dollars.

Subsequently accounts, however, show that the loss of life was not so great as first supposed; several other survivors have come in, and there is room for hope that others will yet be found. The *Mail* says—of the crew, all of whom were at first supposed to be drowned, three (2 Portuguese and 1 Manila man) arrived on the 2nd June, in a fishing junk, which had picked them up floating on planks or spars. They report that they saw a junk picking up others, and some hopes remain that others may have thus been saved. It is also said that 11 men have been landed at Aberdeen from junks, but whether picked up from the *Poyang* or from native craft is not yet certain. Amongst those board are said to have been several of the gold diggers brought up by the *Namoa*, returning with their hard-earned gains. H.M. gunboat *Ringdove* has proceeded to the scene of the wreck. The *Daily Press* mentions a rumour that another junk is on her way to Hongkong, having on board a European, supposed by some to be Captain Carroll. "It is feared the supposition is without any reasonable foundation; but as the junk has lost one mast, it will be some time before she reaches Hongkong, and nothing definite will be known till then." Captain Nunes, lately of the *Santa Sancha*, arrived on the 2nd instant at Macao from Ty-ho, an island about 20 miles distant from the place where the steamer *Poyang* foundered, and towards which he and four of his crew drifted, swimming occasionally. They were in the water over 20 hours. Several Portuguese residents in Hongkong have received intelligence from relatives in Macao, that a small junk has arrived at that port with the news that over forty of the passengers and crew of the ill-fated *Poyang* have been saved, and were on an island some distance to the leeward of the Nine Islands, where the *Poyang* foundered. Amongst them is said to be Mr. Ribeiro, the purser. The *Chen Jui*, driven on shore on the gale, came off at the high water on the 2nd, and proceeded to Canton slightly damaged. The *Peng-chao-hai*, between Lantao and the Nine Islands, picked up a Chinaman, insensible, floating on a junk's hatchway. He is supposed to have belonged to some fishing junk wrecked in the storm. The junk said by some Chinamen to have been seen with a European on board has not turned up, and the probabilities are that there was little or no foundation for the story.—The *Mail* repeats a rumour that "two stout foreigners" are on one of the Islands, and asks: Can these be Captain Carroll and Mr. Favacho? A gunboat might well be sent down to ascertain if the rumour seems to be fairly well founded. In the meantime a committee of four, consisting of Messrs. Ryrie, Hayllar, O'Brien and Russell, have undertaken to receive and apply any subscriptions which may be raised for the benefit of Captain Carroll's wife and son.

H. M. SHIP "CURLEW'S" TRIP TO THE GOTO ISLANDS.

Her Majesty's ship *Curlew* left Nagasaki for a cruise on Tuesday, the 18th ultimo, for the purpose of firing her quarterly ammunition as well as to exercise her ship's company at sea. During her absence she visited the harbour of Tama No Ura, in the Island of Fukoye, the Southernmost of the Goto group. This splendid harbour, 6 miles in length, has the disadvantage of carrying an inconvenient depth of water decreasing from 32 fathoms to 16 at the head of the harbour; but from there an inlet runs for nearly a mile to the N.E. where the *Curlew* anchored in 7 fathoms—(mud-bottom), this secluded anchorage will contain 4 or 5 ships easily. The harbour abounds with fish and parties went away seineing, but owing to the rocks were not so successful as they had anticipated. The *Curlew* was visited by crowds of the natives, who seemed very well disposed; in former years they bore a very different character. On leaving Tama No Ura the *Curlew* shaped course to the Northward and returned by the Kuga Channel, arriving at Nagasaki on Saturday, the 22nd ultimo. The Island of Kugasima is covered with cultivation, and the assemblage of natives collected here and there along the shore showed that the presence of a man-of-war steaming through their waters was an unusual excitement for them. If these Channels through the Goto Islands were surveyed they would probably be constantly used by ships proceeding to Chefoo and Tientsin, especially steamers.—*Rising Sun.*

Extracts.

THE AMOY-FOOCHOW TELEGRAPH.

(Foochow Herald.)

The agreement now arrived at between the Company and the Chinese Government was signed and sealed on the 21st instant. The contract has been signed by the Imperial Commissioner Shen Pao-chen, the Governor-General of the Province, the Manchu Commander, and the Governor of the Province—under instructions from the Tsung-li Yamên. It is a noteworthy fact that these high officials were represented throughout the negotiations now concluded, by the President of the Tung Shang-chü, or Foreign Trade Committee, the successor in office to Loo—whose powers the high authorities vainly endeavoured to repudiate when the first difficulty cropped up. The payment of an ample indemnity, and the purchase of the accumulated material is assented to by the Chinese officials as the two principles forming the basis of the agreement. As regards the agreement itself, we are authorised to publish the following authentic details, viz.:—

First.—The Great Northern Telegraph Company undertake to construct, for the Chinese Government, an overland telegraph between Foochow and Amoy (160 miles) furnishing all the necessary material, wire, cables and instruments; and to construct stations at Foochow, Hing-wha-foo, Chin-chau-foo, and Amoy; and to hand over the line in good working order, and constructed in a substantial manner (this was one of the Company's original propositions.)

Second.—The Chinese Authorities give full protection to the Company's staff, and will protect the material required for the construction of the line. The Chinese Authorities are responsible for theft of the Company's property, or violence to any of the Company's staff.

Third.—The Company shall be enabled to commence the line not later than 15th August of this year, but earlier if found practicable; and shall, when commenced, complete the work with reasonable despatch.

Fourth.—The Chinese Authorities are responsible that no delay is occasioned through unlawful interference on the part of the inhabitants, or others.

Fifth.—In consideration of the Company carrying out this agreement, the Chinese Authorities undertake to pay to the Company the sum $154,500—part of which to be paid on signing the contract; part when the line is completed; and the balance in two half-yearly instalments. It is further agreed that the Company shall work the line for account of the Chinese Government, and teach Chinese pupils the art of telegraphy—on conditions to be specially agreed upon hereafter.

Sixth.—The Company retains the Pagoda Anchorage line, for the present.

Seventh.—The Agreement is written and signed in the English and Chinese languages; and the English text shall be accepted, by both parties, as the original and authentic version, in the event of any dispute arising.

The above, we are informed, constitute the principal clauses of the Agreement arrived at. The Great Northern Telegraph Company are entitled to our congratulations upon having gained their end in such a satisfactory manner. The introduction of the telegraph

into this Province is an event the importance of which will be fully recognized in due time. Let us express a hope that other desirable improvements will quickly follow.

THE LOSS OF THE "HONGKONG."

The inquiry into the circumstances of the wreck of the steamer *Hongkong* in the Gulf of Aden on the 22nd of February last has been concluded, at Greenwich Police Court, before Mr. Patteson, migistrate, and Captain Hight, nautical assessor. Mr. Hamel conducted the inquiry; Mr. Coryton attending for the master of the vessel, Captain Cowley; and Mr. Woods, solicitor, as representative of the relatives of Mrs. Walton and her five children, who were, with six of the crew, drowned on the occasion. The loss of the vessel was attributed to the striking of the ship on what was alleged to be a coral reef, formed between four and five miles from the coast of the island of Abd ul Kuri, not recorded in the Admiralty chart made in 1847. It was contended that there must have been, at least, fifty fathoms of water at the place where the vessel disappeared.

The following is the judgment of the Court: —"After a careful consideration of the whole of the evidence, the Court cannot satisfactorily determine whether, as is alleged, the vessel struck on the sunken rock more than three miles from the shore, or on the reef shown on the chart, and, under these circumstances, the Court is desirous to give the master the benefit of the doubt, and therefore acquit him of any wrongful default for the loss of the ship. At the same time, the Court must observe as to the evils of running and imprudence of going so near to land as even four or five miles for the purpose of correcting chronometers. The Court is glad to find that the discipline of officers and crew was most praiseworthy on this trying occasion, and the conduct of the master after the ship struck was most exemplary. Bearing in mind the importance of the doubts of an undiscovered danger existing in the track of a daily increasing traffic, the Court will recommend that measures should be taken to ascertain the position of this alleged danger, if it exists." The proceedings then terminated, it being intimated that, as the captain's certificate had been lost in the ship, application would have to be made to the Board of Trade for its renewal.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Hanbury asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if it was true, as stated in a telegram of the 22nd inst., that "the Chinese Government have appointed a person of inferior position as Commissioner to investigate" the circumstances connected with the murder of Mr. Margary; when the despatches of Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, in reference to this subject, are expected, and whether he will take an early opportunity of laying them on the table of the House. Mr. Bourke said no confirmation had been received from Mr. Wade of the statement contained in the Reuter's telegram that the Chinese Government had appointed a person of inferior position to investigate the circumstances connected with the murder. Mr. Wade's despatches were not expected for four or five weeks; and when they arrived, if they could be produced without injury to the public interests, they should be laid on the table without delay.

22nd April.

In answer to Mr. Wait,

Mr. Disraeli said: The telegram in the *Times* newspaper quoted by my hon. friend respecting the unfortunate events which ended in the death of Mr. Margary is of the 10th and not of the 8th instant. On the 4th of this month we sent by telegraph instructions to Mr. Wade to call upon the Chinese Government to make strict investigation into the circumstances of the unfortunate case. Mr. Wade has communicated by telegraph to us that he has made certain demands in consequence upon the Chinese Government. We have reason to believe that these demands (hear) have been acceded to; but, in the absence of details, it is better for the public interest that I should not at present enter any further into the nature of these communications.

AFFAIRS IN BURMAH.

Rangoon Gazette.

The mission of Sir Douglas Forsyth must not be a farce like all the missions which preceded it. Sir Douglas must not humbly kow-tow and petition for leave to beg to be allowed to know the royal wishes in order the better to respect and obey them. We have had too much of that sort of thing in the past. Politeness, tact, a tender regard for other people's feelings, are all very good and proper between civilized, enlightened and refined men. But when dealing with such proud, deceitful and mannerless savages as the Burmese, we ought in justice to ourselves and mercy to the people of this land, simply and briefly to tell them: "We will stand no further nonsense. Such and such are our wishes; we give you twenty-four hours to say whether you will attend to them." Above all, let the arrangements be capped with a certain pledge or guarantee that they will not remain a dead letter like the previous arrangements with weak or vain-minded Chief Commissioner. We must have a gunboat and a full regiment of British troops kept at Mandalay, under the orders of our Resident, but paid by the King of Burmah. All the royal monopolies must be blown to the winds. Above all, a preponderating voice in the King's Council should be given to our Resident, with power to establish a system of administration which will accord with justice and promote the interests of the people *on both sides of the frontier*. We should not stand now upon any delicate notion of the King's supposed rights. By a long course of misadministration he has forfeited all claims to being treated any longer as an independent King. If we do not, at present, mend matters for good finally; if we remain satisfied with an atom of wisdom to a caskful of inanity; if we are going to be soft, gentle, and humble again, because of the royal fool saying at the last moment: "I will deign not to do it again," and thus cause the terrible state of poverty and uncertainty which has existed for so long in Upper Burmah to go on for one or two more generations, we shall deserve to be execrated by that of our own people and despised by that of Upper Burmah. We have only to wish for it, and a world of good will be done at once and for ever. We ought to hesitate the less, as the King has neither right nor might to confront us.

Speaking of Bhamo, however morally certain here the generality of the people are that the Burmese were opposed to the object of the expedition, it will be difficult to bring its disaster home to the King. The best thing we could do in the matter would be to give *ourselves* the benefit of the doubt, and oblige the King to make a tramway between Bhamo and his extreme Northern frontier, and guarantee us the safety of the traffic the whole way within his dominions. With gunboats in Chinese waters, and a Palmerstonian spirit in the language and acts of our representative at Peking, we could not fail to render secure, as well, the way for our caravans on the Chinese side. Then, truly, the merchants of Rangoon, and their correspondents all over the world would see glorious times. Knight of Yarkand, we look to you to open up for us this, certainly the healthiest and wealthiest country under the sun.

(Civil & Military Gazette.)

The King of Burmah has for some time past meditated hostilities against the British Government, and, when strong enough to do so, intended to pick a quarrel on the question of the Karennee boundary, and our protection of the provinces so named.

Our military readers have only to inspect the map of British and Independent Burmah to convince themselves of the strategical importance of Karennee with its natural boundary—the Salween River, which connects it with the sea and British Ports. At present, this province, or district, is occupied by a race who have for years been under British protection, and the fact of the Thayetmyo frontier line not having been continued or demarcated till it reached the banks of the Salween river in no way obliterated or altered the original boundaries of Karennee, which passed under British protection with that Province.

The object of the Court of Ava (Mandalay) to secure possession of Karennee is very evident. Mandalay, Umarapoora and Ava are hopelessly cut off from the sea by the British holding Thayetmyo. If therefore, by cajolery, diplomacy, or armed force, Karennee could be taken possession of, the Burmese King, with his Court and entire army, would speedily establish themselves at the new capital (Karennee), and, having the Salween open to the sea, Martaban and the British possessions could at any time be attacked; and as the inland portion of Karennee (*i. e.* the province), is miles within the Thayetmyo frontier line, the Burmese army would actually be separated from the heart of British territory by a bamboo fence or pine-apple hedge only, as might be most convenient to the Golden Foot.

The deplorable murder of Mr. Margary has unexpectedly disclosed important Burmese State secrets, and, by placing us on our guard, has done much towards defeating the hostile schemes of the last despotic ruler of Burmah.

The season is now too far advanced for troops to take the field; but not a moment should be lost in arming the Karens (especially all those who have embraced the Christian religion) with Enfield rifles, ammunition and suitable clothing; pay and provisions being provided for the Christian militia of Karennee.

THE BLOCKADE QUESTION.

(Overland Trade Report.)

But the cases (of Hongkong and Gibraltar) are widely different. Hongkong is a free port, dependent on its commerce for existence; Gibraltar is a fortress, garrisoned and maintained for no earthly reason but to enable the British Government to keep the door of the Mediterranean always open to her ships. Nor is it likely we can treat China as we treat Spain. She will not treat us as an equal, and every Treaty we have made with her has been wrung from her at the sword's point. Lord Carnarvon admits that many excesses and abuses have been committed under colour of this right of search, but in another paragraph he asserts it is our duty, as a friendly power, to make concessions even though unimposed by international duty. This sort of talk is all very well when uttered about a nation that is both civilised and friendly; but most of the residents out here are inclined to think, judging from the actions of the Peking Government, that they are by no means cordially disposed towards the foreigner, and that their policy lacks the enlightenment and liberality that should signalise a civilised state. For this reason we are not inclined to look with much favour upon the appointment of a Consul for China in Hongkong, whether he be a native or of alien nationality, believing that the authority with which he would be invested might, if he were a native, be greatly abused, and, if he were an alien, the Chinese traders might not regard him with much confidence; while in either case the appointment might be construed by the Chinese people as a concession extorted from our fears. The action of Lord Carnarvon is extremely unsatisfactory altogether, and is eminently calculated to impair our credit and damage our prestige in the East. At the same time, it is a tacit encouragement to the Canton Authorities to persevere in their career of plunder, extortion, and oppression. We cannot hope for any abatement of their arbitrary and defiant proceedings after being thus snubbed by our own Government, and it will not be great matter for surprise if in future the cruisers carry on their squeezing operations inside the harbour.

THE GALE AT HONGKONG.

(Daily Press.)

The gale alluded to in our yesterday's issue continued on Monday night to increase in violence. It could not be said to be a typhoon, but there was every appearance of one blowing very close to us. The squalls were, however, exceedingly heavy, and by midnight the storm was at its height. The gale first commenced at N.E. and veered round to the S.W. through W. The rain accompanying it was terrific between 10 and 11 o'clock. The steamship *Ningpo* sheared off clear of the *Achilles*, and steamed out to the Eastward of the men-of-war ground without any damage to either. The American bark *Edward James* lost her mizenmast in one of the squalls in the course of the day. She was lying over at

the Kowloon Docks, having a new mainmast fitted in. The stays of the mizenmast having been loosened from the mainmast, it took very little to cause it to be blown over the side. At 11.30 p.m. the British bark, *St. Andrew's Castle*, lying off the Sailors' Home without ballast or cargo, was in great danger of capsizing, and to save her it was found necessary to cut away the main and mizen-masts. The German bark *Sudan*, lying out in the middle of the harbour abreast of the Canton wharf, was at 12.30 in the same predicament, and to save the vessel, her main and mizenmasts had to be cut away. At West Point several cargo boats and sampans were broken up, and three junks foundered. Several boat people have been missing, but as yet only the body of one child has been picked up near where one of the junks foundered. The *Kinshan* did not start for Canton yesterday morning till eleven o'clock.

The damage done on shore, though widespread, was happily not very serious. The water in the harbour seems to have been up on the Praya, but very little injury has resulted. The houses facing the harbour, with one or two exceptions, seem to have escaped. Before midnight, the front of the house known as the "Empire Tavern," No. 262, Queen's Road, also the next house, No. 260, and part of the front of house No. 258, came down with a crash into the street, nearly killing a woman and two children who were lying down inside. This is not much to be wondered at, as the walls are stated to be only one brick thick, and the houses are three storeys high. The tenants have, we believe, complained of this fact, and expressed their opinion that the fronts were giving out and would fall in the next storm. No heed seems to have been taken of the notice, and the results are as stated. The front of the house known as the "Liverpool Arms" is also in a dangerous state, being bulged out, and the cross stone propped up with a piece of wood. The roofs of a row of houses in the Queen's Road, next to the P. & O. Coal Godowns, have been completely blown away. The fronts of two three-storied houses, next to the Novelty Iron Works, also came down with a run. One very large tree next to the No. 7 Police Station was torn up by the roots, and completely blocked up the Pokfullum Road. Passing along the streets in Taipingshan, numbers of venetians, etc., were seen to have been blown down, but this was all. In Hollywood Road a great many branches of trees were lying about, and some of the houses in the same locality were more or less injured. The verandah of No. 24 was unroofed, and one or two of the adjoining houses lost a great many of their tiles. Part of the front wall of No. 11, Elgin Street, gave way to the gale, but the breach is only slight. Caine Road for some distance was strewn with branches, but the residences along it were not much harmed. A fine tree near Dr. Clouth's gateway, in Castle Road, was very much mutilated. Some railings at West Terrace were blown down, and several small trees laid prostrate. A tree inside Sir John Smale's gateway was also destroyed. Standing at the water tank in Caine road and looking down on Taipingshan, a number of Chinese houses could be seen more or less injured. The Sing Ping Theatre roof was pretty well stripped on one side. An out-building at Baxter House was partly blown down, but the house itself escaped. All the bamboo sheds at Captain Sands' Patent Slip at West Point have been blown down. Mosque Terrace and Seymour Terrace were uninjured, with the exception of the loss of a few tiles and a venetian here and there. The water at Old Bailey Street seems to have rushed down with great force, as a part of the road at the top has been washed away, leaving several very deep ruts and laying the gas pipe bare. A verandah at the back of one of the houses in Arbuthnot Road was blown down and the roof damaged. The Public Gardens have again, we are sorry to say, come in for their share of disaster. A number of the trees and shrubs have been either broken or uprooted altogether, and many of the flowers in pots have been completely destroyed. This is all the more to be regretted, because the gardens were just beginning to recover their wonted appearance after the injury sustained last September. A number of trees outside the Gardens, and several in the grounds of Government House, were also destroyed. Government House itself, although well exposed to the fury of the gale, was not damaged. The Cathedral was equally fortunate. The City Hall fared rather worse, many of the windows and some of the venetians were broken. The garden wall of General Whitfeild's late residence was blown down in several parts. The Murray Barracks escaped, but a number of trees in the vicinity were stripped of their branches. Several of the buildings in the Naval Yard sustained some injury, one especially being considerably damaged in the roof. The destruction at Wanchi has not been very extensive. Several trees about St. Paul's College and Wyndham Street were also very much broken. Many of the verandahs of the houses in Wyndham Street facing the harbour were unroofed, and the servants' quarters were also much damaged.

At the Peak there appears to have been considerable damage done. The signalman's house, which was thought capable of standing almost any storm, sustained severe injury. The signal mast and yard escaped harm this time, as the topmast had been struck in the afternoon.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, June 7th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

TING HO-MING *v.* W. WYLES.

Plaintiff sued defendant to recover $77.25, or the return of certain goods. He had also summoned the same defendant for assaulting him while on the voyage from Shanghai to Hankow, but the charge, as will be seen below, was not pressed. The case presented some peculiar features. Heding acted as interpreter.

Defendant is chief officer of the *Peking*, and the plaintiff is a lamp-trimmer on board the same ship; in reply to his HONOUR, the former admitted that he held in his possession a chest, $6, a watch, and a clock, the property of the plaintiff.

The HONOUR asked why defendant held possession of the property?

Defendant replied that plaintiff had deserted from the ship. He was entered on the articles, and his time would not be up for two months.

Plaintiff acknowledged that he had no permission to leave the vessel,—he left because he had been beaten, and was afraid of being beaten again.

His HONOUR said if plaintiff left his ship without permission, the captain or officers could detain his things until his return. He appeared to have entered for a certain time—why did he not return?

Plaintiff replied that he had entered for four months, and had served that time. He was not told to put his name down again, and did not agree to serve for any time afterwards.

His HONOUR asked to see the ship's articles.

The CAPTAIN (who was also present in Court) said plaintiff's name was entered as A-qua.

His HONOUR, on referring to the articles, said the plaintiff appeared to have signed for four months from the 30th March.

Plaintiff said he knew nothing about it.

His HONOUR asked whether the articles were signed at the Consulate Shipping Office?

Defendant replied they were signed on board the ship. Plaintiff deserted on the 1st June, having served two months under the articles the second time.

His HONOUR said plaintiff must know that in English ships, seamen entering were required to sign their names.

Plaintiff said he was not called upon to sign, and he was not able to write.

His HONOUR, referring to the articles again, said it was clear the same person had made the same mark for all the crew.

The CAPTAIN said each man touched the pen while the mark being made.

His HONOUR said it would be just as well, in all cases, for each man to make his own mark as to touch the pen.

Plaintiff was then examined as to why he deserted, and said, when he left Shanghai he had some salt fish and some mushrooms which the mate threw overboard. He had also a handkerchief, which the mate, finding some foreign letters upon it, accused him of stealing, and beat him four or five times with a rope while on the voyage to Hankow. When the ship got to Hankow, his (plaintiff's) friends complained of that treatment, and the mate was summoned to appear at the English Consulate, but no decision was given.

His HONOUR (to the defendant)—What is your version of that?

Defendant said it was the Captain who was summoned for assaulting the plaintiff, and he was fined $20. The plaintiff deserted the same night, and came down the river in the steamer *Nanking*.

His HONOUR—He charged you with assaulting him. Was the Captain fined for the assault you committed?

The CAPTAIN interposed by saying—I gave the mate orders to flog him.

Defendant said the plaintiff was always in possession of smuggled goods on board the ship,—salt and other things. He (defendant) had thrown overboard 26 bags of salt which the plaintiff had brought on board on the voyage in question.

Plaintiff said he did not know the Captain was fined $20 for assaulting him. He was told by the Consulate authorities to go back to the ship, but did not go. The Captain told the chief mate he was to do able seaman's work, which he could not do, and so was afraid to go back.

The CAPTAIN said that that order was for only one day. Another man was put to do plaintiff's work as a lamp-trimmer, for the time he was away at Court, and he was to have gone back to his own duty the following morning.

His HONOUR said plaintiff must go back to his ship now. He need not be afraid the Captain was going to beat him again and get fined $20 for it. How many bags of salt had the defendant thrown overboard?

Defendant replied 26, 12 of them having been taken out of the plaintiff's chest.

Plaintiff said the bags did not contain salt, but mushrooms.

His HONOUR said if plaintiff, when he went back to his ship, would attend only to his lamp-trimming, there would be nothing the matter. It had been found that plaintiff had charged the Captain with assaulting him, and he had been fined $20; but the Captain said he had given the mate orders to flog him, and that was the assault now complained of. Did plaintiff want the mate punished as well?

Plaintiff said his only wish was not to work in the ship any more.

His HONOUR asked the Captain if he wanted the man back again?

The CAPTAIN replied that he did.

His HONOUR said he must then send him back. If he had heard the charge of assault, he should, in this case, have only ordered the defendant to pay costs. The defendant was nevertheless liable, as well as the Captain, for the assault on the plaintiff. The defendant must of course obey all lawful orders of his Captain, but an order to commit an assault was not a lawful order. The plaintiff, however, did not appear desirous of pressing the charge, and the summons would be dropped. Plaintiff must pay the costs in the civil summary case, but the costs in the criminal case, $1.50, would be returned to him. He must also go back to his ship, do his duty, and he would not be beaten again. He was not entitled to have his property returned to him until he had completed his term of service.

The judgment was explained to the plaintiff, and the parties left the Court.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, June 5th.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY.

R. *v.* J. F. PRICE

Wilfully breaking a Jinriksha.

Defendant in this case was described on the charge sheet as an unemployed clerk, and was charged with wilfully damaging a Jinriksha to the extent of $1.00.

The coolie said the defendant hired him about 6 p.m. yesterday in the Foochow road, and told him to go to Hongkew. From there he went to the French settlement, and back to the English settlement. Being tired he stopped at the corner of the Szechuen and Canton roads, and asked for his fare. Defendant became very angry, threatened to strike him, and then kicked the vehicle and damaged it to the extent named.

Defendant said it was quite true that he engaged the man. There were two coolies, and the one pushing behind tried to take the contents from his pockets, at which he was angry, and as they did not take him to where he wished to go, he got out and refused to pay the hire; a scuffle ensued, during which the Jinriksha was slightly damaged.

P. C. Trebble deposed—At half past two o'clock this morning, I heard a disturbance in the Canton road, and going to the spot, I found the defendant and a Jinriksha coolie scuffling. The coolie demanded his fare, which the defendant refused to pay, and accused another coolie with attempting to rob him. I took defendant to the Station.

His Lordship said it seemed very strange that the defendant did not give the coolie into custody for attempted robbery; as he had not done so, he could scarcely reconcile the idea that there was any truth in his statement. Defendant to pay $1 for the damage, 200 cash for the hire, and further to pay the costs, or be imprisoned for ten days.

Defendant could not pay, and was therefore taken to prison.

June 7th.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

R. *v.* J. Meehan Walker.

Drunkenness.

Defendant appeared, in answer to his bail, on a charge of drunkenness. He denied that he was drunk, and said he was subject to apoplectic fits.

Police-sergeant Mackie deposed—At half-past eight on Sunday morning, I saw the defendant in a jinriksha, in the Honan road. The coolies in charge of the vehicle did not appear to know in what direction to go. I went to them, and then saw the defendant was unconscious through drink. I tried to rouse him, but could not do so, and then took him to the Central Station.

His Worship—Do you think you could have mistaken his condition,—that it was not an apoplectic attack?

Witness—No, sir; he smelt strongly of drink.

His Worship—Are you sure he was drunk?

Witness—Yes, sir; he recovered his senses in about half-an-hour, but there was no doubt he was drunk.

Defendant wished to say that during the past week he had had several apoplectic fits.

His Worship—Caused by drink, I suppose.

Defendant—I do not know that, Dr. Little knows best about it.

His Worship—I shall send you to prison for a week.

Defendant was then removed in custody.

June 8th.

R. (Mabrook Feroze) *v.* Sheik Cassim.

Cutting and Wounding.

Both men belong to the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi*, and the prisoner was charged with cutting and wounding the prosecutor on board that ship, about midnight on Sunday last.

Deighton acted as interpreter of Hindostani. The prisoner denied the charge.

Prosecutor deposed—I am a fireman on board the *Zambesi*. Prisoner is also a fireman. On Sunday night, about twelve o'clock, I was in the forecastle, lying on the top of a box. The prisoner was in his berth in the forecastle; he was drunk and making a noise. I told him to go to sleep and be quiet. On that he came down from his bunk, came up to me, lifted my blanket, and cut me with a razor. I saw the razor in his hand. He cut me on the arm. I called out for assistance, and some other men came. Prisoner went back into his bunk. He threw the razor overboard, through an open port in his berth. I went to the doctor, and had my arm dressed. The wounds bled a good deal. I was sober at the time.

Mr. Stripling explained why the prosecutor was lying on the box instead of in his berth. The prisoner and he had quarrelled, and he went to the box to get away from the prisoner. In the forecastle of the *Zambesi*, the firemen's berths are on one side and seamen's on the other, and the prosecutor went over to the seamen's side where the box was.

Prisoner, on being questioned, at first said the prosecutor's statement was false. He afterwards stated that the prosecutor took him on shore on the Sunday and made him drunk. He did not know who got him on board, and admitted that he had no knowledge whether he wounded the prosecutor or not.

Prosecutor denied that he was on shore on Sunday with the prisoner.

Mabrook Narub, a coal trimmer, confirmed the prosecutor's statement in every particular.

Dr. Wells, of the *Zambesi*, said the prosecutor came to him between a quarter and half-past one on Monday morning. He had four clean cuts on his arm, severing the skin, and exposing the muscles. They were about an eighth of an inch deep and two inches long. The man did not lose much blood; and would be fit for duty in about seven days.

The Chief Officer, in reply to the Court, said both men joined the ship early in May. He did not know much of them, as they belonged to the engineer's department, but on deck they seemed quiet and well behaved.

His Worship said he hoped the case would be one of warning to the prisoner and all other men on board the steamer, to avoid drinking: if it had not been for the drink, the occurrence would not have taken place. It appeared that the prisoner was so drunk that he did not know what had happened. But, on the other hand—and his Worship could not overlook the fact—if he had not been so drunk, the injuries to the prosecutor would probably have been greater. As it was, the prisoner had inflicted four clean cuts on the man's arm, though fortunately only skin deep. He must go to prison for a month's hard labour, and pay the costs of the case.

R. (Captain Hansen) *v.* six Chinese, crew of *Oscar Vidal*.

Absent without leave.

One of the defendants was boatswain, and the other five able seamen of the *Oscar Vidal*. The evidence of the captain and chief mate showed that on Wednesday last leave was given to any three of the men to go ashore, and that all went leaving only one man (who should have been on watch, but was found asleep in his berth) and the officers on board the barque.

His Worship, having with some difficulty caused the three who left first to be distinguished from the rest, said there was of course no case against them.

The boatswain, on behalf of himself and the other two, endeavoured, through Heding, the interpreter, to show that they had also received leave, but his statement was contradicted by the Captain and chief mate.

His Worship ordered the defendants to forfeit two days' wages each, and to pay the cost of the summons, $1.50 each. In the case of the three who were proved to have had leave, the Captain must pay costs.

Neglect of Duty.

The man who was found asleep in his berth, as above-mentioned, and another who was found similarly neglectful on Thursday last, were mulcted in six days' wages each, and to pay costs.

NAVAL COURT OF ENQUIRY.

Shanghai, June 4th.

A. Davenport, Esq., *Vice-Consul, President.*
Lieut. J. J. Pipon, H. M. S. *Modeste.*
Nav.-Lieut. Pownal Aplin, ,,
G. F. Cates, Esq., Master, P. & O. steamer *Zambesi.*
J. M. Whyte, Esq., Master, British ship *Black Adder,*
W. C. Gillies, Esq., Assistant-Paymaster, H.M.S. *Modeste, Clerk of the Court.*

The Court sat at the British Consulate, to enquire into the circumstances attending the stranding of the British brig *Georgina*, on the night of the 9th of May, on the Blockhouse shoal, and her subsequent abandonment by the master and crew. A narrative of the incidents leading to the wreck was handed in by Captain Mitchell, which it is unnecessary to publish, as the whole of the facts contained in it are included in the subjoined evidence:—

James Alexander Mitchell, examined by the Court, deposed—I was master of the *Georgina*. I have no complaint to make against any officer or man for his conduct on the occasion of the wreck. I passed the Lightship at about half-past eleven on the night of the 9th May. The weather was gloomy and overcast—clear on the horizon, with heavy scud coming up from the S. E. The *Georgina* was drawing 12ft. 5in. at most. There was no pilot on board. I am not a licensed pilot. I have frequently taken the *Georgina* up and down the river myself. I did not consider there was any particular danger, from weather or other causes, in my doing so on the 9th of May. The brig's draught was about a foot lighter than usual. All sail was set, and she was going about four knots. When I passed the Lightship, the tide was nearly half flood. The precautions I took on going up the river were to keep the lead going, station a good look out, and make allowance for the tide. When I let go my anchor, Kintoan Beacon bore S.W. by W. ½ W., westerly, distant about 2½ or 2¾ miles. There is no deviation in my compasses. I have taken no means to ascertain that. I know how to find deviation. When the water first shoaled, the brig was running before the wind, the tide setting N. W., and the wind S. E. When we passed the Lightship, the tide was running about W. ½ S. I know that by the Lightship and another vessel lying near her. The lead was going from the time of our passing the Lightship to coming to an anchor. I have been in charge of the *Georgina* ten months, running from Shanghai. I had the latest Admiralty charts of the river—large scale. I anchored about half past one o'clock a.m., and it was then nearly high water. The tide must have fallen a little at five o'clock, when I tried to get underweigh, but as near as I could judge it was high water. The stream was still running up. The brig dragged her anchor after letting go, and previous to shortening in at five o'clock. It was before the sails were furled that she dragged her anchor. I had to let go my anchor before the vessel had time to get head to tide. I expected I was on the extreme S.E. end of the Blockhouse shoal It was because there was immediate danger that I let go my anchor then. I cannot account for the position I was in—the tide must have been stronger than I thought it was. The last master of the brig told me there was no deviation in the compasses, and the *Georgina* being a wooden vessel, I judged there was none. I have run the vessel up and down the river before with the same compasses. I expected at low water she would take the ground. The sails were furled when I began to shorten in the cable. It was blowing half-a-gale of wind,—having increased gradually from the time I brought up. On finding the water shoaling, I rounded to, and let go the anchor immediately. I did not haul my wind to the southward, because I thought I should run on the Blockhouse shoal. I rounded-to, to the southward. I thought by anchoring there, that if the weather moderated in the morning, I could get away. It was blowing too hard to get away next morning, and the brig drove further up the bank as the tide rose. I commenced to shorten in at 5 a.m. I began to shorten in, to try to get my anchor, before the vessel took the ground. The water had fallen so much before I got my anchor, that she took the ground at about 6.10. I consider it safe for a vessel of the *Georgina's* draught to anchor in three fathoms at low water. The rise and fall of the tide at the place where she struck was about six or seven feet. I could have taken soundings in a boat, before the brig struck, but I did not think it necessary. I knew by the chart and the bearings taken where I was. I have taken a ship up and down the Yangtsze about 20 times. It has occurred to me that the Blockhouse shoal has extended to the southward and eastward, but not to such an extent as it actually has done. I thought it had extended about a mile. I did not see the buoy on the S. E. extremity of the shoal when I was steering up the river. I saw it at daylight, before the brig struck. It bore S. W., about a mile distant, as near as I can remember. I knew the position of the Blockhouse shoal, when the water shallowed. I thought I was in the Channel by the soundings that I had taken before, and by bearings. I did not try if the water was the same depth all the time the brig was at anchor. I tried just before anchoring and shortening-in, and found it three fathoms each time.

Edward Syvres was next called, and deposed—I was boatswain of the *Georgina.*

At about twelve o'clock, on the night of the 9th May, I was called to relieve the watch, and the Captain sent me to the wheel. The brig was then steering N. W. by W. ½ W. I steered the same course till about one o'clock, when the Captain altered the course to W. N. W. The Captain was heaving the lead, and about half past one he found the depth of water was three fathoms. I was then told to port the helm, but before the helm was up, the Captain told me to starboard, and he then ran forward and let go the anchor. The lead was going continually. It was usual for the Captain to heave the lead. He occasionally went below to look at the chart. I have been up the river in the *Georgina* about three or four times. I and the mate usually hove the lead. The Captain expressed no anxiety to me about the position of the brig. He gave me the course N. W. by W. ½ W. when I went to the wheel, and I never altered it until one o'clock. When I ported the helm, the brig did not fall off at all; there was no time for her to fall off before the order was given to starboard. I could see the big Kintoan Beacon when I was steering. It bore four or four and-a-half points on the port bow. The Captain was in the forechains, heaving the lead. He did not mention to me that there was shoal water on his starboard side.

JAMES ALEXANDER MITCHELL recalled, deposed—There were 12 hands on board, all told. On first striking, I tried to get her off with anchor and sails. The anchor came home to within a few fathoms. I was lying five hours with only a few fathoms out. At the expiration of that time a gale set in, and was driving the vessel a-top of her port anchor. I hove that up, and let go the starboard, the weather, anchor. The brig was aground at the time, but lifting with the sea. I first tried to kedge her off two days and a half afterwards, when the weather moderated. On the morning of the third day, I left the vessel. All that time she was bumping and driving further up the bank. I tried to lighten her as soon as I could procure boats. I came up to see the agents, and they made the arrangements for boats, but none came for two days after I got back to the brig It would not have been advisable to discharge cargo overboard, because the neap tides had set in, and it was as well to keep it on board, as the brig had to lie there all the while neap tides lasted. With all the cargo out, the brig would have drawn about 8 ft. 7 in. A tugboat stood towards the brig on the 13th May, the day the chain parted, but she got on shore. No tugboat could come near me, where I was—they all draw, with one exception, more water than the brig did. When the gale subsided, there was at high water about 10½ ft. with a N.E. wind, and 8½ ft. with a southerly wind. The vessel was embedded two feet then. I attempted to weigh at flood tide, because the vessel would have taken the ground before the ebb tide made down. I shortened in cable to 15 fathoms. I let go my starboard anchor before weighing the port, with 20 fathoms of chain at the water's edge. I applied for cargo boats to the agents, Messrs. Morris, Lewis & Co.; my compradore, Jack Ayoung; and the charterer, Nechong. I do not know why boats did not come. I could not stay in Shanghai, as I had to go and look after the vessel. No assistance was offered me. I had only my own resources to depend on. There was only one boat, 15ft. long. I did not cut away my masts. I only sent down the yards, unbent the sails, &c. I do not know if the brig is broken up now. Her back was broken before I left her. I have reported the wreck to the Customs.

WILLIAM KIRBY, master of the tug *Fokelin*, examined by Captain Mitchell, deposed—The brig was well inside the buoy, on the Blockhouse spit, and the wind was blowing very fresh. I saw the *Georgina* swing round suddenly, I think to the northward, but cannot say positively. I saw the crew setting all her after sail, to bring her head round, and the No. 1 flag hoisted—the call for a tug. I steamed towards the vessel, but got on shore. I do not think any tug boat in Shanghai could have got near her. The *Fokelin* was drawing 12 feet or 12 feet 3 in. The sea broke on board of us when we got on shore.

By the COURT—I could not get sufficiently near to send a hawser on board the *Georgina* —we were nearly a mile off. I came to Woosung for shelter. I could not communicate with Captain Mitchell because of the bad weather. I had heard there was a vessel ashore, and went to see what I could do. The crew seemed to be doing all they could to get the brig off into deep water. It is impossible for me to say if they would have succeeded in getting her off, if it had not been for the strength of the wind—the tide is so strong and the ground so uneven there.

The Court was then cleared, and on its being reopened, the Clerk read the following

Decision.:—

The Court, pursuant to an order from Alexander Buller, Esq., Captain of H. M. S. *Modeste*, and Senior Naval Officer, proceeded to investigate the circumstances attending the abandonment of the British brig *Georgina*, official number 64,106, which took place on the 24th May, 1875; and having read the protest of the master and officers of the said brig, and considerately weighed and considered the evidence brought before it, is of opinion that the loss of the said brig *Georgina* was caused by her driving on shore on the Blockhouse shoal in a gale of wind.—That her proximity to the shoal was owing to the master not having known her exact position, and being unaware of the strength and set of the tide.—That the master was imprudent in running so far up the river at night, without a pilot, and is therefore deserving of censure.—The Court is, however, of opinion that after the brig got on shore, every exertion appears to have been made by the master and crew to save the vessel and cargo; and that the abandonment of the vessel was justifiable.—The Court therefore think fit to return the master his certificate of competency.—The costs of the Court to be borne by the owners of the said brig, amounting to Tls. 15 to the clerk and one dollar to the orderly.

Dated at the British Consulate at Shanghai, the 14th June, 1875.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, June 7th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and A. DAVENPORT, Esq., British Assessor.

House Robbery.

Two well-known native burglars were charged with the above-named offence. The mafoo at a foreign establishment in the Peking road, went out from his quarters on Saturday night, locking the door with a padlock. On his return, he found the door had been forced open, and two of his boxes placed ready to be taken away. He raised an alarm, and with a native constable, who was luckily close at hand, went up stairs, where they found the two thieves—one under the bedstead and the other trying to get through a window, which he had smashed with a chisel. The remainder of the mafoo's cloths, and also his bedding, were in the room, packed ready for removal. Both prisoners were sentenced to 300 blows with the bamboo, and three months' cangue.

The Hawker Nuisance.

Frequent complaints having been made of the annoyance occasioned by native hawkers and beggars beating gongs and making other noises in the foreign part of the Settlement, the police have for some time past endeavoured to check the nuisance. Ordinary means proving useless, six of the more pertinacious of the tribe were captured on Saturday and Sunday, and this morning brought before Chen, who sentenced them to an additional day's imprisonment.

Serious Assault.

Four native carpenters were brought up, charged with being concerned in assaulting and injuring a native gas-fitter in the employ of the Shanghai Gas Company. The men were all engaged on the same building in the Hankow road, and a dispute arose between them respecting some food. The four carpenters assaulted the gas-fitter, and one of them struck him heavily on the top of the head with a hammer, or other implement, inflicting a severe wound. The sufferer was taken to the native hospital in Shantung road, where he still remains. The prisoners were all taken into custody soon after the affair, and were now remanded until Friday.

Clippings.

Colonel Browne, who we see, is to proceed to Peking, will probably, in conjunction with our Minister there, make such representations as will induce the Chinese Government to adopt only one line of action—and that will be to promptly punish the murderers of Mr. Margary. In the event of all reparation being refused for the catastrophe at Manwyne, it is possible we may enter on another Chinese war. We have had so many small affairs lately, Abyssinia, Ashantee, the Nagas, the Dufflas, &c., &c., that something on a larger scale for "our own reporter" to make a fuss about, would be an agreeable change.—*Rangoon Gazette.*

During a recent visit to the Pehling district, we observed a very marked increase in the number of Tea plantations. Large patches of ground that were fallow twelve months ago, are now planted; and still larger tracts are being prepared for the reception of the shrub. Those who have not already seen this charming disirict would do well to visit it. The journey occupies about five hours on foot, or by chair, involving rather a stiff climb up the mountain side; but the tourist will be amply rewarded by the almost unrivalled magnificence of the scenery, the luxuriant vegetation of the country, and the bracing mountain air. Visitors will find the usual amount of accommodation at a small "Joss" House about five miles from the summit.—*Foochow Herald.*

A native paper, quoted by the *Gazette*, says:—On the 5th inst., about 11 a.m., persons living in the neighbourhood of Kawa-guchi, Osaka, were surprised to see a black black cloud rising from the south end of Furúkawa-bashi, near the Foreign Concession. Numbers ran to the spot, from all directions, thinking there was a fire; but it was soon discovered that the dense clouds were caused by a whirlwind, which travelled in a northerly direction, laying everything waste. Tiles and stones were taken so high that they remained aloft about four minutes, or as long as a man could walk the distance of two *cho*. Houses out of its immediate track were unhurt.

The custom of preventing the bride's feet from touching the threshold of the bridegroom's house obtains in China as in Europe. Usually the entrance is covered with red cloth for this purpose. "In some parts of the country she is lifted out of the sedan, over a pan of charcoal placed in the court and carried to her chamber." Amongst the ancient Romans, "fire and water being placed on the threshold, the bride touched both; but starting back from the door she refused to enter, till she at length passed it, being careful to step over it without touching it." (A wedding usage in Yorkshire, by the way, is to pour a kettle-full of boiling water over the door-step just after the bride has left her old home. Without their having any apparent connection, the coincidence of usages is curious.) The ancient superstition mentioned in *Popular Antiquities* was that the bride was not to step over the threshold on entering the bridegroom's house, but was to be lifted over by her nearest relations.—*Folklore—in China Review.*

The community will be pleased to learn that the Municipal Officials have, since the 29th of April last, been doing all in their power to compel owners of jinrikshas plying for hire, to keep the vehicles in a cleanly condition. Persuasion having proved useless, gentle force is now applied in the shape of depriving unclean vehicles of their "number plate," without which it is not lawful for them to ply. Since the date above given, the streets have been cleared of nearly 200 such, and it is to be hoped that the screw will not be slackened until something approaching the cleanly, if not ornamental, appearance of the jinrikshas common in Japan, is attained.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 11TH, 1875.

Arrivals.—From London, the *Deerhound;* from Liverpool, the steamship *Achilles;* from Marseilles, the M. M. steamer *Tigre*, with the London mails of 23rd April; and from Hongkong, the P. & O. steamer *Nizam*, with those of the 30th idem.

Telegram.—9s. 9d. is the latest quotation for 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings*—Dewhurst's Eagle; *Cotton Mid. Or.*, 8⅛d.; *Lead*, £23 5s., and *Iron*, £9 10s.

PIECE GOODS.—Inactivity—to a great extent enforced by "settling day" and bad weather—has been the prevailing order of things this week, and holders again are largely indebted to the Auctions for their knowledge of the course of business. At the same time, the signs of improvement—alluded to in my last Report—and the disposition of the natives to resume purchases, on the general market, have become more marked, and the dealers speak—with apparent confidence—of extensive operations when they have had time, after the squaring of accounts, to hear from their principals in the interior. Moreover, they aver that present currencies are likely to be maintained,—and go the length even of naming sundry articles that are almost safe to advance in value. Chief amongst these are *T-Cloths, Drills, Sheetings, Long Ells*, and *Camlets*, and the desire to be interested in the cheaper descriptions of those is an earnest of their belief in their own dicta.

At the Auction held on 8th instant—"settling day"—Scarlet *Long Ells* showed a rise of over 2m. 5c. per piece, while Scarlet, Gentian, and Dark Blue *Camlets* were sold at 3 *a* 5 mace per piece improvement, and *Spanish Stripes* at 2c. per yard or so; and 8¼-lbs. *Peacock Grey Shirtings*, which were disposed of on 3rd instant at Tls. 1.60 *a* 1.60½, realised, on the 8th and 10th, Tls. 1.61 *a* 1.61½ per piece; and so with the other goods exposed for sale, *Mahommedan Cloths, White Shirtings* and *Jeans* being the only fabrics which did not bring full prices.

Privately.

Long Ells—assorted—have been asked for, but stocks are held by a few, who refuse to sell on the basis of the improved quotations noted below.

Camlets.—For these also some enquiry has prevailed, but good chops are likewise held for nearer cost.

Spanish Stripes and **Medium Cloths**—Higher offers for the commoner qualities of both articles have been declined,—for the latter principally, because long clearance was an accompaniment.

Figured Orleans.—Sales of inferior, to extent of 3,000 pieces at Tls. 2.80 *a* 3.00, reported. Market weak.

Lastings.—Steady demand for good to best black. Tls. 11.55 *a* 11.60 per piece tendered, against Tls. 11.72—the holders' price.

Grey Shirtings.—9½ *a* 10 lbs. These are evidently still yielding profits, and the fortunate importers are neither grasping nor unreasonable. Their motto seems to be "live and let live," and the motto is by no means a bad one; only, it is not at all times acceptable to such as wish "to make hay while the sun shines," and hence one or two of the transactions booked since last mail day have not given general satisfaction. However, prices have been fairly upheld. But the fact is, the natives, by reason of their heavy engagements "to arrive" cannot afford to let the market fall, and until their contracts are completed, rates are not likely to go much below what they now are. Dewhurst's *Eagle* has been resold at Tls. 2.60, while sales of more ordinary cloths have been effected on former terms. 6-lbs. good common—free from damage or mildew—have been wanted at Tls. 1.25 *a* 1.27 per piece—business small. 7-lbs. of the commoner makes have likewise been asked for occasionally, but the offers have not been liberal enough to produce much effect on sellers. 8¼-lbs. In the absence of country orders, the Auction sales of sound and damaged goods have almost sufficed to meet all requirements. Beyond these, demand for special chops only has been experienced, and Mendel's *Pillar* being one of the favored, has realised Tls. 1.77½ per piece.

White Shirtings.—For finest reeds there is still a market at about previous rates, but 56 *a* 64 Reeds meet with no attention.

T-Cloths.—Ordinary Mexican, as well as the lower counts of 6 and 7-lbs. have been in steady request, and the settlements booked give the following values—viz., 6.lbs.—Common, Tls. 1.15 *a* 1.18; Mexican, Tls. 1.28 *a* 1.30 per piece; and 7-lbs. Common Dewhurst's T., Tls. 1.31; other chops, Tls. 1.25 *a* 1.30 per piece; and Mexican, Tls. 1.39 *a* 1.43 per piece. At Auction, damages of all weights have sold comparatively well. Estimated business, 35,000 *a* 40,000 pieces.

Drills.—The remarks in my last Report are applicable to-day. Both 14 and 15-lbs. have been, and still are wanted, and would command better prices; but they are difficult to be met with. Damaged American Drills at Auction have again realised full values.

Sheetings.—English. Small sales of Godown cargo at a slight improvement; and business projected in goods to arrive per *Glaucus*. The booking of it remains with the importer. Fair offers are in his hands.

Jeans.—No change.

Fancy Cottons.—Light Turkey Reds wanted, 2½ *a* 3-lbs. being almost unsaleable. In the other kinds of Fancies there is little or no movement to chronicle.

AUCTION SALES.

8th June.

Camlets—C.P.H.	200	pcs.	av. Tls.	13.52	per pce.
Long Ells— ,,	1,840	,,	,, ,,	6.76	,,
Spanish Stripes—C.P.H.	240	,,	,, ,,	0.57½	per yd.
Lastings—Lion, Gentian & Black.	80	pcs.	Tls. 12.05 *a*	12.02½	p. pce.
—Elephant ,, ...	80	,,	,, 10.42½ *a*	—.—	,,
Jeans, Peacock & Crown	500	,,	,, 1.76 *a*	1.79	,,
Drills—15-lbs. Lion	420	,,	,, 2.44½ *a*	—.—	,,
— ,, Crown	120	,,	,, 2.48½ *a*	—.—	,,
White Shirtings—56 reed	500	,,	,, 1.55 *a*	—.—	,,
Grey Shirting—8¼-lbs. Peacock.	1,000	,,	,, 1.61 *a*	1.61¼	,,
— ,, Red Fion.	1,000	,,	,, 1.71½ *a*	1.73	,,
— ,, Green Dion.	1,000	,,	,, 1.65½ *a*	1.65¾	,,
—6-lbs. Peacock.	1,500	,,	,, 1.28½ *a*	1.27¾	,,
T-Cloths—7-lbs. Mex. Ram.	500	,,	,, 1.40 *a*	1.41	,,
Mahomedan Cloths	160	,,	,, 0.12¼ *a*	0.12½	p. yd.

10th June.

Camlets—G.G.M.	200	pcs.	av. Tls.	13.39 *a* —.—	p. pce.
—S.S.G.	400	,,	,, ,,	10.30 *a* —.—	,,
Spanish Stripes—T.T.B.	252	,,	,, ,,	0.58¼ *a* —.—	p. yd.
Long Ells—G.G.	200	,,	,, ,,	6.98 *a* —.—	p. pce.
G. Sh'tings—8¼-lbs. P'cock.	2,500	,,	,,	1.61 *a* 1.61¼	,,

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	13.7.0	13.8.0	12.9.0	14.1.0	...	13.7.0	12.8.0	12.4.0	...
Long Ells, ... Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	6.8.0*a*6.8.5	7.5.0	6.8.5	7.1.5	6.9.5	...	...	7.2.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes,.....per yard ... ,,	0.5.8½	0.5.5½	0.5.6	0.6.3	0.5.8	0.5.6	0.5.5	0.5.8	0.5.6	0.5.8

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 10TH JUNE, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Mauve	Brown
G.G.M. Camlets p. pce. Tls.	13.80/13.77½	12.92½	13.52½	12.70	14.10	...	13.45	.....	12.20	13.50	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.70/13.72½	12.80 /12.77½	13.45	12.62½/12.72½	14.00	...	13.60/13.47½	12.80	12.12½/12.15	13.40	.....
G.G. Long Ells ,, ,,	6.80	7.46	6.75	7.08	.....	...	.....	7.11	.....	.....	.....
T.T.B.Sp.Stripes p.yd.,,	0.60/ 0.60¼	0.56¼/ 0.57¼	0.56½/0.56¾	0.63	.....	0.58	.....	0.59/0.58¾	0.57½/ 0.57	.....	.....

		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...	₩ pc.	1.2.8 to	1.3.4
7lbs.	,,	1.3.7 ,,	1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.1 ,,	1.9.5
9 *a* 9½-lbs.	,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.2.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.....	,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.7.0
Tun Sin	,,	2.9.0 ,,	nom.
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—			
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₩ pc.	1.5.5 ,,	1.6.5
60 reed	,,	1.7.0 ,,	1.8.0
64 ,, ...	,,	1.8.5 ,,	2.0.0
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.0 ,,	2.1.5
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.2.5 ,,	2.5.5
Best.....	,,	2.7.0 ,,	3.2.0
DRILLS, Am. 40 yds 30in 15 lbs. ...		3.3.5 ,,	3.4.7
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs....		2.3.8 ,,	2.5.0
Do. Fine to Finest ,, ...		2.6.5 ,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs....		2.3.7 ,,	2.4.3
JEANS, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8¼lb...		2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8½lbs...		1.7.5 ,,	1.8.8
American ,, ,, nom. ...		2.7.5 ,,	.....
SHEETINGS—			
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs....		3.7.0 ,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs....		2.9.0 ,,	3.0.0

T-CLOTHS—		
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.1.3 ,, 1.1.8
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.2.8 ,, 1.3.3
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.8 ,, 1.3.5
7-lbs. ,, ...	,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.5.7
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.6.2 ,, 1.8.0
Better kinds and XX		1.8.5 ,, 2.2.0
HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28in.	₩ dz.	0.4.8 ,, 0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0 ,, 0.4.5
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White	₩ pc.	2.1.0 ,, 2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.5.0 ,, 2.6.5
BROCADES—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0 ,, 2.2.5
Dyed.....	,,	2.6.5 ,, 2.7.5
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0 ,, 4.8.0
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS.....	,,	2.2.0 ,, 2.5.5
CHINTZ—Assorted	,,	1.2.5 ,, 1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0 ,, 1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.0 ,, 1.4.0
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds. ...		1.9.2½ ,, ...
50/52 ,, ...		3.7.0 ,, 4.9.0
T. REDS, 24yds. 2 *a* 3lbs. 32in. ,,		1.5.6 ,, 2.1.0
Do. Best ..... ,,		2.3.0 ,, 2.5.5
VELVETS—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8 ,, 0.1.9
VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in. ,,		0.1.3¼ ,, 0.1.4½
26 in. ,,		0.1.9 ,, 0.2.1

BLUE DENIMS ..... ,,		0.0.5 ,, 0.0.6½
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0 ,, 1.4.0
41 in. ... ,,		1.4.5 ,, 1.5.5
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nml., ,,		0.8.0 ,, 0.9.5
CAMLETS, English, S S ,, ,,		12.7.5 ,, 13.5.0
G G ,, ,,		13.4.0 ,, ...
S S G ,, ,,		13.3.0 ,, ...
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS	₩ yd.	0.7.5 ,, 1.6.5
SPANISH STRIPES ..... ,,		0.5.5 ,, 0.5.7½
,, T. T.-B ..... ,,		0.5.8½ ,, ...
,, H.H. ..... ,,		0.6.1 ,, ...
LONG ELLS—		
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H	₩ pc.	6.8.0 ,, ...
,, C P H .... ,,		6.8.0 ,, 6.8.5
Assorted, H H ..... ,,		6.9.0 ,, ...
,, C P H ..... ,,		6.9.5 ,, ...
,, G G ..... ,,		6.9.0 ,, ...
LASTINGS, 30 yds ..... ,,		10.0.0 ,, 12.6.0
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds... ,,		4.0.0 ,, 8.5.0
CRAPE LUSTRES ..... ,,		3.1.0 ,, 3.4.0
PLAIN—Do. Black..... ,,		3.5.0 ,, 3.8.0
ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. ,,		2.6.0 ,, 3.6.0
Special Patterns ,,		3.2.0 ,, 4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron.*—Business in *Nail Rods* during the week has been small, a lot of 2,400 bundles Dawes' best at Tls. 3, and one of 2,000 bundles Rodgers & Son's M. M. at Tls. 2.80, to arrive, being the only transactions recorded. Stocks of best are becoming heavy, and holders would willingly go on selling at undernoted rates. *Lead.*—Unchanged. Scarcely any enquiry from native sources. *Tin.*—Lower again with a quiet market. *Copper.*—Demand for *Slab* hardly so strong, but some few sales of *Ore* at quotations have taken place between natives.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	105.0.0 *a* 107.0.0
TIN PLATES—14 × 10.....	per Box	6.1.0 *a* 6.2.0
Small ,, ...	,,	....
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a* 6.7.5
18 ... nominal	,,	7.0.0 *a* .....
19/23 no demand.	,,	7.7.5 *a* 8.0.0
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	,,	19.0.0 *a* 19.2.0
Fok Chok .....nom....	,,	18.7.0 *a* .....
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a* .....
STEEL	per Tub	3.5.0 *a* 3.6.0
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a* 4.5.0
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a* .....
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.5.0 *a* 18.7.5
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	17.4.0 *a* .....
HOOP IRON	,,	3.2.0 *a* 3.3.0
PIG IRON	per Ton	25.0.0 *a* 26.0.0
NAILROD IRON—		
Dawe's Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	3.0.0 *a* 3.0.5
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,, ...	,,	2.7.0 *a* 2.7.5
Belgian..... ,, ...	,,	2.3.5 *a* 2.4.0
M. M. Crown ..... ,, ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.6.5
Bar—Dawes ..... ,, ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	6.0.0 *a* 6.0.5
Japanese & Common Brands ,, ...	,,	... .. *a* .....

		Tls. m. c.
COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.6.0 *a* 9.0.0
,, Medium	,,	9.4.0 *a* 9.8.0
,, Best.....	,,	10.4.0 *a* 11.0.0
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a* 6.4.0
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a* 5.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a* 5.2.0
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a* 5.4.0
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a* 4.8.0
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a* 4.6.0
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a* 2.8.0
,, —Canton, ...	,,	3.0.0 *a* 3.2.0
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a* 2.6.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	8.5.0 *a* .....
—White	,,	15.0.0 *a* 18.0.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.6.0
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a* 4.0.0
—Best.....	,,	4.2.0 *a* 4.4.0
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a* 3.0.0
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a* 2.4.0
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.6.5 *a* 3.7.0
Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a* 10.0.0
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a* 18.0.0
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a* 1.3.0
FLINT STONES, ...	,,	0.4.5 *a* 0.5.2

FREIGHTS and COALS.—Messrs. Wheelock & Co., in their Circular of to-day, state—there has been little doing in either of these markets during the past fortnight.

And more particularly with reference to the former.

Actually no employment offering for the Newchwang, Chefoo and Swatow traders, and rates purely nominal. For Tea to London, the s.s. *Achilles* is loading at £4, being engaged principally with freight through from HANKOW. Sailing-vessel's rate hence is £3 10s. per ton of 50 feet.

And in regard to COALS, "The demand has been limited," at the following quotations. CARDIFF from Godown, Tls. 9. AUSTRALIA—*Bulli*—1,700 Tons in Godown, at Tls. 6.50. *New Castle*, Tls. 7 per ton. *Anthracite*—AMERICAN.—Stocks held by one native who manages to sell little lots at Tls. 10.50. Cargoes afloat are slow of sale, however, at Tls. 9.00 per ton. KEELUNG and JAPAN nominally worth Tls. 5, and Tls. 4.50 *a* 5.25 per ton.

COTTON.—The market remains in the same condition as last reported. Trifling demand, with supplies scarcely equal to wants.

EXCHANGE.—The sterling market opened at 5*s.* 9¼d. for Bank bills, with a demand at the same time, for Merchants' paper at 5*s.* 9½d. *a* 5*s.* 9⅝d. Later on, Private paper was offered rather freely, and rates steadily advanced. The Banks are now prepared to draw at 5*s.* 9⅝d. *a* 5*s.* 9¾d., and Private bills cannot be placed under 5*s.* 10¼d. *a* 5*s.* 10½d. On India, early in the week, transactions took place at Rs. 315½, and subsequently at Rs. 315 *a* 314. There is not much disposition to draw at quotations. On Hongkong, there are sellers at 27¾, but the demand is small.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight .....5*s.* 8¼d.	₩ Tl.	
,, ,, at 6 m/s. .....5*s.* 9⅝d. *a* 5*s.* 9¾d.	,,	
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....5*s.* 10¼d. *a* 5*s.* 10½d.	,,	
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....5*s.* 10½d. *a* 5*s.* 10⅝d.	,,	
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.32½	,,	
Credits, at 6 months' sight .....Fcs. 7.40	,,	
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s. .....Frs. 7.42½	,,	
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, ...Rs. 315	₩ 100 Tls.	
ON BOMBAY.— ,, ,, ,, ...Rs. 315	₩ 100 ,,	
ON HONGKONG,—Bank Bills, demand, 27⅜ per cent. discount.		
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 28½ per cent. disc.		
INTEREST.—9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.		

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—73.25 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—80.01 ,, ,, ,, ,,
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 172.0 Taels, Shanghai Currency per Bar of Tls. 9.7.2 Chauping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.4.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls. Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.5.0 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.25 Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,590 per Tael.

OPIUM.—Stock on 29th May	Malwa,	4,190½	Chests.	Patna,	1,226	Chests.
Receipts since	,,	1,095½	,,	,,	261	,,
Total	,,	5,286	,,	Total	,, 1,487	,,
Deliveries from 29th May	,,	866½	,,	,,	393	,,
Present Stock	,,	4,419½	,,	,,	1,094	,,

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 9th June, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 125 @ 130, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	14,550	15,400	5,150	21,250	950	8,150	8,250	...	...	700	36	...	...	4,850
T-Cloths .... ,,	9,370	7,190	3,490	11,330	800	12,985	10,180	...	...	...	1,450	...	...	5,240
White Shirtings .... ,,	600	730	320	2,530	150	6,050	750	...	250	...	450	...	...	1,560
Drills .... ,,	120	...	500	11,340	150	2,595	930	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Jeans .... ,,	210	...	...	1,640	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sheetings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	1,290	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White .... ,,	...	50	...	200	197	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed .... ,,	...	250	...	150	...	100	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes .... ,,	...	120	60	290	60	480	220	...	180	...	...	...	...	450
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	50	550	...	...	150	300	...	...	...	...	350	...	...	50
Velvets .... ,,	...	30	80	408	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	104
Velveteens .... ,,	...	...	...	48	...	...	360	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	200	1,800	1,200	600	...	600	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	1,240
Muslins ....Pcs.	200	...	...	200	...	300	300	...	...	...	1,200	...	...	100
Dimities .... ,,	100	...	60	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	36	24	108	280	108	114	84	...	252	...	...	...	...	72
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	...	24	82	140	26	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	30
Camlets .... ,,	30	70	530	1,235	30	220	70	...	50	...	30	...	...	50
Long Ells .... ,,	...	80	420	1,760	20	40	200	...	...	20	180	...	...	40
Lastings .... ,,	80	40	100	114	...	130	220	...	...	30	...	...	...	60
Crape Lastings .... ,,	...	...	20	...	20	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	500	...	...	...
,, Figured .... ,,	...	50	210	1,058	50	268	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	170
,, Crape .... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Iron—Nail Rod ....Pcls.	298	1,806	...	357	...	...	...	...	...	84	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead .... ,,	870	50	189	1,959	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 11/6/74.
Grey Shirtings ....Pcs.	79,286	1,848,455	32,900	1,714,543	1,089,000	1,061,700
T-Cloths .... ,,	62,035	1,172,528	36,029	814,914	247,900	572,000
White Shirtings .... ,,	13,390	316,550	6,261	364,121	123,400	69,000
Drills .... ,,	15,845	269,459	1,930	160,923	135,400	353,700
Jeans .... ,,	2,040	128,953	2,598	191,096	90,700	53,500
Sheetings .... ,,	1,350	36,135	.....	44,725	10,300	23,100
Dyed Shirtings .... ,,	250	18,603	216	37,652	21,900	.....
Spots, White .... ,,	.....	.....	393	3,919	4,200	2,300
,, Dyed .... ,,	.....	.....	.....	1,550	.....	.....
Brocades, White .... ,,	647	9,604	246	6,526	.....	.....
,, Dyed .... ,,	850	22,866	250	17,538	23,700	29,400
Damasks, Dyed .... ,,	200	8,903	200	7,995	6,200	6,900
Chintzes .... ,,	1,860	81,752	210	44,242	51,000	99,800
Turkey Red Shirtings .... ,,	1,450	44,011	1,667	53,182	35,500	12,400
Velvets .... ,,	652	18,741	150	21,123	10,100	19,800
Velveteens .... ,,	408	5,683	20	7,250	2,800	9,100
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	6,040	89,469	100	46,865	30,200	77,100
Muslins ....Pcs.	2,300	22,286	.....	20,793	9,600	20,900
Dimities .... ,,	260	10,120	.....	2,530	8,000	7,750
Spanish Stripes .... ,,	1,078	20,206	120	20,532	11,100	28,700
Medium and Broad Cloths .... ,,	326	9,202	274	9,698	10,900	21,200
Camlets .... ,,	2,315	39,965	1,040	31,703	13,900	15,000
Long Ells .... ,,	2,760	34,040	1,000	36,340	11,300	15,500
Lastings .... ,,	774	18,162	300	14,108	8,300	6,900
Crape Lastings .... ,,	240	6,100	.....	3,619	6,700	3,400
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	550	8,270	.....	9,559	5,300	10,700
,, Figured .... ,,	2,056	73,371	50	32,231	87,400	117,200
,, Crape .... ,,	50	9,940	500	8,239	20,400	14,200
Pig Lead .... Pcls.	3,118	47,730	841	27,440	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod .... ,,	2,545	60,841	6,885	98,435	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Rajanattiamuhar, Tartar, Cheviot, Tchihatchoff, Viking, Glenlyon, Antenor, Galatea, Craigforth, Djemnah, Saturnus, Zambesi, Tigre, Nizam, Achilles, Deerhound,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

EXPORTS.

TEA.—It may be noted that the excess of Export over that of last season is due entirely to the earlier opening of the market at Hankow and Kiukiang.

Export to date, as compared with that of last season, is:—

To Great Britain—Black	Excess	12,066,365	lbs.
,, ,, —Green	.....	.....	,,
To United States—Black	Excess	93,523	,,
,, —Green	.....	.....	,,

Shipments to date have gone forward as under :—

To Great Britain (per Steamer)	23,001,050	lbs.
,, ,, (per Sailing Vessel)	.....	,,
To America (per Steamer)	93,523	,,
,, (per Sailing Vessel)	.....	,,

Black.—Tea has arrived to this market in moderate quantities during the past week, and chiefly from the Hohow and Ningchow districts; very few Hankow Teas have as yet been sent down. The business done here so far has been extremely small, and an attempt by the Teamen to enforce an oppressive change in the mode of payment has had some effect in holding buyers aloof. For such small purchases as have been effected, we consider prices are rather lower than those paid at up river. A few Shongtam Teas are offered but are held for very high rates. Prices paid for Hohows range from Tls. 23 *a* 33, and for Ningchows Tls. 31 *a* 40, but the market is decidedly weak.

Settlements and Shipments, 4,500 chests. Stock (against 11,100 chests last year), 22,000 chests.

The following prices have been paid—

	Exchange, 5/9¾.	Freight, £4 per steamer	Against 1874.
Oopacks, etc.	.....	=	= ..... per lb.
Oonhams and Oonfaas	Tls. 24	= 1/4½	= 1/1½ *a* 1/6 ,,
Hohows and Ningchows	Tls. 23 *a* 40½	= 1/4 *a* 2/2¼	= 1/5¾ *a* 1/6¾ ,,

Green.—There is but little to add to last report; the season generally will be later than that of last year, but musters of Fychows and Ningpo packed Pingsueys are expected in about a week, and Teenkais towards the middle of July.

HANKOW.—An active demand has existed throughout and most teas have been taken at full rates as soon as offered.

Settlements and Shipments—

To date	244.145	chests.	Against in 1874.....188.654 chests.
Stock	25.000	,,	,, ,, ... 50.000 ,,
Do. Ningchows	124.574 ½-chests.		Against in 1874..... ..... 95.975 ½-chests.

Export to Great Britain is as under :—

	1875-76.	1874-75.	1873-74.
BLACK	23,001,050 lbs.	10,934,685 lbs.	11,395,132 lbs.
GREEN	..... ,,	..... ,,	13,912 ,,
	23,001,050 lbs.	10,934,685 lbs.	11,409,044 lbs.
Export to United States and Canada—			
BLACK	93,523 lbs.	..... lbs.	..... lbs.
GREEN	..... ,,	..... ,,	..... ,,
	93,523 lbs.	..... lbs.	..... lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1875-76.	1874-75.	1873-74.
From Shanghai to date	23,001,050 lbs.	10,934,685 lbs.	11,409,044 lbs.
,, Foochow to 29th May.....	..... ,,	..... ,,	..... ,,
,, Canton to 20th May	2,461,812 ,,	3,928,003 ,,	2,575,143 ,,
	25,462,862 lbs.	14,862,688 lbs.	14,084,187 lbs.

SILK.—London telegrams of the 8th June report the silk market "quiet, little inquiry. Red Peacock, 14s. 6d.; Blue Elephant, 15s. @ 15s. 3d.; mid. 4½, 13s. 9d.; fair 5, 13s.; common No. 5 Tsatlee, 12s. 6d.; and 9/12 moss Taysaams 12s."

The French mail which left on the 6th June had 1,398 bales silk on board, (50 bales for Milan, 289 bales for Marseilles, 443 bales for Lyons, 616 bales for London) which were purchased on a basis of Tls. 330 and 310 per picul for Gold Lion No. 3 and 4; Tls. 330 per picul for Donkey chop No. 4; Tls. 327½ and 307½ per picul for inferior Blue and Yellow Elephants; Tls. 315 per picul for "May Foong" "Elephant and Flower Pot;" Tls. 295 per picul for "Black Lion" No. 4; and common Tsatlees from Tls. 250 to 290 per picul for No. 5.

During the past week fully 2,500 bales have been settled at higher rates (chiefly by Continental houses), giving total settlements for season 4,000 bales. Amongst the reported purchases are :—

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Gold Lion, Nos. 1, @ 4	Tls. 377½ @ 317½	18/10 @ 15/10	Frs. 52.46 *a* 44.08
Blue Zebra, Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 345 & 325	17/2 & 16/3	Frs. 48.12 & 45.40
Pagoda Nos. 2 and 3	Tls. 330 & 310	16/6 & 15/6	Frs. 46.07 & 43.35
Blue Elephant	Tls. 330	16/6	Frs. 46.07
Yellow do.	Tls. 310	15/6	Frs. 43.35
Green do.	Tls. 290	14/6	Frs. 40.61
Buffalo, No. 2	Tls. 325	16/3	Frs. 45.40
Beautiful Woman, No. 2	Tls. 325	16/3	Frs. 45.40
Blue Peacock "Tun Ling"	Tls. 325	16/3	Frs. 45.40
"May-foong" Elephant	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.02

	Per picul.	Per lb.	Per kilo.
Blue Peacock "Yah Ling"	Tls. 305	15/3	Frs. 42.66
Gold Stork	Tls. 307½	15/5	Frs. 42.95
Bird Chop "King Ling"	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.02
Do. "Fung Ling"	Tls. 290	14/6	Frs. 40.61
"Tung Sen's" "Lan Ling"	Tls. 295	14/9	Frs. 41.30
S. S. S. Dollar	Tls. 282½	14/1	Frs. 39.57
Taeho's "Pang Ling"	Tls. 322½	16/2	Frs. 45.05
Chin Yuen Sing's "Gna Ling" ..	Tls. 312½	15/8	Frs. 43.68
Do. "Kin Ling" ..	Tls. 287½	14/4	Frs. 40.22
Tze Che Yuen's "Kin Ling"	Tls. 280	14/0	Frs. 39.25

The greater proportion of silk shown thus far, compares unfavorably with last year's; being much coarser in size and very nibby, especially noticeable in the lower classes of Tsatlees. Coarse Taysaams are cleaner and of better color than last season's. Small parcels of Koo-fong-sing's "Water mark" chop No. 3, and of Red Peacock have been placed on the market, but as yet have found no buyers; for the former Tls. 400 @ 405 per picul are demanded, and Tls. 320 are asked for latter.

The unsold stock is estimated at 4,000 bales.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1875-6.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED AT	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Deucalion..... s.s.	May 18	Shanghai	7,708.95	.....	7,708.95
Glenartney ... ,,	... 19	Hankow	16,919.65	.....	16,919.65
Bengal ..... ,,	... 20	,,	15,355.03	.....	15,355.03
Anadyr.. ..... ,,	... 22	Shanghai	691.04	.....	691.04
Lotus ..... ,,	... 26	Kiukiang	2,771.10	.....	2,771.10
,, ... ,,	... 26	Hankow	15,728.53	.....	15,728.53
Glenearn ..... ,,	... 23	,,	16,877.25	.....	16,877.25
Fleurs Castle . ,,	... 24	,,	19,839.16	.....	19,839.16
		Carried forward ...	95,890.71	.....	95,890.71

TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED AT	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
		Brought forward	95,890.71		95,890.71
Glenfalloch ... s.s.	May 29	Hankow	17,948.88	.....	17,948.88
Strasburg ..... ,,	... 28	,,	20,190.76	.....	20,190.76
Hindostan ..... ,,	... 29	Shanghai	2,658.09	.....	2,658.09
Antenor..... ,,	... 31	,,	12,703.78	.....	146,734.13
Russia ..... ,,	... —	Hankow	16,109.27	.....	16,109.27
Hankow..... ,,	... —	,,	20,901.89	.....	20,901.89
Gordon Castle. ,,	June 4	,,	17,130.42	.....	17,150.42
		Total.....	241,693.44	.....	241,693.44

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

June 12, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—June 9th, British barque *Westbury*, from Freemantle; British barque *William Manson*, from Sydney; 10th, British ship *Tamerlane*, from Sydney.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—June 4th, Russian steamer *Russia*; 8th, British steamer *Gordon Castle*, both for London; 7th, British barque *Grasmere*, for New York.

The English mail steamer *Zambesi* takes about 2,300 bales of Silk, and 1,000 tons of Tea.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9⅝d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 10d. *a* 5s. 10⅛d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9⅞d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 10⅛d. *a* 5s. 10¼d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.35. Private, Frs. 7.40 *a* 7.42½. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 314 *a* 315½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 314 *a* 315½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27¾ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.225 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.00 per 100. Copper cash, 1,590 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 12th June:—

Banks.—Immediately after our last report, a sale was made at 24 % dis. (the only transaction reported since 28th April), and the quotation has since been nominally the same, with no sellers, and no buyers except at a considerable reduction.

S. S. N. Co.—The market opened with sellers at Tls. 71, but has since improved—the latest transaction reported being at Tls. 75 for 31st July.

Fire Insurance.—*Chinas* opened with some small transactions at $140 and 141, and closes with buyers—but no sellers—at $142. *Hongkongs* have been in request, but the only business reported is a private sale at $480, $485 can now be got.

Marine Insurance.—*China & Japans*, after being somewhat weaker on the 9th instant—when sales were made at Tls. 91 and 92 for 30th instant, close firm with buyers at Tls. 92 cash. *Yangtszes* are firmer, sales having been made at Tls. 542 and 545 cash. Buyers now offer Tls. 547½.

Shanghai Gas Shares have been placed at Tls. 137.

Land.—A lot of land in Hongkew, north of Hanbury road, with frontage on the Hongkew Creek of about 240 feet, and containing as per title deed 7 *mow* 8 *fun* 9 *li* 6 *haou*; together with 24 two-storied houses and 50 one-storied houses thereon, the present rental of which is about $70 per month, and a timber-yard, leased at Tls. 150 per annum—has been sold at auction for Tls. 4,500.

The Weather has been variable. Heavy rain fell again on Sunday and Monday, with a strong Easterly wind, which drove the temperature down to 69 (max.) Wednesday and Thursday were fine and warm. Yesterday was again wet. To-day is fine and warm. The thermometer has ranged between 80 and 62.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Divid. Last Year.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	....	24 % dis. noml.
Steamer Cos.	Tls.		Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	100	7 %	75 31 July.
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50	....	21
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	10 %	Tls. 62½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 %	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T. 20 p. sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	10 %	85
Gas			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	11 %	Tls. 137
French Gas Co. ..	50	11 %	70
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	$150 p. sh	875 noml.
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	....	nominal
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	725
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500	....	$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	15 %	Tls. 547½
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co...	100	....	Tls. 92
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	12 %	$ 192
H'kong Fire Ins Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	485
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	12 % & Bonus 4½	164 nominal
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	12 %	142
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	12 %	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. ...	100	5 %	90
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	....	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	8 %	102
Do. ,, 1873.	100	8 %	105
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£100 10s.
Theatre Debentures	25	8 %	Tls. 20 noml.

Exchange.	
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..	72¼

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, *payable in advance*.

HANKOW.

Messrs. Gordon Bros.' Circular of the 8th June says, the past week has been an entire blank so far as transactions in Piece Goods are concerned; dealers will probably resume business to-morrow, their dragon festival ending to-day.

TEA.—The past fortnight has been one of continued activity, and but for supplies coming to hand slowly the settlements, judging by the competition displayed, would probably be the largest on record.

The weather has again to a certain extent delayed the arrival of the Teas, but we incline to think that a combination on the part of Teamen to feed the market gradually and thus maintain prices has a good deal to do with the small supplies arriving at one time.

The chief settlements since our last circular have been for the London market, all classes of Tea attracting attention.

As to prices, the quotations given below speak for themselves and render criticism unnecessary; we would however again call attention to the more than usual difference of opinion existing as to the quality of the crop and the comparative values obtained, we ourselves seeing no cause to alter our previously expressed views on either point.

The lowest price paid so far for Teas for England is Tls. 17.5 per picul, or 1s. 3¼d. per lb. laid down in London, and this only for 520 half-chests Seangtam Leaf.

Shipments to Shanghai are now commencing, but so far, only the lowest descriptions of Hankow Teas have been forwarded to that market.

Arrivals since the 5th inst. have been on a larger scale, but no decline in prices has as yet taken place.

The stock of Kiukiang Teas in all but exhausted, and supplies of these will now be forwarded to the Shanghai market. Prices for Ningchows have ruled from Tls. 26 *a* 60, and for Ho Hows Tls. 21 *a* 33 per picul.

Musters of 2nd crops are expected to reach this market about the 15th inst.

The following figures indicate the entire business to date (inclusive of Kiukiang Teas) as contracted with the same number of days from commencement of last season.

	1875.		1874.			1875.	
For England.....	211,750	chests.*	189,230	chests.†	Increase.....	22,520	chests.
,, Russia	101,260	,, *	74,970	,, †	,, ...	26,290	,,
,, Shanghai ...	5,090	,,	25,980	,,	Decrease	20,890	,,
	318,100	chests.	290,180	chests.			

* 147,460 half-chests Kiukiang Tea included. † 118,000 half-chests Kiukiang Tea included.

The total export to date is 6,879,044 lbs. over that at same date last year, and Re-exports likewise shew an increase of 2,401,877 lbs.

The following are the departures for London:—

As per last circular.....	9,193,478	lbs.
May 27th.—*Lotus*	2,097,137	,,
30th.—*Glenfalloch*	2,393,184	,,
30th.—*Hankow*	2,786,918	,,
June 5th.—*Gordon Castle*	2,284,056	,,
	18,754,773	lbs.
Against.....	14,664,140	lbs. last year.

The *Strasburg* left on the 1st inst. with 2,692,101 lbs., and the *Russia* on the 2nd with 2,147,902 lbs. The latter cleared for Odessa, and the former for Port Said, for orders.

FREIGHTS.—The *Venice* is loading for London at £4 5s. per ton. The through rate per P. & O. steamer is £4 10s.; per Holt's line £4 per ton. The rate under through B/Lading by ship from Shanghai is £4 per ton of 50 feet.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	May 17	Hankow,	June 17
San Francisco,	,, 15	Yokohama,	,, 5
Hongkong,	June 15	Nagasaki,	,, 3
Tientsin,	,, 12	Foochow,	,, 10

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ... Mar. 25
Shanghai, ... ,, 19 } Received 3rd May.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1875.

THE murder of Margary bears some resemblance to that of Stoddart and Connolly in Bokhara, inasmuch as in both cases the victims were British officers, duly accredited by their Government. Poor Margary's is by so much the worse that it was committed, we might say, under the very nose of our Indian Administration, and at a time when our prestige stood as high as it has done for the last half century; while that of Stoddart and Connolly took place upwards of a thousand miles from our frontier, in a wild and proverbially lawless country; and at a time when our disasters in Afghanistan had not only blocked our way to obtain redress, but seemed to the fanatics of Central Asia to have once and for all shattered our power to hurt. The murder of the two officers in Bokhara, though never directly punished by the British Government, has, however, been but one link in a chain which has brought down on its perpetrators a condign revenge. If it has, up to the present day, shut off Bokhara from communication with England, it has all the more served to hand over the Khanates, tied and bound, to the all-absorbing power of Russia. More or less inspired by Russian influence, Persia had made one of her customary attacks on Herat, which seemed to us sufficiently important to make arrangements for sending an army into Afghanistan. The Persians withdrew; but for the sake of a demonstration, our troops unluckily were ordered to advance. Badly handled, they were treacherously cut to pieces; and though we amply revenged the deed, the remembrance of the defeat at the Khyber Pass has since sat like an incubus on the Indian Government. While apparently successful, our officers had been sent into Central Asia to open communication with the Khanates. The Russian Government had many causes of complaint against the Turkoman rulers of Central Asia. Their caravans were plundered, their territories harrassed, and their people made slaves. It was evident that such a state of things could not last. Sooner or later Russia would seize the opportunity of taking her revenge, unless matters were put on a more satisfactory footing. We were well established at Herat, and from thence to Bokhara was seemingly but a little way. Stoddart, to whom afterwards was joined Connolly, was to endeavour to persuade the Ameer to give up the Russian prisoners, and to abstain from such exactions on trade as were giving them the needed pretext for eventual war. For a time all went well, till the disaster in Cabul determined the Ameer to get rid of his unprotected guests. A Russian embassy at the same time nearly shared their fate; but, more fortunate—as Russia looked nearer than did England at the time—were finally allowed to depart, but without succeeding in the design of their mission. The Ameer having by these deeds cut himself off from all communication with the outer world, the Khanates from year to year became more fanatic, more unbearable in their conduct toward their neighbours, and, like thieves left to themselves, more prone to internal dissensions. The advice given by Stoddart was set at nought, and Russia and Persia—the two nearest countries—were impartially made the objects of constant raids. Unfortunately, Persia was pretty nearly as much torn by disorders as the Khanates themselves; so, finally, on Russia fell the lot of punishing the States which had made themselves notorious over the world. The Ameer endeavoured at various times to correct the political error of the murder of the British officers. So dire an offence could, however, not be pardoned. We could not help with our counsel the ruler who had in cold blood murdered our Resident; so, particle by particle, and bit by bit, the Khanates have become absorbed in the ever-growing Empire of Russia.

As we have said above, the murder of Margary, inasmuch as he was

an officer of Her Majesty's service, and at the time travelling in the employ of the Government, bore some resemblance to the other tragedy. It has, however, this grave and marked difference—that, while the one was committed at a distance, and almost, so to speak, beyond the sphere of our natural influence, the other was done close to our own frontier; and by the agents of powers over whom we have only our own vacillating policy to blame, for having lost our wholesome influence. Eight years ago, the coalescence of China and Burmah to stop the road of an English Envoy would have been a matter which would not have entered into the minds of either. The jealousy of intrusion, similar to that which prompted the tragedy at Bokhara, doubtless existed—strongly developed—in both quarters; but respect, or its near neighbour, fear, would have prevented it taking the form it did. Now even that the deed has been committed, we miss any proof that it is being taken up as it deserves. Day passes after day, and month after month. Yet no step is taken to make even preliminary enquiry. In the meantime we have, from the Governor of Yunnan, a foretaste of the spirit in which the Chinese are likely to meet the enquiry. In reply, apparently to enquiries from Peking, the Governor professes entire ignorance of the matter—the first intimation of which, he says, reached him from Peking! He has appointed the General commanding at Tali-fu, and the Taotai of the Yunnan circuit, to enquire into the case, and no doubt their report will be a marvel of Chinese ingenuity. If it is not proved to a demonstration, as the *Spectator* suggests, "that no such person as Mr. "Margary ever existed, or that he "was killed by a tiger, or that he killed "himself,"—we may be sure it will be proved that Chinese officials are blameless. Either the outrage will have been perpetrated by uncontrollable hillmen, or will have been excited by some misdeed of Mr. Margary among people instinctively hostile to foreigners; or some equally plausible tale will be invented by the provincial authorities in Council; and the Commission will write their report backwards, to make the facts square with the conclusion. What object the British Government and its Representative in China can have, in giving the Chinese time to arrange these preliminaries, and efface, as far as possible, traces of the crime—is a mystery we fail to fathom. We can only wait, and hope that they will do at last what they might have done at first—act on their own conviction and on the circumstantial evidence of the case. In the meantime, it is curious to note that Li Sze-tai, the Chen-kwo-jui apparently of the outrage, has gone to Burmah—no doubt for the purpose of arranging with his fellow-conspirators a plan of action for escaping from the trouble they have raised.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 7th June arrived yesterday, by the M. M. str. *Ava*.

The American mail of the 15th May arrived on the 14th instant, by the P. M. str. *Costa Rica*.

A mail left for America on the 16th, by the P. M. str. *Costa Rica*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the M. M. str. *Tigre*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

THE ASCOT HUNT CUP.

Thurmgrian (? Thuringian)..	First.
Prance	Second.
Whitebait.....	Third.

THE GOLD CUP.

Doncaster.....	First.
Adventuriere	Second.
Nongat	Third.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has arrived in London.

The Sassoon Wet Dock at Bombay was successfully opened on the 8th, and a steamer entered.

The steamer *Carrisbrooke* has been seized on the coast of Hainan by the Chinese gunboat *Penchaohai*, which suspected smuggling.

Alexander Collie, of London and Manchester, have suspended. The liabilities are three millions.

Robert Benson & Co., Kings Arms Yard; and Rainbow, Holberton & Co., St. Helen's Place, have suspended payment. Further failures are expected. Money tighter.

A Concordat between Russia and the Vatican, announced by *L'Univers*, is contradicted, only reapproachment (?)

A meeting of shareholders in the Hongkew Wharf Co. was held on Tuesday, to confirm the proposal of amalgamating with Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, which had been agreed to at the meeting in April last. —The necessary alterations in the Deed of Settlement were agreed to, and a revised draft of terms of agreement was passed.

The Municipal Council seems to have been chiefly occupied with the Yang-king-pang bridge question, on which a rather warm correspondence has been exchanged between the two Councils.—The iron bridge over the Hongkew creek has been lowered, and was opened on Saturday. The alteration is a great improvement.

The French Council meeting of the 2nd June seems to have been occupied chiefly with public works. Negociations are to be entered into to get the cession of a strip of land off the French Consular compound, required for widening the Rue du Consulat.—The French Foreign Office decline to lease the Bund in front of the Consulate for the location of a public pontoon.—The meeting of the 10th June settled the Yang-king-pang bridge question. —The tax on jinrickshas is to be raised from Tl. 0.20 to Tl. 0.25 per month.

Mr. Medhurst's Lecture before the Temperance Society, on Tuesday evening, attracted nearly all the Chinese scholars of the Settlement, the subject being "Chinese Poetry." The lecturer succeeded in rendering his subject interesting alike to sinologues and to his auditors generally. Admiral Ryder occupied the chair. Mr. Wade made the motion of thanks; and after expressing his interest in the Society, made some off hand, but lucid, and even eloquent remarks on the poetry of the Middle Kingdom.

We print on another page the short lecture delivered by Dr. MacGowan at the last meeting of the Asiatic Society.

Favoured by dry, if not very pleasant weather, M. Soulié's benefit came off at the Circus on Tuesday night; but we regret to say that, financially, it was hardly any benefit, the attendance being comparatively scanty. The Shanghai Volunteers had accorded their patronage on the occasion, and a goodly number of the officers and men of the corps were present, only two of the latter, however, donning the uniform. The feats of climbing, balancing, &c., of the Japanese troupe were, as usual, simply astounding, and drew forth rounds of applause. Among the more noticeable feats, were what are called "the pyramid of boxes," "the fox screen," and "the broken ladder," which, for skill and cool daring, could scarcely be excelled. The performances throughout are well worth seeing.

The adjourned hearing of the case against Captain Brown, for compensation to the families of the Chinese drowned in the *Fusing*, was again postponed yesterday, in consequence of Mr. Medhurst's departure for Chinkeang. A full report of the first day's proceedings will be found on another page.

Two Ningpo men charged with attempting to utter a forged cheque for Tls. 300 on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, were taken before Chên and Dr. Yates, at the Mixed Court, on Tuesday. The prisoners had been remanded for a fortnight to permit enquiries to be made, the result being the discovery that the cheque-form was found to be one that had by accident become detached from the book in possession of a foreigner. It was found by his dog-coolie, and by him taken to the other man, who filled in the body in something like pidgin English, so that the attempted fraud was at once seen. Chên seemed at first disposed to send the prisoners before the city authorities; but he yielded to the representation that the case called for immediate punishment, and passed severe sentences on both prisoners—the dog-coolie to receive forty blows with the heavy bamboo, with three months' cangue; and his accomplice two hundred blows with the light bamboo, with two months' cangue.

At the Supreme Court, Wednesday, the case of the "*Fusing* v. *Ocean*" was taken before the Registrar and Merchants, on reference, to assess the value of the first named steamer, the cargo she had on board, and also the effects of the Captain, officers, crew, and passengers, at the time of the collision. The Court was composed of R. A. Mowat, Esq., Registrar, and Messrs. J. Thorne and G. W. Coutts, Merchant Assessors. Mr. Drummond appeared for the *Fusing*, and Mr. Wainewright for the *Ocean*. The Court was numerously attended by Chinese interested in the investigation. The amount claimed for the ship alone was Tls. 101,000, and for the cargo Tls. 51,000; that for the private effects of the persons on board is not yet set down. The entire day was occupied in the examination of witnesses as to the value of the ship and

cargo, which portion of the case was not concluded when the Court rose.

H. M. despatch vessel *Vigilant* returned to Shanghai Monday, having on board H.E. T. F. Wade, C.B., Colonel Browne, Mr. Grosvenor, and Mr. W. F. Mayers. The party landed in the forenoon, and proceeded to the British Consulate.

H. M. corvette *Modeste* left on the 14th instant for Hongkong. Her place will be filled by the *Thalia*, which came up the river on Saturday morning.

H. M. ship *Thalia*, in steaming up to her anchorage off the Settlement, was fouled off the Pacific Mail Wharf by a large junk, carrying away the foremost port quarter boat davit and damaging the boat. The junk's stern was also much damaged and her mizen mast knocked over the side. The cause of the collision was that the junk Captain, fearing he would not clear the *Thalia*, let go an anchor which turned the junk round to the strong ebb that was running.

We hear by a private telegram, that Senör J. F. Elmore, LL.D., Minister for Peru, is passenger for this port per *Oregonian*, due to-morrow. As we have mentioned in another place, Dr. Elmore is *en route* for Peking, to ratify the Treaty with China.

We learn that Admiral Ryder contemplates leaving this port for Yokohama, in H.M.S. *Vigilant*, about the 18th inst., and that His Excellency will be accompanied by Colonel Horace Browne and Mr. Mayers, of Her Majesty's Legation. The immediate object of Admiral Ryder's visit to Japan is understood to be the completion of the arrangements entailed by the removal of the Marine Battalion from Yokohama; but it seems unlikely that the head of the late exploring party in Yünnan and the Chinese Secretary of Her Majesty's Legation at Peking can have anything to do with these arrangements. If Colonel Browne and Mr. Mayers were going westwards instead of eastwards, their movements would appear less strange, under all the circumstances. The British Minister has once more taken up his abode in the Settlement, and with the Yünnan question "in the air," as it seems to be left, we can see no earthly reason why His Excellency should not, as our evening contemporary facetiously suggests, be devoting his energies to a new edition of the *Tzu Erh Chi*, instead of the unprofitable task of Peking diplomacy.

It is currently reported that a memorial from Tsen, the Governor of Yünnan, with reference to the murder of Mr. Margary, has at length been received by the Peking Government. As might have been expected, the provincial authorities profess entire ignorance of the matter, the first intimation of which they represent as having reached them from Peking. The step they are said to have taken is to appoint General Yang, commanding at Tali Fu, and a Taotai named Chén, to institute an enquiry into the facts of the case. We presume, however, that the Commission of Enquiry thus constituted will be regarded in no other light than that of a simple preliminary. The natural consequence of its report should be the removal of the officials whom it must inculpate, to stand their trial at Peking. Meanwhile, it appears from recent telegrams that the active agent in the crime, Li See, otherwise known as Li Chen-kwoh, has paid a visit to the capital of Burmah, as bearer of a despatch from the Chinese Government to the King. The purport of such a communication, at such a juncture, and by such a hand, it is not difficult to surmise. In the meantime, the following pithy paragraph from the *Spectator* seems accurately to describe the situation :—"It is stated "that Mr. Wade, the British representative "at Peking, has insisted on an enquiry "into the recent murder of Mr. Margary "in Western China. The Chinese Govern- "ment has yielded 'under pressure,' and "two British officers are to accompany a "Chinese official to Yünnan, the province "where the murder occurred. Of course, "every facility will be given to the officers, "and every needful hint to the people, "and it will be proved to a demonstration "either that no such person as Mr. Mar- "gary ever existed, or that he was killed "by a tiger, or that he killed himself."

The Mandarins are apparently beginning to find out that Lekin taxes are oppressive. A few days ago, the *Peking Gazette* contained a document, recognising that it was desirable to reduce them in Szechuen. The *Gazette* of the 23rd May contains a report in the same sense from the Governor of Kiangsu. The theory, however, is being very hardly carried into practice. Taxes are only taken off one or two minor articles of food in this province. Those on commerce generally, remain untouched.

A PEKING correspondent writes on the 4th June :—No rain here yet. Thermometer for last five days ranging from 68 to 101 maximum. Prince Kung and his brothers are praying for rain, but none comes. From Paouting Foo, where an American Missionary is located, we hear that a foolish report has sprung up in the town, that the Missionary has a dwarf from Kansuh, which he keeps in a box. Quite a number of people, apparently of good standing and intelligence, have called to ask about the truth of the report, which they are evidently not inclined to disbelieve. Meantime no harm has come of the rumour.

A serious riot has occurred at CHINKEANG. Some braves insulted the American Consul and his wife. Two of them were arrested by the British Consular constable. Their comrades and an immense crowd of Chinese attacked the Consulate and endeavoured to force the gates. Eventually the riot was quelled by the arrival of the military mandarins. Mr. Baber, who is in charge of H. M.'s Consulate, is given much praise for the coolness and courage he showed. Mr. Seward and Mr. Medhurst went up to Chinkeang yesterday to insist on the punishment of the rioters. H.M.S. *Thalia* and the U.S. gunboat *Palos* have left for the same destination.—Messrs. Spencer and Wolff write from Chinkeang on the 16th June :—"There is a fairly active demand for Grey Cottons, but the continued wet weather still checks clearances and prevents dealers from operating so freely as they otherwise would.—Woollen and Fancy Goods are almost entirely neglected."

The FOOCHOW *Herald* of the 10th June says—No further disturbances have been caused by the gang of smugglers, referred to in our last issue; but a feeling of uneasiness still prevails. A body of about 200 Native troops are now encamped on the hill near the Custom House at the Pagoda Anchorage.—H.B.M.S. *Hornet* returned from Tamsui on the 5th instant. The *Herald* trusts she will remain in port during the height of the Tea shipping season, at all events. "As it is evident that the native authorities will do little in the way of protecting us against the lawlessness of their people, we should endeavour to impress upon our own officials the desirableness of furnishing us with more ample means of defence."—Another addition to the Arsenal Fleet—the *Yüan Kai* —was successfully launched on the 4th instant. She is 202 feet in length, has a beam of 33 feet, and a depth of 17 feet. Her gross tonnage is 1391, and her engines are of 150 horse-power. She is intended for the transport service, and is the sixteenth vessel launched at the Pagoda Anchorage Arsenal. We understand that the keel of a steam gun-vessel was laid on the same day.—Negociations for the purchase of the Pagoda Anchorage telegraph line are nearly concluded. As in the case of the Amoy line, the wire will be worked by the Great Northern Telegraph Company—under contract.—Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co.'s S.S. *Namoa* has been chartered to load Tea at Foochow for the Australian Colonies.—On Sunday and Monday last, more than the usual amount of excitement and din prevailed amongst the boat population. The festival of the "Dragon Boats" was the excuse for creating a disturbance on the river, worthy of the infernal regions. —The Foochow Market Report of the 11th instant says :—A large business has been transacted in Tea during the week, and although Teamen have submitted to a slight decline for some kinds latterly, there has been more doing, and taking quality into consideration opening rates have been fully maintained. Sterling exchange being lower this season the laying down cost compares favourably with the same period last year. The total export to date is 711,160-lbs., against 598,485 last year.—The *Glenfinlas* (s.s.), with the first of the new season's teas for London left on the 6th instant, followed on the 9th instant by the *Braemar Castle*, and on the 10th instant by the *State of Virginia*; the *Agamemnon* (s.s.), is leaving to-day. The steamer *Montgomeryshire* is on the berth for London at £3.10, and the steamers *Statesman* (full), *City of Baltimore*, *Glenlyon*, and *Viking* at £4; the sailing vessels *Nyassa*, *Thermopylæ*, and *Forward Ho!* at £3.10 per 50 cubic feet. Expected—*Glamis Castle*, (s.s.). For Australia, the following vessels are loading:—*J. H. Jessen*, *Minna*, *Nautilus* and *Empress of China*. Expected—*Canton* and *Namoa* (s.s.)

HONGKONG news will be found on another page. No more lives have been saved from the *Poyang*.

News about TONQUIN differs according as it comes from an official or unofficial source. The *China Mail* correspondent does not take a bright view of French policy there. The Saigon official newspaper says it is all right.

Ratifications of the Peruvian treaty have been exchanged at YEDDO, where a grand entertainment was given by Dr. Elmore on the occasion.

Editorial Selections.

RIOT AT CHINKEANG.

A RIOT has occurred at Chinkeang, which seems to have very narrowly stopped short of having serious consequences. For some time past Foreigners have suffered occasional annoyance from the rudeness of the native soldiery, a large number of whom are quartered in the neighborhood; but no collision has happened until Monday last, when a very serious outbreak occurred. The American Consul, Mr. Colby, and his wife, were entering the Settlement on their return from an afternoon walk, when they were greatly annoyed by some soldiers, who roughly hustled them, at the same time using very disgusting language. A Municipal policeman expostulated with them, and told them it was the American Consul and his wife whom they were insulting. Instead of desisting, however, they turned upon the policeman, and were using him very roughly, when the British Consular constable come up to the rescue, arrested two of the rowdies, and carried them off to the Consular jail. A large crowd, among whom were many soldiers, at once began to assemble, and endeavoured to force the gates of the Consulate, which were however defended by Mr. Baber, the Interpreter in charge of the Consulate, and the Constable. As news of the affair spread, thousands of Chinese crowded on the hill, the few British residents also making their way to the Consulate, to stand by their Representative. Some soldiers had in the meantime gone off to the barracks to summon their comrades in force; and Mr. Baber, on his part, sent in to the Taotai, to request assistance. Shouts of "Ta yang kwei-tze"—(kill the foreign devils) were loud; and matters looked very awkward, when a military Mandarin rode up and, using a club freely among the rioters, drove them back from the gates. This was the turning point of the riot; other military mandarins arrived, and shortly after a posse of officers from the Taotai's yamên. Mr. Baber now insisted on handing over the prisoners to the custody of the latter, who at first refused, but afterwards consented, to receive them and took them into the city. The crowd began now to disperse under the influence of the officials. A guard was placed at the approach to the Consulate, and order has not been since disturbed.

It is evident, however, that the matter cannot be allowed to rest here. Such offences as insult to the Consul of one nation, and an attack on the Consulate of another need severe treatment; and we are glad to learn that the infliction of adequate punishment will be insisted on. This was demanded by the British and American representatives at the port; but the Authorities appear to have hesitated so far, to treat the case with the severity it requires. The demand will, therefore, have to be supported, and Messrs. Medhurst and Seward have gone up in the *Nanking*, and will be immediately followed by H.M.S. *Thalia* and the U.S.S. *Palos*. The gravity of such cases can hardly be measured by the actual offence, though that is sufficiently great; unless punished with a strong hand, the ruffians who commit them are encouraged to further aggressions; and they acquire, therefore, a political importance beyond the actual crime. At a place like Chinkeang, where the community is small, and a number of soldiers are always in garrison, besides those continually passing through, the residents would never be safe from insult unless the case is pressed against the prisoners who were fortunately arrested, and against the ringleaders of the attack on the Consulate, whom the Authorities can no doubt identify if they choose. The Chinese brave is the most rowdy and impertinent specimen of his race. A correspondent, writing from Chinkeang in regard to the present affair, says instances are not uncommon of their walking upstairs in a Foreigner's house; only recently, in Shanghai, we had to complain of the Viceroy's guard intruding into the grounds of foreign houses on the Soochow Creek. People do not take notice of such cases, to avoid the appearance of causing needless trouble. But they all go to swell the aggregate of annoyance, and to render the necessity for stern punishment more urgent, when a really flagrant case occurs. It would be well to take the opportunity of insisting that Chinese soldiers should be kept altogether away from the neighborhood of Foreign Settlements. It is fair to remark that the military mandarins appear to have acted well at Chinkeang in striving to quell the riot. Neither should a tribute be omitted to the coolness and courage shown by Mr. Baber, in face of the actual attack and the serious prospect that at one time threatened.

CHINA AS A MILITARY POWER.

WE have often expressed our doubts as to the practical utility of the steps being taken by China to strengthen the military power of the Empire. In fact, we have pointed out that, in some particulars, and notoriously in that of self-respect, the Chinese of to-day are really weaker than they were when as yet their old military system was untried against the warlike arts of the West. Various causes have been at work to produce this unsatisfactory result; notoriously, the utter corruption of the Empire has found a fine field for its exercise in the new and, to China, untried field of military preparations. Independently of this evident source, there is another equally powerful, and that is the inability of the Chinese mind to grasp the long series of inductive processes which have led up to the present state of Western science. To imitate what is before him, without thought as to the reasons of its existence, is the natural limit of the Chinese intellect; and this is no less marked in military than in civil arts. It is thus that external form takes the place of internal organisation. The means are confounded with the end; and a battalion which under a drill sergeant can contrive to "face about" and "form fours," is supposed to be capable of doing effective work in the field, even when placed under command of an officer to whom all systems of drill are alike unknown. When, early in the present century, we desired to make an effective barrier of Persia against Russian encroachment, we not only granted a subsidy from the Indian Government, but did our best to introduce European military science into the armies of the Shah. The result is thus described by a competent authority, Major-General Sir H. Rawlinson:—"It can be proved, we think, that whatever benefit Persia may have derived, as far as regards centralization of the power of her monarch, from the introduction into her armies of European discipline, she has been, as a substantive power, progressively weakened by the change, and rendered less capable of sustaining a pressure from without; and it follows, therefore, that if she had been in danger of absorption by Russia under the old system, she must long ere this have ceased to exist under the new. It would detain us too long to explain the seeming paradox of discipline engendering weakness. If it be remembered, however, that when the system is affected with chronic paralysis, the attempt is vain to restore any particular member to a healthy action, it will be understood that, to a nation devoid of organisation in every other department of government, a regular army was impossible. It thus happened that, notwithstanding the admirable material for soldiery which was offered by the hardy peasantry of Azerbijan, and the still hardier mountaineers of Kermanshah,—notwithstanding that a due proportion of physical courage appertained generally to the men—the disciplined forces of Persia, considered as an army, and for the purpose of national defence, were from the epoch of their first creation contemptible. Beyond drill and exercise they never had everything in common with the regular armies of Europe and India. System was entirely wanting,—whether in regard to pay, clothing, food, carriage, equipage, commissariat, promotion or command, and under a lath and plaster government like that of Persia, such must inevitably have been the case."—Substituting China for Persia, we have in the above a not inapt description of the present state of affairs here. In one respect, probably, China is in advance of Persia, as

possessing a more settled government; in others, as in the quality of the troops, it is vastly inferior. What could not be accomplished by one, we may rest assured cannot be done by the other, and if the preparations for war of the more Western State have really proved a source of weakness rather than of strength, there is no reason to doubt a similar result in the more Eastern. In this, however, China is only following in the wake of European experience. An army, or the spirit which creates an army, cannot be called forth in one generation. How many were necessary for the formation of a really indigenous Russian army, history can relate. Yet Russia, wiser in her generation than China, bound to herself those foreign officers whom she had induced to enter her service; and to the present day the armies of the Czar are largely officered by captains whose names hand down the reminiscence of the original home of their ancestors. The Chinese, full of conceit in military as in other affairs, imagine that once they have caught hold of the mere externals of an organisation, they can dispense with the services of those who have helped them on. It is thus that the Arsenals have fallen from the efficiency to which they had attained under their first organisation, and it is thus that the levies of troops which, under the command of a general like Gordon, proved themselves a serviceable if not a very formidable enemy, have degenerated to such battalions as those which, in Formosa, find themselves unable to cope with the native tribes. Indeed, the whole progress of the difficulty with Japan went to show how utterly incapable the Government of China was of grasping the real requirements of the case. Money was expended sufficient to have inaugurated an important campaign, and the sole result to be seen is the few battalions of semi-drilled troops more dangerous to their friends than their enemies, which are now to be found in the island of Formosa. The forts on the Yangtsze and at Woosung have absorbed sums of money wholly out of proportion to their efficiency. In fact, it is doubtful if the old forts which endeavoured to stop the passage of the British fleet in 1842, were not more effective than the mock iron-clad batteries which now line at intervals the banks of the Yangtsze. Yet it is for works like these that China has been content to run her exchequer bankrupt, and has overtaxed her people till taxation is killing the commerce on which it is levied. Trade has been fettered, till trade has refused to respond more to the calls made on it; and not content with this practical illustration of the impolicy of the course adopted, attempts have been made to coerce individual merchants. The fancies which in other Asiatic countries impel individual despots, in China affect the whole Government; so that it matters little to the subject whether he suffer under the irresponsible will of a single despot, or under the no less oppressive, but more certain grip of a corrupt oligarchy.

RUSSIA AND TURKESTAN.

THE wish is often father to the thought, and so we must accept with a great deal of reservation Russian accounts of proceedings in Eastern Turkestan. Still there seems to be some evidence that, for good or evil, China is about to commit herself to an attack on the Ameer of Kashgar, which, whether she is successful or not, will almost certainly result in her own discomfiture. The statements made on Russian authority are so manifestly self-contradictory, that we wonder at any credence being placed in them in Europe. First, we have strange accounts of the British embassy to Kashgar, the untruth of which is too manifest to need contradiction. That mission is said to have consisted of 300 members!—150 of whom were left behind at Kashgar and Yarkand, to assist in manufacturing arms for the Ameer! We have then an account of growing dissatisfaction against the Ameer's rule, which, read by the light of the experiences of the British Embassy, seems strange. We are told in one paragraph that the Tunganees enjoy most of the Ameer's confidence; several of his officers are of that race, and he has further strengthened himself by marriages with the families of the chiefs. Next we are told that the Tunganees are deeply disaffected, owing to the extortions of the Kashgarese. Thirdly, again, these oppressed Tunganees are governed under the Ameer by chiefs of their own, and at Manassi and Urumtsi, the ports occupied by Kuli Beg last year, enjoy perfect peace. Fourthly, these Tunganees who enjoy the confidence of the Ameer, are but a sorry lot, possessing no regular army, and armed only with cudgels, spears, a few matchlocks, and a little powder brought from Kamil (we presume our authority has forgotten the 150 British whom he left in Turkestan manufacturing arms). The affair would be absurd, were it not that greater absurdities have been readily seized at St. Petersburg as a plea for further extensions of territory. After these absurdities comes, however, the pith of the matter. These poor, miserable, peaceable, unarmed, hostile Tunganees, enjoying the confidence of, but deeply dissatisfied with, the Ameer, have been undertaking foraging excursions against the Kalmuks in the North. No less than 6,000 (!) of them arrived at Tokhtarun, on this object intent. They plundered the Kalmuks, and on their return were absolved by Yakoob Bey on payment of a sum of money. Curiously enough, though the occupation of Urumtsi has effectually cut them off from China, they are anxious to emigrate, to escape from the constantly threatening Chinese. More curiously still, these oppressed and disaffected Tunganees chose as their place of settlement Kashgar itself (very like jumping, we should have reasoned, from the frying pan into the fire) or Kuedju. A note on the border station of Shikho, where are entrenched camps, commanded by Chinese of utterly incomprehensible names, follows. The Chinese are stated to be desirous of interfering with the Buddhist Kalmuks, and knowing the ridiculous obstinacy of the Chinese character, when it is bent on a wrong course, we can readily believe any folly on its part. They are said to be anxious to recommence warlike operations. The troops at Barkul and Kamil (Hami) are to advance towards Kashgar, while those from the guard at Yarbagatai are to march on Urumtsi. This statement seems to tally with recent notices in the *Peking Gazette*. King-lien, Tu-tung of Urumtsi, was, in August last, appointed Imperial Commissioner, with Kin-shun as his second. The *Gazette* of May 3rd orders Tso Tsung-tang to take up the former office, while King-lien is to return to Peking. Kin-shun, directed on May 3rd to assist Tso, is the next day appointed commandant at Urumtsi, in King-lien's place. These changes probably indicate the intention of the Chinese to prosecute the war. Our own opinion has always been that such a policy is suicidal. Not only are the resources of the Empire taxed beyond endurance for the accomplishment of an end which would, in the case of success, prove a constant drain and source of weakness; but an opportunity is afforded to Russia of interference. The latter power has been watching eagerly the progress of events in Eastern Turkestan, and has alternately been urging on each side to a contest, sure to weaken both. The British Minister, doubtless, did good service when his advice prevented war between China and Japan. However annoying such a war would temporarily have been, its effects would not have been so serious as are likely to result from the contest in Central Asia. We have no great desire for the discomfiture of the Chinese, but at the same time we cannot but think that the most fortunate thing for the Empire would be the effectual defeat of their troops by the Ameer, and the formation of a really strong kingdom at Kashgar.

LOCAL SQUEEZES.

A SERIOUS effort is at last likely to be made, to combat the system of local taxation which weighs on trade of all kinds in the Settlement. Very few of our readers probably know how comprehensive that system is, how complete the organisation by which it is worked, nor how minute the details to which it condescends. There is, in the first place, a sort of Petty office for Foreign affairs (局捕會), in Hankow Road, which seems not to collect taxes, but to keep a certain control over the Runners

—especially the opium men—who do that work. This is presided over by the same Magistrate who sits in the Mixed Court in the French Concession. For the actual collection of taxes, there are a variety of offices, each having cognisance of a particular class of goods. The head Opium office, for instance, is inside the South Gate; and to it used to be taken all the men caught "smuggling" in the Settlements, before preliminary consignment to the Mixed Court was agreed on in order to preserve a better check on the Runners' proceedings. There is, we believe, no branch of this office in the Foreign Settlements; its does its work by means of the Runners—whose exactions were lately condemned by Sir Edmund Hornby as distinctly contravening the Treaty. Not the least startling fact elicited at that trial, was that these men have been so far recognised as to have warrants granted them by the British Consul and by the Municipal Council. The practice has been given up for some years, so far as the Consulate is concerned; but the Council continue it. The warrants do not amount to much, certainly; they simply recognise that the men are agents of the Opium tax office; but this recognition of an illegal tax is objectionable; we have more than once said that we hold the duty of the Council rather to be to resist it; and we hope a first effect of the present discussion will be to prevent the issue of any more such documents. It is noteworthy that Sir Edmund's judgment seems already to have had an effect. It was no doubt translated in the City yamêns, and we hear that no cases of arrest by the Runners have since come under the cognisance of the Police; though the usual taxes are of course persisted in, where they can be quietly levied.

The squeeze which most directly affects Foreign interests is on Piece Goods. The (所公貨洋) Foreign Goods office, which honours this branch of trade with its attention, is located in the Shanse Road; and we believe the following tariff will be found a strictly accurate one, of the duties which are levied under its auspices :—

	Pcs.	Tls.		Tls.
Grey Shirtings, per bale of	50	2.31	on a val. of	1.85
White Shirtings, per case of	50	2.43	,,	1.95
White Brocades,	50	3.00	,,	2.40
White Spots,	50	1.80	,,	2.25
Dyed Brocades,	50	3.75	,,	3.00
Dyed Spots & Gen. Shrtgs.,	50	3.00	,,	2.40
Chintzes,	50	1.87½	,,	1.50
Dyed Damasks,	40	4.00	,,	4.00
Velvets or Velveteens,	24	2.52	,,	5.00
Turkey Reds,	50	3.00	,,	2.40
Muslins,	100	3.00	,,	1.20
Dimities,	100	3.75	,,	1.50
Blue Mottles,	60	3.45	,,	2.30
Handkerchiefs, dozen	200	2.50	,,	0.50
T-Cloths,	50	1.62½	,,	1.30
Sheetings,	30	1.87½	,,	2.50
Jeans,	30	1.57½	,,	2.10
Drills, American,	15	1.05	,,	2.80
Do. English,	30	1.72½	,,	2.30
Span. Stripes & Med. Cloths	6	2.76	,,	20.00
Dutch Camlets,	10	4.60	,,	20.00
English Do.,	10	4.15	,,	18.00
Long Ells,	20	2.76	,,	6.00
Lastings,	20	5.52	,,	12.00
Lustres—Fig., Plain, &c.,	50	5.75	,,	5.00

This office has agents at every bridge leading into the English Settlement, and at each crossing along the Honan —which thus justifies its old name of "Barrier"—road. Every Chinese shop-keeper who desires to purchase and remove a bale of Shirtings from a Foreign Merchant's godown to his own premises, must obtain from the Yang-poo Koong-sze a permit, which is checked by its agents *en route*. No doubt a little evasion goes on. Although directly accountable to the Taotai, the office receives no pay. And probably three bales are let pass under a permit for two, on the understanding that a small present is given which goes into the pocket and towards the expenses of the petty mandarin in charge. There is no disguise about it; any one can walk into the office and see the tariff list hung up. Of the Defence Tax office (局防籌), which is at the back of the Foreign Customs, we had occasion to speak recently. Then there is an office for taxing Straits Produce, located near the East Gate; and every article of Native Produce is similarly afflicted by officers detailed in all directions for the purpose. The following are a few of the rates so levied :—

	T.m.c.c.	
White Sugar	0.2.2.5	per picul.
Brown Sugar	1.3.5	,,
Sapan Wood	2.0.0	,,
Flints	0.4.0	,,
Sandal-wood	2.5.0	,,
White Wax	3.6.0.0	,,
Gypsum	80 cash.	

Not even a couple of ducks can be sold in the Maloo without contributing their quota to the official maw. Every ham that is sold in any petty shop in a back street has paid its tax, and a heavy one, to the local mandarins. Such matters, however, are too small for special offices; they are farmed out by tender. A large dealer in ducks or hams pays a lump sum to the Taotai, and recoups himself with a margin from his co-dealers, as he best can.

As we have said before, there is no mystery in the matter, the offices are there for every one to see; even the farmer of the tax on ducks has a paper posted in his shop, conferring on him the authority. A man in Smith's market used to have the privilege; probably he has still. And as the books of every individual dealer are at the mercy of the officials, there is no chance of evasion. All that can be done is to compromise, and a certain amount of relief is no doubt obtained by this process. The relief, however, is small, and the impression left on one's mind is of wonder how trade can exist at all under the exactions with which it is saddled. As we said at the outset, we are glad to know there is hope of a determined effort being made to shake off at least such levies as are palpably opposed to Treaty stipulations. Our course, so far at least, is logical and clear. Neither can we see any reason why a further effort should not be made to fight the whole question. The petty taxes used not be levied, and there is no reason why they should be so at present. Let us cease asking the Taotai for contributions to anything whatsoever, and request him to refrain from levying any taxes whatever within our limits.

THE YANG-KING-PANG BRIDGES.

A rather warm correspondence has passed between the French and English Councils on the Yang-king-pang bridge question. It opens with a petulant letter from the French Council, which rather exceeds the limits of official remonstrance and is founded moreover on strange misconceptions of the constitution of the English and American Settlements. Our readers however will form their own opinion of its contents. We only purpose noting two points. 1°—The French Council find a grievance against the English Council, on account of a resolution passed by the Ratepayers' Meeting in June last year, in favour of amalgamating the two Settlements. Now that resolution was proposed by Mr. W. H. Carter, and the English Council had nothing to do with it. It was a simple expression of opinion by the Ratepayers, that amalgamation would be desirable. It was not in the power of the Council to stop the vote, and they expressed no opinion either for or against it; and it follows, as the Council point out, that the insinuation that they were influenced in their action regarding the bridges, by a desire to promote that amalgamation, is as far-fetched as it is incorrect. 2°—In view of the English Council's distinct refusal to pay more than half the cost of the bridges over the Yang-king-pang, M. Voisin concludes his letter by stating that the Consul for France has been requested to place that matter before the Consular body! Now we would not be thought wanting in respect to the Consular body; but we cannot help asking what on earth they have to do, or can have to do, with the matter? Of course we cannot pretend to say what view the Treaty Consuls hold of the precise point at issue; but we can venture to conceive their answer—that they have no power whatever to control the expenditure of the Ratepayers in this Concession; that if they (the Ratepayers) decline to pay more than half of the cost of repairing the bridges, no power exists to make them pay more, and that if they prefer to let the bridges fall down these will have to fall. We repeat that the French Council evidently misunderstand the "constitution" of the Northern Settlement. We quite agree with the tone of Mr. Purdon's reply, and need only add that the Council have been thoroughly supported throughout, by the general opinion of the Ratepayers.

However, we are delighted to learn that the difficulty is at last terminated, and hope the Minutes of the respective Councils will now subside to a normal size and condition. The arrangement come to seems a fair one; what is regrettable is, that, though the English Council suggested it long ago, the French Council appear to have overlooked it—otherwise the whole polemic, including the futile appeal to the Consuls, might have been avoided. It will be remembered that the trouble began about wheelbarrows. Seeing that

the English and American Settlements contain a vastly greater mileage of roadway than the French, the principle of halving the total wheelbarrow fees between the two Settlements was objected to as unfair, and ⅔ and ⅓ suggested as a fair partition. The French Council replied that if they were only to get ⅓ of the fees, they would only pay ⅓ cost of the bridges over the Yang-king-pang, instead of ½ as hitherto. Seeing that the bridges are quite as necessary to the French as to the English Settlement, the English Council very rightly refused to build or repair another bridge on these terms—and hence the deadlock. The French Council proposed arbitration, but the alternative was declined; the English Council feeling, we presume, so strongly that they were right, as to decline admitting the doubt arbitration might imply. The French Council then appealed to M. de Chappedelaine, to induce the Treaty Consuls to interfere; but the Treaty Consuls had nothing whatever to do with the matter. The Ratepayers in this Concession regulate their own finances, and if they decline to pay more than Tls. 15, no power exists to make them pay Tls. 20. At last, after all this excitement, the English Council chance to recapitulate, in a letter of the 7th June, the negociations which have taken place, and mention among others a suggestion once made by their delegates at a conference held to seek for a solution. This was, that wheelbarrows be placed on the same footing as jinrickshas; that is, that a maximum number of vehicles be agreed on, that each Council be empowered to issue licenses for half, and keep what fees it gets. It is to be regretted that the proposal was overlooked when it was first made, but the French Council now take it up and accept it as a fair and equitable solution. The origin of the difference being thus removed, the offshoots disappear also. Each Council will collect its own license fees, each will pay half the cost of the bridges, and we shall not have to wade across the Yang-king-pang.

REVIEW.

The Ethics of Spiritualism. —F. H. Balfour.

We have received an interesting little pamphlet, by Mr. Frederic H. Balfour, entitled "The Ethics of Spiritualism." The pamphlet is a reprint of a paper which appeared in the *Celestial Empire* of the 5th instant, suggested no doubt by the increasing attraction which the subject has for some persons in Shanghai. We confess that we are not among the number, and cannot pretend to review critically the interesting essay which Mr. Balfour has compiled. We cordially agree in his disgust at spirits who "play a fiddle in "the dark and then shy it across the room; "slap peoples' faces when the unfortunate "dupes have been put upon their honor not "to touch their hands; almost rival con- "jurors in their clever tying and untying "of ropes; cause huge tables to indulge in "elephantine gambols, and inspire smaller "tables to try their hardest to get up the "chimney." We share his difficulty in understanding why "spirits" should usually talk such wretched twaddle; and are generally repelled by the charlatanry with which "spiritualism" is surrounded. Still, it is difficult to discredit the mass of testimony that there exists some ill-understood force, by which certain peculiar results are attained, and Sergeant Cox's theory of Psychic Force seems to contain the most likely explanation. We cannot do better than quote a few passages from Mr. Balfour's précis of this doctrine, and leave our readers to draw their own conclusions:—

Those in whom it abounds most copiously, are those in whom clairvoyance is most highly developed, and in whom the marvellous but by no means supernatural gift of thought-reading is brought to its greatest perfection. The so-called medium between the mortal and the spiritual is thus the subject of Unconscious Cerebration, and, self-deceived, is the prolific though unintentional means of duping others. Serjeant Cox attributes the movement and levitation of inanimate objects solely to this electric force emitted unconsciously from the highly-charged frame of the Psychic, and entering the object thus acted upon. * * * * When the Psychic is in a state of trance, the strange power of brain-sympathy or thought-reading is brought into play; and, believing himself to be the medium of spiritual intercourse, he *unconsciously reflects the impressions existing in the brain of his interlocutor.* This theory is illustrated most strikingly by Serjeant Cox; and we cannot make it half so plain by enlarging upon it as we can by giving a few of the remarkable instances in which he put it to the test. It is a well-known fact that an atheistic medium will talk atheism, that a Christian medium will wax eloquent upon Christianity, and a Mahometan medium will strenuously uphold the pretensions of the Prophet. This looks suspicious, to say the least of it. But bring that medium into intimate *rapport* with the brain of the enquirer, and a still stranger result will ensue. Two worthy ministers, a Baptist and an Independent, once had a great argument, like many other worthy ministers of those persuasions, upon the proper mode of administering the sacrament of Baptism. At length they agreed to refer the question to the spirit of a deceased friend. The Baptist opened the colloquy; and addressing the communicator with much solemnity, asked which was the correct method. "By immersion," was the prompt reply. Charmed by this corroboration of his own views, he hastened to his Independent friend and related what had passed. But the Independent thought he would like to hear the doctrine first-hand, and he, too, asked the spirit the same question. "By sprinkling," came the answer back. This was the old story of the travellers and the chameleon, and great was the perplexity of the controversialists; but it was brought to a climax when a Universalist minister appeared upon the scene, in answer to whose enquiries the spirit manifested the most utter indifference to the administration of Baptism at all!

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Another test was also applied. The same enquirer asked a spirit its Christian name: knowing at the time that the name of the person in life had been, say, Edward. But in putting the question he forced upon himself the conviction of another name—say Thomas—which he kept uppermost in his imagination and repeated diligently to himself; and sure enough, Thomas was the name rapped out. The same result followed when the age was demanded; the true age at death having been twenty-five, and the false age of thirty-two, imagined by the interlocutor, being faithfully given back by the entranced Psychic. To such a catch-question as—Do you remember breaking your arm on such-and-such a day?—the answer 'yes' has often been elicited, when no such accident had ever happened at all. A friend of our own who was once at a spirit-circle, getting rather impatient, got up and walked to the window. 'Can the spirit tell me what is now going on just underneath?' he asked. 'Yes' was the reply; 'your carriage is being brought round to the front-door from the stable;' an unlucky hit, for he hadn't a carriage at all, but was going to walk. Such blunders as these, and such remarkable coincidences between what is passing in the brain of the interlocutor and the answer given by the Psychic, all point to the conclusion that the power lies *within the circle,* and does not come from anything or anybody outside of it.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

On the 4th instant, the Chinese gunboat *Chin Hae* returned to this port from Manchuria; but I have heard no particular news by her, with the exception of her having brought down six rebels, or insurgents, or robbers. On the 5th instant, the late acting Customs Taoutai, Sun Szeta, made his farewell calls on the Consuls of the port; and I understand that he will leave here with his family for Shanghai by one of the early steamers. At 9 o'clock on the 6th instant, H. E. Li Hung-chang came to the foreign anchorage off the Settlement in his sedan, to the residence of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, and inspected the Company's new steamer *How Sâng.* He was, as usual, accompanied by the Territorial and Customs functionaries; and the gunboat *Chin Hae* fired the usual salutes. On the 5th instant, the new Customs Taoutai, Lee Chaou-tang, sent a note to the Consuls informing them that the 8th instant being the Twan-yang, term day, the Customs offices would be closed for public business; hence no business is being transacted there to-day.

Yesterday and to-day we had thunderstorms with rain, and the weather at present is in consequence cool and pleasant for this season of the year. The peasantry around here, however, still call out for more rain. On the 5th instant, the *Peking Gazette* announces that the Princes Kung and Tun had prayed for rain.

I hear that the German and Dutch Ministers are each looking for one man-of-war in the North, soon—the former the *Elizabeth* and the latter the *Curaçao.*

8th June.

CHINKEANG.

Our usually quiet and peaceful little port was on Monday last unpleasantly aroused by a disturbance that was likely to have terminated most disastrously. For some time past foreigners have been put to occasional annoyance through the rudeness of native soldiery, some thousands of whom are stationed in the neighbourhood; but their general conduct being orderly, and every allowance made for the difficulty of keeping so large a force quiet, no particular notice was taken. To proceed with Monday's troubles: Mr. and Mrs. Colby, our American Consul and his wife, were returning from an afternoon walk, and had just reached the settlement when they were considerably inconvenienced by the rude behaviour of some soldiers, who, not content with satisfying their curiosity by looking at the foreign lady, roughly hustled her, at the same time using most disgusting language. A native Municipal policeman expostulated with the rowdies, and told them that they were insulting the American Consul and would get into trouble if they did not desist. Upon this, they turned upon the constable and would

undoubtedly have inflicted serious bodily harm, had not Mr. Constable Nunn came to the rescue. Two of the soldiers were taken prisoners to the British Consulate jail, when their comrades immediately rushed to their place of confinment and endeavoured by force to get their release; the gates, however, were quickly closed, and before they could attain their object, the greater part of the Foreign community had arrived at the Consulate. It was astonishing to see the rapidity in which a crowd of some thousands was collected; the whole face of the hill behind the British Consulate was in a few minutes covered with an excited mob, and the shouts of "Ta, ta, Yang Kwei-tze" were anything but pleasant to the ears of the few for whom they were meant. Some soldiers soon left the gates, saying that it was their intention to proceed to the barracks and return with a body of men sufficient to force an entrance and kill all the foreigners. In the meantime, Mr. Baber, interpreter in charge, sent a courier into the City, and shortly some mandarins arrived and gave assurance that they had taken means to keep the mob down. At about 8.30 P.M., we were enabled to leave the Consulate, a native guard having been placed there for the night. I feel that I have already taken up an undue space in your columns; and some of your readers may, possibly, think this is much a-do about nothing; but as an old resident in China, somewhat familiar with similar outbreaks, and not likely to be unnecessarily alarmed about trifles, I may be believed when I state that at one time the slightest thing would have caused a general outbreak, and the result must have been very disastrous. I cannot close without mentioning the admirable coolness and good judgment displayed by Mr. Baber.

16th June.

AMOY.

There is a great dearth of general news in Amoy. Everything appears to be at a stand-still and under the influence of the great heat. The *Esmeralda* is delayed on account of the coolies declining to leave till after the Dragon festival, which takes place to-morrow. The British Consulate and Custom House are to be pulled down shortly and rebuilt. The master and chief officer of a Spanish steamer here have got themselves into trouble for most inhumanly coal-tarring a poor wretch of a coolie who was straying on board. I may mention that the effect of such treatment is almost equivalent to flaying a man alive, as the tar acts as a powerful caustic. The unfortunate victim of this brutal assault presented himself at the Chinese Hospital in a most pitiable state, and was well looked after by the doctors.—*China Mail.*

CANTON.

The typhoon of the 31st ultimo, while causing great destruction to the smaller craft in the river, also did severe damage to the larger vessels, several trading junks in the river trade having foundered with their cargoes. A passage boat that plied between Canton and Sunooy sailed for the latter place, and when it was sighted, the squalls increased in violence. The passengers were so alarmed that they requested to be landed at the nearest point. This was reluctantly consented to by the captain, but no sooner had the passangers landed than the wind blew with great violence, so that the boat became unmanageable, drifted down the river and was smashed against a rock. A gunner on board was crushed to death by the occurrence.—A boat was seen on the 29th ultimo, going down the river with the tide, having on board eight dead bodies. On enquiry it was found that a rice boat belonging to the Chik Nai Hü village was attacked, and that some of the robbers were caught. The villagers executed summary justice on them, and their bodies were placed in a boat for exposure that people might take warning. —A woman in the Poonyü district was found to have poisoned her aunt, murdered her own son, and tyrannised over her second husband. She was arrested and taken before the gentry of the place. They held a mock trial and passed sentence of death on her. The mode in which the judgment was carried out was equally barbarous. They nailed her hands and feet first to a board, stripped her, placed her in a large tub, and pitched her into the water, with a placard fixed over her setting forth her crimes.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

The case of the Club compradore is still unsettled, and the *Mail* has another very sensible article on the subject, which we reprint and fully endorse. As part of a system of interference with the Colony, the case has grave political importance, and should be summarily dealt with. —A meeting of the Victoria Fire Insurance Company was held on the 8th inst. The resolutions passed at the previous meeting for winding up the Company, were confirmed. Arrangements have been made with the Hongkong and China Fire Insurance Companies to re-insure the Company's risks.—The Chinese Dragon-boat festival was duly observed on the same day.—There were some indications of another gale on the 7th, but they passed off.—The *Daily Press* understands that the Chinese boatwoman who the other day saved the life of a little girl who threw herself into the sea, has been granted a free boat license for the remainder of her life.—Nothing has been heard of any further lives saved from the *Poyang*. Capt. Sands, the Superintendent of the Company, has visited the wreck and made arrangements for saving the machinery, &c. The Committee for raising a subscription for the wife and son of the late Captain Carroll, has been enlarged, and now comprises Hon. P. Ryrie, Messrs. Deacon, André, Magniac, J. J. dos Remedios, Hughes, Cairns, Hayllar, Q.C., and Dr. O'Brien. The H. K. C. and M. S. B. Co. heads the list with $500, and the Directors and Committee make up the sum to about $1,400. H. M. S. *Ringdove* reports that the *Poyang* is going to pieces, and that there are a great many dead Chinese floating about. A junk, with five or six armed Portuguese on board, is now guarding the wreck.—As an illustration of the force of the late typhoon, the *Mail* mentions that a small village near Macao, containing about 100 souls, was struck by a tidal wave, greater even than that during the typhoon of last September. Ninety of the people were killed, the rest escaping with difficulty.—The rumour that Mr. Ribeiro, the purser of the late steamer *Poyang*, with forty others, had been found on an island to the leeward of the Nine Islands is not true. The rumour that Captain Carroll had been saved on an island near the spot has also received no confirmation. It is said that the rumour about Captain Carroll was first brought by the arrival of a small junk of questionable character at Macao, with two sharpers on board, who thought to make a good thing out of the job by spreading the report about first, to make it feasible, and then going to Mrs. Carroll, informing her that they knew where Captain Carroll was, and if she gave them $100 down they would fetch him in their junk. Mrs. Carroll, to make sure of her husband's return, offered $500 if they would bring him back, and was about to advance $100 of it at once to the fellows, but was prevented by her friends, who had them arrested and taken before the Court there and questioned, when their character was ascertained.—An inquest was held in Hongkong on the 9th inst., on the body of a European found on the beach at Lantau, among a quantity of wreckage of the *Poyang*. It was at first thought to be that of Captain Carroll, but the evidence at the inquest convinced the Jury otherwise. It was much decomposed. All hope seems now to have been abandoned that Captain Carroll can have been saved.—It is reported that the Chinese Government have applied, through the regular diplomatic channel, for the admission into the English navy of a number of Chinese cadets.

MACAO.

We learn from the Macao *Independente* that during the last typhoon a Chinese boat laden with timber was wrecked at a place called *Tay-tiu*, near the Monkey Island. The villagers, Chinese custom, took possession of the timber as well as of the wreck, and demanded $600 from the owners, who applied for the restitution of their property. Complaints having been lodged at the Portuguese fort of Taypa, a few soldiers were despatched to the village, but the villagers turned out and opened fire on the soldiers, who were obliged to return to the fort. On the 7th inst., the gunboat *Camões*, having on board twenty-five soldiers and an Ensign, proceeded to the scene of the robbery, and on their landing they had also a hot reception. The soldiers opened fire, two Chinese were killed, the village became deserted, and the owners of the timber recovered all their property.—*Hongkong Times.*

TONQUIN.

The humiliations the French suffered at Hué, when going there for the ratification of the treaty, have already produced their consequences in Tonquin. As I told you before, the Annamites have been picking up all the bandits they were able to find on the Coasts of China to augment the number of "black flags" (*pavillons noirs*), now in their pay, who killed Lieut. Garnier and those poor fellows of the Dupuis' expedition who were prevented from rejoining the main body of their comrades. The Annamites' aim is to try to cut off the trade with Yunnan, and they now keep the river from Hanoi to Lao-kai.—The troopship (? transport) *Indre*, arrived from Tonquin on the 17th instant. The news she brought is to the effect that for some time back (*i. e.*, since the humiliation of the French at Hué above referred to) the Annamese Mandarins in Tonquin have spread the information (*bruit*) all over the country that they are going to finish the French, that the "black flags" are coming down against them, and that the pirates will attack them with their junks from the numerous creeks at the seaside; the poor French, taken between two fires, will all perish.

All this, however, does not signify much, but the poor people (the Tonquinese) suffer much by this state of affairs.

What is certain, is, that the Annamites are trying to enlist the Chinese pirates, who are on the Coasts, for the purpose of making them fight against the French. The Annamites' intention is to frighten the French and prevent the opening of trade.

A note from Tonquin was received by the *Indre*, penned as the transport left. It runs thus:—"At the very last moment Father Dumoulin tells me that Commander Dujardin has just been informed (*prévenu*) of a plot, which has for its aim taking the 'poate' at Hai Phang between two fires. When I say two fires, I am wrong. I mean two ridiculous traps, but the Annamites are not very particular (?) (n'y regardent pas de si près.)

The result of all this is, that they are doing their best to enlist at this moment as

many bandits as possible. These monsters, once in the interior of the country, commit all kinds of atrocities on the people. The Annamese Mandarins let them do so ; they even order them to do so, in order to take revenge for the sympathies the people showed the Dupuis' expedition and the European cause.—*China Mail.*

Saigon, 22nd May.

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* says H. M. S. *Audacious* arrived on the 31st ulto., and left on the following morning for Yokohama.—The U.S.S. *Ashuelot* was to leave in a few days for Shanghai ; she having repaired damages. It will be remembered that her cylinder head cracked as she was starting some weeks ago.—The *Kearsage* was about leaving for Yokohama.—An insurrection is reported as having broken out at Köchi *Ken* in Tosa. Manabe, an officer of the *Ken*, has proceeded there from Yedo for quelling the riot and investigating the grievances of the husbandmen.—General Tom Thumb has a rival turned up in Nagasaki. A few days since an intelligent Japanese about 3 feet in height paid Nagasaki a visit. Some native speculators soon conceived the idea that if they could only secure the person of this little gentleman, a good sum might be made by exhibiting him. Negociations were entered into, and the Japanese public may anticipate the joy of shortly beholding a "dwarf."

HIOGO.

There is very little news worth quoting in Hiogo papers. Captain F. T. Thomson, Professor Wyville Thomson, the Officers and Members of the Scientific Staff of H.M.S. *Challenger*, gave an afternoon dance on the 4th to a party of residents, on board that vessel, which was made as comfortable as possible by the aid of awnings and bunting. Boats were in attendance at the Custom-house landing from half-past one o'clock, and dancing was kept up till six.—The K. R. & A. C. have gallantly placed their Bathing Establishment at the service of the ladies during the summer, from 8 a.m. till noon. —Some great native festival has been going on, one of the most attractive features of which seems to have been a salamander. The animal, however, according to the *News*, had "a decided objection to confinement and to being made a show of. The diameter of the tub in which he was confined was not so long as himself, so he stepped out of it and walked down into an adjoining paddyfield, with his owners in hot chase. By the time he was caught, he and the men were covered with mud from head to foot. Once in the tub again, he was surrounded with a net, and then revenged himself by splashing all the water over the visitors. When he had got rid of nearly all the water, he took the sulks, and refused to eat the small fish given him by the visitors. He has since been sold to a foreigner, and has left in the *Challenger*." —Another article on exhibition is a sun fish —A scratch regatta was held on the 5th.—H.M.S. *Audacious* arrived in harbour on the 8th.

YOKOHAMA.

The only sensation in Yokohama seems to have been the exchange of ratifications of the Peruvian treaty. Senor Benavides, the new Secretary of Legation for Peru at Yeddo, arrived by the *City of Tokio*, bringing the ratifications of the Treaties between Peru and Japan and China. Senor J. F. Elmore received by the same hands the news of his permanent appointment as *Chargé d'Affaires* in Japan and China, and of his having been designated plenipotentiary for the exchange of the ratifications of both the treaties. The 17th May was fixed for the ceremony in Yeddo, and on that day accordingly Dr. Elmore, accompanied by the officers of his Legation, was received at the *Gaimu-sho* by H. E. Terashima Munenori, *Gaimu-kiyo*, the Plenipotentiary specially appointed by H. M. the Tenno, and after the customary ceremonies the Ratifications of the Treaty between Japan and Peru were duly exchanged. We learn that Dr. Elmore will leave for Peking early in the ensuing month, to carry out an identically similar mission, viz., the exchange of the Ratifications of the Treaty between China and Peru.—The *Japan Gazette* gives the following account of a banquet which took place on the evening of 29th ultimo, at the Peruvian Legation, and which was offered by Senor Elmore to the Japanese Cabinet and Foreign Representatives, to celebrate the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty between Peru and Japan. Their Excellencies, Sanjo, the Prime Minister, Iwakura, *U-daijin*, Terashima, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Okubo, Minister of the Interior, Ito, Minister of Public Works, Kido, *Sangi*, and other Ministers and *Sanyi*, with the members of the Diplomatic Corps, attended the *fête*. The interior of the Legation was tastefully adorned with flowers and rare plants, and brilliantly lighted. The entrance to the residence and the garden (which is famous in Tokio for its beauty) were illuminated by six hundred lanterns, each representing the Japanese and Peruvian flags. —After the dinner had been discussed, Mr. Elmore rose and proposed the toast of "The health of H. M. the Emperor of Japan, and the increasing progress of the Japanese Empire." This was responded to by H. E. Sanjo, who proposed, "The health of H. E. the President of Peru, and the prosperity of the Peruvian Republic." In thanking the Foreign Ministers for their presence, referring to the Peruvian Treaty, the last made by Japan and the second with an American nation, the host afterwards gave "The health of the Sovereigns and Presidents of the several States represented, and the prosperity of their respective nations." Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., as the *Doyen* of the *Corps Diplomatique*, in reply expressed the thanks of the Foreign Ministers for the courtesy of the Peruvian *Chargé d'Affaires*, and spoke of the pleasure with which they had all seen Peru take her place among the Treaty Powers, and the manner in which she was so honorably represented. The evening passed off most pleasantly, the Band of the Naval Department, composed of thirty-two musicians, playing at intervals. The entertainment concluded with a splendid display of fireworks, in the garden and on the lake.—The *Japan Mail* says—A review of the Imperial troops by H. I. M. the Mikado took place in the neighbourhood of Narashino Hara on the 31st instant. A small body of cavalry manœuvred, and some excellent practice was made by the artillery. His Majesty returned to Yedo on the following day.—The Government has issued orders that, in view of the boisterous weather which prevails on the coasts of the island of Yezo, all vessels which exceed 74 tons burthen shall in future be constructed in the European fashion.—Another notification announces that all native-owned vessels, built after the foreign model, are permitted to carry firearms for the protection of their crews and passengers.—The news of the complete cession of Saghalien to Russia appears to be doubted in certain Japanese circles, and is even disputed by some of the native newspapers ; but the *Mail* is amply assured of its authenticity. —The Cremation grounds at Senji, Yedo, have once more come into use, in consequence of the withdrawal of the prohibition of this mode of disposing of the dead. —The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the 26th instant, reports the occurrence of an unusually severe hailstorm in the neighbourhood of Hachoji. The country for some 12 miles square was covered, the crops have been totally lost, and the mulcereal berry trees severely damaged.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

May 16th.—Edict punishing an official in Manchuria for laxity in his duties.

(2) Two memorials from Ying-kwei, reporting two appeal cases lodged at the capital by inhabitants respectively of Sze-chuen and Honan. In the one case the appellant's family house was attacked and set fire to by the respondents, and one of the attacking party being killed, a relative of the appellant's was charged with murdering him in broad day, and subsequently died under the infliction of torture in prison. In the other, a younger brother of the appellant's was engaged to be married to a certain young lady, but one of the gentry took a liking to the lady, and the brother being enticed to the house of his affianced was there murdered to smooth the way for his rival—a richer man. A judicial enquiry is asked to be instituted into both cases.

(3) Ching-fuh reports having taken over his duties as Intendant of Newchang, Chingchew and Fung-tien.

(4) Several official changes are reported with his jurisdiction, by the Governor of Yunnan.

May 17th.—(1) An Edict setting forth that the prayers offered up for rain on the 7th of the 4th moon had not been responded to by Heaven, and commanding the Prince of Kung and other of the nobility to repair on the 15th to various Temples, mentioned, to repeat the prayer.

(2) Li Hung-chang, Governor-General of Chihli, makes five representations to the Throne. One, that Fou-tsi, deceased, should be posthumously restored to his original rank of General. Two, an account of repairs to the Yung-ting river during the spring freshets. Three, that a newly appointed Salt Commissioner had taken over the seals of office. Four, removing a Mongolian officer from command over Chinese soldiers, owing to incompetency. Five, recommending four ex-officials for early employment.

May 18th.—(1) The office of commandant of Peking reports the capture of forty-one robbers, and requests that the prisoners be taken over by the Criminal Board.

(2) A decree referring a case of appeal by a woman, Fung-lin, to Tan Chung-liu for adjudication.

(3) The Governor-General of Hu-Kwang, Li Han-chang, and Governor of Hupeh, Eng Tsung-tsioh, report on a conspiracy entered into between a dismissed deputy district magistrate, Sü Cheng-shu, and certain Yamun underlings, Wang-liu and others, to incite the people of Lau-hoken—in the district of Kwang-hwa—to close shops and stop trade. Prohibitory regulations had been put into force to stop the use of spurious cash, and Sü Cheng-shu, being enraged at seizures of false cash made by a Lieutenant-Colonel, Chen Yu-tsuen, resorted to every expedient to create disaffection amongst the people. He first, in conjunction with his confederates, issued written notice to all the shops instigating them to close their shutters, and seeing that this had no effect, on the 11th of the 3rd moon of last year he further hired forty to fifty miserable lads to go about the streets and throw stones into the shops. He further caused one Fung Ma-tsy to collect together sixty or seventy chair-coolies to pass through the town and frighten the people with loud cries. The result was that the residents finally closed their doors ; the salt establishment under charge of Chen Yu-tsuen forming an

exception, Hung Ma-tz led his followers into the place; threw about the salt, and generally looted the establishment. He afterwards proceeded to the camp to create further disturbance, but resistance was here offered; Hung was killed, and his confederates all decamped. The ringleaders, Sü Cheng-shu and Wang-liu were summarily decapitated by special orders at the time, and, after investigation into the affair, several accomplices were sentenced to be strangled, and others to be bambooed and transported. The Magistrate of the locality and the Lieutenant-Colonel are both impeached by separate memorial, for failing to preserve order—the former having first been removed from his post.

May 19th.—(1) Three edicts, in reference to the appointment of a Prefect to an investigation to be held in the Imperial Library, into the capabilities of applicants for Examinership, relating to the approaching examination; and to the division of Kansuh from Shensi, in reference to examination proceedings.

(2) A memorial from the high officials of Kweichow, praying that, in view of the approaching examinations, Examiners be appointed for the province, and the number of degrees to be bestowed be fixed.

(3) Another, from the Governor of the above province, requesting that, in accordance with the established custom requiring the province of Szechuen to provide two million catties of white copper, towards the expenses of the Kweichow examinations; orders be now issued to the said province to furnish, as first instalment, one million catties. The metal is said to be worth Tls. 2.80 per picul.

(4) The Manchu Commander of Chihli recommends various officials, who distinguished themselves in the capture of notorious banditti, for promotion.

May 20th.—(1) The Governor-General of Chekiang, and Governor of Fuhkien, memorialise the Throne, recommending a certain official to the post of Magistrate of Chang-hwa, in Formosa—a position stated to be of great importance.

(2) The above officials further report on an investigation into the escape of felons from the gaol of Tung-tsiang, in the Changpou district, particulars of which had been previously laid before the Throne. Owing to heavy wind and rain, the walls of the prison fell in during the night. The keepers were fast asleep at the time, and the watchman was, further, seeking shelter from the inclemency of the weather, and the prisoners were thus able to make their escape. The gaolers, it is found, were not in collusion with the felons; but for remissness in keeping watch, they are sentenced to one hundred blows each, the punishment being rendered lighter in virtue of the recent Act of grace. The Magistrate, although absent on public duties on the occasion, is still held answerable for not taking proper precautions; and has been dismissed from office.

May 21st.—(1) Several official movements and promotions are gazetted.

(2) Tsung-shih reports on investigations made into affairs at Moukden, in obedience to the Imperial command transmitted on the 17th of the 3rd moon. The rifeness of brigandage in the province is imputed to the laxity and supineness of the officials generally, while several names of important officers are pointed out as being the objects of popular indignation, and whose conduct subjects them to dismissal and disgrace. Referring to an understood regulation, that in no district should more than 20 % of acting officials be allowed, the number of acting posts held is alleged to be far exceeding this limit; and officials are retained in office beyond the prescribed period, owing to an absence of expectant-officials, from whom to draw successors. As a flagrant instance of the effeteness of the Government, a clerk, Hwang Mo-shien, in the Yamên of Moukden, is reported to have exercised for over ten years control over the affairs of the entire province, and under whose evil influence the machinery of Government has become deranged, and the interests of the people completely neglected. The salaries of some of the officials are reported to have been cut down to too low a scale, and as a remedial measure towards stopping corruption and malpractice, a higher scale of pay is deemed necessary. The memorialist here goes on to specify the delinquencies of several officials, with the request that they be degraded and punished, and finishes by the statement that, owing to the utter demoralisation existing, it is actually inexpedient to look too closely for the present into the misdeeds of all the various officials, as complete disorganisation would be the result. He recommends, however, that expectant-officials should be drafted to the province from other quarters, to await employment, and that affairs should be gradually brought to order.

May 22nd.—(1) Several official movements are gazetted.

(2) The Governor of Shansi, Pau Yuen-shun, memorialises at some length, requesting leave to enable him to recruit his health.—Rescript: Pau Yuen-shun is allowed one month.

(3) Ou-tang, Governor-General of Szechuen, memorialises respecting official movements in his province.

(4) The remainder of the *Gazette* is taken up with reports as to Civil Service changes.

May 23rd.—(1) Several reductions and promotions in the Civil Service are gazetted.

(2) The Governor of Anwei reports the completion of a temple erected in obedience to the Imperial will to the memory of a Major-General Chang, who fell while fighting against the Rebels in Hupeh, and requests that the edifice be enrolled in the State list of sacrificial temples; also that the local officials be required every spring and autumn to repair thither, to offer prayers at the altar. The temple is erected at the native town of the deceased—Hohpa, in the prefecture of Loucheu, and is also to be dedicated to the names of his subordinates who fell in the same campaign.

(3) The same Governor further reports that he had removed the Magistrate, Chau Chë-ho, of Hwai-ning, from his post. Chau is stated to be over sixty years of age, and, although his administration of magisterial duties is marked by honesty, care and diligence, his mental vigour has recently been observed to have become somewhat impaired by age. No miscarriage in his conduct of affairs has yet been discovered, but it is deemed expedient, in the public interest, to replace him by an official of a more able and energetic character.

(4) Peng Yu-ling, formerly vice-president of the Board of War, referring to the deep obligations he is under in having been graciously permitted to lay aside the regular cares of office, and, with the exception of a yearly tour of inspection up the Yangtze, to spend his time attending to his health, reports that owing to increasing years — being now past sixty—his constitution is gradually becoming enfeebled, and that, to his other ailments, has been recently added the vomiting of blood. But reflecting on the present reduced condition of the people, on the many embarrassments of the present Government and of the cares of State devolving, by reason of the minority of the present Emperor, on their Majesties the Dowager Empresses, the memorialist deems it the duty of every public servant to be prepared to sacrifice his last drop of blood to the country's weal; and with such views, notwithstanding his present infirm state of health, he purposes to start from Chekiang on the 24th of the 3rd moon on his up-river tour, when he will inspect and make a sweeping enquiry into the state of all the garrison and naval stations along the line.

(5) The Governor of Kiangsu, Wu Yuen-ping, reports on action taken in respect to lessening and abolishing *Li-kin* imposts within his jurisdiction. In view of the still remaining effects of the late ravages of civil war, all measures calculated to foster the resources of the people are deemed to be of the highest importance. An investigation in the various districts of Kiangsu proves that much misery, squalor and depopulation yet exist and, although ten years of peace and tranquility have elapsed, the country has not yet returned to its normal state of prosperity. A consideration of the cause at work points at once to the heavy *Li-kin* duties—higher than in any other province—as the root of the evil, prices of all articles being thereby raised to a high level, and the people finding it difficult to earn sufficient for their subsistence. But the multitudinous and heavy requirements of the Government have to be provided for and met, and any sudden fiscal change becomes a matter of grave difficulty. The only course open is to abolish firstly such imposts as circumstances admit and urgency requires, in order to afford the gradual relief required. Already has the previous Governor repealed, as reported to the Throne, the *Li-kin* on "Keng-shan" rice; and the present memorialist, in view of the theory that "the people are the root of the country, and food the heaven of the people," has deemed it desirable to remove the impost on "Tsung" rice (a glutinous rice not generally used at meals), and other minor edibles. The duty collected on these is further represented to be unimportant, while the benefit to the people will be great. But after consultation with the Intendant of *li-kin* stations, one exception has been made—in the article of yellow peas. The production of these in the province is not large, while the greater portion is exported to Shantung and Manchuria for the purpose of making oil. Their connection with the question of food is of less moment, and the amount of tax collected thereon is also relatively large. In regard to other *li-kin* duties, their gradual abolition will be effected as time and circumstances admit. In the meanwhile, instructions as to the "Tsung" rice and minor edibles have been given to the Soochow and Shanghai *likin* offices—to be further transmitted to all their dependencies.

May 24th.—(1) Several official changes are reported.

(2) The Governor of Honan, Tsien Teng-ming, reports on the trial and award of a case appealed at the Capital. The appellant, a woman, Chang-ee, charged Chang Tung-ming and others with the murder of her husband Chang Peh-chung. Subsequent to a quarrel between the deceased and the respondents, the former's house was entered during the night by a gang of men and the deceased carried away by force. Search was afterwards made by the wife, and the body of her husband found at the bottom of a pond attached by rope to a stone. The wife, owing to the previous quarrel and also to a report given, suspected the respondents of the act, and, failing to gain a conviction, lodged her accusation at the Censorate in Peking. But by a searching trial and investigation made, it is found by the Governor that no suspicion attaches to the respondents, who distinctly proved an *alibi*—being engaged at the time on business elsewhere. The appellant is found guilty of misdemeanour for lodging a false accusation; but the punishment is not to be carried out by reason of the recent Act of grace, and the woman is merely to be placed in charge of her relatives.

(3) Two memorials from the above Governor in respect to official changes within his jurisdiction.

(4) The Examiner of Honan reports on regulations relating to the approaching examination for Chü-jin. Accommodation has been provided in the examination hall for 1,400 candidates. Preliminary examinations are made to weed out the less competent, and thus reduce the number of candidates to the accommodation.

May 25th.—(1) An edict, proclaiming that two successive prayers for rain have resulted in but a few light showers, and commanding that prayers be again reverently offered up on a large scale. The assistance of Tauist and Buddhist priests is to be enlisted on this occasion. A long list of temples which the Princes are respectively to repair to, is given.

(2) A memorial from the Governor-General of Szechuen, respecting the filling up of the post of a colonelcy rendered vacant by death.

(3) Ming-an memorialises that, on the 4th of the first moon of this year, he received a command, through the Board of Rites, to convey the late Emperor's testamentary proclamation to Corea. Subsequently, on the 9th of the second moon, he received another command to convey a manifesto relating to the enthronement, on the 20th of the first moon, of the present Emperor. In obedience to these orders, the memorialist announces that he will start from Sheng-ching (Manchuria), in company with the assistant-envoy, for Corea on the 15th of the third moon.

(4) A memorial from Toh-hua, requesting leave for two months.

(5) Ee-shi memorialises as to resuming sacrificial ceremonies to the Sea Gods of Mongolia, and to assembling and giving a banquet to all the Mongolian alliance-chiefs. These proceedings have been in abeyance for 6 years, owing to disturbance at Si-ning 西甯 and the route being intercepted; and it is now proposed to start during the autumn to follow up and carry into force old regulations. (Note.—The Sea Gods are said to pertain to a sea originally existing in Mongolia, and now dried up.)

May 26th—(1) The Imperial assent to several promotions or appointments is recorded.

(2) The remainder of the *Gazette* is taken up by two reports from Shui-lien in reference to the selection and appointment of two magistrates to posts beyond the border, and also with another in regard to the instalment of a garrison commander in Kwangtung.

May 27th—(1) An Edict announcing the arrival in the capital of the remains of the late Viceroy at Canton, Juy-ling, and appointing a Manchu noble, Tsai-cheng, to go with 10 officers of the Imperial Guard, to offer an oblation before the coffin—that the Imperial regard for old and trustworthy ministers be thereby manifested.

(2) The commander at the Shan-hai barrier reports having captured a suspicious character, Chang-ta, who was under sentence of banishment at Ping-hiang, and had been found outside the limits prescribed.

(3) Shuy-lien reports having despatched an official to continue the survey and partition amongst the banner battalions, of ground comprised in the Imperial hunting grounds. The survey had been interrupted by cold weather. The amount of land already portioned out to the white banner battalion is stated to be over 200 ching, *i.e.*, 20,000 *mow*.

(4) Another report from Shuy-lien respecting measures taken to centralise the authority over affairs in the Imperial hunting grounds.

(5) A memorial in regard to prolonging the term of office of one of the custodians of the Imperial tombs.

May 28th—(1). Edict degrading an expectant sub-Prefect, Sung Kwang-liang, for being short in certain military stores and equipments, and precluding him from ever rejoining the service.

(2) A report from Ee-chen, now engaged at the works of the Mausoleum for the late Emperor, "The ten thousand years happy ground of the valley of universal felicity"—stating that in obedience to commands conveyed, he had deputed another officer to undertake repairs to the "Eastern sepulchre of filial piety," a schedule of the expenses of which will be submitted to the Throne.

(3) A vice-President of the Board of Revenue of Sheng-ching, Kung-tang, reports that his yamun caught fire, several rooms being burnt, but having been promptly extinguished no public records had been sacrificed to the flames. The expenses of rebuilding he will himself disburse; but, conscious of want of management in allowing such a cotastrophe to occur, he desires to be handed over to the Board for punishment.

(4) The new Governor-General of the two Kwangs, Ying-ü, reports having arrived at his port and returns thanks for the bountiful mark of heavenly (royal) favor of which he is the object. After giving up the seals of office of the Governorship of An.wei, he hastened to prostrate himself at the Imperial gate to receive on his knees the royal command. Devine grace suffised itself from above. The heavenly words were replete with wisdom and penetration. Your slave cannot express the respectful emotions by which he was overcome. In obedience thereto he at once quitted the capital and went with all speed to Kwang-tung, by sea route. On the 24th of the 2nd moon he reached the Provincial Capital, where the Governor and also acting Governor-General Chang Chau-tung had deputed the Prefect of Kwang-chow and the acting brigadier-general of the centre of the Provincial army to convey to and hand over 1°, the seal of the Governor-General, 2° the sealed patent of the salt service, and 3° the Imperial flag warrant and various documents. Your slave thereupon reverently placed before himself on incense-altar, and with his face towards the Imperial palace, prostrated his head to the ground and devoutly entered into the duties of office. The Governor-General here refers to the many important duties to be attended to, and his determination to administer affairs with a firm and determined hand. In concluding, he takes the oppotunity to remark that while passing through Tientsin, Shanghai, &c. he observed that the young wheat was sprouting luxuriantly, that rains had been seasonable and equitable, and that the people were peaceful and happy. As such circumstances must be gratifying to the Imperial feelings of solicitude for the national welfare, he deems it fitting to embody the fact in his memorial.

(5) Tsai Kang Yung-eh reports that he had inspected certain trees presented and planted around the Imperial Graves. The trees were a gift of an officer of the Imperial household and a Major-General, and consist of 2,500 and 1,041 cypress trees planted respectively about two of the graves The cost at the regulation price Tls. 1.45 per tree is stated to amount to Tls. 5,158.1.7.4.8 besides on account of Tls. 1,322.10 for removing bricks and planting. The donors had already expressed a wish that their names should not be put forward as expectants of reward, but the memorialist decrees that such acts should not be passed over without notice, and accordingly recommends them both as objects for Imperial mark of favor.—Rescript: Let the Board deliberate, and deal with the case munificently.

Public Meetings.

SHANGHAI AND HONGKEW WHARF COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 15th June, to consider the proposed agreement with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. for the combined working of the Company's wharves with Hunt and Heard's wharves. The chair was taken by C. J. King, Esq., and there were also present, Messrs. J. H. Bromley, A. Hennequin, H. Sutherland, G. H. Noetzli, J. F. Rodewald, J. B. Tootal, R. S. Gundry, J. P. Bisset, F. B. Johnson, W. Kidner, J. Macgregor (Provand & Co.), F. A. Groom, A. Thurburn, F. Nissen, A. Little, H. A. Laurence, and C. L. Simpson.

The CHAIRMAN, after waiting nearly half-an-hour, and no other shareholder appearing, said there were now a sufficient number present to carry out the business of the meeting, which was to vote certain alterations in the Company's deed of settlement, to enable the directors to carry out the proposed agreement with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. The alterations in the deed of settlement had been drawn up, after consultation, by their legal adviser, Mr. Drummond, and he (the Chairman) would now read them as follows:—In Clause 29, after the words "superintendence of the Board," it was proposed to introduce the words—"within two months of the said 30th June and 30th September."

The next alteration was in Clause 53, at the end of which it was proposed to add

"Provided that it shall be competent to the Board, under any agreement approved by any general meeting or extraordinary meeting of the Company for the working of other Wharves in connection with their own Wharves, to grant to the owners of such other Wharves for the period of such agreement, the power from time to time by a memorandum in writing, to be left at the office of the Company, to elect and appoint to the office of Directors and Chairman of the Company the senior representative for the time being of the firm of such owners in Shanghai, and the person so appointed shall therefore be and become Director and Chairman accordingly, notwithstanding any want of qualification, or any other rule of the Company to the contrary notwithstanding."

The meeting would understand that that was in connection with the senior partner of Jardine, Matheson & Co. being the Chairman of the Company. To Clause 64, it was proposed to add a 6th article, to this effect,—

It may enter into and take steps necessary for carrying out and making binding any agreement approved by any general meeting or extraordinary meeting of the Company for the working of other wharves in connection with those of the Company, and may appoint the owners or agents of such other wharves general agents and treasurers of the Company for the period of any such agreement, and make all arrangements necessary or proper for carrying out any such agreement.

Those alterations had been considered sufficient to enable the Company to carry out the proposed agreement, and he would, therefore put them to the meeting.

Only two hands were held up in disfavour, and the alterations were declared carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that was the whole business of the first meeting, and it being now half-past three o'clock, they would proceed with that of the second meeting. He had only to call attention to the circular which had been circulated among the shareholders that morning, which was a redraft of the former proposed agreement, by Mr. Drummond, in better form than the original appeared to them. The directors would, therefore, ask the shareholders to adopt the redraft as the sense of the previous draft, which they passed at a former meeting, and he would put the matter to them in the form of a resolution:—

That the redraft of the agreement of this date, now submitted to this meeting, be adopted; and that the Board of Directors of

the Company be hereby empowered and instructed to carry out the said agreement.

The meeting had just before enabled the Directors to do so, and what he now asked was for them to empower the Directors to act upon the alterations, and give effect to the proposals.

Mr. Bromley seconded, and the resolution was carried with only the same two dissentients.

The following is the Memorandum of agreement, as re-drafted :—

I.—That Hunt's and Heard's Wharves shall be worked by the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company in conjunction with the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf.

II.—That Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company shall be appointed General Agents and Treasurers of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company under the Rules of the Company, but to hold office during the continuance of this Agreement, and shall regularly and properly perform under the directions of the Board and the Rules of the Company the duties of those offices, and as such General Agents shall have, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Company, the power of appointing and removing the Managers and other officers and employés of the Wharves.

III.—That Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company shall from time to time during the continuance of this Agreement, name and appoint to the office of Director and Chairman of the said Company the Senior representative for the time being of their firm in Shanghai.

IV.—That the joint annual net earnings of the Wharves (if any) up to Tls. 54,200 Shanghai Sycee shall be divided and appropriated in the proportion of Tls. 30,000 Shanghai Sycee to Hunt's and Heard's Wharves and Tls. 24,200 Shanghai Sycee to Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf, and beyond that sum in equal moieties.

V.—That the General Working Account of the Wharves shall be debited with the expenses necessary to the business, such as Coolie Hire, General Disbursements, Office Charges, Fire Insurance, Municipal Taxes, the Rent of the Sailors' Home frontage, Directors' Fees, Commissions, and all ordinary and necessary repairs to the Wharves and premises of the character usually borne by Tenants, as well as the repair of existing wooden structures.

VI.—That all buildings shall be put in an efficient and serviceable state of repair (to the satisfaction of a surveyor if required) by the parties to whom they respectively belong, on this arrangement being decided upon and made binding.

VII.—That out of the profits divided between them, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves on the one part, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company on the other part, shall each severally and separately pay the expenses that are usually borne by Landlords, the maintenance of existing accommodation, the reconstruction of old buildings otherwise than of wood, and the cost of dredging or otherwise keeping deep and serviceable the water in front of their respective properties, or of extending by the aid of pontoons or otherwise the landing stages as far as necessary.

VIII.—That in case of any expenditure required for the construction of New Buildings (not the re-erection of old buildings) upon either of the properties respectively, or for the extension of the accommodation of the respective Wharves, the sums expended shall be provided by the respective owners of the Wharf on which the same is to be expended, and interest at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum shall be paid on all sums so expended and such interest shall be debited in the General Working Account, and be paid to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company or the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company as the case may be.

IX.—That it being desirable to retain no more land than is amply sufficient for all Wharf purposes, keeping in view the probable extension of business and the prudence of reserving abundant accommodation to meet it, the surrender is agreed upon of land 200 feet in depth along the Hongkew Road frontage of Heard's Wharf (about 6½ *mow*) to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.; 100 feet in depth along the Broadway frontage East of late Olyphant's Wharf to the "Chaou Fung" road, and 275 feet in depth along the Broadway frontage of Ranlet's land (in all about 24 *mow*) to the shareholders of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, whenever either party desires to take advantage of such arrangement ; as well as any other portions of the respective properties as may hereafter be mutually agreed upon, so long as the withdrawal of all or any portion of such land is not detrimental to the interest of the combined Wharves. Buildings affected by the surrender of any land are to be replaced by equivalent accommodation on the front or other part of the respective properties, at the separate cost of the party to whom such surrender is made.

X.—That if it shall at any time appear, on taking the Profit and Loss Account of the said Wharves up to the 30th June in any year, that there is such an amount of profits actually realized and standing to the credit of the said account, as would suffice for the payment of an interim dividend, the Board shall forthwith set apart such amount up to, but not exceeding, Tls. 27,100 Shanghai Sycee and divide and appropriate it between the Wharves in the proportions in which profits are herein agreed to be divided.

XI.—That on the First day of February in each year, or within one month of that date, the accounts of the Wharves shall be made out and balanced to the Thirty-first day of December then last past.

XII.—That Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company as General Agents for the Wharves shall charge 5 per cent. commission on the gross earnings of the combined Wharves in full of all charges for the General Management.

XIII.—That the Agreement between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company as representing Hunt's and Heard's Wharves, and the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, shall extend to the 30th day of June 1887, when it shall terminate, unless otherwise arranged ; but in the event of the silting up of the river, rendering the frontage of the respective properties useless for the berthing of vessels, or other circumstances rendering the respective Wharves unavailable for their intended purposes, it shall be competent for either party to retire from the Agreement on giving 12 months' notice in writing to that effect.

XIV.—That this Agreement shall commence and take effect upon and from the 1st day of July 1875.

XV.—Whenever any difference shall arise between the Company and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company as Owners of Hunt's and Heard's Wharves touching this arrangement or any matter arising thereunder, such difference shall be referred to arbitration under the 74th and subsequent Rules of the Company. Provided that no Director or Chairman nominated by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company shall vote at the Board nominating the arbitrator to act on behalf of the Company.

The Chairman said it had just occurred to him to say a word on another subject. The Directors, in conjunction with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. had not quite come to the conclusion whether it would be desirable or not in any way to alter the name of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company. It had been suggested that it might be styled in the Warrants, the "Associated Wharves," but, as he had said, nothing had been decided.

No observation followed, and the Chairman announced that the business was terminated.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 7th June, 1875.

Present :—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, W. Kidner, A. A. Krauss, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting was taken as read.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed.

The Cash State for the 5th instant was laid on the table for inspection.

Land Tax.—Read letter from Messrs. Fogg & Co., handing cheque for Tls. 350 in payment of Land tax due by Mr. W. H. Fogg, for which judgment had been given in the United States Consular Court.

Bridges — Yang-king-pang. — Read the following letter from the French Municipal Council :—

(Translation.)

Shanghai, 3rd June, 1875.

Sir,—Before replying in a direct manner to the letter you did me the honor to address to me on the 24th May, I would ask your permission to first draw your attention both to the standing of the "Conseil Municipal" of the French Concession amongst the foreign community of Shanghai, and to the nature of their relations with the Municipal Council.

The Municipal autonomy of the Concession has been acknowledged by means of a convention signed at Peking, on the 24th of September, 1869, by the representatives of Foreign Powers. The Municipal Administration presiding over the destinies of the amalgamated English and American Concessions have also seen their regulations confirmed by the same convention. The two Municipalities, whose Chairmen you and I have the honor to be, having been born under the auspices of the Representatives of Foreign Powers, who are their protectors, have consequently the same origin, and, in case of contest, they must be brought back by those representatives to the co-operative principle of their origin.

Placed side by side, and though having separate Administrations, the two Municipalities had, during a long time, given the salutary sight of good harmony and "entente cordiale." Little preoccupation was consequently evinced till now, as to who should be the judges to decide administrative differences that might arise. It is impossible, however, to ignore the existence of such judges ; and it is but logical to think that they are the representatives of Foreign Powers. Not to admit of any would be a denial of the principle of all societies, which always gives the right of appeal to the party who thinks himself wronged ; and, not to recognize as judges those who have brought about the existence of the two Municipalities, and who are consequently their guardians would, by this very fact, almost amount to ignoring their existence.

It is quite certain that, as to any action only concerning its own Municipality, each Board is answerable to its constituents, and can appeal to them as to its line of conduct ; but as to any action implicating the co-operation or the responsibility of the two Municipalities, one alone cannot pretend to force the votes of its constituents upon the other Municipality. To admit such a possibility, would be tantamount to countenancing an illegality, as one of the fundamental principles of the two Municipalities consists in the sanction by the Foreign Powers of their separate existence. Any subversive act of this constituting principle of the right held by the French Concession to exist with a separate administration is, therefore, illegal and unconstitutional.

Nevertheless, the Municipality North of the Yang-king-pang, trusting to a vote of its Electors, declares that unless the Southern Municipality yield to its financial claim, it would see their dividing bridges fall to ruins ; then, still trusting to a vote of its Electors, the Northern Municipality takes necessary steps to annex the Southern Municipality, under pretence that the Administrative system would thereby be simplified, more economical, and would avoid all differences of opinion.

Does not this amount to setting aside the conventions sanctioning the separate existence of the two Municipalities ?

These attempts to modify the constitution of the French Concession naturally bring about the overthrow of its "Conseil Municipal." As entertained by the Municipal Council, they are, to say the least and to use the most benign term, an anomaly, as the two Councils derive their existence, such as it is to-day, from the same convention. These attempts are, besides, a painful burden to the Municipal Council, as they have thrust upon it the odd part of taking steps to suppress the principle to which the French Municipal Administration owes its existence, at the same time transacting business and giving assurances of its spirit of conciliation, and of its desire to maintain amicable relations—giving a friendly shake of one hand and hitting with the other. Such was the painful situation

thrust upon the Municipal Council on the day it undertook, at the instance of its electors, at the meeting of June, 1874, to take the necessary steps to bring about the amalgamation of the Municipalities.

It cannot of course be contended that the Electors or Landrenters have not the right to submit directly to the Consular Body any modification they may see fit to propose, but is it to be admitted that the Municipal Council receive and accept the authorization to request the Consular Body to suppress its colleague and co-operator, whose existence is guaranteed by that body itself?

It cannot be denied that the French Board evinced great moderation in not taking offence at the manner its existence was discussed, but this moderation originated, perhaps, from the confidence it reposed in its privileges, and consequently in its vitality, for, it is time to say it, the stir which has been set in motion for the last year against the homogeneity of the French Concession, which has been a cause of contention to be regretted,—is without object. It is without object, as the amalgamation of the French Concession could only take place with the consent of the French Government, who, in a quite recent despatch addressed to the Consul-General for France at Shanghai, rejected the idea in a most distinct manner.

The French Concession having established its right to a separate existence, the duty of its Board is quite clear; it is to maintain this state of things, and to apply to the French Consul whenever they are attacked.

It is for that reason, Sir, that, thinking the Municipal Council has deviated from the convention regulating the separate existence of the two Municipalities, in undertaking the necessary steps to destroy the French Concession and refusing its Board to co-operate, even temporarily, in works of public interest unless it endorsed the views of the Municipal Council with respect to the expenses,—my colleagues and myself have resolved to apply to whom it may concern, in order that the principle to which we owe our origin may be respected.

That cannot be considered as a threat, and it is to be regretted such a word should have occurred in your letter of 24th May, as such is neither intended by this Board, nor contained in the terms of the letter I was directed to write, to inform you of the defensive measure this Board intended to pursue in order to protect the Municipality they represent, and which you sought to annihilate. The main object of this Board is to settle once for all, which is the superior tribunal supposed to judge the divergencies of opinion between the two Municipal Councils, in order that misunderstandings, as little profitable to our constituents as painful to ourselves (such as those which have but too often sprung up for the last year), may not recur.

This Council has been astonished in the utmost at the manner in which you misrepresent their attitude in the matter of the *quota* for outlay in bridges to be ascribed to each Municipality, as nothing in their correspondence authorizes you to say this:—"In effect your position amounts to this: You claim the liberty of saying how much you will pay towards-maintaining the bridges, but deny us the same privilege."

I am rather embarrassed to answer negatively to such an assertion, to which I can but oppose, without any attenuation whatever, the exact views of the "Conseil," abstracted from their letter I had the honor to forward to you on 29th March, and which contained their views expressed at length:

"The wish of the French Municipality is to share the expenses for maintaining the bridges only according to what they think a fair proportion . . . . . The existence of bridges is of a necessity not to be discussed; what *can* be, is the share of expenses to be borne by each Municipality. . . . . . The "Conseil" has consented to an order made by the Municipal Council for an iron bridge intended to replace the present wooden (No. 1) bridge. We think it indispensable that this order be forwarded without delay, and that each Municipality's *quota* towards its expense be ultimately settled, if your own Board consent to it, by an arbitration based on facts and figures, and stating in a general way in what proportion the expenses for maintaining the Yang-king-pang Bridges ought to be equitably assessed, so that the one's exchequer may not be protected to the detriment of the others. I have no doubt such can only be the desire of the Municipal Council and it is simply this Board's. . . . . "Should your Administration forward the order, this Board is quite prepared to pay, meantime, either a third or half the outlay, on the condition that a reimbursement shall be effected by the Municipality which, according to the decision of the Arbitrators, should have paid more than its share of expenses and maintenance towards the Yang-king-pang Bridges." . . . . . .

The summing up of those quotations shows that this Board only expressed a belief, a wish, and simply made a proposal. They think the share assigned to each Municipality open to argument. They wish to arrive at an equitable settlement, in order that one Municipality's exchequer may not be protected to the detriment of the other's. And lastly, they propose to have recourse to Arbitrators before whom your Board could, without any doubt, have exposed their reasons.

That is far from resembling the tyrannical and puerile pretensions you imputed to our Board, in the sentence you took the trouble to underline.

This Council, although regretting a conflict it was not in their power to prevent, can only deplore their misfortune in finding your Board opposed, to-day, to a mode of settlement you, yourselves, proposed yesterday, and which you succeeded in inducing the French Council to adopt.

It is noticeable, indeed, that so soon as the Consular Body had advised the two Councils to have recourse to arbitration for the settlement of encroachments on the Yang-king-pang, the French Council, at the request of your Board, hastened to consent to their indications; whereas, in the present discussion, resulting from the division of expenses for bridges, the Municipal Council rejects, without even discussing it, a similar mode of settlement by arbitration proposed, this time, by the French Administration.

Nothing is, therefore, left to this Council, but to appeal to the Consular Body in order to stop the execution of motion No. 3, proposed by the meeting of Landrenters, and I have the honor to inform you that I have just requested the Consul for France to place the matter before the Consular Body.

(Signed) A. VOISIN.

J. G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman Municipal Council.

While the Board regretted the French Council should have used the tone they have, they thought it best only to acknowledge the letter, protesting, however, against the light in which the French Council placed the matter. A draft reply to this effect was read, when it was decided to add to it a resumé of the matter. The Board were of opinion that while a question relating to a boundary or width of a watercourse belonging to Chinese between the Settlements might be a fair subject for arbitration, they did not think the amount Ratepayers must expend on bridges was, and fail to see how stating their willingness to pay what they consider a fair and liberal share towards the bridges can be construed into a desire to suppress the neighbouring Municipality.

It would be preferable in the opinion of this Board to propose to the Ratepayers that they should bear all the cost of the Bridges, for the sake of peace and good relations with the French Council, than to propose they should bear 2/3rds on the ground that it is a just and fair proportion. It is a matter in the discretion of the Ratepayers how much they will vote for maintaining the bridges.

The following reply was agreed upon:—

A. VOISIN, Esq., Chairman,
French Municipal Council.

SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of 3rd inst., in which you inform me that you have taken steps to have the matter of the division of the cost of bridges over the Yang-king-pang placed before the Consular Body.

This Council are of opinion that no good can arise from any further correspondence, and would therefore simply acknowledge receipt of your letter, did they not feel compelled in justice to themselves to put on record their earnest objection to your way of treating the subject.

They deny that it is they who have taken the initiative, or who have acted in the aggressive in this matter, or that they are those on whom the responsibility of the difficulty must rest—on the contrary, it was your Council who declared they would not bear more than one-third of the expenses of the cost of the bridges, and as this Council are of opinion that that is not a fair proportion, and that the Ratepayers on this side ought not to be taxed for the full cost of all other bridges, and then for two-thirds of the Yang-king-pang bridges, they simply replied they could not bear more than one-half the cost. They consider they have the same right to say this as your Council have to say they will not bear but one-third; to deny this seems to this Council, as I have already said, to claim the liberty of declaring how much you will bear, but to deny us the same privilege; and as they did not inaugurate the change, any difficulty which arises must rest with those who did. It was not until after this, when the result of your step became apparent, that you proposed arbitration at Peking, but for reasons given this Council did not approve of it.

Although it will extend this letter to a much greater length than first intended, the Council consider that perhaps it will be as well to state here what has taken place.

There was an arrangement in 1871, between the two Municipalities, regarding the division of the taxes on wheelbarrows, which was made subject to any alteration experience might point out, and either party were at all times at liberty to withdraw from it. This Council as far back as 1872 informed yours they wished to do so, and substitute a more equitable one, as they believe yours would have done had it borne as unequally against your Municipality as it did against this. Your Council objected, and, without suggesting any other mode of settlement, replied, if the arrangement was not carried on, our wheelbarrows would be interdicted on your Settlement. This Council, always anxious to maintain amicable relations, allowed the division as it was to continue, stating distinctly they reserved to themselves the right to re-consider the question. Accordingly, by the next year, when this inequality was becoming greater, they again referred to the matter, and, in consequence, gave notice that they could not go on with it as before, expressing their willingness to consider any other proposition your Council might make, and suggesting to divide the fees in the proportion of two-thirds to this, and one-third for your Settlement, or that each Municipality should retain the fees derived from its own licences; and, verbally, at a meeting of delegates, proposed to place wheelbarrows on the same footing as jinrikshas—that is, each Council to issue its own licences,—the number and rate to be equal for both Settlements, and limited; and they are still willing to come to an arrangement on any of these bases.

Nothing, this Council consider could be fairer than this, but to this your Council replied that if we did not continue the arrangement as to the tax in question, you would not bear one-half of the cost of bridges. With these facts before them, this Council is at a loss to understand the tone of your letter, which would imply that this Council had assumed an aggressive and arbitrary position.

If there is any forcing of votes of one Municipality on the other, or of cutting off one Settlement from the other, it is assuredly not the work of this Council.

This Council believe there is no more proper quarter to appeal to than the sense of right and fairness that exists in a large community—they do not believe the public would sanction any act of injustice that would bring in conflict the two Settlements, and it is with the knowledge of accountability to the community, coupled with their sincere belief in the justness of their cause, that has ever been before the Council in their action.

Finally, they repudiate one and all most distinctly the insinuation that they have been in the slightest influenced in their action by the resolution of June 1874, regarding the amalgamation of the Municipalities North and South of the Yang-king-pang, to which you refer; they did not accept that resolution, nor

had they anything to do with it, and they deeply regret that you should have allowed yourself to so intimate, and to bring into the correspondence an element that cannot but do harm.

I delay replying to your other letter of same date until the main question is settled.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
John G. Purdon,
Chairman.

Removal of Free Ferry — Cleaning out Soochow Creek.—Draft letter to the Consular Body was read and approved.

Yuen-Fong Road.—Determined to communicate with the owners of the gate which has been placed across this road, regarding its removal.

General Hospital. — Consideration of matters connected with the General Hospital was deferred to a special meeting.

Reports from Heads of Departments were laid on the table.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were approved, and passed for publication

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CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 25 Mai, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents :— MM. Hennequin, F. D. Hitch, E. Leroy, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. H. Scott ; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Seaman, absent de Shanghaï, n'a pu assister à la séance.

Lecture est donnée d'une lettre du Secrétaire du Municipal Council, ainsi conçue :—

Shanghai, 20th May, 1875.

H. Sayn, Esq.,
Secy., French Municipal Council.

Sir,—As a preliminary step towards agreeing upon a width for the Yang-king-pang Creek, to be observed in future by each Municipality, the Council would suggest that the Engineers of the two Councils should meet and discuss the line they would recommend, each reporting the result to his respective Council.—I am, Sir, &c.

Edward B. Souper,
Secretary.

La réponse suivante présentant les vues du Conseil sera faite par le Secrétaire :—

Shanghaï, 26 Mai, 1875.

Monsieur,—J'ai soumis au Conseil la lettre que vous m'avez écrite le 20 de ce mois, pour me prévenir que le Municipal Council, proposait, pour arriver à déterminer la largeur qui devrait être conservée à l'avenir au Yang-king-pang, d'en faire d'abord faire l'étude par les Ingénieurs des deux Municipalités qui communiqueraient à leurs administrations respectives le résultat de leurs travaux.

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil, entrant dans les vues de votre administration, a chargé M. Henry du travail spécial que l'étude de la ligne future de quais de Yang-king-pang nécessitera. Le Conseil met à la disposition de votre Ingénieur et de M. Henry tous les documents, ayant trait à cette question, appartenant aux archives municipales, et il espère que votre administration voudra bien de son côté, faciliter les recherches nécessaires à l'étude que ces messieurs seront chargés de faire. Votre lettre, au reste, répond à une proposition de ce Conseil exprimée dans la lettre que le Président a eu l'honneur d'adresser le 29 Avril dernier à son collègue du Municipal Council, mais elle ne répond pas à une autre partie de sa lettre. En effet, il informait le Président du Municipal Council que l'Administration Française allait faire procèder sans retard à l'erection du pont en fer No. 4 et qu'elle priait votre Administration de faire pousser, de son côté, les travaux de la culée Nord de façon à ce qu'il n'y eût aucun délai apporté à la pose du dit pont. Cette partie de la lettre du Président n'a pas reçu de réponse.

Relativement à la culée Nord il serait utile de savoir si votre Administration entend la renforcer en lui laissant la même inclinaison ou en lui donnant une inclinaison plus prononcée pour augmenter sa force, tout en laissant la base de la culée dans la position où elle se trouve placée.

Je suis aussi chargé de vous faire remarquer que les ponts du Yang-king-pang présentent des hauteurs différentes au dessus du niveau de l'eau, ainsi que vous pouvez le remarquer dans le relevé suivant.

Hauteur à haute marée ordinaire.

		Metres.		Pieds et pouces anglais.
Pont No.	1	2.47	=	8.1
,, ,,	2	2.50		8.2
,, ,,	3	2.70		9.0½
,, ,,	4	2.78		9.1¼
,, ,,	5	1.67		5.5½
,, ,,	6	2.18		7.0½
,, ,,	7	1.85		6.1
,, ,,	8	1.61		5.3

Le peu d'élévation de certains de ces ponts annihile l'avantage pour la navigation que présentent les ponts les plus élevés. Le Conseil pense qu'il serait bon qu'une hauteur fixe fut déterminée pour chaque pont par les deux administrations, et serait d'avis que si quelques ponts sont trop bas, le pont No. 4, en revanche, le plus élevé de tous, présente peut-être une trop grande élévation au dessus de l'eau si l'on tient compte de la position en contre bas des abords Sud et Nord du pont.

Espérant, Monsieur, que vous voudrez bien me transmettre une réponse aussitôt qu'il vous sera loisible de le faire, je vous prie d'agréer l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Le Secrétaire,
H. Sayn.

Monsieur E. B. Souper,
Secrétaire du Municipal Council.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council.

"A. Voisin, Esq.,
" President of the French Council.

"Sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., in which, after informing me that your Council do not claim to interefere with the relations between this Council and its constituents, you go on to say that you are astonished that we should ask the sanction of our Ratepayers to our bearing only one-half the cost of the Bridges over the Yang-king-pang, and threaten us that if we give effect to such sanction, you will appeal to some other quarter to have it determined in a different manner.

"Passing over the fact that this seems to this Council to bear a very close resemblance to interference between them and their constituents, I may point out that in effect your position amounts to this : *You claim the liberty of saying how much you will pay towards maintaining the Bridges, but deny us the same privilege.*

" This Council content themselves with saying they cannot alter the determination to pay only one-half of the cost.

"They at present bear *all* the expenses of the large and costly Bridges over the Soochow and Hongkew Creeks, as well as those over the Defence Creek, within this Settlement, all of which are as much of a necessity to residents on your side as the Yang-king-pang Bridges are, and they consider they are acting very liberally in offering to pay, in addition, one-half of these latter.

" With regard to the change from the proposed iron bridge to a wooden one at the Bund, you will agree with me no doubt, that it was quite within the province of this Council to obtain the opinion of the Ratepayers before they suggested the change to the French Council, for had that opinion been in favour of the iron one, there would have been no need to suggest any change. As it is, this Council will have the pleasure of placing before you the reasons that induce them to think a wooden one preferable ; but as no definite action was taken, this Council consider they are in a position still to agree to an iron one, should it appear, after discussion on the subject with you, desirable ; and if in the meantime, the bearing the half cost of the Bridges is agreed to by your Council.—I am, Sir, &c.

" J. G. Purdon,
" *Chairman.*"

Le Conseil décide que les réponses suivantes seront faites a cette lettre :—

Shanghai, le 3 Juin 1875.

Monsieur.—Avant de répondre d'une facon directe à la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 24 Mai, je vous demanderai la permission d'attirer, d' abord, votre attention tant sur la position du Conseil Municipal de la Concession française dans la communauté étrangère à Shanghai, que sur la nature de ses relations avec le Municipal Council.

L'autonomie Municipale de la Concession a été reconnue par une convention signée à Pékin le 23 Septembre, 1869, par les représentants des puissances étrangères. De son côté l'administration municipale qui préside aux destinées des concessions anglaises et américaines fusionnées a été confirmée dans ses réglements par la même convention. Les deux municipalités, dont vous et moi, avons l'honneur d'être présidents, étant nées sous les auspices des représentants des puissances étrangères qui sont leurs protecteurs, ont, donc, la même origine, et, en cas de lutte, doivent être ramenés par eux au principe coopératif de leur origine.

Placées à côté, tout en ayant des administrations séparées, les deux municipalités avaient donné pendant longtemps le spectacle de la bonne harmonie et de l'entente cordiale. Aussi, s'était-on peu préoccupé, jusqu'ici, de savoir quels seraient les juges des différents administratifs qui pourraient surgir ; il est impossible, cependant, d'admettre qu'il n'en existe pas, et il est logique de penser que ces juges sont les représentants des puissances étrangères. N'en pas admettre serait nier le principe de toute société qui donne toujours le droit d'appel à celui qui se croit lésé, et ne pas reconnaître pour juges ceux qui ont crée l'existence séparée des deux municipalités, et en sont par conséquent les garants, serait presque nier par celà même cette existence.

Il est bien certain que pour toute action n'engageant que sa propre municipalité, chaque Conseil se trouve vis-à-vis de ses constituants et peut leur demander de lui prescrire une ligne de conduite ; mais, pour toute action qui entraine la coopération ou la responsabilité des deux municipalités, une d'elles ne peut prétendre imposer le vote de ses constituants à l'autre municipalité. Admettre cette possibilité c'est chevaucher dans le domaine de l'illégalité, puisque l'un des principes fondamentaux des deux municipalités est la consécration par les puissances étrangères de l'existence séparée de ces municipalités ; tout acte subversif de ce principe constituant du droit de la Concession française d'exister avec une administration séparée est donc illegal ou inconstitutionnel.

Cependant la Municipalité nord du Yang-king-pang se faisant appuyer d'un vote de ses Electeurs déclare que si la Municipalité sud ne cède pas à ses exigences financières elle laissera tomber en ruines les ponts mitoyens ; puis, toujours appuyée d'un vote de ses Electeurs, la Municipalité Nord fait les demarches nécessaires pour englober la Municipalité sud, sous prétexte que cela rendrait le systeme administratif plus simple, plus économique et éviterait toute divergence d'opinion.

N'est-ce pas là se mettre au dessus des conventions qui ont sanctionné les existences séparées des deux municipalités ?

Les demandes de modifications de la constitution de la Concession française entrainent naturellement la destruction de son Conseil Municipal. Entretenus par le Municipal Council, elles sont pour le moins une anomalie, pour user le terme le plus bénin, puisque le Municipal Council et le Conseil Français dérivent leur existence, telle qu'elle apparait aujourd'hui, de la même convention. Elles sont, en outre, une pénible charge pour le Municipal Council car elles lui ont imposé le rôle étrange de faire des démarches pour supprimer le principe d'après lequel l'administration municipale française existe, pendant qu'il traite avec elle les affaires journalières en l'assurant de sa conciliation et du désir de maintenir des relations amicales. Serrer amicalement d'une main et frapper de l'autre, voilà la pénible situation qui fut faite au Municipal Council le jour où il accepta de ses Electeurs, dans l'assemblée de Juin, 1874, de faire les démarches nécessaires pour amener l'amalgamation des municipalités.

Ce n'est pas certainement, qu'on puisse prétendre que les Electeurs ou Landrenters n'aient pas le droit de faire entendre directement au Corps consulaire telle demande de modification qu'il leur semble convenable de formuler, mais est-il admissible que le Municipal Council puisse être chargé et accepter charge de demander au corps consulaire la suppression de son collégue et coopérateur

ont l'existence a été garantie par le corps onsulaire lui même.

On ne peut nier que le Conseil Français, e. ne prenant point offence à la manière dont o. discutait son existence à donné la preuve dine grande modération, mais, peut être, cette modération a-t-elle été puisée dans la confiance de son droit et par consequent de sa vialité, car, il est temps de le dire, le mouvemnt qui se fait, depuis un an, contre l'existence homogène de la Concession Française, source regrettable d'agitation, est sans but. Il est sans but, puisque ce n'est qu'avec le consentement du gouvernement Français que l'analgamation de la Concession Française pourrait avoir lieu, et que dans une dépêche encore toute récente, adressée à M. le Consul Général de France à Shanghai, le gouvernment Français en repousse l'idée de la façon la plus explicite.

L'existence séparée de la Municipilité Française et ses droits étant bien établis, le devoir du Conseil est tout tracé ; c'est de les maintenir et de faire appel au Consul de France quand on les attaque.

C'est pour celà, Monsieur, que, croyant que le Municipal Council s'est mis au dessus de la convention qui régit les existences séparées des deux municipalités en acceptant de faire les démarches nécessaires pour détruire l'existence de la Concession Française et en refusant à son Conseil Municipal de coopérer, même provisoirement, à un travail d'intérêt public à moins que ce Conseil n'ait au préalable accepté les vues du Municipal Council sur le partage de la dépense, mes collègues et moi avons résolu de nous adresser à qui de droit pour faire respecter le principe anquel nous devons notre origine. Il n'y a là ancune menace, et il est regrettable que ce mot soit venu sous votre plume dans votre lettre du 24 Mai, car il n'est ni dans les intentions du Conseil ni dans les termes de la lettre que j'ai eu mission de vous écrire pour vous informer de la mesure défensive que le Conseil entendait prendre pour protéger la municipalité qu'il représente et que vous avez cherché à faire détruire. Le principal but que le Conseil entend poursuivre, c'est d'arriver à faire déterminer, une fois pour toutes, un tribunal supérieur juge de toute divergence de vues entre les deux administrations municipales, afin que des malentendus aussi peu profitables à nos constituants que pénibles pour nous (tels que ceux qui se presentent trops souvent depuis un an), ne puissent plus avoir lieu.

Le Conseil a été on ne peut plus étonné de la facon dont vous dénaturez l'attitude, prise par lui dans ce débat de la quotité à incomber à chaque municipalité dans la dépense des ponts, car rien dans sa correspondance ne vous autorise à nous écrire ceci :

"*En effet, votre position se traduit ainsi ; vous réclamez la liberté de dire combien vous paierez pour le maintien des ponts, mais vous nous refusez le même privilege.*"

Pour répondre négativement à une semblable affirmation je me sens mal a l'aise, et je n'ai d'autre ressource que d'opposer à votre assertion, sans atténuation aucune, les idées mêmes du Conseil qui sont extraites de la lettre dans laquelle j'ai eu l'honneur, le 29 Mars, de vous les exprimer dans leur entier.

. . . . . "Le désir de la Municipalité Française de ne supporter, que dans ce qu'elle croit être une juste proportion, les dépenses d'entretien des ponts." . . . . . "L'existence des ponts est une necéssité indiscutable ; ce qui est discutable, c'est le montant de la part contributive dans les dépenses que doit supporter chaque Municipalité."

. . . . "Le Conseil a donné son consentement à la commande, par les soins du Municipal Council, d'un pont en fer destiné à remplacer le pont actuel en bois No. 1. Il croit qu'il est indispensable de faire sans retard cette commande, et que la part contributive de chaque Municipalité dans la dépense qu'elle entrainerait pourrait être déterminée ultérieurement, si votre Adminstration y consent, par un arbitrage portant sur des faits et des chiffres et statuant d'une manière générale dans quelles proportions les dépenses d'entretien des ponts du Yang-king-pang doivent, en bonne equité, grèver le budget de chaque municipalité de façon à ce que les finances de l'une ne puissent paraître être protégées aux dépens de celles de l'autre. Cést, je n'en puis douter, cette fin que peut désirer le Municipal Council et c'est simplement celle que veut le Conseil Français." . . . . . "Dans le cas d'une commande faite par votre administration, le Conseil est tout disposé à payer, provisoirement, soit un tiers, soit moitié des dépenses, sous la condition qu'un reversement sera fait par l'une des municipalités à celle qui, d'après les conclusions des arbitres, se trouverait avoir payé plus que sa part des dépenses d'entretien des ponts du Yang-king-pang." . . . .

Pour résumer ces citations, le Conseil n'y émet qu'une croyance, qu'un désir et ne formule qu'une proposition.

Il croit que la part contributive de chaque municipalité est discutable.

Il désire qu'on arrive à une solution équitable qui ne protège pas les finances d'une municipalité aux dépens de celles de l'autre.

Et enfin, il propose de recourir à une décision par des arbitres devant lesquels votre Conseil eût, nul doute, pu faire valoir toutes ses raisons.

Il y a loin de là aux prétentions tyranniques et puériles que vous prétez à notre conseil dans la phrase que vous avez pris la peine de souligner.

Le Conseil, en regrettant un conflit qu'il n'a pas tenu à lui d'empêcher, ne peut que déplorer d'avoir la mauvaise fortune de trouver le Municipal Council opposé aujourd'hui à un mode de réglement qu'il proposait lui même hier et faisait adopter au Conseil français.

Il est à remarquer, en effet, qu'aussitôt que le Corps consulaire à recommandé aux deux Conseils un Arbitrage pour régler la question d'empiètements sur le Yang-king-pang, le Conseil Français s'est empressé de souscrire à ces indications, sur la requête du Municipal Council, tandis que, pour le différend actuel résultant du partage des dépenses des ponts le Municipal Council repousse, sans même le discuter, le même mode de réglement par arbitrage proposé cette fois par l'administration française.

Il ne reste donc au Conseil qu'à faire un appel au corps consulaire pour arrêter l'effet de la motion No. 3 proposée à l'assemblée des Landrenters, et j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que je viens de prier M. le Consul de France de vouloir bien en saisir le Corps Consulaire.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée.

Le President du Conseil,
(Signé,) A. VOISIN.

Shanghaï, 3 Juin, 1875.

Monsieur J. G. PURDON,
President du Municipal Council.

MONSIEUR,—J'ai eu l'honneur de vous faire observer que votre Conseil, en faisant figurer dans son budget une dépense de Taëls 2,000 pour un pont en bois au lieu de Taëls 5,000 pour un pont en fer dont la construction pour remplacer le pont No. 1 sur le Yang-king-pang avait été discutée et arrêtée en principe par les deux Conseils, semblait ne tenir ancun compte de l'opinion du Conseil Français.

Cette observation vous avait été addressée parceque le Conseil avait remarqué que dans la séance des Landrenters, à propos de cet article du budget, aucune mention n'avait été faite des pourparlers qui avaient déjà eu lieu entre les deux Conseils et de leur opinion favorable à une construction en fer, et parcequ'il croyait qu'après avoir fait voter une somme de Taëls 2,000 pour un pont en bois, vous ne pouviez dépenser Taëls 5,000 pour un pont en fer.

A celà vous voulez bien me répondre dans une lettre datée 24 Mai que c'était le droit de votre Conseil d'obtenir l'opinion des Ratepayers avant de nous proposer un changement ; et que si cette opinion avait été favorable au pont en fer il n'eut pas été nécessaire de faire un changement. Vous ajoutez que comme rien de défiué n'est intervenu, le Municipal Council se croit encore en position de se prononcer en faveur d'un pont en fer, sous des conditions que vous spécifierez.

Le Conseil ne peut que prendre acte des explications que vous avez bien voulu me donner.

Veuillez agréer, &c.

Le Président du Conseil
(Signé), A. VOISIN.

(Translation.)

Shanghai, 3rd June, 1875.

SIR,—I have had the honor to call your attention to the fact that your Board, in placing on their Budget an outlay of Tls. 2,000 for a wooden bridge, instead of Tls. 5,000 for an iron one, which it was agreed and originally settled should replace the Yang-king-pang Bridge No. 1, did not seem to take any heed of the French Council's opinion.

Your attention had been called to the matter, as the Conseil had noticed, that, at the meeting of Landrenters, and with reference to that part of your Budget, no mention had been made of the correspondence which had been exchanged between the two Councils, of their opinion in favor of an iron structure, and because, after having had Tls. 2,000 voted for a wooden bridge, you could not lay out Tls. 5,000 for an iron one.

You are pleased to reply to this, in a letter dated 24th May, that it was within the province of your Council to obtain the opinion of the Ratepayers before suggesting the change to us, for had that opinion been in favor of an iron bridge, there would have been no need to suggest any change. You add that, as no definite action was taken, your Council consider they are in a position still to agree to an iron one under conditions you propose to specify.

This Council can but take a note of the explanations you have been pleased to send me.

(Signed) A. VOISIN,
Président du Conseil.

J. G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman Municipal Council.

Le Conseil charge M. Hennequin de convoquer les personnes qui ont gracieusement consenti a faire partie de la Commission de révision des impôts, afin de s'entendre avec elles sur la manière de procéder à l'exécution de ce travail.

Le Conseil décide la distribution aux électeurs du compte rendu de la gestion 1874-1875.

Examen des rapports des chefs de service.

La séance est levée.

Séance du 2 Juin, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents :—M.M. A. Hennequin, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. H. Scott ; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M.M. Hitch et Leroy empêchés, et M. Seaman absent de Shanghai, n'ont pu assister à la séance.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité des Travaux et de la Police relatives :

A l'ajournement du projet d'élargissement ou de reconstruction du pont de pierres situé à l'embouchure du Canal de la Pagode, jusqu'à ce que l'alignement des quais du Wampoo ait été définitivement arrêté.

A la construction d'un bout de muraille en vieux matériaux pour raccorder provisoirement le quai de la Pagode au quai de France.

A l'étude et à la définition des réparations intérieures de l'Hôtel Municipal.

A l'achat des matériaux nécessaires au rechargement des rues de Saigon et de Palikao.

Au drainage de la rue du Weikwé dans la partie comprise entre la rue des Perès et la limite ouest de la Concession.

A la confection de quatre nouveaux bancs pour le quai du Wampoo.

Et enfin aux démarches à faire auprès de M. le Consul de France pour obtenir du Département des Affaires Etrangères la cession d'une bande de terrain du Consulat de France nécessaire à l'élargissement de la rue du Consulat.

Communications de deux lettres, l'une de M. Lemaire, annonçant au Conseil qu'il remet le service du Consulat-Général à M. le Comte de Chappedelaine, et l'autre, de M. le Comte de Chappedelaine, informant également le Conseil qu'ayant été appelé par décision Ministérielle du 8 Avril, à gérer le Consulat-Général pendant l'absence du titulaire, M. Lemaire, qui remplissait ces fonctions à titre provisoire, lui a remis le service du Consulat à la date du 26 Avril.

Lecture de la lettre suivante de Secrétaire du Municipal Council :—

Line of Yang-king-pang.

Shanghai, 28th May, 1875.

"SIR,—I have submitted your letter of 26th instant to the Works' Committee, and in

reply, they direct me to convey their best thanks for your offer of any documents which may assist Messrs. Henry and Oliver in defining a line for the Yang-king-pang Creek, and fixing a convenient height for the bridges.

"Mr. Oliver has been instructed to communicate with Mr. Henry, and you may rely on everything being done by the Council which will tend to facilitate these gentlemen's labor.

"On receipt of their report, the Council will have much pleasure in discussing it with you.

"The Council's letter of 2nd instant was not intended as a reply to yours of the 29th April; the Ratepayers' meeting prevented the Council giving it that early attention it called for, but that as little time as possible might be lost in settling the Yang-king-pang bund line, they considered that Mr. Oliver and Mr. Henry might, in the meantime, be usefully engaged in discussing the best scheme.

"Bridge No. 4.—The Engineer has been directed to strengthen the abutment of the North side of the Creek, so as to admit of the bridge being completed.

"I am, Sir,
"&c."

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul de France informant le Conseil que le département des affaires Etrangères n'accepte pas l'offre faite par la Municipalité relativement à l'affermage du frontage du Consulat-Général pour établir un débarcadère public.

Le Comité des Travaux est chargé de voir si l'Administration aurait avantage à acquérir le terrain sur lequel est construit le poste de police de l'Est.

Renvoi à l'examen et à la décision du Comité des Travaux d'une demande d'indemnité formulée par M. Grenot, pour une portion de terrain cédée à la voie publique.

Examen des rapports des chefs de service.

Examen du rapport de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

La Séance est levée.

Séance du 10 Juin, sour la presidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers Presents :—M.M. F. D. Hitch, E. Leroy, H. Maignan, E. Millot, J. H. Scott; H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M. Hennequin, empêché, et M. Seaman, absent de Shanghai, n'ont pu assister a la Séance.

Lecture est donnée de la lettre suivante du Président du Municipal Council.

[The letter is the one published yesterday among the minutes of the English Municipal Council.]

"Le Conseil, heureux de voir par les termes de cette lettre que le Municipal Council abandonne l'idée qu'il avait manifestée de ne plus partager par moitié le produit des taxes prelevées sur les brouettes, déclare n'avoir plus de motif pour maintenir, de son côté, la résolution qu'il avait prise de ne plus partager par moitié les dépenses des ponts sur le Yang-king-pang, et il charge le Président de faire connaître ses intentions au Municipal Council par la lettre suivante :—

"Monsieur,—J'ai soumis la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire le 8 Mai, au Conseil qui croit toujours que la responsabilité de notre fâcheux différend reste avec celui des Conseils qui, le premier, a détruit l'entente en rompant l'accord du partage par moitié, des taxes sur brouettes et a, ainsi, amené l'autre à refuser le partage par moitié des dépenses des ponts.

"Revenir sur le refus de partage égal des recettes ferait, donc, disparaître la seule raison pour laquelle ce Conseil a refusé, à son tour, le partage égal des depenses. Aussi, c'est avec plaisir que le Conseil degage de l'ensemble de votre lettre une proposition d'arrangement qui lui semble devoir mettre fin à toute polémique, et que je vous demande de transcrire ici, afin d'eviter tout malentendu.

"Le Municipal Council est disposé à arriver à un arrangement sur les bases suivantes; placer les brouettes sur le même pied que les Jin-rick-shaws, c'est-à-dire que chaque Conseil delivrerait ses propres licences dont la taxe et le nombre seraient egaux pour les deux Concessions et limités aussi pour les deux Concessions.

"A ce propos, vous faites remarquer que rien ne parait être plus juste qu'un semblable arrangement; c'est aussi l'avis du Conseil qui est tout prêt à l'accepter puisque, en lui donnant la possibilité de perçevoir la moitié des recettes faites sur les brouettes, cet arrangement fait disparaître tout motif pour lui de refuser de partager par moitié les dépenses des ponts du Yang-king-pang.

"Le débat regrettable qui vient d'avoir lieu entre les deux administrations ne fut jamais né, si ce Conseil avait été informé par écrit, avant ce jour, de la proposition que vous m'écrivez avoir été faite verbalement à ses délégués. En effet, le Conseil n'a pu la connaître qu'aujourd'hui, car, par une fatalité inexplicable, aucun de ses délégués ne se souvient d'avoir entendu votre proposition, qui est si équitable et si conforme aux idées et aux prétentions de ce Conseil, qu'elle eut été acceptée par lui aussitôt que connue. Mais, si le débat n'a pu être évité, au moins le voici terminé puis que le Municipal Council à bien voulu répéter sa proposition d'arrangement et que ce Conseil s'impresse d'y souscrire.

"Trop heureux de cette solution, le Conseil met fin à une polémique qui lui à toujours répugné, et il espère que vous et vos collégues apprécierez les motifs de convenance pour lesquels il s'abstient de répondre d'une autre façon à votre lettre, qu'en exprimant l'espoir et le désir que de ses efforts pour coopérer cordialement avec vous au développement des intérêts publics et des bonnes dispositions que vous exprimez pour la Concession Française renaîtront des relations amicales entre les deux administrations municipales.

"Heureux de ce que les circonstances me font aujourd'hui l'interprète de ces sentiments du Conseil, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma consideration très distinguée."

Le Président du Conseil,
(Signé), A. Voisin.

M. Purdon,
Président du Municipal Council.

Approbation des modifications proprosées par le Municipal Council, relativement à la taxe des jinrickshaws et à l'emission des licences autorisant la circulation de ces véhicules. La taxe est portée de Tls. 0.20 á Tls. 0.25 par mois, et des licences seront délivrées, jusqu'à concurrence du nombre déjà fixé, à toute personne qui en fera la demande et qui présentera ses voitures à l'inspection de la Police.

Transfert de licence pour débit de boissons.

Examen du rapport du médecin.

Examen des rapports des chefs de service.

La Séance est levée.

Amusements.

S. V. C. RIFLE MEETING.

The tie for the Chaasze Cup, which was left undecided at the late Prize Meeting, was shot off yesterday morning at 600 yards, the result being :—

Priv. Wyatt .....(3) 1st Prize.
,, Sharp .....(2) 2nd ,,

TEMPERANCE SOCIETY LECTURE.

A most interesting lecture was delivered at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday evening, by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, W. H. Medhurst, Esq., as the last of the series of lectures for the season. The audience was somewhat smaller than we have observed on other occasions, but was highly appreciative of the rich store of information supplied, on the interesting subject of "Chinese Poetry," by one so well qualified to enlighten his hearers as the lecturer of the evening. H.E. Vice-Admiral Ryder occupied the chair, and His Excellency T. F. Wade, Esq., C.B., Her Majesty's Minister, was also present.

Mr. Medhurst began by defining what in Chinese is considered to be poetry. The language, he remarked, contains a term which precisely corresponds to the English word "verse,"—*i.e.* words arranged in metrical order, according to certain recognised rules; and metrical compositions in China regarded as an essential acquirement of the educated man. The geneal superficial, or rather mechanical, analogy between Chinese and European ideas of the art of poesy having been traced to a certain stage, the lecturer proceeded to point out the more radical forms of divergeme. Chinese verse is so hampered by rigid and complex rules of prosody and construction, that the spirit of poetry has not had air play. Poetry in China is consequently but a cramped and stunted representative of the sister art in other countries. The basis of Chinese verse-making, it was shewn, is the system of "tones" or vocal inflections. In regular verse, the monosyllables or "feet" of which the verse consists must not only be assigned each to a particular tone, but the tones of the words or characters making up each line must stand in a definite relation one toward the other. Chinese stanzas are usually in verses of five or seven feet each, and the construction was exemplified by combining the monosyllables *yes* and *no* to form the following stanza *à la Chinoise* :

1. No, no ; yes, yes, no.
2. Yes, yes ; no, no, yes.
3. Yes, yes ; yes, no, no.
4. No, no ; no, yes, yes.

A regular alternation, line for line, will be here observed, and the same rule holds good with verses of seven feet or characters. A pause or *cæsura* in each line is an essential element of Chinese versification, falling in pentameters after the second and in heptameters after the fourth syllable. The peculiar arrangement of the tones in Chinese verse is thought by Sir John Davis, whose valuable treatise on Chinese poetry was becomingly referred to by the lecturer, to have been adopted with a view of avoiding the too frequent recurrence of the same tone in ensuing lines. The antitheses and parallelisms which go so far to make up the distinctive style of Chinese poetry were further expatiated upon, and their resemblance to similar characteristics of Hebrew verse, as exemplified in the Psalms of David, was illustrated with numerous examples from both languages. In conclusion, it was observed that, with all reservations, both taste and imagination must be admitted to be shewn in abundance in Chinese poetry, and it was suggested that thoughts and imagery present themselves in this field which even our own writers might study with advantage. At the same time, the actual impossibility of rendering the peculiar graces of Chinese versification in an English dress, with any resemblance to the original, was demonstrated.

At the conclusion of the lecture, which was warmly applauded, the thanks of the audience to Mr. Medhurst were invited by the Chairman, in a few well-chosen remarks.

Mr. Wade, rising next, said that he had great satisfaction in supporting this motion, having himself listened with great pleasure to Mr. Medhurst's lecture. Although he had no intention of addressing the audience at length on the subject, being entirely unprepared to do so, he nevertheless thought it due to Mr. Medhurst to say a few words on the subject he had selected. He differed to some extent from the lecturer in his appreciation of Chinese poetry, which he considered of too purely mechanical a type to deserve any high degree of praise. The limited scope within which a Chinese writer's imagination and diction are confined, debars him from reaching those heights of epic grandeur and lyric passion which constitute the glories of European verse; and the absence of all reference to any higher sphere than that of man himself—to the Creator as well as the created—marks also a striking contrast between our own and the poetry of the Chinese. As regards the mechanism of the verse itself, the stringency of the rule of Chinese

prosody was observed to be no greater than that which governs the acknowledged masterpieces of European poetry, the odes and lyrics of the Greek and Roman writers; but in Chinese poetry form is cultivated at the expense of substance.

We regret our inability to do justice in this brief report to the elegance and learning which united, to characterise the extempore address with which Mr. Wade arrested the attention of the audience. As a commentary on Mr. Medhurst's lecture it was no less instructive than it was gratifying to all who listened to it; and the thanks of the audience were expressed at its close, to both the lecturer and Mr. Wade, with unmistakeable heartiness.

Miscellaneous.

SHANGHAI WATER SUPPLY HYGIENICALLY CONSIDERED.

Shanghai has two sources of potable water supply which are unlimited, and two limited sources of supply of that material. Let us first consider the most bountiful—viz., the waters that drain a portion of the plain of Kiangsu, and those that roll up at every tide from the river Yangtsze. The questions now before us as a community are—which of these shall be selected? and which point shall be selected for the in-take?

Apart from the engineering and financial considerations that are involved, and apart from the inferences which chemical analysis has suggested, there are facts of hygienic interest which merit consideration before coming to a decision on the subject.

In a general way, it may be stated that the Kiangsu waters are charged with organic matter—animal and vegetable; while the waters of the Great River hold suspended a large amount of mineral matter.

This rich alluvial plain is permeated by a net-work of navigable water-courses, some of which are so sluggish as to be almost stagnant. The soil is noted for its fertility, and, according to the Pun-tsau, teems with insect life above all other regions. Professor Frankland detected, in an analysis of water taken a short distance above Shanghai, numerous bacteria and vibrios, indicating previous contact with putrescent organic matter, probably of animal origin; but failed to detect any in the waters of the adjacent inosculating creek. It would require, however, a large amount of negative testimony like this to prove that the Soochow Creek was less polluted than the Whangpoo river. These particular impurities might not be found beyond the area over which the sewerage of the Settlement is scattered, which area is almost wholly above the city. However that may be, organic matter generally abounds in the waters of the central and lower portion of the plain. A striking evidence of the prevalence of impurities in these waters is afforded by the boilers of the harbor tug-boats. What is called "priming" or "foaming" is due, when these are not faulty, to impurities in the water; water that has been condensed from steam, for example, never exhibits the phenomenon of priming. Now, it is a fact that this priming is most observable when the water of our harbor is clearest, and when the waters of the Yangtsze in our harbor are at the minimum; or in other words—paradoxical as it may seem—the water is purest when most muddy, decreasing in purity as it increases in limpidity, the mineral matter being visible,—the organic matter being to a great extent invisible.

Besides the organic matter that is brought down from that catchment area, or water-shed, which is drained by the Whangpoo and its affluents, the rich soil affords another source of impurity, which although almost infinitesimal in amount, merits consideration. Spectroscopic analysis would undoubtedly disclose traces of arsenic in those waters.

The *Ta Tsing Lih Li*—Penal Code, in referring to an arsenic poisoning case, states incidentally that the arsenic employed was on hand for manure, and in the port catalogues of the Chinese Customs collection at the Vienna Exhibition, it is stated by the Commissioners of Customs of Shanghai, Canton and Hankow, that arsenic is employed for manuring purposes. I am loath to impugn the accuracy of an Imperial jurist, whose statements are sustained by ripe sinologues, but in view of experiments that have been made, demonstrating the virulence of arsenic as a poison to plants, I cannot believe in it as a fertiliser of soil. The fact that, when it is employed by agriculturists, it is mixed with ashes, may have caused the compost to be styled manure. However that may be, it is certain that the red sulphate of arsenic is extensively employed to destroy the insects that frequently menace the crops. Experience has taught the farmer to graduate the dose, so that, while it acts as an insecticide, it shall not injure the plants. Roughly estimated, it would appear that about a ton of the crude mineral in powder is scattered over an area of three square miles. It so happens that this use of arsenic obtains when water is less pure than usual; that is in drouth. Ordinarily, frogs are sufficiently numerous to check excessive increase of animal life, but the balance becomes disturbed when those amphibians are reduced in numbers, as in drouths; hence it is that magistrates so often issue proclamations interdicting their use as food.

The Chinese, up-country, whose waters are not discolored by mud, use alum for clarifying by precipitation, as is done at Shanghai, and besides that, they place in their water-jars bits of lakawood (*Tanarius major*, which sink to the bottom) as an antidote against the supposed noxious properties which they attribute to their water.

One more fact remains to be considered before we dismiss this up-country water. It is this: that, while the atmosphere conveys from place to place the germinal matter of zymotic and choleraic disease, water which is charged with organic matter, like that under consideration, receives and *reproduces* this germinal matter, while water that is free of organic matter like that of the Yangtsze, affords no nidus for those sources of typhoid and cholera.

A word of explanation may not be out of place respecting the protista which Professor Frankland found in our up-country water. The bacteria and vibrios are regarded by many as the cause of endemic and specific contagious diseases; on the other hand, however, the fact that active putrefaction may take place in absence of bacteria, and that bacteria may be present in abundance without giving rise to putrefaction, shows that undue importance has probably been attached to these lowest forms of organism as sources of disease.

I do not wish to be understood as representing the waters of the plain which find their way to this Settlement as unwholesome. The experience of countless generations of inhabitants is conclusive on this point. I am aware that the mountain streams which first reach the plain are remarkably pure and delicious. Opium shopsigns often announce that water from these sources is employed in preparing the drug. My intention is merely to express a preference for the Yangtsze water, and the grounds for that preference. The almost total absence of animal and vegetable substances in the water of that river affords *à priori* evidence of its superiority over the waters of the plain,* and this evidence is confirmed by impirical testimony. A native philosopher once made numerous experiments on the relative value of certain waters for infusing tea. He found Yangtsze water to be superior to all others for making the national beverage. A thousand years later, we find an Englishman at Hongkew praises the use of the same water for making *his* national beverage, and beer drinkers from every land endorse the brewer's opinion. If I might record my private opinion here, I should say that brewing is a subtle method of adulteration of the fittest beverage for gods and men.

What I have said respecting the supply of potable water from the Yangtsze as unlimited, requires modification: there are times when the supply is scant. During strong winds from south-west, particularly at neaptides, the stream from up-country flows so rapidly as to neutralise the tides—so much so, that vessels do not swing for days together. Before the era of tow-boats, vessels, at such periods, were unable to ascend the river; a brig that once accomplished that feat in eighteen days did as much as could be expected of any vessel under like circumstances. The same cause kept back the waters of the Great River, and the result was clean water, but brackish, and brackishness means diarrhœa to those unaccustomed to its use. Besides, that brackishness extends higher up the country than any of the places that are proposed for intake. Nor is the failure of Yangtsze water (more marked of course when that river is low) the only cause of occasional salinity of the Whampoo; an overflow of sea water at Hangchow Bay, from defective dykes, affects all the intermediate region, least of all, however, Soochow Creek. With regard to the point for intake, the proposed site below Hongkew seems to be the best; the next is the present location of the Pootung Works,—Lungwha being the least desirable. In any case the infiltration should be that which is known as the magnetic carbide.

It would seem, then, that those sources of water supply which are unlimited as regards quantity, though well adapted to meet the wants of the Fire Department, bathing, flushing drains, sprinkling streets and the like, do not exactly meet potable requirements. This leads me to the consideration of those sources of supply which, though limited in amount, are unexceptionable for drinking purposes. There are extensive regions on the coast where the inhabitants depend wholly on rain-water for drinking, as at Ningpo and the adjacent country, where it is collected and preserved in capacious jars for that purpose. For potable purposes, the rain-fall at Shanghai is ample. This heaven-distilled beverage is unquestionably the best of all drinks. There are residents here of a lifetime, who have drank no other. Generally there is sufficient space about each house for storing the fall. It requires only to be covered to preserve its purity. Properly constructed cisterns are a desideratum; there should be two on each lot, to allow time for æration.

Another source of supply is well-water. It is only necessary to dig 20 feet or less to procure, in nine cases out of ten, excellent water, superior, the natives say, to that of the Whangpoo. From some peculiar property which it possesses, silversmiths employ it to the exclusion of all other for silver washing.

To render this rapid survey of our water supply more comprehensive, a word should be added on Artesian wells. A former resident of Shanghai, well known for his public spirit, attempted the experiment of boring for water—an enterprise, however, which he was compelled to abandon before two hundred feet had been attained, owing to the want of skilled labour. I should commend to our Municipality a renewal of the experiment, but for the fact that the Arsenal authorities

* An analysis made in London for Messrs. Evans & Co., of water taken off Pootung Point at half flood, was found to abound in animalculæ, which either had an up country origin or contained germs which were developed under the new conditions to which it was subjected.

have lately happened to come into the possession of the requisite appliances, and to their enterprise we naturally look for another effort, which can hardly fail to prove valuable,—interesting it would most certainly prove.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 11th June.

Before W. H. Medhurst, Esq., *H. B. M.'s Consul*, and Fung Tsien-Kwang, *Taotai of Shanghai*; A. Davenport, Esq., and Chen Futchan, *Magistrate of Mixed Court*. being present.

The representatives of Chinese drowned by collision of S. S. *Fusing* with *Ocean, v.* Captain Brown of the *Ocean*.

Mr. Drummond and Mr. Eames for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Wainewright and Mr. Hannen, for the defendant.

This was a suit to recover Tls. 63,000, as compensation, at the rate of Tls. 1,000 each, to the families and representatives of the 63 persons drowned in the collision between the steamship above-named on the 4th April last. The Court was filled with Chinese men, women, and children interested in the case.

Mr. Drummond having stated that Mr. Eames and himself appeared on behalf of the plaintiffs,

Mr. Wainewright said that Capt. Brown, in compliance with the Consul's direction or request, had appeared there to-day. But he had come before the Consul, simply as Consul, and not acknowledging any jurisdiction on the Consul's part to hear these claims. He came there to contend that the Consul had no jurisdiction to hear the case in the way proposed. He (Mr Wainewright) did not know whether this was the time to put in his protest, but if it was, he would do it very shortly.

The Consul having intimated that he would hear the grounds of protest,

Mr. Wainewright went on to say that Captain Brown contended that by Section 4 of the Order in Council for 1865, the Court had no jurisdiction over him. The section ran:—"All Her Majesty's jurisdiction exerciseable in China or in Japan for the judicial hearing and determination of matters in difference between British subjects, or between foreigners and British subjects,—or for the administration or control of the property or persons of British subjects,—or for the repression or punishment of crimes or offences committed by British subjects,—or for the maintenance of order among British subjects, — shall be exercised under and according to the provisions of this Order, and not otherwise." Then came Section 5, which said:—"Subject to the other provisions of this Order, the civil and criminal jurisdiction aforesaid shall, as far as circumstances admit, be exercised upon the principles of and in conformity with the Common Law, the Rules of Equity, the Statute Law, and other Law for the time being in force in and for England, and with the powers vested in and according to the course of procedure and practice observed by and before Courts of Justice and Justices of the Peace in England, according to their respective jurisdictions and authorities." Therefore, the first proposition was that the whole of Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over British subjects, was to be by the Order in Council. He would next read Sections 7 and 9:—"There shall be a Court styled Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan."—"There shall be one Judge of the Supreme Court. He shall be appointed by Her Majesty, by warrant under Her Royal sign manual." Section 36 provided:—"All Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in China, beyond the district of the Consulate of Shanghai and not under this Order vested exclusively in the Supreme Court,—and all Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in Japan and not under this Order vested exclusively in the Supreme Court,—shall, to the extent and in the manner provided by this Order, be vested in the Provincial Courts, each for and within its own district." The Order expressly took away from H. M's. Consul at Shanghai all his civil and criminal jurisdiction, for Section 35 provided:—"All Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in China, shall, for and within the district of the Consulate of Shanghai, be vested exclusively in the Supreme Court as its ordinary original jurisdiction." Therefore, it was quite clear, as between one foreigner and another at any rate, that all her Majesty's jurisdiction in Shanghai was vested in the Supreme Court. Then came the question,—Did it apply where the plaintiff was a Chinese subject? On that point, he would refer the Court to Section 117, which provided:—"Where a foreigner desires to institute or take any suit or proceeding of a civil nature against a British subject, the Supreme or other Court, according to its jurisdiction, may entertain the same, and where any such suit or proceeding is entertained shall hear and determine it according to the provisions of this Order, and the Rules made under it applicable in the case." Then upon the question whether "a foreigner" included a subject of the Emperor of China, he would refer the Court to Section 3:—"The provisions of this Order relating to British subjects apply to all subjects of Her Majesty, whether by birth or by naturalization. The provision of this Order relating to foreigners apply to subjects of the Emperor of China and of the Tycoon of Japan respectively, and subjects or citizens of any State other than China or Japan (not being enemies of Her Majesty." He, therefore, contended that Chinamen were, for all purposes of the Order in Council, to be regarded as foreigners, that they could only sue in the Supreme Court, and that all Consular authority in such cases was taken away and transferred to that Court. Of course, on the other side, he knew that Article 17 of the Treaty of Tientsin might be adduced in opposition to that argument, and that the Order in Council might be deemed inconsistent on the point, but that he (Mr. Wainewright) contended was not a question that the Consular Court could decide. A Consul was a servant of the Crown, acting under the direction of the Crown, and, in Shanghai, all his jurisdiction had been quite distinctly, and in most unmistakeable terms, taken away as between the Crown and Chinese. Therefore the defendant denied the authority of the Consular Court to sit in this case to award damages as it might be.

The Consul—Then you put in as answer that the defendant appears under protest?

Mr. Wainewright said yes, and he would submit his grounds in writing if the Court chose.

The Consul said he would prefer them in writing.

Mr. Wainewright said it could be done at some future time.

The Consul (to Mr. Drummond)—Will you put in the petition in the case?

Mr. Drummond said he would put in his authority to act on behalf of the claimants. It was under the Chehsien's seal, and stated his reasons for granting it.

Mr. Hannen said he must make a formal objection—that it did not give any authority on the part of the plaintiffs themselves.

The Consul said the Chehsien, in his position as Magistrate of this district, appeared to authorise Mr. Drummond to appear for the relatives and friends of the deceased.

Mr. Hannen said he would read the letter of authority from the Chehsien, which was as follows:—

Authority:—

Sung. Title of the 3rd Rank, Expecting Taotai, Acting Prefect, Chehsien of Shanghai, gives this letter of instruction:

Whereas the sinking of the Chinese steamer *Fusing* by the British steamer *Ocean* had caused Quai Kwang-lih and other 63 persons in all to lose their lives, and whereas the relatives of the deceased persons have petitioned the Authorities for redress, now I, the said Chehsien whose duty is to protect the lives of the people, am bound to see that due redress be obtained from the Master of the said steamship *Ocean* or any other persons concerned, for the damage by loss sustained by them; and as this is a case between Chinese and Foreigners, it ought to be dealt with in accordance to Treaty stipulations. Having already requested H. E. the Taotai to hold a Mixed Court in conjunction with H. B. M.'s Consul to hear the case, it appears to me that W. V. Drummond, Esq., Barrister at law, knows the English law thoroughly, and is a qualified person to petition on behalf of the relatives of the deceased. I, therefore, instruct you, the said Barrister at law, to file immediately a petition in H. B. M.'s Consular Court to recover such redress for the damage by loss sustained by the persons whose names are set forth in the following schedule. The said case to be heard and decided by H. E. the Taotai in conjunction with H. B. M.'s Consul.—Given under my hand and seal, this the 9th June, 1875.

Mr. Hannen went on to say that, firstly, they had no proof that it was the Chehsien's authority; and secondly, it was an instruction to file a petition in H.B.M.'s Consular Court, and this was not a Consular Court.

The Consul said he would note both objections.

Mr. Drummond resumed by saying that Tong King Sing had seen the relatives of the deceased persons, and had also consulted him (Mr. Drummond) on their behalf. That would, perhaps, meet the objections raised. The case now being before the Court, he would read the petition of the plaintiff, as follows:—

The petition of W. V. Drummond, Counsel for the relatives and representatives of the several Chinese officers and persons whose names and descriptions are stated in the schedule hereunto annexed, respectfully represents as follows:—

1st.—On or about the 4th day of April, in this present year, the British steamship called the *Ocean*, commanded by William Brown, came into collision with the Chinese steamship called the *Fusing*, in consequence whereof the said steamship *Fusing* sank in a few minutes after said collision, and the Chinese officers and persons named and described in the schedule aforesaid were drowned.

2nd.—The said collision and the loss of life consequent thereon were wholly or partly attributable to the fault and misconduct of Captain William Brown, or of some other person or persons on board and having the control and management of the said steamship *Ocean*.

3rd.—By reason of the deaths of the officers and other persons mentioned in the said schedule, their families have been left without support, and have suffered grievous loss and damage.

4th.—The relatives and representatives of the parties mentioned in the said schedule, have applied to Captain Brown, master of the said steamship *Ocean*, for compensation for the said loss of life, in the sum of one thousand taels for each life so lost as aforesaid, but he has refused or neglected to pay the same.

The said W. V. Drummond, as Counsel as aforesaid, therefore prays that your Honor, in conjunction with the proper Chinese officer, will cause enquiry to be made as to the amount due on account of the said loss of life, and condemn Captain Brown, the said steamship *Ocean*, and the owner or owners thereof, in the amount of the said loss and damage.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

The Consul said, as regarded the petition, he must call notice to the fact that neither the steamship *Ocean* nor her owners were under his jurisdiction. Therefore, the Court could only hear the case as against Captain Brown, who was charged with misconduct and neglect.

Mr Drummond said the owners were put in the petition simply because the plaintiffs had put in all whom they thought had done them an injury, and for no other reason. With that view, he had inserted those people, and made them nominally parties to the suit. He would now refer very briefly to the statements that had been made on behalf of Captain Brown as to the jurisdiction of the Court. Under the 17th Article of the Treaty of Tientsin, the plaintiffs had applied to Captain Brown for compensation, and having failed to obtain it, they now applied to the Consul for redress. They supposed the proper steps had been taken to bring the case before the Court, but with those steps they had nothing to do. The case was now before the Court, which would say whether the British subject complained of ought to make any redress, and, if so, what redress, to the families of those who were drowned in the collision. He would submit in evidence a copy of the notes made by the Chief Judge at previous hearings of the case. The copy had

been made by the clerk of the Court, and was verified and sealed. He would now put in the copy.

The CONSUL suggested it would save time to take that evidence as it stood.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT asked if it was intended to examine the witnesses again?

Mr. DRUMMOND said he would put them in the box, and ask them a few questions upon the points bearing on the present case.

The CONSUL said he had no objection, if the other side had not.

Mr. HANNEN—We do not consent and we do not object.

The documentary evidence was then submitted to the Court, and the proceeding was interpreted to the Taotai, who made no objection.

Mr. DRUMMOND said that would cover the greater part of the ground in the case as regarded the collision. The witnesses could be brought before the Court to answer any questions that might be put to them. The Court was of course a Mixed Court.

The CONSUL.—You cannot call this a Mixed Court. It is a Court called under the 17th Article of the Treaty of Tientsin.

Mr. HANNEN.—I understand, then, that this is a Consular Court that you, yourself, are holding, and that the Taotai does not have any jurisdiction?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT.—Have you equal powers, that is the question?

The CONSUL—I find some difficulty in giving a direct answer to the question. We are here by virtue of the Article in the Treaty. I do not say it is a Mixed Court, like that in the Maloo; it is a Consular Court, but I rule that subject to the correction of my superiors. It is practically a Court to go into certain claims against a British subject, and I sit as Consul. Not being able of myself to settle the matter satisfactorily, I have called in the assistance of the Chinese authority.

Mr. DRUMMOND said the reason why he used the term Mixed Court, was because the Chinese authorities were present in person.

The CONSUL suggested that the point should remain over. He would take a note of the protest.

Mr. HANNEN said, on behalf of the defendant, they ought to know what Court they were before—what Court they were protesting in.

The CONSUL repeated it was a Consular Court, called under the direction of an Article in the Treaty. If there was any doubt in the matter, it rather strengthened the defendant's case.

Mr. DRUMMOND thought it was not incumbent on the Consul to give a name to the Court. It was sufficient to know that the Court was held under an Article of the Treaty.

The CONSUL said he was not bound to find a name for the Court. It was simply a Consular Court, held under Treaty, to decide equitably in the matter brought before it.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he had referred to the matter to avoid any confusion that might arise. He held that this Court was not bound by any decision or rule of law in England or elsewhere, but that the Court would deduce from the authorities that would be brought before it what it might deem to be an equitable settlement of this case. That being the case, he would cite some of the authorities of English law, which would show how the case would have rested had it been taken in an English Court. There was first Lord Campbell's act, and next, the 27 and 28 Vic., cap. 95, the latter being an amendment, allowing the representatives of persons, where there were no executors, to bring an action, they being beneficially interested. That was the basis on which such cases were brought in English Courts, and which had become a most common procedure in those Courts against railway companies, there being also many cases against ships. With regard to the rule of law which was to be applied in this case, there would no doubt be a little difficulty, because there were some cases in which Common Law applied, and in others Admiralty rule. It was a question that remained open in England to the present date, whether Admiralty rule would apply in such a case. But still he thought it would be for this Court to decide whether it would be guided by Admiralty rule or by Common Law. There had been two decisions already in this case, one in the Naval Court and the other in the Court of Admiralty. Those decisions went to show the cause of the collision and who was to blame. The present Court was familiar with the fact that both vessels were held to blame, and the question now would be, how far the *Fusing*, on board of which the plaintiffs' relatives were, contributed by neglect to the collision. If this Court found that the collision was caused by the fault of the *Ocean* alone, there could then be no contributory negligence on the part of the plaintiffs in this suit. But if this Court should arrive at the same decision as the Court of Admiralty, that both ships were to blame, it would then have to decide how far the *Fusing* was to blame, so as to preclude the plaintiffs from recovering. He would submit that the proper rule to be adopted in this case, in equity, was the Admiralty rule, and not that of Common Law. In support of this argument, he referred the Court to the Judicature Act of 1873, which would give a very important authority as to the proper rule to be adopted in this case; but as he had before said, there was nothing binding on this Court, except what was binding on the conscience. The Court would have to steer its way through any law that might be brought before it, and therefore the Judicature Act had just as much authority as Lord Campbell's Act or any other. It was for the Court to make up its mind whether it would follow Admiralty rule or Common Law. The opinion as to which was best was clearly expressed in the Judicature Act, in cases where the two rules were in conflict, and both ships being to blame. It was the very latest, and very best, expression of opinion, that the Admiralty rule was the best to follow in such cases, and would in future be followed in English Courts. The cases he would refer the Court to, were the *Colfax* (2, Ad. and Eccles., 229); the *Explorer*, (3, Ad. and Eccles., 289); the *Beta*, (2, P.C., 447); the *Milan* (Lushington), and the *Rona* and *Ava*; and that of "Armstrong *v.* the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway." If the Court arrived at the conclusion that Admiralty rule alone was to apply in this case, it would be relieved of all difficulty with regard to Common Law. Those were the only authorities he would refer to at present, and he would now proceed to call evidence. He would first call

TONG-KING-SING, who, declared, deposed—I am manager of the C. M. S. N. Company. They were the owners of the *Fusing*. Her last voyage was to Tientsin. She left here on the 27th day, second moon (3rd April). There were 66 passengers on board in all. They were all Chinese. (Handed in list in Chinese.) Those are the names of the persons who were drowned—63 in all, one of them being a foreigner, the third engineer of the ship. I have seen the relatives of a good number of those who were drowned. I have had letters from others whom I have not seen. They have authorised me to take steps to seek redress on their account—I have been authorised by all with whom I have been in communication. I have also been in communication with the Taotai on the subject. It is with his consent, and with the consent of the families of those who were drowned, that I have instructed you to take proceedings. I have informed the Taotai and the relations of those drowned as to the steps I have taken from time to time. They have agreed to those steps. Before bringing this case I wrote a letter to Captain Brown, claiming compensation on behalf of the families of the deceased. I have received no reply from Captain Brown, besides his initials in the chit-book. I know, as regards the sailors, that they have left families, widows and children, without support; some of the officials who were passengers, as far as I know, have also left wives and children, and they have written me to say they have no means even to come to Shanghai. Many of the officials had not been in office for some years, which will account for their poverty. They were all in the employment of the Government, but in a minor capacity—not actually in office. When an official dies in the service of the Government, the Government does something for his family. In the list I have put in, I have stated the rank of the persons drowned, and also the names of the crew and passengers who were saved.

By Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—When the *Fusing* started on her voyage, there were 66 passengers exclusive of crew—22 officials of Kiangsu, 3 officials, members of the Rice Committee, 1 official of Chekiang, 18 ordinary passengers, not officials, and 22 servants of officials and passengers. That makes the 66. I got that information from our ticket book. Out of those 66 passengers—19 out of the 22, the three officials, the official from Chekiang, nine out of the 18 ordinary passengers, and 13 of the servants were drowned, in all 45 out of the 66. Five of the compradore's staff were drowned, 12 of the crew, and the foreigner. I made out the list from the information given by the people who came back. There were 116 on board all together—50 besides the passengers. These consisted of eleven compradores, 33 sailors and firemen, and six Europeans. I saw everyone who came back. Everybody I did not see I put down as drowned. (The witness was then examined as to the mode of his communication with the deceased's relatives, the latter's relationship to the deceased, and the authority they had given him to take proceedings on their behalf. The result showed that authority was given, as regards the 22 officials, in two cases by brothers personally, in all the other officials' cases by writing addressed to the C.M.S.N. Company collectively.) I can produce all the letters received on the subject. There are six claimants whose names are unknown—two passengers and four servants. I have not communicated with their relatives. There were nine unknown at the time the suit was brought, but we have discovered three of them since.

The CONSUL said it would be necessary to have distinct information as to the families to be compensated.

Mr. WAINEWRIGT said that was desirable, in order to ascertain who, if any, were entitled to compensation.

Witness resumed—The servants are included in the masters' families. We wrote to them singly, and they replied to us in a body. There were seven passengers whose names were unknown, but we have communicated with their relatives by letter. I can produce these letters—to and fro. I have communicated personally with the representatives of the compradores' staff, and also with those of the sailors. I kept them all acquainted from time to time with what I had done. I had the information printed and circulated among them. I cannot now furnish a correct list of the persons on whose account I am claiming. I might be able to do so by further reference to Soochow. I believe the three servants who are here can give more information as to the families than I can.

The CONSUL said there must be a definite list of the families somewhere.

The question was referred to the Taotai, who said there was no such list, and, in the case of those who were unrepresented, it might be that the Government would have to find descendants for them.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that was an amendment of Lord Campbell's Act not previously contemplated.

Witness resumed—As far as I know, no application has been made to the Chinese Government for pecuniary help to these families. I have known lots of cases in which compensation has been awarded by the Government to the families of those who had been killed in service. It is done in different ways, sometimes by money, and at others by the bestowal of office to the survivors, and sometimes by posthumous honours only. I cannot say what the compensation would be for an official of the 6th rank. It would be more than Tls. 100. Cannot say if it would be Tls. 500. Such a man's relations might have office and rank conferred upon them worth thousands of taels. I do not know any case in which a payment in hard cash has been made. I know there have been such cases.

Re-examined by Mr. DRUMMOND—According to Chinese custom, the Chehsien is the proper person to authorise proceedings like these.

Mr. HANNEN objected that the witness could not be received as an expert on Chinese law.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said he had not asked a question as to the Chehsien, and he did not know how it could arise in re-examination. If it were persisted in, he should have to cross-examine on it.

The CONSUL said he accepted the Chehsien's authority, as being in accordance with Chinese custom.

Mr. HANNEN—Then it is the ruling of the Court that, in all cases, the Chehsien has authority to represent the families of deceased persons.

The CONSUL said, as far as he was concerned,

in the present case he was content to accept the Chehsien's authority, and to rule that Mr. Drummond was duly authorised to appear for him.

Mr. Wainewright—And we protest against it.

The Consul—I will note the protest.

Mr. Drummond said he would waive the point, and not re-examine further upon it.

Re-examination resumed—I left the *Fusing* a quarter of an hour before she started. I saw most of the persons mentioned in the list. I went to see them off, and had conversation with many of them. I was on board about an hour. I produce the counterfoils of the tickets taken by the officers. We issue tickets to ordinary passengers, but do not insert their names. There are here altogether 25 tickets for officials—from 18 to 42—one of them carrying 17 officials and 14 servants on one ticket; but the servants' names are not given. Some of the single tickets also carry servants. The tickets from 18 to 42, inclusive, carry 60 passengers. The other 6 might have gone on board with free tickets.

Mr. Wainewright—How does he know there were six others, if there are no tickets to show?

Witness resumed (after a patient reference to his book)—We always number the tickets—from No. 1 each trip. In this case, 15 tickets were applied for, but cancelled. No. 16 was for one official and servant; No. 17 was also for one official and servant, who did not go. That makes up the number to 62. The remainder may have gone on board free, or paid their passage on board, which is often the case. Ching keeps the list. The number of passengers is always put on the freight list. I can produce it. It will only show those passengers who left Shanghai. The compradore receives the money of those who come on board to pay their passage. The first compradore would probably have had the list. He was drowned, and all the books were lost with the ship.

Mr. Wainewright—Do you still adhere to the statement that there were 66 passengers?

Witness—Yes. The second compradore was saved, and gave me the number of the passengers roughly, in pencil, on his arrival at Shanghai. His name is Wong Ching-fook. He is now away on board the *Yessing*, but will be back in three or four days. Three of the officials who came back gave me information about the others; the captain and a quartermaster told me about the seamen. The three officials are all gone to Tientsin, and will not return here until the autumn. The Captain and quartermaster are both here.

By the Consul—I do not know if any money has been given by the Government to the families and representatives of the deceased. The Company has supported the families of the poorer portion of the crew. We have given some $10 and some $15 gratuities. I have a list of the names to whom we have given (produced). The *Fusing* had sufficient boats. She had four, for the 116 people on board. Very often, coasting steamers, with a greater number of people, have only four boats. The *Fusing* was in collision at Tientsin, and came back to Shanghai for repairs. There was a survey report made both before and after the work was done.

It was said the Tientsin report had not been put in evidence yet.

Witness said he could produce it from Tientsin, if required, and added that the Shanghai report had already been before the Supreme Court. The Chinese Government, as far as I know, are not holding us responsible for the loss of these lives. They have made no claim upon us.

The Court then adjourned till the afternoon.

The Court resumed at 3 p.m.

Tong King-sing, recalled—I produce copies of the reports made at Tientsin which the Court referred to this morning, one before and one after repairs were executed. Three officials paid their passage on board—the 5th and 6th on the list, and the last but one, also three persons unknown. That makes a total of 66. The names of these 6 were not on the list, but they were among the persons drowned. [Asked by the Court how he knew these men were on board, as their names were not on the ticket.] I saw the last but one on board. I did not take notice of the other two. Their names were included in the list handed to us by the the Taotai, as among the officers drowned. That is all.

To Mr. Wainewright—I have stated that 53 on board the *Fusing* were saved. These comprised the Captain, 1st and 2nd mate, chief and 2nd engineers, 21 crew, including firemen, cooks, sailors, quartermasters, sampan men, carpenter and cabin servants, 6 compradore's staff, 9 passengers, 9 servants, 3 officials. I recollect an application being made to me to get return of a coat lent on board the *Ocean*, to one of the passengers saved. The passenger referred to was the first of those I have named before. The monthly wages of the sailors were $17 to $18 a month, the same as in other steamers. The compradore got $90 a month, and paid his staff. There were eleven on his staff, including himself. I imagine the four who were drowned got $10 or $12 a month each. As far as wages are concerned, I doubt if the official servants would get more than $4 or $5 a month, but they get perquisities. Probably $100 a year would represent their actual income.

Robert Morton Andrews—I was Captain of the *Fusing* at the time of her loss. I have already given evidence on the loss of the steamer, in the case tried in the Admiralty Court. When we left Shanghai we had some quantity of passengers on board. They were all Chinese. I could not say how many. I had nothing to do with the keeping of the accounts or the tickets, or anything affecting the passengers alone. I do not know the names of the Chinese saved. The only Europeans saved were Frederick Wallace, chief officer; H. B. Rose, 2nd mate; James Ferrier, chief engineer; James Shearer, 2nd engineer; and myself. I dont know the names of the crew saved. There were 39 saved, that would leave 13 lost. I cannot say how many passengers and others were lost. It is the compradore's business to know that; he was drowned, and all books and accounts were lost with the ship. All who were saved were brought back by the *Ocean*. I saw the *Fusing* go down. It was impossible for any others to have been saved except those who were brought to Shanghai in the *Ocean*. Only one of the *Fusing's* boats got clear; she saved 26 lives. None of the other boats got clear, this one only got free by floating out when the ship went from under. There was no time to get out any boats, the ship sank so rapidly. The boats and all appliances for saving life were in proper order at the time of collision. Every step was taken that could be taken, for the purpose of saving the lives of those on board. The ship herself was, so far I know, in thoroughly good order at the time.

To Mr. Hannen—The other appliances besides the boats were the life-buoys. We had two. We had out two of the boats lost, on the last voyage, at Tientsin. I did not inspect them at Shanghai before starting. The boats were not slung, but were resting on chocks on the top of the house. We always lift up the boats when we paint them. The chocks where the boat rests are not painted. The boat is painted where it rests on the chock. The boat saved was one of the two larger ones. It was a calm day with a smooth rolling sea, no breaking water. I think our boat could have saved more, but it was nearly half full of water. The other could have saved the same number. The others were not much smaller. They would have saved nearly as many. All those who were saved were brought back by the *Ocean*. The following is a list of the persons saved:—captain 1, mates 2, engineers 2, firemen 8, sailors 3, quartermasters 3, sampanmen 2, cooks 3, cabin servants 5, compradores 5, barber 1, carpenter 1, total 36; and 19 passangers. I mean there were 19 at the time when we counted them, one died afterwards. 18 were brought to Shanghai.

To Mr. Drummond—The boats were never put back on the chocks when the paint was wet. There was nothing to prevent the boats being put in the water for saving life as rapidly as on any other occasion. Our boats are supplied with masts, sails, oars, buckets, water beakers, rudder, tiller, and boat-hook. All these things were in the boats on the occasion. If the *Fusing* had remained afloat long enough, we could have saved nearly all those on board by our boats. The rest we might have saved by other means.

To the Taotai—I consider the collision was caused by the steering of the *Ocean*. I do not consider it was caused by our speed or her speed. I did not alter our course before the collision.

To H. M. Consul—I should recognise a great number of the crew we brought back. I do not think I could recognise any of the passengers. I might recognise three who were in the saloon.

James Ferrier—I was chief engineer of the *Fusing*. I was on board on the last voyage when she was lost. There were 3 engineers and 9 firemen in my department. 8 of the firemen were saved and one was lost. I knew nothing of the passengers who were on board. I said all that I knew in regard to the collision, in the recent case in the Admiralty Court. The engines and everything in my department were in perfectly good order.

Witness was not cross-examined.

H. B. Rose, 2nd officer of the steamer *Fusing*—I gave in evidence all that I knew of the collision, in the recent Admiralty Court. I have nothing to add to it.

To Mr. Hannen—The boats were placed on the chocks on the top of the houses. There were davits and ropes attached to the davits, so as to sling them out if necessary. These blocks and hooks hooked into the tackle. They were always kept ready. They were all ready hooked. [Asked, if they were all hooked, how was it one floated clear]? It was not necessarily an accident that one floated clear. It may have been unhooked. I don't know how it did get clear. I had not time to get my boat clear. It does not follow that the one saved was not hooked on at the time of the collision. I unhooked some of the fastenings of my own boat. The boats had covers on up to the time of the collision. They were fastened on with a lacing, which goes under small nails which are round the gunwale of the boat.

Re-examined by Mr. Drummond—The cover can be got rid off in a few seconds by a sailor's knife or by unlacing. The covers were all taken off directly, in a few seconds. I saw them off. The boats were carried in the usual way in which they are always carried in coasting steamers. There was no obstruction, to my knowledge, to prevent their being launched as rapidly as boats can be launched.

To the Taotai—It was I who first heard the whistle of the *Ocean*. I estimated she was about ½ mile to 1 mile from us at the time. It was only a guess. She struck us on our starboard bow.

To H. M. Consul—It would take about 4 minutes to lower any one of the *Fusing's* boats; that is the longest time.

Frederick Wallace, chief officer of the *Fusing*—I know nothing of the passengers on board. I gave all that I knew of the collision in evidence in the recent Admiralty suit. The boats were in perfectly good working order in every respect. The reason only one boat got free was because the passengers wouldn't keep clear of them till they were off the chocks. They would crowd in, 10 or 12 into a boat. We could have got them out if there had been sufficient time. From the suddenness with which the ship went down, we had no opportunity of doing so. I know of nothing that we could have done, that would have improved our chance of saving more lives.

Witness was not cross-examined.

To H.M. Consul—I do not know how many passengers there were. It was not part of my duty to know. That is all left to the compradore.

James Shearer, 2nd Engineer—I gave my evidence fully in this case in the late Admiralty Court, and have nothing to add.

Witness was not cross-examined.

Chun A-kun, quartermaster on board the *Fusing*—I gave my evidence the other day in the Admiralty Court.

To H.M. Consul—All I said before is true. I was in the water, and was picked up. If the ship had not gone down so quickly, the boats were ready and could have been got out. I had seen them taken out before. They were easily got out.

Witness was not cross-examined.

Mr. Drummond said this closed the list of the witnesses who had been previously examined, and suggested that the time was opportune for an adjourment. What fresh evidence he had to offer had better be gone into separately. He purposed producing some of the passengers who had been saved, and then giving what evidence he could with regard to the effects that had been lost.

In reply to a question from the Court, Tong King-sing said only three or four of the passengers saved were in Shanghai. The officials had all gone to Tientsin.

After some conversation on the subject, the Taotai said the families of the officials could not be brought forward. The

families of the sailors could be so, if it were wished. But if the Court were prepared to take the word of the Mandarins in regard to the families of the officials who were lost, he did not see why their word could not also be taken in regard to the sailors.

Mr. DRUMMOND submitted that the Court should be satisfied to a reasonable extent that there are families, and that the Chehsien is acting on their behalf. He would leave it to the Court to ask for what evidence it would like.

The TAOTAI said, the action was not brought so much to decide the question of compensation as of liability; if the decision were in favour of the plaintiffs, the officials would probably not take the compensation. With the families of the sailors, it was of course different.

Mr. HANNEN said if the other side would undertake to say they only wanted nominal damages, he would be content that evidence as to the effects should not be called. However, there were no doubt many points which H. M. Consul would have to discuss with the Taotai, and which Mr. Drummond would have to think over. It would be better to leave the matter for the present.

Some conversation followed as to the adjournment. H. M. Consul named Friday, but the Taotai objected because the *Ocean* was likely to go away on that day. He was told that the Captain would remain here, and that the present action had nothing whatever to do with the ship; but he maintained his wish that the case should be brought on earlier. Eventually Friday was named, subject to possible alteration of which notice would be given.

June 18th.

The case was again postponed in consequence of Mr. Medhurst's absence at Chinkeang.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, June 11th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

F. H. BALFOUR *v.* J. D. BISHOP.

This was a claim for subscription $5, and postage $1.50, for the *Celestial Empire*, from March 1st to June 5th. Defendant denied his liability.

Mr. T. MARSHALL appeared to prove the debt, and deposed—When Mr. Balfour purchased the goodwill and plant of the *Evening Courier* and *Weekly Budget*, the defendant's name appeared on the books of that journal as a subscriber to the *Budget*, posted to the address of Mrs. Bishop, in England. In March last an advertisement appeared in the papers, stating that the *Budget* would henceforth be incorporated with the *Celestial Empire*, and the name changed. The paper had been sent to Mrs. Bishop's address from the 1st March to the 5th June.

In answer to His HONOUR, witness replied, there was no authority given by the defendant to us to supply the paper. As a matter of fact, I cannot say whether he knew it was being supplied or not. But if he did not wish it sent, he should have notified us to that effect.

His HONOUR—He was not bound to do so.

J. D. BISHOP, sworn, deposed—I never gave any order for the *Celestial Empire* to be sent to my address. The first I knew of the fact was a bill being sent to me, which I refused to pay. I have seen an advertisement, but I cannot say if it is the same now pointed out.

His HONOUR said there did not appear to be any contract between the plaintiff and defendant, and he could not see any liability on defendant's part. He may not have known the paper was being sent.

Plaintiff—But he must have seen the advertisement.

His HONOUR—Possibly he may have seen it. He was not bound to take the *Celestial Empire* in lieu of the *Budget*, neither was he bound to write concerning it. The contract was between Mr. Lang and the defendant. It was plaintiff's duty to ascertain, in a business manner, what subscribers were willing to receive the *Celestial Empire*, and not to infer that a person was a subscriber because he did not go out of his way to write that he didn't want it.

Judgment for defendant with costs.

June 14th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

SING-CHONG *v.* W. PECK.

Both parties are butchers, and the claim was for $38.99 for goods sold delivered.

Plaintiff produced an account rendered, and a pass-book from which it had been copied. The book had been kept by a man named Thompson, and showed that the transactions between the parties had extended over several months.

Defendant denied that he was indebted, as a person named Wheelwright had taken over his business and accounts connected with it, and if he (defendant) were made to pay this claim, he would be paying twice over. He could not deny having had the meat, but it was supplied on the security of Wheelwright.

His HONOUR, who was at considerable pains to unravel a complicated form of dealing between the parties, pointed out to the defendant that he was liable for the goods—they were supplied to him by the plaintiff, who could not be expected to look to a third person for payment.

Defendant said he had received a chit from Wheelwright to get what meat he wanted from the plaintiff, as the plaintiff was obtaining stock from him. Wheelwright was, however, gone away, and the chit was lost. "It's like this, your Honour," said the plaintiff, "suppose you were to become my security for a month or two's board and lodging, and then went away, and left me to pay for it." (Laughter.)

The plaintiff acknowledged the transactions with Wheelwright, and also that he had afterwards permitted the defendant to get deeper in his debt. He did not sue the defendant before, because he had promised to pay when his business became more prosperous.

His HONOUR said he had no doubt whatever that defendant had had the goods, but he said he had no money, and he (his Honour) had reason to believe he had none. When he became possessed of some, he must pay the amount. His Honour had no sympathy with the plaintiff for supplying goods on a second transaction, when a large amount was due to him on a previous one.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, June 11th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* ASSAM.

Larceny.

A Malay seaman of the barque *Catherine Marden*, was charged with taking two plated spoons from a house in Hongkew.

Mr. STRIPLING said that as far as he could understand the matter, it appeared that the prisoner went to visit another Malay in Hongkew, and they were drinking together. The prisoner took two spoons, but on the other Malay asking for them and making a noise, he gave them up to the owner.

Prisoner said that prosecutor had given them to him, which statement was denied.

His WORSHIP sent the prisoner to gaol for one week.

June 14th.

R. *v.* KETTIEL, or KETCHELL.

Charge of Felony, and attempting to Stab.

Prisoner, a Malay seaman, was brought up in custody of the police, charged with the above offences. The property alleged to have been stolen was a sailor's outfit, comprising many articles of wearing aparel and other things. They were said to be the property of Mustapha, quartermaster of the steamer *Appin*, now away on a voyage.

Mr. STRIPLING stated the facts of the combined cases, and

His HONOUR said that as the alleged owner of the clothing was not present, he would hear the other charge first.

THOMAS DEIGHTON, then deposed—I keep a Malay boarding-house. Prisoner had lived with me for two or three months. On Sunday morning, two men came to my house with a bundle of clothes found in the prisoner's possession. They said they belonged to Mustapha, quartermaster of the *Appin*. I locked the clothes up to keep them safe. In a quarter of an hour the prisoner and some men came to my room. He demanded the clothes, saying they belonged to him. I told him to wait until the *Appin* came back, and if they were his, I would then give them to him. He said he would not wait, and began to curse and swear, and stamp about. I told him to leave the room, and he would not go. I went to push him out, when he drew the sheath-knife produced from his belt. I closed with him, and he wrestled with me. Somebody, I do not know who, took the knife from him while we were wrestling. My wife gave me the knife afterwards. I believe he meant to stab me, if he had not been prevented. I then sent for a policeman.

Prisoner said he could not understand all that had been said by the prosecutor.

The serang of the *Chinkiang*, who was in Court, said he knew English, and was asked by the Court to interpret the proceedings.

Prisoner said he did not unsheath the knife—he did not have it in his hand. The clothes belonged to his brother, who told him to take them to Hongkong, and as he was short of money he might pawn any of them or do what he liked with them.

His WORSHIP asked if the quartermaster of the *Appin* had made any charge against the prisoner.

Mr. STRIPLING said he had not made any charge, because he was gone away on a voyage. There were witnesses, however, who could prove that prisoner had no clothes of his own.

His WORSHIP said the prisoner's statement as to the clothes might be true.

Two witnesses, Malays, living in the house, corroborated the prosecutor's evidence. Both thought the prisoner meant to stab the prosecutor, one of them adding that he made a blow at him, the point of the knife striking the table.

His WORSHIP said, supposing the clothes were given to prisoner by his brother to do what he liked with (which he thought very unlikely), and Deighton refused to give them up to him, he ought to have laid a complaint before Deighton's Consul, and not have gone to the house and acted in the way he did. The punishment he (his Worship) would inflict for the offence of drawing the knife, which he had no doubt about, would depend very much upon the truth of prisoner's statement that the clothes were given him. If they were given him, as he had said, he could easily understand that a man like the prisoner—an Asiatic—would become excited, and probably be induced to draw the knife, and he should not under those circumstances, punish the prisoner so severely for that offence; but if his statement was shown to be untrue, he should not only punish him severely for it, but also for the theft of the clothes. He would not sentence him now, but remand him for fourteen days, or until the return of the *Appin*. If she returned before that time, the prosecutor would inform the Court.

June 15th.

R. *v.* BENJAMIN BENLAND, cook of the steamer *Ægean*.

Drunk and using Threatening Language.

Prisoner was arrested by a warrant, and in answer to his Worship, said that he had no recollection of having been abusive.

JAMES C. FARMER, sworn, deposed—I am chief officer of the steamer. Prisoner is the cook. At 8 a.m. yesterday, there was no one in the galley, and no signs of any breakfast being made ready for the crew or officers. I sent the steward into the galley. I found the cook drunk and very noisy; he threatened to smash my face, when I told him to go to his work. He then squared-up at me and wanted me to strike him. As he was very violent, he was put into irons, and a constable was sent for. He threatened that he would "do for us"—meaning the Captain and myself, when he got out of irons.

Prisoner asked if he could have any witnesses from the crew to prove whether all this occurred as represented. He had been 10 years in the Naval reserve, and never had a scratch of pen against him before.

The Chief Officer said that prisoner had transgressed before, and had been left behind at Hongkong, having gone on shore without leave. He was sent up here to rejoin the ship, and had promised not to misbehave again.

Captain SPOWART corroborated the evidence of the chief officer.

His WORSHIP said that he did not think there was any necessity to call any witnesses;

there was the fact that prisoner was drunk, and the evidence of the captain and officer; therefore he should send him to prison for seven days, to pay the costs of the Court and his maintenance in gaol.

R. (W. H. Robinson) *v.* W. Thompson, A.B. of the barque *Deerhound.*

Assault and using Threatening Language.

W. H. Robinson, sworn, deposed—I am 2nd officer of the *Deerhound.* This morning we were washing decks; I threw some water and a little went on the prisoner. He made a great fuss about it, threatened to strike me, and challenged me to fight. At last I said, "Well you had better do it." He took hold of my hair and struck me on the back of the head, scratched my face, butted me, threw me down, and said he would murder me. The Captain assisted by the sailmaker, interfered and took him away from me. He then picked up a billet of wood and threatened.

Prisoner said that what the second mate had stated about the water was true; but that the second mate challenged him to fight first, and said that he did not want any more talk from him, he had had quite enough. He told him to go aft and he would give him all he wanted.

Richard Grainger, called, deposed that he heard a disturbance and saw a scuffle, but no blows. When he got there, they had hold of one another. Both parties were inclined to fight. Prisoner did pick up the piece of plank, but he cannot say if he intended to strike the second mate with it.

His Worship said that he did not think there was any necessity to hear any more of the case. He wondered that the second officer had so far forgotten himself as to challenge a sailor to fight, and, when accepted, to bring the matter into Court. It shewed a most disgraceful state of affairs in the discipline on board.

Case dismissed.

U. S. CONSULATE GENERAL.

Shanghai, 15th June.

Before Geo. F. Seward, Esq., *Consul-General.*

R. W. Cowell *v.* J. H. Wills.

The plaintiff, a British subject, sued the defendant, an American citizen, to recover $20 for wages, and also, under an agreement, board for fifteen days, at $1 per day, and for the use of a small carriage, fifteen days at $1 per day. Plaintiff further claimed the delivery of certain goods and property detained by the defendant. A bill of sale of property, a livery stable, from Cowell to Wills, was produced, and attached to it was a a schedule of the articles sold. It appeared upon examination that the parties had not taken pains to ascertain the articles actually transferred, to see whether they agreed with the list. In respect to this part of the case, the Court directed the parties to go over the stock-in-trade together, the defendant to deliver to plaintiff any articles on the premises not included in the inventory. With regard to the money claim, the defendant alleged that plaintiff had collected a sum in excess of the amount named in his petition, which amount, as collected, the defendant claimed under the terms of the bill of sale. Upon reference to the bill of sale, it was found that the plaintiff had sold to the defendant all debts due and owing to him on account of the business, while he himself agreed to pay all claims against the concern. It seemed, in this connection, that the plaintiff had misunderstood the terms of the bill of sale, believing that he had a right to collect the back debts, and to apply them to pay claims against the business. The amount so collected being in excess of the plaintiff's claim against the defendant, the Court dismissed the summons, and directed plaintiff to pay costs.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, June 17th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate, Chen, and Dr. Yates, U. S. Assessor.

Theft from a Ship.

A native, charged with stealing seven sheets of copper from the barque *Zephyrus,* was convicted and sentenced to receive 100 blows with the bamboo and to undergo a fortnight's cangue.

Obstruction.

A jinrickshaw coolie was brought up by the Municipal Police, for obstructing the Bund opposite the Shanghai Club, and was sentenced to a day's imprisonment, and to find security for his future good behaviour.

Shop Robbery.

A thief, charged with stealing nine steel rings and two blocks from shop No. 5, Honan road, was sentenced to 100 blows and imprisonment (time not stated.)

Extracts.

PRESSURE UPON CHINESE IN HONGKONG.

China Mail.

No one will be much surprised to hear that a very strong feeling exists on the part of the natives in this Colony, regarding the case of the Club Compradore whose relatives are now tasting the sweets of Chinese "justice" at the instigation of the friends of Lee Lum Kwai. From all we can ascertain, it appears that the case has from the first had the anxious attention of the local Government. Directly it was brought to the knowledge of the Colonial Secretary, a despatch was addressed to H. B. M. Consul at Canton, who at once sent a communication to the Viceroy. No notice being taken of this, the Government again pressed the case, and further despatches went in to the Viceroy. That official however, it would appear, is sheltering himself under the orders from Peking respecting mourning for the late Empress; or more probably his subordinates are keeping from him all despatches whatever, under the plea that no official work need at present be done. Of course all this is very annoying both to the Government and the Consul, but it is difficult to say what is to be done. It will not do to declare war against Canton on such a pretext, and yet the excuse which would we suspect be raised would utterly defeat any peaceful diplomacy whatever. On the other hand, we are day by day "losing face" before the native inhabitants of Hongkong. If our boasted power, and our solemn promise to the witness are insufficient to bear him (through his family) harmless of consequences for giving evidence which helped to convict a notorious scoundrel, how can we expect that much respect will be felt either for our status or our word? "Hongkong can do nothing when the Viceroy so chooses," say the natives, and they are really saying the truth. It is of no use telling them that our promise of immunity and protection was never meant to extend to indirect pressure through their families or property on the mainland. They say such a promise would be nonsense if capable of any other construction; and to some extent they are right.

The question is, what should be done. And as the only possible answer, we would again urge upon the authorities the course we have before indicated—the sending a gunboat to the place molested, and the seizure of some of the principal inhabitants as hostages. As to this meaning "war," no one who knows China will contend any such thing. On the other hand it will at once bring about explanations. It matters very little where the hostages are seized. As soon as they understand that they are to be held in pawn for the compradore's family, they will fast enough make their complaints known, and we should of course take every precaution to give them facilities for communicating with Canton. We are quite aware that we are recommending an utterly irregular proceeding, but it is the only one open to us. The question lies between our being successfully snubbed by the Chinese under the guise of politeness and routine, and a consequent loss of prestige in native eyes, and a tolerably harmless (if internationally illegal) way of bringing the matter to a head, and so obtaining both practical justice and a restoration of our position in native eyes—no small matter, in view of the enormous disproportion of nationalities in this Colony. We are expressing the views of a large number of residents, both foreign and Chinese, in urging this action on the Government, and we trust it will be taken. One sharp lesson will stop this sort of persecution for some time to come, and it is time the lesson were given.

Clippings.

The negotiations opened some two years ago between the Governments of Japan and Peru have had a more auspicious termination than might have been anticipated from the circumstances attending their commencement. A treaty of friendship and commerce between the two countries was signed some little time back, and, after ratification, was exchanged on the 17th inst. at the hands of Senor J. F. Elmore, L.L.D. on the side of Peru, and H. E. Terashima Munenori, specially appointed by H.M. the Mikado Plenipotentiary *ad hoc.* Senor Elmore has been appointed in perma nent mission in Japan and China, and has received full powers for the exchange and ratification of both the Chinese and Japanese treaties. His staff, consisting of a Secretary of Legation and an *Attaché* have arrived. Having concluded part of these preliminary duties here, he leaves shortly and temporarily for Peking for a similar purpose in China, after the accomplishment of which he will reside in this country. We trust that the intercourse which Senor Elmore has been instrumental in placing on its present footing will be one of increasing friendship and advantage to the respective countries interested in these negotiations.—*Japan Mail.*

That the unfortunate Mr. Margary's expedition was regarded by impartial outsiders as far more dangerous than he himself appeared to think it, is evident from a letter recently written by the Rev. Father Fenouil, Pro-vicar of the province of Yunnan and residing at Yunnanfoo. Under date of February 17, he says:—"In the month of November last, we saw an Englishman pass through here, making his way towards Tali-foo to join an English Expedition coming from Burmah. The mandarins did not seem very satisfied, and persons of high position assured me that he would be killed on this adventurous expedition, either by the savages or the robbers infesting these parts of the country; since then we have had no news about the Expedition, and we are asking ourselves what has become of it." It is, therefore, obvious that Mr. Margary's death was expected, and it is not improbable that this tone was adopted so as to lead to the belief that he had met his death from persons beyond Government control, should the true facts never come to light. Fortunately the details of the tragedy are known, and it is possible—we dare not say probable—that the guilty parties will meet their due punishment.—*China Mail.*

All recent travellers represent the traffic betweed Otz (this end of the Biwa Lake) and Kioto as enormous. A perpetual stream of wheeled vehicles, pack-horses and pedestrians, some free, some laden, flows along the road between the two places. When the line of railway from Osaka to Kioto is open, this traffic will certainly increase considerably, and there is actual danger of the road being choked, although it is one of the broadest in the country. The cost of carriage is such that, on a moderate computation, three-fourths of it would be saved were the traffic carried by rail, and it is probable that even at these rates the cost of the line could be repaid within five years—the time is estimated by competent authorities at far less than this. The Japanese ought by this time to have got over the heavy expense which first experiments always entail in whatever direction they are made, and this section of railway—it is not more than nine or ten miles—might be constructed far more cheaply in proportion than the two lines already completed. It is true that there are two ranges of hills over, or under, which the line must pass, but there is not one really formidable difficulty presented by the scheme. If the communication is left in its present state, it will be as if there were a railway from London to Manchester and no line from Manchester to Liverpool. Surely the Government ought not to hesitate about giving immediate orders for beginning *and finishing* this line with all possible despatch.—*Japan Mail.*

A native named Shozaburo living at Yedo has been fined 3 *yen* and 75 *sens* in commutation of fifty days' imprisonment for the offence of having failed to rescue his grand-step-mother (?) from a fire.

The *L. & C. Express* mentions that the steamer *Chusan*, from Glasgow for Shanghai, which sank at Ardrossan on October 21st, 1874, was floated on the 5th May, and removed to Horse Island.

The *Hochi Shimbum* relates that a Japanese junk manned by 12 hands, from the Yamaguchi *ken*, was discovered in a sinking condition in mid-ocean by an American merchant ship. The crew were taken from her and carried to San Francisco.

Nothing definite has transpired as to the course that Government intend to pursue in regard to the late attack on the Western China Expedition, but it is tolerably certain that no fresh movement will be made until next year, by which time the responsibility of the late attack will probably be fixed on the Chinese Government and satisfaction obtained. Opinion gains ground that the King of Burmah was not implicated. Our relations with Burmah are now undergoing a thorough revision, and may end in including his territory under British Rule.—*L. & C. Express.*

The *Straits Times* gives the following reasons for the popularity of Sir Andrew Clarke—"No orator, he possesses tact, command of temper and courtesy of manner in an eminent degree, and hence his popularity. With no crotchets of his own to force upon an unwilling community, yet with a will of his own, he listens to all entitled to speak upon any matter, and his decision, not given hastily, satisfies everybody. This was exemplified more than once during his Governorship of these Settlements. Next to his Native Policy, we rank as one of the greatest benefits of his rule here, that he "established cordial relations between the Executive and the community," and succeeded, as he sought to do, in "engaging public interest and enlisting the sympathies of the public in the conduct of public affairs." Never attitudinizing as Governor and Commander-in-chief, he took no manner of pride in showing his personal power by issuing innumerable regulations and turning out endless Ordinances, passed to be either forgotten or amended and re-amended. A foe to useless and hurtful restrictions to trade, his sole object seemed to be to develope trade by encouraging "the men who live by it" in every way in his power. And so he gained the confidence of all classes of the community, from Prince to peasant, Europeans, Chinese, Malays, Arabs, and Klings, who, on his departure, united in addressing to him their thanks and regrets, and good wishes for his health and prosperity in the new sphere to which Providence has called him.

About forty guests assembled on board the O. &. O. S. S. *Oceanic* at an informal tiffin given by the Company, and included the United States Consul, the Harbour Master, the Assistant Harbour Master, and several leading merchants and residents. The *menu* was an excellent one, and was done ample justice to by those present. After the viands had been cleared away, several toasts were given. Mr. Bailey, the U. S. Consul, proposed the O. & O. S. S. Company. This toast was greeted with loud cheers and responded to by Captain Jennings, commander of the *Oceanic*, who hoped the new company would give satisfaction to the public. The health of the General Agent of the O. & O. S. S. Company was next given and responded to. The Harbour Master, in complimentary terms, proposed the health of the Local Agent, who made a suitable reply. Before resuming his seat, Mr. Emory proposed the health of the Captain, officers and crew of the *Oceanic*. Captain Jennings acknowledged the compliment, and gave the health of Mr. Waddell, the Superintendent Engineer of the new Company, who is at present on board. Mr. Waddell responded, and shortly afterwards the company separated. Every one present expressed great admiration for this fine steamer, which is most elegantly fitted, contains every comfort, and is certainly unsurpassed in these waters—*Daily Press.*

With the Burmese King on the one side and the Peking Government on the other, each willing to shuffle off all responsibility on wild border tribes, owing a very doubtful allegiance to either, what satisfaction can be expected? At best, an offer of money indemnity to the relatives of those who have been killed, and some kind of diplomatic formula of regret, with perhaps the illusory punishment of some inferior official. That ought not to suffice; nor should we lose a great opportunity of placing important interests, which have been too long allowed to be in abeyance, on a satisfactory footing; nor should we, by acquiescing in repulse and injury, bring the English Power into contempt not only among Asiatics but Europeans. It is not a question of war, however, we are happy to think, but of resolution and firmness. The time has arrived when we may fitly insist upon the removal of hostile restrictions on our intercourse and trade with a friendly Power. They cannot be defended in principle, and should not be permitted to exist in practice. The Chinese Government should be convinced of our determination no longer to submit to the obstructive policy hitherto adopted, and of the necessity of renouncing it without delay. When the official news of the attack on the party of Colonel Browne reached Peking (as we learn by a telegram from Shanghai received a few days ago) it excited a feeling of anxiety and alarm in the official mind. It is not our business to prove to them that all such anxiety is groundless.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

There is a singular religious ceremony in Mongolia which is prophylactic in its meaning. The Mongol name for the performance of the ceremony is S'awr Jalena. A triangular pyramid is made of dough, on a wood frame. The dough is coloured red and moulded rather prettily. On the top is the representation of a skull. In the forenoon it stands in the temple, while a service is being held, and, before it is carried out, old and young pass under it. When the preliminaries are completed, the head lama of the temple, in his most impressive robes, heads a solemn procession and leads the way to an erection of bushes, or other inflammable material, prepared and set up on the plain a short distance from the temple. The procession moves slowly along to the sound of two immense trumpets ten or twelve feet long. In addition to the chief lama, there is a number of men in masks, hideous representations of the heads of deer, and other animals, and clad in showy garments. The worshippers assembled for the occasion bring up the rear and usually make a large company. Arrived at the spot selected, the chief lama takes his stand; the other performers crowd around; the rest of the lamas and the spectators generally close up behind, and quite a little service of chanting prayers and blowing trumpets is gone through. Sometimes a part of the service consists of the chief lama waving a black handkerchief towards the skull-crowned pyramid. Sometimes this part of the ceremony is not performed. After some time, at a signal from the chief lama, the pile of brushwood is lighted. As it blazes up, the pyramid is thrown headlong into it, a man who has been standing ready with gun in hand fires off his piece at it, the attendant lamas go three times round their chief to congratutate him; he replies "*It has become fortunate for the many,*" and the whole crowd of lamas and spectators, without waiting to see the doomed structure consumed, hurry off back to the temple as fast as they can. The ceremony is impressive, but there is only one step from the sublime to the ridiculous. While the others are hurrying back to the temple, a single lama may be seen poking about the fire. He is trying to rescue from the flames the few inches of board on which the structure stood, in the hope that it may serve again on the next occasion. The exact meaning of the ceremony is a little difficult to get at, because Mongols, when questioned, are in the habit of giving answers utterly unreliable, and those whom I have questioned on this point have given disagreeing accounts of it. It seems, as far as I can gather, to be meant to ward off evil in the future.—*Report of the Peking Hospital.*

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 14th instant, Mrs. J. J. BUCHHEISTER, of a daughter.

DEATH.

At New York, on the 1st May, EDWARD C. WHEELOCK, aged 43 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Niigata Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. P. P. Hyver, S. P. Morris, J. Poveiwa, M. Tashiw. Steerage—One Japanese Lady; eight Chinese. For Hiogo—Messrs. K. Makashimo, F. Beasley, W. Buscot and E. L. Reed. For Yokohama—M. M. Satow, and Aug. Thomas. Steerage—Five Chinese. Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, for Hiogo—Mr. W. Kidner. For Yokohama—Lady Howard de Walden, the Hon. Miss Ellis, Mr. E. H. Ellis, Miss Annette de Stockinger, and Mr. R. Caldwell. For San Francisco—Miss Josie J. Mansfield.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Takasago Maru*, from Yokohama—Mr. Ascherberg, Steerage—One Japanese; one Chinese. From Hiogo—Four Chinese. From Nagasaki—Messrs. W. J. Lawrie, M. C. Adams and servant, and Hoverbs. Steerage—One Japanese lady; 11 Chinese. Per str. *Chinkiang*, from Hongkong—Mr. J. Locke; 65 Chinese. Per str. *Hirado*—One French Missionary. Per P. M. str. *Costa Rica*, from Japan—Messrs. J. B. Irving, C. J. Ashley, A. F. Thompson, J. S. Fearon, Julian de Cordova, R. H. Bruce, A. Morton, J. Crofts, C. Hagen, A. Reddelieu, M. Amade, H. Moriss, W. H. Godenvert, M. Shea, L. Mouthan, and Dr. McMurtrie, U.S.N. Steerage—Japanese Lady and servant; 18 Chinese. Per str. *Europe*, from Tientsin—Mr. Brown; 29 Chinese. Per str. *Shingking*, from Tientsin—Lady Howard de Walden, the Hon. Miss Ellis, Mr. Ellis. Per str. *Consolation*, from Amoy—Nine Chinese. Per str. *China*, from Hongkong—21 Chinese. Per str. *Glaucus*—Mrs. Davis, and Mr. Ludwick. Per str. *Haining*, from Peking—Mr. MacKean. From Tientsin—Mr. Blow. Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Mr. Drysdale. From Kiukiang—Mr. Roberts. From Chinkiang—Mr. Davis. Per M.M. str. *Ava*, from Marseilles—Madame Hiram and servant, Six Sisters of Charity, and Rev. Mr. Delabord. From Hongkong—Mr. Crawford and servant, and Mr. Gaston Jaulin. Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Carroll and two children, Messrs. Lowe and Jensen; 31 Chinese. Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—44 Chinese.

LEAVING.—Per M. M. str. *Tigre*, for Hongkong—H.E. Sen, Taotai; two Chinese Ladies. For Marseilles—Messrs. A. J. Vickers and J. Fernier.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9.00 A.M.		Wind.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction.	
Ju.	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
12	29.950	76.0	88.5	71.5	77.5	74.5	4	S. W.	0.35
13	29.802	75.0	79.0	73.0	74.0	73.5	6	E. S. E.	0.85
14	29 750	77.0	83.5	73.5	76.5	75.0	3	S. W.	1.18
15	29.852	76.0	80 5	72.5	76.5	75.0	2	S. E.	0.01
16	29.800	76.5	85.5	74.5	76.0	75.0	0	Z	1.03
17	29.750	70.0	78.0	69.5	69.0	68.5	5	N. N. W.	2.92
18	80.850	75.0	81 5	69.0	76.0	74.0	2	S. W.	0.10

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

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EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS,—SEASON 1875-6.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.						TO GREAT BRITAIN—*Continued.*					
Vessel's Name.	Date	Cleared at	Black.	Green.	Total.	Vessel's Name.	Date	Cleared at	Black.	Green.	Total.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Deucalion..... s.s.	May18	Shanghai	7,708.95	.....	7,708.95			*Brought forward*	136,688.44		136,688.44
Glenartney ... ,,	... 19	Hankow	16,919.65	.....	16,919.65	Antenor..... s.s.	May31	Shanghai	12,703.78	.....	146,734.13
Bengal ..... ,,	... 20	,,	15,355.03	.....	15,355.03	Russia ..... ,,	... —	Hankow	16,109.27	.....	16,109.27
Anadyr..... ,,	... 22	Shanghai	691.04	.....	691.04	Hankow..... ,,	... —	,,	20,901.89	.....	20,901.89
Lotus ..... ,,	... 26	Kiukiang	2,771.10	.....	2,771.10	Gordon Castle. ,,	June 4	,,	17,130.42	.....	17,150.42
,, ... ,,	... 26	Hankow	15,728.53	.....	15,728.53	Agamemnon ... ,,	May31	Shanghai	17.85	.....	17.85
Glenearn ..... ,,	... 23	,,	16,877.25	.....	16,877.25	Achilles ..... ,,	Ju. 14	,,	14,173.44	122.68	14,296.12
Fleurs Castle . ,,	... 24	,,	19,839.16	.....	19,839.16	,, ... ,,	... 14	,,	196.60	.....	196.60
Glenfalloch ... ,,	... 29	,,	17,948.88	.....	17,948.88	Zambesi..... ,,	... 12	,,	4,780.39	.....	4,780.39
Strasburg..... ,,	... 28	,,	20,190.76	.....	20,190.76	Venic ..... ,,	... 13	Hankow	12,444.81	.....	12,444.18
Hindostan ... ,,	... 29	Shanghai	2,658.09	.....	2,658.09	,, ... ,,	... 14	Kiukiang	2,390.21	.....	2,390.21
		Carried forward ...	136,688.44	.....	136,688.44			Total.....	371,587.82	122.68	371,710.50

SHANGHAI SILK, COTTON AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING MAY 28, 1875.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To Great Britain.	To Marseilles, and Continent.	To America.	To Hong-kong, Coast Ports, &c.	Total China.	Japan Transhipped.	Grand Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total since 28th May	1,728	2,111	..	..	3,839	..	3,839
Subsequent Shipments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total....	1,728	2,111	..	..	3,839	..	3,839

COTTON.

	Cleared	Hongkong.			Coast & Riverine Ports.			Japan.			Total.
		Export.	Re-export.	Tran-shipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Tran-shipped.	Export.	Re-export.	Tran-shipped.	Piculs.
		Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs.	..	..	Piculs
Total since 28th May.....	.....	900.00	..	..	13,739.48	..	..	..	..	..	14,639.48
Subsequent Shipments	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total....	.....	900.00	..	..	13,739.48	..	..	..	..	..	14,639.48

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 12th JUNE, 1875.

Imported.	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	955½	955.50	225	270.00	16	19.20	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	955½	955.50	225	270.00	16	19.20	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption and Imported direct to the Shore.....	28	28.60	123	147.60	45	54.00	..	..

Description.	Chinkiang.		Kiukiang.		Hankow.		Chefoo.		Tientsin.		Newchwang.		Ningpo.		Foochow.		Hongkong.		Total.	
Re-Exported.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.	Chts.	Wght.
Malwa.....	117	117.00	36	36.00	27½	27.50	60	60.00	90	90.00	..	..	20	20.00	..	..	..	..	350½	350.50
Patna.....	33	39.60	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	8.40	..	..	5	6.00	..	..	..	..	45	54.00
Benares	5	6.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2.40	..	..	..	..	7	8.40
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	3	3.00
Malwa Re-exported from shore.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....	155	162.60	36	36.00	27½	27.50	60	60.00	97	98.40	1	1.00	29	30.40	..	..	..	..	405½	415.90

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, JUNE 18TH, 1875.

ARRIVALS.—From Liverpool, the steamship *Glaucus;* and from Marseilles, with the London mails of the 7th ultimo, the M. M. steamer *Ava.*

TELEGRAM.—London, 15th June, *Cotton Mid. Or.*, 7 7/8d., quiet; *Grey Shirtings*, 8¼-lb. *Eagle*, 9s. 9d., steady; *Iron*, £9 10s., and W.B. *Lead*, £23 per ton.

PIECE GOODS.—Dealers have evinced some inclination to do business in the articles enumerated in the preamble to Report of 11th instant, but most of them have been kept at home by almost incessant heavy rains; consequently transactions have been few, and of little moment beyond that they may be said to establish quotations.

The expected orders have not yet come from the interior, but prospects at HANKOW seem rather brighter, and the letters from CHINKIANG, received by each successive steamer during the week, have reported a fair business in PLAIN COTTONS, and are altogether more cheerful in tone than they have been for weeks past. On the other hand, the latest TIENTSIN advices are most discouraging; scarcely any trade going on; prices lower, and generally nominal; and the JAPANESE requirements—in PIECE GOODS—are now about as trifling as they well can be.

At the last auctions some articles gave way slightly in value, while others commanded full prices, and even shewed a tendency to advance. Among the former, *Long Ells* and 6-lb. *T-Cloths* take station; and 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings*, *Lastings* and *Spanish Stripes* appear amongst the latter; and this is the more inexplicable, as the experience of private sellers of these imports has been just the reverse. They have sold the first named at better prices than were previously current, but have signally failed to make any progress with *Shirtings* or *Lastings*, excepting in isolated instances, and where they were willing to submit to a decline. Private sales of U. U. *Long Ells*, of the usual assortment, were booked at Tls. 6.80 and Tls. 6.85 per piece, and a clean 14 × 15 square 6-lb. *T-Cloth* realised Tls. 1.18 *a* 1.22 per piece; but the holders of medium to good chops of 8¼-lb. *Grey Shirtings* have had difficulty in getting so much as an offer, notwithstanding that many of them have expressed willingness to entertain any reasonable tender. The commoner to commonest makes of this weight and cloth, however, have been asked for, and so have similar standards of 6 and 7-lbs., but buyers are very hard to please, and are most careful to offer only rates that they deem absolutely safe. Their caution may or may not be inspired by misgivings as to the immediate future standard of value. At all events it has, thus far, proved a serious obstacle to trade, for sellers, as a rule, have hesitated at the figures named, and hence but few of the required classes have changed hands since last mail left. 8¼-lb. Dewhurst's *Eagle* has been sold at Tls. 1.96, Collie's *Green Lion* at Tls. 1.80, some medium quality at Tls. 1.75, and the commonest at Tls. 1.61½ *a* 1.65 per piece. 7-lbs.—Mildews of Dewhurst's *Eagle* have been asked for at Tls. 1.50 per piece—"inside," and sales of common chops at Tls. 1.40 *a* 1.43 are registered. 6lbs.—Mildew rejections to extent of 4,500 pieces have been resold for local distribution at Tls. 1.26 *a* 1.27, and sound cargo has been placed at Tls. 1.29 *a* 1.31 per piece. *Heavy Shirtings* have continued in moderate request, and the last sales of them evidence a strengthening market.

White Shirtings.—A limited enquiry for 56 and 64 Reeds has been supplied to the full out of former settlements, and the market closes quietly with sellers at quotations.

T-Cloths.—Small sales of all weights. Prices rather irregular, ranging from Tls. 1.14 *a* 1.22 for low counts of 6-lbs.; Tls. 1.28 *a* 1.32 for 7-lbs. of similar standard, and Tls. 1.39 *a* 1.47½ for ordinary to good Mexicans; and Tls. 1.62 *a* 1.67 for 8-lbs. The classes that have engaged attention have been in fairly steady demand, and the attempts by buyers to reduce values have been in more cases than one not unsuccessfully resisted.

Drills.—The continued scarcity of 14-lbs. Cloth and the firmness of the few holders is still forcing the trade in the lower makes of 15-lbs.; and small sales of these are recorded at Tls. 2.43 *a* 2.45 per piece. At these rates dealers are open to buy, but they neglect the better qualities at what importers consider their relative values.

Sheetings.—The lot ex *Glaucus*—2,000 pieces—has been disposed of at an improvement upon the offers of last week. No other sale reported.

Jeans.—No transaction, and not wanted.

Fancy Cottons.—No change to note. The market has been and still is very dull. Little lots of *Chintzes*, blue and as sorted; *Handkerchiefs; Dyed Brocades; Damasks;* printed *Twills*, and *Muslins* find a local market; and 2 *a* 2¼ lb. *Turkey Reds*, and cheap *Lawns* are occasionally asked after by the Japanese traders, but the amount of business passing is barely sufficient to establish quotations.

Woollens.—In addition to the private business alluded to above, and to what was done at the Auctions—given below—there have been some trifling transactions in *Camlets*—resales chiefly; a continuance of the demand for *Medium Cloths*, with sales of nearly 300 pieces fine quality, at Tls. 1.27 per yard, the article being in favor at the close; and also an enquiry for *Spanish Stripes*, which have been taken to extent of 800 pieces on the basis of Tls. 0.61 per yard for H.H. For best black *Lastings*, Tls. 11.60 is still refused, but *Figured Orleans* would be parted with on rather easier terms, if any reasonable concession were likely to induce contracts.

AUCTION SALES.

	15th June.				*17th June.*			
Camlets—C.P.H., assorted.....	250 pcs.	Tls. 12.95	*a* 13.42½	per pce.	G.G.M.	200 pcs.	av. Tls. 13.27½	p. pce.
					S.S.G.	400 ,,	,, ,, 13.20	,,
Long Ells— ,, Scarlet 1,000	,,	,, 6.86	*a* 6.84	,,	G.G., assorted	200 ,,	,, ,, 6.84	,,
Pink 20	,,	,, 5.85	*a* —.—	,,				
Lastings— ,, Blk. & Gen. 80	,,	,, 10.45	*a* 10.60	,,				
—Lion, assorted..... 140	,,	,, 12.00 up to 12.45 for Magenta.						
Spanish Stripes—C.P.H., asstd. 144	,,	av. Tls. 0.58.4 per yd.			H.H.	252 ,,	,, ,,	0.60¾ p. yd.
					T.T.B.	252 ,,	,, ,,	0.58½ ,,
G. Shirtings—8¼-lbs. Red Lion. 1,000	pcs.	Tls. 1.73	*a* 1.73½	per pce.				
— ,, Green ,, 450	,,	,, 1.66	*a* 1.66½	,,				
— ,, Peacock ... 850	,,	,, 1.61¼	*a* 1.61½	,,				
— ,, Goose 750	,,	,, 1.61¼	*a* —.—	,,				
—6¾-lbs. Peacock. 400	,,	,, 1.33	*a* 1.32½	,,				
—7-lbs. Red Lion. 500	,,	,, 1.43½	*a* 1.44	,,				
T-Cloths—6-lbs. Green Lion ... 400	,,	,, 1.14½	*a* —.—	,,				

P.S.—2 P.M.—Collie's chops of *Grey Shirtings* are offering in quantity on the market, to-day, at reduced dates, but buyers are holding off.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ...per piece...Tls.	14.0.0	13.4.5	13.8.0	12.8.0	14.1.0	...	13.6.0	12.8.0	12.3.5	...
Long Ells, ...Noml. ... ,, ... ,,	6.8.0*a*6.8.5	7.5.0	6.8.5	7.1.5	6.9.5	...	...	7.2.0	6.3.0	...
Spanish Stripes,.....per yard ... ,,	0.5.9½	0.5.6	0.5.6½	0.6.0	0.6.0	0.5.7	0.5.5	0.5.8	0.5.7	0.5.8

PRICES REALIZED AT AUCTION ON 17TH JUNE, 1875.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
G.G. Camlets p. pce. ₹	13.75/13.77½	12.75	13.40	12.65	14.00	...	13.47½	12.60	12.12½	.....
S.S.G. ,, ,, ,,	13.70/13.77½	12.57½/12.52½	13.35	12.67½/12.60	14.00/13.87½	...	13.50/13.30	12.85/12.62½	12.10/12.07½	.....
G.G. Long Ells ,, ,,	6.72½	7.47½	6.82½	.....	6.82½	...	.....	.....	6.20	.....
H.H. Sp. Stripes p. yd.,,	0.61	0.60¼/ 0.60½	0.60¾	0.61½	0.62	0.56	0.57	0.61½	0.60	.....
T.T.B. ,, ,, ,,	0.60¼/0.60½	0.57	0.57/ 0.57½	0.61¾	.....		0.57	.....	0.57½/58	0.57

		T.m.c.		T.m.c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—				
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds...	₩ pc.	1.2.8	to	1.3.4
7lbs.	,,	1.3.7	,,	1.5.2
8¼ @ 8½ lbs.	,,	1.6.1	,,	1.9.5
9 *a* 9¼-lbs.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.2.5
9¾ *a* 10-lbs.	,,	2.5.0	,,	2.7.0
Tun Sin	,,	2.9.0	,,	nom.
G. E. White Shirtings—				
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	₩ pc.	1.5.5	,,	1.6.5
60 reed	,,	1.7.0	,,	1.8.0
64 ,,	,,	1.8.5	,,	2.0.0
64 ,, Best & 66 Reed.	,,	2.0.0	,,	2.1.5
68 @ 80 reed	,,	2.2.5	,,	2.5.5
Best	,,	2.7.0	,,	3.2.0
Drills, Am. 40 yds 30in 15lbs.	...	3.3.5	,,	3.4.7
English, ,, 14 *a* 15-lbs.	...	2.4.0	,,	2.5.0
Do. Fine to Finest ,,	...	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Dutch, ,, 13 *a* 14½-lbs.	...	2.3.7	,,	2.4.3
Jeans, D'ch., 30yd. 30in. 8½lb.	..	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
English ,, ,, 8 *a* 8¼lbs.	...	1.7.5	,,	1.8.8
American ,, ,, nom.	...	2.7.5	,,	.....
Sheetings—				
Amr., 40yds. 36 *a* 38in. 15lbs.	...	3.7.0	,,	3.7.5
Eng., ,, ,, 14 *a* 16lbs.	...	2.9.0	,,	3.0.0
T-Cloths—				
6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.1.3	,,	1.1.8
7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord...	p. pc.	1.2.8	,,	1.3.3
6-lbs. Mex.	,,	1.2.8	,,	1.3.5
7-lbs. ,,	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.5.7
8 to 8¼-lbs.	,,	1.6.2	,,	1.8.0
Better kinds and XX		1.8.5	,,	2.2.0
Handkerchiefs, Blue 28in.	₩ dz.	0.4.8	,,	0.5.5
Brown...	,,	0.4.0	,,	0.4.5
Spotted Shirtings, White	₩ pc.	2.1.0	,,	2.2.0
Dyed.	,,	2.5.0	,,	2.6.5
Brocades—White, 40yds.	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.2.5
Dyed	,,	2.6.5	,,	2.7.5
Damasks, Dyed, 40 yds ...	,,	4.2.0	,,	4.8.0
Gentian Shirtings	,,	2.2.0	,,	2.5.5
Chintz—Assorted	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.4.5
Blue and Brown...	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.3.5
Scarlet	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
Printed Twills—24/25 yds.	...	1.9.2½	,,	.....
50/52 ,,	...	3.7.0	,,	4.9.0
T. Reds, 24yds. 2 *a* 3lbs. 32in.	,,	1.5.6	,,	2.1.0
Do. Best	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.5.5
Velvets—Black, 22 in...	₩ yd.	0.1.8	,,	0.1.9
Velveteens—Black, 18 in.	,,	0.1.3¼	,,	0.1.4½
26 in.	,,	0.1.9	,,	0.2.1
Blue Denims	,,	0.0.5	,,	0.0.6½
Dimities, 12 yds. 37 in....	₩ pc.	1.3.0	,,	1.4.0
41 in. ...	,,	1.4.5	,,	1.5.5
Muslins, 12 yds. 42 in. nml.	,,	0.8.0	,,	0.9.5
Camlets, English, S S	,, ,,	12.7.5	,,	13.5.0
G G	,, ,,	13.3.0	,,	.....
S S G	,, ,,	13.2.0	,,	.....
Medium & Broad Cloths	₩ yd.	0.7.5	,,	1.6.5
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.5.6	,,	0.5.7½
,, T. T.-B	,,	0.5.8½	,,	... ..
,, H.H.	,,	0.6.1	,,	.....
Long Ells—				
Scarlet, 24yrd. H H	₩ pc.	6.8.0	,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.8.0	,,	6.8.5
Assorted, H H	,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
,, C P H	,,	6.9.0	,,	.....
,, G G	,,	6.8.5	,,	.....
,, U U	,,	6.8.5	,,	.....
Lastings, 30 yds	,,	10.0.0	,,	12.6.0
Crape Lastings, 30 yds...	,,	4.0.0	,,	8.5.0
Crape Lustres	,,	3.1.0	,,	3.4.0
Plain—Do. Black	,,	3.5.0	,,	3.8.0
Orleans—Fig., 30 yds. nm.	,,	2.6.0	,,	3.6.0
Special Patterns	,,	3.2.0	,,	4.5.0

METALS.—*Nail Rod Iron.*—Lower prices have brought about a fair amount of business during the last week, the decline being more marked in makes of the best description. Stocks of Dawes' best have been considerably augmented, and buyers demand a farther concession.—Sales estimated at about 12,000 bundles at Tls. 2.60 *a* 2.85 per picul. *Lead.*—Notwithstanding that stocks have been very much reduced by the recent re-exports to Foochow, Ningpo, and up river, there has not been any business done here, and there does not seem any disposition to buy on the part of our natives. Prices therefore are entirely nominal. *Tin.*—No market. Quotations lower, and *Quicksilver* has declined about Tls. 10 within the week.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.

		Tls. m. c.		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pcl.	95.0.0 *a*	97.0.0	
TIN PLATES—14 × 10	per Box	6.1.0 *a*	6.2.0	
Small ,,	,,	.....	.....	
IRON WIRE—No. 17 ...	per Pcl.	6.5.0 *a*	6.7.5	
18 ... nominal	,,	7.0.0 *a*	.....	
19/23 no demand.	,,	7.7.5 *a*	8.0.0	
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	,,	18.8.0 *a*	19.0.0	
Fok Chok ....nom....	,,	18.5.0 *a*	.....	
Common Chops... ,, ...	,,	13.7.0 *a*	.....	
STEEL	per Tub	3.5.0 *a*	3.6.0	
Bamboo	per Pcl.	4.4.0 *a*	4.5.0	
JAPAN COPPER—Finger ..... none ...	,,	..... *a*	.....	
Slab, best ... ,, ...	,,	18.5.0 *a*	18.7.5	
Ore ..... ,, ...	,,	17.4.0 *a*	.....	
HOOP IRON	,,	3.1.0 *a*	3.2.0	
PIG IRON	per Ton	25.0.0 *a*	26.0.0	
NAILROD IRON—				
Dawes' Best ..... Nom.	per Pcl.	2.8.0 *a*	2.9.0	
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. ..... ,,	,,	2.6.5 *a*	2.7.0	
Belgian ..... ,,	,,	2.3.5 *a*	2.4.0	
M. M. Crown ..... ,,	,,	2.5.0 *a*	2.6.0	
Bar—Dawes ..... ,,	,,	2.8.0 *a*	3.0.0	
Round	,,	3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0	
LEAD—L B ..... Nom.	,,	5.9.5 *a*	6.0.0	
Japanese & Common Brands ,,	,,	... .. *a*	.....	
COTTON—Common New	per Pcl.	8.6.0 *a*	9.0.0	
,, Medium	,,	9.6.0 *a*	10.0.0	
,, Best	,,	10.6.0 *a*	11.0.0	
SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1 Nom.	,,	5.7.0 *a*	6.4.0	
,, 2	,,	5.2.0 *a*	5.8.0	
,, 3	,,	4.6.0 *a*	5.2.0	
Canton, ... ,, 1	,,	5.0.0 *a*	5.4.0	
,, 2	,,	4.6.0 *a*	4.8.0	
,, 3	,,	4.4.0 *a*	4.6.0	
Brown—Swatow, Best	,,	3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0	
Common ...	,,	2.6.0 *a*	2.8.0	
,, —Canton,	,,	3.0.0 *a*	3.2.0	
,, — ,, Common ...	,,	2.4.0 *a*	2.6.0	
PEPPER—Black	,,	8.5.0 *a*	.....	
—White	,,	15.0.0 *a*	18.0.0	
RATTANS—Common	,,	2.8.0 *a*	3.6.0	
—Good to fine	,,	3.8.0 *a*	4.0.0	
—Best	,,	4.2.0 *a*	4.4.0	
SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	,,	2.8.0 *a*	3.0.0	
5 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	1.8.0 *a*	2.4.0	
SANDALWOOD—South Sea	,,	3.6.5 *a*	3.7.0	
Timor	,,	9.0.0 *a*	10.0.0	
Malabar	,,	16.5.0 *a*	18.0.0	
MANGROVE BARK	,,	0.7.0 *a*	1.3.0	
FLINT STONES,	,,	0.4.5 *a*	0.5.2	

COTTON.—A further rise of 2 mace per picul on fine to finest staple has been demanded and paid in some instances. Demand is still trifling, but the receipts are scarcely equal to it, small although it be. When the rains cease, and the demands for field labour are less imperative, we shall probably have more liberal supplies of cotton, but for a short time only, as the season is fast drawing to its close.

EXCHANGE.—The market has been fairly active and a considerable amount of paper changed hands during the week. Immediately after the departure of last mail, Bank bills were offered at 5s. 9¾d., but at the same time there was a strong demand for Merchants' paper at 5s. 10d. 5s. 10¼d. Subsequently rates declined to 5s. 9½d. for Bank, and 5s. 9⅞ *a* 5s. 10d. for Private paper. The bulk of the business for the week was transacted at these quotations. On India the business reported has been small. Transactions have passed at Rs. 315 on demand, and Rs. 317 for 30 days' sight. There are buyers at quotations. On Hongkong rates have ruled steady at 27¾ per cent. discount.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—Public telegrams from London dated the 15th inst. report the silk market "quiet, but steady; and quote Cock and Worm No. 3½, 15s. 6d.; Blue Elephant, 15s.; Kukee's "Kin Hock," 14s. 9d.; Red Peacock, 14s. 6d.; Fair No. 5 Tsatlee, 13s. 3d., and Hangchow Tsatlee, 13s. per lb."

A large business has been transacted in silk during the past week, and settlements are estimated at fully 4,000 bales, making total to date 8,000 bales. The greater proportion has again been taken by the Continental buyers at prices which must be considered *very full ones*, in face of above advices from London, and considering the willingness evinced by holders to realize.

	Per picul.	Per lb. Ex. 5/10 Tls.	Per kilo. Ex. Frs. 7.40.
Koo-fong-sing Chop No. 3, 3½ and 4	Tls. 400, 380, 360	19/11, 18/11, 17/11	Frs. 55.82, 53.08, 50.34
Incense Chop Nos. 3 and 3½	Tls. 360 & 335	17/11 & 16/8	Frs. 50.34 & 46.91
Gold Lion, Nos. 3 and 4	Tls. 340 & 320	16/11 & 16/0	Frs. 47.60 & 44.86
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and Kin Hock"	Tls. 340 & 315	16/11 & 15/9	Frs. 47.60 & 44.17
Phœbus, Nos. 1, 2 and 3	Tls. 340, 320, 300	16/11, 16/0, 15/0	Frs. 47.60, 44.86, 42.12
"May-foong" Elephant	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.17
Yellow and Green do.	Tls. 305 & 285	15/3 & 14/3	Frs. 42.80 & 40.06
Beautiful Woman, No. 2	Tls. 317½	15/11	Frs. 44.50
Pagoda No. 2	Tls. 325	16/3	Frs. 45.54
Buffalo, No. 2	Tls. 317½	15/11	Frs. 44.50
Double Phœnix "Ting Fong"	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.17
Dancing Bear, No. 2	Tls. 320	16/0	Frs. 44.86
"Chay-shen" Tsatlee	Tls. 285	14/3	Frs. 40.06
Chin Yuen Sing's "Ting How" "Kahing Taysaam"	Tls. 350	17/5	Frs. 48.97
Do. "Kin Ling," do.	Tls. 290	14/6	Frs. 40.75
Tung-Yih's "Cheang Foong" do.	Tls. 355	17/8	Frs. 49.66

Arrivals are increasing and the unsold stock is estimated at 12,000 bales.

TEA.—There has been more business doing during the past week, though our market continues to be only sparingly supplied. Arrivals have consisted almost entirely of Teas from the Hohow and Ningchow districts, only a few chops of Shontam and Oonfaa having been received from Hankow. One or two good parcels of the latter class have been sold at Tls. 31½ *a* 32½. Quotations on the whole are about the same as last week.

The first crop is now nearly finished, and the market closes quiet with only a small available stock. Prices paid have been—

Hohows & Ningchows	Tls.	20½ *a* 40.	Settlements...	15,092 chests.	Stock.
Shontams & Oonfas	,,	20 *a* 32½.	Shipments ...	2,241 ,,	23,500 chests.
Common Nipcasees	,,	19½	Total.....	17,333 chests.	

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods, and Metals, for week ending 16th June, 1875, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 131 @ 136, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destination.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	9,250	24,700	2,300	17,090	3,900	20,600	400	250	...	...	500	...	50	5,300
T-Cloths ..... ,,	4,085	5,950	5,187	14,340	3,800	23,465	...	2,100	...	...	300	...	...	6,380
White Shirtings ..... ,,	50	200	240	2,419	...	7,937	300	400	...	...	...	...	...	1,480
Drills ..... ,,	90	120	795	8,983	135	1,495	625	...	...	...	600	...	...	345
Jeans ..... ,,	30	...	30	2,219	40	1,050	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Sheetings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	80	4,850	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	50	...	...	50	...	899	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spots, White ..... ,,	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes ..... ,,	...	125	60	780	120	887	560	60	...	...	...	...	...	600
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	50	50	...	50	400	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	...	100
Velvets ..... ,,	...	24	90	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	...	144
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	24	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	...	800	600	800	...	400	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	200	...	...	...	...	600	...	...	...	...	800	...	...	200
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	...	...	162	174	72	216	6	30	144	...	...	...	...	96
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	...	12	50	188	40	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Camlets ..... ,,	50	30	210	310	50	60	86	80	...	...	...	...	10	90
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	20	400	440	40	60	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Lastings ..... ,,	...	40	40	280	40	150	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	100	60	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	160	50	60	350	259	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	50	...	300	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... Pcls.	336	815	...	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead ..... ,,	620	181	253	924	...	...	...	1,287	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Deliveries.		Imports.		Stocks.	
	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	For Week.	For Year from 1st Jany. 1875.	Estimated at date *	Against 18/6/74.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	84,340	1,932,795	108,692	1,823,235	1,113,400	1,091,800
T-Cloths ..... ,,	65,607	1,238,135	73,655	888,569	256,000	518,500
White Shirtings ..... ,,	13,026	329,576	24,119	388,240	134,500	69,400
Drills ..... ,,	13,188	282,647	14,230	175,153	136,500	340,000
Jeans ..... ,,	3,429	132,382	17,099	208,195	104,400	53,600
Sheetings ..... ,,	4,950	41,085	3,870	48,595	9,200	20,200
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	1,149	19,752	1,854	39,506	22,600	.....
Spots, White ..... ,,	.....	3,919	.....	.....	4,200	2,300
,, Dyed ..... ,,	.....	.....	.....	1,550	.....	.....
Brocades, White ..... ,,	100	9,704	491	7,017	.....	.....
,, Dyed ..... ,,	150	23,016	1,299	18,837	24,900	30,000
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	80	8,983	200	8,195	6,300	6,800
Chintzes ..... ,,	3,192	84,944	6,589	50,831	54,400	97,000
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	950	44,961	850	54,032	35,400	10,900
Velvets ..... ,,	486	19,227	2,664	23,787	12,300	18,100
Velveteens ..... ,,	174	5,857	980	8,230	3,600	9,200
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	4,210	93,679	8,480	55,345	34,400	77,600
Muslins ..... Pcs.	1,800	24,086	50	20,843	7,900	16,300
Dimities ..... ,,	.....	10,120	200	2,730	8,300	8,500
Spanish Stripes ..... ,,	900	21,106	1,392	21,924	11,600	28,100
Medium and Broad Cloths ..... ,,	384	9,586	2,387	12,085	12,900	21,100
Camlets ..... ,,	976	40,941	2,270	33,973	15,200	15,000
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,120	35,160	1,880	38,220	12,100	15,200
Lastings ..... ,,	730	18,892	866	14,974	8,500	7,400
Crape Lastings ..... ,,	220	6,320	100	3,719	6,600	3,300
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	250	8,520	2,240	11,799	7,300	10,400
,, Figured ..... ,,	1,329	74,700	2,270	34,501	88,300	115,300
,, Crape ..... ,,	350	10,290	1,000	9,239	21,100	14,500
Pig Lead ..... Pcls.	3,265	50,995	4,194	31,634	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	1,235	62,076	3,752	102,187	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Rajanattianuhar, Tartar, Cheviot, Vilsing, Glenlyon, Zambesi, Tigre, Nizam, Achilles, Deerhound, Glaucus, Ava,* several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

June 19, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—June 15th, American schooner *Almatia*, from Singapore; 18th, German schooner *San Francisco*, from Singapore; British ship *Ascalon*, from Sydney.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—June 16th, British steamer *Achilles*, for London.

The French mail steamer *Tigre* takes about 4,000 bales of Silk.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 9d. *a* 5s. 9¼d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9⅝d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.30. Private, Frs. 7.37½ *a* 7.40. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 314½. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 314½. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27⅝ per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28¼. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 73.025 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 80.15 per 100. Copper cash, 1,590 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 19th June:—

Banks.—The market has been irregular—shares having been bought in Hongkong, for Shanghai account, immediately after our last, at 26½ % dis.; and shares were bought here yesterday, for Hongkong account, at 23 % dis.

S. S. N. Co.—On the afternoon of the 12th, business was done at Tls. 73½ cash and Tls. 75 for 30th inst., and a fair amount of business has since been done at Tls. 74 *a* 75 cash, Tls. 75½ for 30th inst., and Tls. 76 for 31st July. Very few shares are now to be got at Tls. 75 cash.

Fire Insurance.—*Chinas* have been wanted at $142, but few shares have been settled, holders wanting higher rates. *Hongkongs* have been placed to a limited extent at $495 cash, and equivalent rates for time.

Marine Insurance.—A fair business has been done in *China & Japans* at Tls. 92 *a* 92½ cash—the market closing with buyers at Tls. 93, and sellers at Tls. 94. *Yangtszes* have been placed at Tls. 522½ for 31st July *ex June dividend*, and at Tls. 557½ cash *cum div.* Holders now ask much higher rates.

Wharf Shares have been placed at Tls. 90 cash, and Tls. 95 for 31st December.

Imperial Loan Bonds are now wanted at £102.

Very heavy rain set in on Sunday and continued during the early days of the week. A strong N.-Easterly wind during Wednesday night cleared the atmosphere somewhat, and Friday and to-day have been dry, but cloudy and threatening, with a Northerly breeze.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Divid. Last Year.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	....	23 % dis.
Steamer Cos.			Tls.
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	7 %	75 Cash 75½ 30 June
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50	....	21
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	10 %	Tls. 62½
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 %	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.20p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	10 %	85
Gas			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	11 %	Tls. 137
French Gas Co. ..	50	11 %	70
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	$150p.sh	875 nomi.
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	....	70
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	725
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500	....	$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	15 %	Tls. 557½
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co....	100	....	Tls. 93
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	12 %	$ 192
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	495
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	12 % & Bonus 4½	160 nominal
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	12 %	142
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	12 %	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. ...	100	5 %	90 Cash
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	....	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	8 %	102
Do. ,, 1873.	100	8 %	105
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 *a* 5/7	first year	£102
Theatre Debentures	25	8 %	Tls. 20 nomi.
Exchange			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong ..			72½

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital $5,000,000
Reserved Fund $100,000

Court of Directors.

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Deputy-Chairman—W. H. Forbes, Esq.
E. R. Belilios, Esq. | H. Hoppius, Esq.
J. F. Cordes, Esq. | H. Nicaise, Esq.
F. D. Sassoon, Esq.

Head Office, Hongkong.

Branches—

London	Hiogo
Bombay	Hankow
Calcutta	Saigon
Foochow	Amoy
Yokohama	

London Bankers—London and County Bank.

SHANGHAI BRANCH.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 2% on daily balances.
On Fixed Deposits, for 12 months, at 5%
,, ,, ,, ,, 6 ,, ,, 4%
,, ,, ,, ,, 3 ,, ,, 2%

Local Bills Discounted.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

EWEN CAMERON.
31 de-75 *Manager.*
(c.a.) 2078 Z 6th May, 1875.

The London Assurance Corporation.

Established A.D. 1726.

THE undersigned Agents for the above Corporation are prepared to issue policies covering *Fire and Marine risks* at current rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
tf 2890 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.

COMPTOIR d'ESCOMPTE de PARIS.

Incorporated 7th and 8th March, 1848.
Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April, 1862.

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Nantes	Calcutta	Shanghai
Roubaix		

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The Bank of England.
The Union Bank of London

Interest allowed on current accounts at 2 % per annum on the minimum monthly balances.

The Bank receives fixed deposits on terms to be ascertained on application.

All communications to be addressed to the Manager.

L. EWALD, *Manager.*
4 Hap-76 3026 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1875.

NOTICE.

THE undersigned have been appointed Agents for the following MARINE MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATIONS:—

"The British Iron," for Iron and Composite Ships only employed in Southern Trades.

"The British Iron Freight and Outfit" insures the Freights and Outfits of Iron and Composite Ships.

"The British Mutual," for all descriptions of risks, at estimated rates of 6, 8, 10 and 12 per cent. per annum, according to character.

"The British Imperial" admits eligible vessels in all Trades, at the estimated rate of 12 per cent. per annum.

"The British Freight and Outfit Associations" admit all eligible risks.

MORRIS, LEWIS & Co.
21ju 3468 Shanghai, 22nd May, 1875.

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIV., No. 424. SHANGHAI, JUNE 26, 1875. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	May 14	Hankow,	June 23
San Francisco,	„ 15	Yokohama,	„ 12
Hongkong,	June 19	Nagasaki,	„ 18
Tientsin,	„ 17	Foochow,	„ 19

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.

Hongkong, ...Apr. 14 | Received 15th May.
Shanghai, ...May 1 |

[illegible]

On the 24th April, at [illegible], Rue des Ursules, Lacon, Mrs. [illegible], of a daughter.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.—Per str. *Taku*, for Foochow—Messrs. O. E. Bailey and D. Main. Per M.B. str. *Takasago Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. C. E. Bade, three children and servant, C. W. Hay, Uyeno and Kinowaki. Steerage—Seven Chinese; two Japanese. For Hiogo—Steerage—Two Chinese. For Yokohama—Messrs. A. Girault and Tah-kin and servant. Steerage—Seven Chinese. Per P.M. str. *Oregonian*, for Nagasaki—Mr. Nils Moller. For Hiogo—Mrs. Geo. M. Hart, and Mr. A. Carmichel. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Sharmind, Messrs. A. E. Jones, T. Hervey and F. Howlden. For San Francisco—The Rev. G. D. B. Miller, Mrs. Miller, Miss Harr, and Dr. McMurtrie. Per M.B. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, for Nagasaki—The Rev. Herbert Maundale, wife and three children, Messrs. Lamont and G. Paulin; Japanese Lady. For Yokohama—Mrs. Allen Moore and infant, Miss McLean, Messrs. H. S. B. Usill and P. F. Ulrichs.

ARRIVED.—Per str. *Fusiyama*, from Chinkiang—Mr. Massey. Per M.B. str. *Kanagawa Maru*, from Yokohama—Mrs. Allen Moore, infant and servant, Mrs. Pond, infant and servant, Messrs. Harmand, Myers, Tyree and Ah-chee. From Kobe—Messrs. Oliver, Chonghee and Hung-chong-chop. From Nagasaki—Mr. Wilton Hack; 8 in steerage. Per P. M. str. *Oregonian*, from Yokohama—Madame Henry, Miss Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan, Mrs. Worthington, His Excellency J. F. Elmore, Peruvian Minister, and two servants, Messrs. L. P. Möller and servant, W. D. Renne, W. Lay and servant, Swany, A. Bernavides, J. Bernavides, E. Werninohl and servant, and J. W. Brown; 23 in steerage. Per P. & O. str. *Venetia*, from Venice—Mr. Thos. Smith. From Southampton—Rev. Henry Mandrell, wife and three children. From Hongkong—Mr. Dewajee; 97 Chinese. Per str. *Fuyew*—32 Chinese. Per str. *Appin*—One European; 20 Chinese. Per str. *Hankow*, from Chinkiang—Geo. F. Seward, Esq., U.S. Consul-General. Per str. *Ningpo*—Mr. McBain; two Europeans; 35 Chinese. Per P.M. str. *Golden Age*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Lowder and child; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Gough and three daughters; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Sites and child; Mr. and Mrs. Lemavie; Messrs. C. E. Endicott, A. Myburgh, W. Kidner, J. Levison, M. DuNares, Prolisko, Gukorski, F. E. Reilly, and five in the steerage.

LEAVING.—Per P. & O. str. *Nizam*. For Southampton—Mr. O. Percival. For Hongkong—Messrs. D. R. Crawford, D. Sayle, A. Garein and servant.

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30 Cornhill,
LONDON (E.C.)

☞ *Advertisements will be repeated unless countermanded.*

[illegible]

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1875.

THE bi-monthly Table which we publish on another page, showing the fluctuation in shares quoted in the Shanghai Share Market between July 1873 and the present time, is a document from which much may be learnt. The result, that the aggregate market value of stocks usually quoted in the market here, has depreciated within two years by an amount exceeding Five Millions of Taels, is sufficiently startling to need some explanation. An analysis of the more serious items of loss is scarcely more reassuring, while the fact that the depreciation in the share market is only one part in a chain of similar depression and loss, lends to the review a still wider interest. It is noteworthy that the principal losses have been in Steam Companies and Banks—*i.e.* those institutions most nearly connected with the prosperity of trade; and no one, unfortunately, can deny the patent inference, that trade has been bad. Still, it would be wrong to attribute the depreciation in value of these shares entirely to that influence. There have been other causes also at work. In the first place, competition has increased; rates of freight have been reduced, and the freight itself is distributed among a larger number of ships. These would in themselves be reasons why the shares should stand at a less value than they did in 1873; but it would not account for depression to the present limit; an exaggerated apprehension of the probable influence of the C. M. S. N. Co., and absence of demand, arising indirectly from depression of trade and consequent dearth of money, will go far to explain the extra fall. Coincidently again with the depression of trade, may be quoted an allegation based on the Customs Returns, that there is an actual falling off in the amount of goods to be transported. The statistics of the last three years show a steady decrease in the gross value of the trade of Shanghai, from Tls. 131,364,000, in 1872, to 124,438,000 in 1873, and Tls. 117,178,000 in 1874. But decrease in value has [illegible] as decrease in quantity, and we are not disposed to think a material reason for the depreciation at least of Steamer shares,

is to be found here. In the case of Bank shares it is otherwise. Bad management, which has encouraged inflated schemes and inflated speculation, has been a material factor; but the general depression of trade and consequent diminution of profits have exercised a disastrous influence, both directly and indirectly. Wharf and Marine Insurance shares stand next in point of depression, while Fire insurance shares and domestic institutions show comparatively little loss.

We believe, however, that if the table were extended to include all the joint-stock institutions connected with China, the depreciation would be found to be more serious then even the local share list seems to prove. Certainly if it were carried further back a couple of years it would show a still heavier loss, but the comparison would be less fair because it would include a period of abnormal inflation, just as present prices exhibit abnormal depression. Nor do proofs of the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs in China end with share lists, or even with the list of insolvencies which have been chronicled in our columns of late. They penetrate to the accounts of such institutions as the Colonial Post-Office at Hongkong. We find the Postmaster-General lamenting a loss of five thousand dollars on his customary revenue, and though a certain amount of this is to be accounted for by the more frequent use of telegraphic communication, there is still a margin which can only be explained by the decreased activity of trade. It is noteworthy, too, that at the present moment a commission is sitting in Hongkong to take into consideration the necessity of reduction in the ground-rents payable under lease to the local government. It is notorious that buildings are standing idle in the middle of Victoria, because they cannot be let at rates sufficient to cover the ground-rent; and though a similar state of affairs cannot happen at Shanghai, it is already felt that the last Municipal valuation, made within two years, is far in excess of present rates. Nor is the present depression confined to Foreigners alone. The Chinese themselves have been sufferers. Whatever may be said about the eagerness of competition, which prevents silk and tea falling to profitable rates, the competition has at least not been to the general profit of the Chinese merchant. The recovery of European silk crops, competition of Indian tea, increased shipments from China in both cases, and other causes into which it would be too long to enter, have caused a fall in the market value of these great staples of the China trade, of which even the consumer seems hardly yet to have reaped the benefit. Over-shipments of Piece Goods again depreciated the market in China to an extent from which it has never recovered, and the oppressive taxation which weighs here on every article of commerce, checks the increased consumption which would be the natural and certain remedy, if trade were less impeded and hampered by exactions. To judge from external events, China should now be entering on a career of prosperity; yet the contrary is the fact. Choked by barrier taxes and local squeezes, trade seems to be actually falling off instead of developing. And the blind policy of the Government prevents the exploitation of the mineral wealth which would in itself be a new source of prosperity. Year by year the returns of the Foreign Customs show a diminution, and so far as we can learn, were any accounts to be kept at the Native establishments, the results would be still more startling. The junk trade of Hongkong is in a fair way to extinction, without any corresponding revival taking place at Canton or elsewhere; things are in fact pretty nearly as bad as bad can be. We often hear the hope expressed that "when things come to the worst they will begin to mend;" and in this hope people have lingered on. Milton tells us of "in the lowest depth a deeper still," and there are causes which seems to justify the belief in a perpetual decadence. Persia, some twenty years ago, was thought to have attained to such an unsatisfactory condition that nothing lower was possible, but we believe that bad government has succeeded even there in making matters worse. Burmah seems to be following in the same track, though, thanks to its position, there is some faint hope of the government of the King getting hauled up with a tight knot. Singapore has been, for the present at least, rescued from a similar fate through the energy of Sir Andrew Clarke; but, judging from the present turn of affairs, the Chinese trade is to be allowed to drift helplessly into stagnation. Every abuse and every burden placed upon trade by the government of China seems to meet with the approval of Her Majesty's advisers, while remonstrances, whether from Foreign or Native traders, are either consigned to oblivion, or replied to in studiously offensive language. The British Government seems to forget that it was on the faith of its own promises that British capital has been largely invested in the China trade, and fails in its duty when it allows its Representatives to ignore commercial interests.

Summary of News.

The English mail of the 14th May arrived Wednesday, by the P. & O. str. *Venetia*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the P. & O. str. *Nizam*.

The following Reuter's telegrams have been received during the week:—

The suspension of the following firms is announced:—

Young Borhwich & Co., Bill Brokers; John Strachan & Co., Bishopsgate Street; J. Fowlie, Leadenhall Street; John Anderson & Co., Philpot Lane; J. P. Westhead & Co., Manchester. There are also other minor failures.

Malcolm, Hudson & Co., Crosby Square, have suspended payment.

The German Government in a note cordially thanks Belgium for the investigation into the Duchesne affair, and for the supplementary legislation to which it gave rise.

The Public Powers Bill has been read a second time in the Assembly.

The Burmah difficulty is settled.

Hongkong, 23rd June, 1875.

The steamer *Japan*, being towed to Wanchi to discharge cargo of coal, went on the rocks and after-compartment filled with water; efforts are being made to float her.

It is reported that the steamer *Carisbrooke* is to be released, security being given for the value of the ship, pending reference to Peking.

Messrs. Russell & Co.'s offices were destroyed by fire on the night of the 22nd. The fire commenced in the stables belonging to Messrs. Melchers & Co., part of whose premises was also burnt.

Obituary—Mr. W. D. Harrison, on the morning of the 23rd.

At an extraordinary meeting of the China Traders' Insurance Co., held in Hongkong Monday, the shareholders resolved unanimously in favour of a call of $500 per share. This will strengthen the Company considerably, and sets at rest all doubt as to whether it would continue in operation after its recent losses. We may take the opportunity, bye-the-bye, while speaking of losses, to mention that the Co.'s loss on the *Poyang* was only $15,000 instead of $50,000 as reported when the news first came up. We presume that every institution must expect its stroke of adversity, and certainly the China Traders' has had a cruel one. But having successfully weathered it, we have no doubt the Company will, under the new arrangements, recover all its former prosperity.

Beyond giving a further batch of correspondence about wheelbarrows and bridges, the Municipal minutes we publish elsewhere tell us absolutely nothing but that all the medical men in Shanghai had been invited to attend a certain meeting, that six of them responded, and that "the time of the "meeting was taken up with matters con-"nected with the proposed new Hospital." Not a word as to what passed; yet one would think it could hardly be inconvenient to the Council to take the public into their confidence and elicit comment on the discussion as it proceeds. We have no doubt whatever the community will be, sooner or later, given such a full statement of the case as they are entitled to have; but we can see no reason why they should not have a minute sketch of what is passing, as it passes.—"After the Doctors had withdrawn," the letter from the French Council which we published a week ago, was read, accepting the jin-rik-sha arrangement as a basis for arranging the wheelbarrow licence difficulty; and a reply specifying more in detail the nature of the proposal, was agreed on:—1° That the number of wheelbarrows allowed to run in both Settlements shall be restricted 6,000. The present number licenced is, we believe, about 3,000, of which rather

more than ⅔ are licensed in this, and rather less than ⅓ in the French Concession, that a liberal margin is allowed for increase. 2°—That every wheelbarrow allowed to run shall be licensed by one or other of the Councils. 3°—That each Council shall have the right to issue 3,000 licenses and no more, 4°—keeping for itself what fees it takes. 5°—The license fee to be the same in both Settlements. 6°—The arrangement to be terminable at six months' notice. 7°—Regulations affecting the control of the traffic, to be agreed upon by the Councils, and to be uniform. The conclusion of the two letters rather reminds us of the correspondence between the editor and the contributors to *Punch's* novel, "Chikkin Hazard," — "and, now gentlemen, the editor does hope," &c., &c. However, we cordially endorse the wishes expressed by the two Presidents. It still remains for the Councils to approve in detail the proposition which they accepted in principle; and we have no doubt the two Municipalities will then work together more amicably than ever, after their rather sharp skirmish.

In the case Norman Hill *v.* Reynolds, tried before the Supreme Court on the 9th inst., Sir Edmund Hornby delivered judgment on Saturday, in favour of Defendant.

Sir Edmund Hornby delivered judgment Saturday, on the question that was argued before him on the 10th inst., as to whether the master, crew and passengers of the *Fusing* should recover for the loss of their effects on the same principle as the owners of the ship and cargo. In an elaborate and rather interesting decree, the Chief Judge decides in favour of the crew and passengers, but against the master. From the decision that both vessels were in fault, it follows that he was one of the two real delinquents, "and ought not to recover from his innocent owners or the equally innocent owners of the *Ocean* (their so-called guilt being only an inference at law) in respect of loss brought about in part by his own act."

An enquiry was commenced at the Mixed Court Wednesday afternoon, into the assault on Mr. W. Cooper, near Quinsan, on the 29th April last. The Court was composed of Fan, district magistrate of Quinsan, and Chên, the Mixed Court magistrate, with Wong, interpreter to the Taotai of Shanghai; Mr. A. Davenport, H. B. M.'s Vice-Consul, being present as British Assessor, The charge involved an attempt at murder, with the addition of that of robbery. The proceedings, so far as they went, were thoroughly insatisfactory. No prisoners were at first produced, and it was not until after Mr. Davenport's repeated remonstrance, that the two ringleaders captured and brought to Shanghai by Mr. Cooper and his friends were placed at the bar—if so distinctive a word can be used with reference to a Chinese Court. It then transpired that no efforts had been made by the Chinese authorities to capture any more of the offenders, though these were numbered by hundreds; and [illegible] a question whether any [illegible] was instituted into the circumstances of the attack. Mr. Davenport, after an hour and a half's [illegible] time had been in a measure wasted, suggested a remand until some others of the score or more of ringleaders were apprehended; and this being acquiesced in by the Court, the proceedings terminated for the time. A full report appears elsewhere.

The behaviour of the Mandarins in this case is on a par with their conduct generally. Their efforts are directed to encroachment and the evasion of lawful responsibility. A feeling of irritation more intense than finds expression in printed words, prevails among foreigners at the present state of affairs in China. We have yielded and yielded, while the Chinese have encroached and encroached, till people are beginning to believe that nothing short of war will re-establish our prestige, and replace our intercourse on a tolerable footing. In defiance of all previous experience, culminating in two wars, the British Government has elected to believe that the Chinese were a civilised people who could be treated with on an equality and trusted to do right. For the third time now, a series of contrary evidence is accumulating that must eventually force upon it an opposite conviction, and which is, in the meantime, creating a sense of irritation among those who are on the spot and well informed, that is becoming well-nigh intolerable. H. B. M.'s Representative may have gathered some faint idea of this feeling, during his stay in Shanghai, but he has not the opportunity of learning its full strength. We cannot but think that the circumstances which so strongly affect a community not altogether unintelligent, must have an effect on the Foreign Ministers, and we have therefore some hope that the point of endurance has been nearly reached. The action which is being taken in the Chinkeang affair seems to be a foretaste of better things.

A Reuter's telegram says the Burmese difficulty is settled. That is, we presume, the King has given up the Karennee frontier question and promised to behave better in future. Will it be too much to hope that something may now be done in the Yunnan affair?

As our readers will have noticed, Dr. Elmore, the Peruvian Chargé d'Affaires, arrived by the *Oregonian* on Sunday, on his way to Peking, to exchange the ratifications of the Peruvian treaty with China. Dr. Elmore sent in his card to the Taotai on arrival, and the latter called on him Tuesday at the Astor House, and stayed some time in conversation.

The recent heavy rains have caused an unusually strong current in the Hwangpoo. The *Hoyen* was nearly an hour later than usual in arriving from Woosung on Tuesday.

An alarm of fire was rung through the Settlements last evening, between eight and nine o'clock, and the various fire brigades and ladder companies turned out in force with commendable alacrity. The fire was said to be in the French Settlement, and thither the firemen, accompanied by large crowds of [illegible] and Chinese dragged their [illegible] through mud and mire, only to find the alarm was a false one. [illegible] enquiry [illegible] ascertained [illegible] how the alarm was rang. At the French Police Station, M. Barbe and his subordinates were confident it came to them from the Central Police Station; while Superintendent Penfold, Inspector Fowler, and Sergeant Mackie were equally sure it came from the French side—Hongkew, being disconnected, having nothing to do with the mystery. That the telegraph alarm bell rang in both the Central and French Police Stations there can be no doubt, but how, is a mystery. No one could explain it, and it is therefore left for the electricians to decide.

We draw attention to the list of bi-monthly values of Shares as given in the share lists, from July 1873 to the end of May this year, which we publish on our commercial pages. The total depreciation of the total stocks as stated in the foot note, appears to be over five millions of taels.

The Engineer-in-chief notifies that a ship's mast-head light will henceforth be exhibited over the lorcha *Chinhai*, sunk on the sand-bank opposite the upper end of Gravener Island.

The police made a successful raid on a native gambling house in the Szechuen road, on Saturday night. The place had been discovered only a little while before, and was apparently newly set up. Inspector Fowler, with some native constables, went to the house, and found about thirty gamblers assembled. They immediately attempted to escape, and ran in all directions, some scaling walls, others climbing to the adjoining roofs, or dropping from windows, and making themselves scarce with the agility of cats. Nine were, however, captured, and will be taken to the Mixed Court this morning. A magazine of gambling apparatus was also seized, showing that the proprietors were adepts at their art.

The *Courier* gives the following particulars of the capture of some men supposed to have been concerned in the West Gate robbery:—About half way between Shanghai and Sung-kiang is a village named Chu-le-ding, blessed with a barrier Customs house on the creek, but otherwise unimportant. To the Tepao of this ordinarily quiet spot came a scared countryman the other day, saying that a band of desperadoes, between fifty and a hundred strong, had taken possession of a joss-house in the vicinity. The Tepao repaired to Sung-kiang in all haste, and obtained thence some soldiers; but not thinking these sufficient, he also came and requested succour from Shanghai. About forty soldiers were therefore sent, and a native creek-gunboat. To these the Che-hsien added about the same number of his police; and after a long fight, they succeeded in taking eight of the band prisoners. The rest, making about forty in all, managed to escape. The head messenger, we hear, with bitter remembrance of his thrashings, has been examining the captives himself, after the Chinese fashion, *i.e.* by torture; and has extorted confessions of several other robberies besides the West Gate affair. They will be brought before the Che-hsien for trial to-night. It is stated that most of them are former soldiers of the forces of Fang Kwang-yen.

A PEKING correspondent mentions a report that Li Hung-chang is going to buy a number of large Armstrong guns.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 29th May contains an edict directing that the Grand Canal be repaired, and fitted for the conveyance of tribute rice to the north. The conveyance of the rice by sea is spoken of as a temporary measure; and all the high officials of the districts bordering on the Canal are ordered to consult and devise measures for deepening the channel, and re-establishing through communication.

The *Gazette* of the 30th May contains a memorial from the Governor of Chekeang, reporting the collision between the *Ocean* and *Fusing*, and the loss of the latter with 65 lives. The C. M. S. N. Co. appear to have been held responsible for the rice lost, as it is reported that they have purchased sufficient to make it good. A mark of Imperial favour is solicited on behalf of the officer in charge, Shih Shi-hsien, who was drowned. Occasion is taken to remark that, although junks have been lost through stress of weather, no considerable number of individuals has at any time been drowned. We wonder if this accident has anything to do with the edict about the Grand Canal. It is just possible it *may* have given a handle to the strong party which has always been opposed to the C. M. S. N. Co.

The *Gazette* of the 1st June contains a memorial from the Governor of Kiangsu, reporting the loss of the *Fusing*. The memorial contains nothing of special interest.

The Peking *Gazette* of the 4th June contains one of the frequent utterances which find place there, condemning laxity and extortion, exhorting to energy and probity, and requiring the vigorous punishment of unworthy officials. These documents are so common and so notoriously inefficacious, that they are seldom worth notice otherwise than as literary curiosities. The present edict is perhaps worth more, because it is prompted by a man who has the reputation of being strictly upright. Perhaps the term Naval Inspector of the Yangtsze will convey an idea of Peng Yuh-ling's office. It is one which leaves opening enough for peculation, but his reputation is said to be spotless, and his name a terror to evil-doers. A memorial from him, denouncing corruption, would have undoubted weight; and to judge from the précis given in the edict, he appears to have submitted an able and exhaustive one. It can at least not be alleged in excuse for misgovernment that the Capital is uninformed. The avarice of the officials, the excessive taxation, the peculation of underlings, and the distress of the people under all these inflictions, are forcibly stated; and the edict issued in consequence is all that could be desired in tone and theory. But we have so often seen edicts to the same effect, without the slightest good ensuing, that we cannot find much hope in the present one. Still, Peng's name will have weight, and there is the chance that such utterances as his, coming among the mass of complaints that have been lately addressed to the Throne, will persuade the Government that things are in a bad way, and impel them to essay some action for their own safety, if from no higher motive.

Our TIENTSIN correspondent writes that the Chinese gunboat *Chinhae* left early on the 18th for Newchwang, with a fresh supply of munitions of war for the Imperial forces in Manchuria. There was a rumour amongst the Chinese in Tientsin, that the troops lately sent there had been attacked by a body of rebels unexpectedly, and suffered considerable loss. The fact of further supplies of powder, shot and shell being so quickly required does look as though affairs had not gone on well.—Ting Jih-chang, formerly Taotai of Shanghai, and since Governor of Kiangsu, has been appointed Assistant-Commissioner of Foreign Affairs in North-China. Our correspondent protests against the appointment, as designed to give Li an excuse for withdrawing from intercourse with Foreign officials, who will be handed over to an inferior. We are rather inclined to think it is a move towards preparing Ting for the Viceroyalty, in case Li is obliged to retire into mourning on account of his mother's death, which is likely to occur very shortly. —Sun Szeta, the late Acting Customs Taotai, left for Shanghai in the *Hochung*. The deadlock he succeeded lately in causing, does not appear to have injured him much in the eyes of Foreigners; for our correspondent speaks of him highly, and several Foreign officials appear to have come down to wish him good-bye.

By the steamer *Fychow*, we learn that the recent heavy rains have caused the river to swell unusually. On the 19th inst., the high-water mark at HANKOW was 37ft. 7in., and the water rising about 7 inches daily. The banks were covered, and the country was flooded in many places, especially in the neighbourhood of the Poyang Lake.—As will be seen from the extracts which we give on our fourth page, from Messrs. Gordon Bros'. Circular, apprehensions are entertained of a flood again, this year, at Hankow. Nearly as heavy rain seems to have fallen up the River, as in Shanghai.

H.M.S. *Thalia* arrived at CHINKEANG at 8 a.m. on Saturday, and the *Palos* at 8 a.m. on Sunday. The two men arrested at the beginning of the riot were tried in the presence of Mr. Seward and Mr. Medhurst, and sentenced to 50 blows each and a month's cangue. This accounts for the men concerned in the insult to the American Consul and his wife. But it remains to punish the attack on the British Consulate. And so far Mr. Medhurst has failed to obtain from the Military authorities any satisfaction for this outrage. He has therefore gone on to Nanking to press the matter on the Viceroy. The Civil Mandarins appeared well-disposed, but said they could do no more with regard to any further measures than press the case on the Military Mandarins. There has been no farther disturbance, nor does there seem to be any feeling of insecurity at Chinkeang. But such offences as those committed cannot be allowed to pass, and it is satisfactory that the opportunity is being taken to make a demonstration, and press the case on the Authorities, with a view to prevent further troubles.—Mr. Seward returned by the *Hankow*.

Messrs. Spencer, Wolff & Co. write from Chinkeang on the 23rd June:—Notwithstanding the almost incessant rain of the past week, and the depressing nature of advices received from Shanghai, a lively business has been conducted in Plain Cottons: medium to fair 8¼-lbs. *Grey Shirtings* have commanded most of the attention of our dealers, *T-Cloths* being in only moderate request, but holders are not anxious to press sales of these goods, as they look for an advance on present rates.

Our readers will remember the sketch we gave very lately, of a memorial said to have been addressed to Peking by the Governor of YUNNAN, disclaiming all knowledge of the murder of Mr. Margary or of the attack on Colonel Browne. That may have been a genuine document, designed to conceal official complicity, or it may have been written "for publication." We now hear it is reported in well-informed native quarters, that the Governor has also written a memorial to the Emperor, telling of his own prowess in beating back Col. Browne's expedition, and offering to keep the frontier clear of all foreigners, no matter of what nation. We give the report as we have heard it from our correspondent, who, while not vouching for its entire truth, says he has every reason to believe it is substantially correct.

We notice that an effort is being made in AMOY to establish a reading-room for Chinese, on a small scale, in imitation of the institution which has been created in Shanghai, under the impulse of H.B.M.'s Consul, Mr. Medhurst. It is not, at first, intended to do more than rent a small house, in a convenient place, on the Amoy side, furnish it in a simple Chinese way, take in the native newspapers of Shanghai and Hongkong, and a few periodicals (*Peking Magazine, Shun Pao, Monthly Wan Kuo Kung Pao,*) and purchase such books, translations of foreign works, as the fund subscribed will allow. The prospectus is signed by H.M. Acting-Consul, Mr. Phillips, Messrs. Kleinwachter, Pye, and Budler. About $150 have been already subscribed.

We are informed by the United States Consul-General, that the U. S. Consul at Amoy advises him that the export duty on coal shipped from FORMOSA has been reduced from $1 to one mace per ton.

HONGKONG news is unusually important. Not satisfied with harassing to death the Hongkong junk trade, the Chinese have now ventured a step further, and seized a British steamer which was landing passengers on the coast of Hainan. Particulars of the incident will be found elsewhere. A Court, consisting apparently of the Haikwan and H. M. Consul, has been held to investigate the case, but they appears to have been unable to agree on a decision, as the case is to be referred to Peking.—Messrs. Russell & Co.'s offices on the Praya at Hongkong, were burned down Wednesday morning; the books and papers were saved. A private telegram names the Hongkong Fire Insurance as a probable loser of $20,000 by the accident, and the China Fire of $15,000.—It is said to be very probable that Dr. Legge, the well-known missionary, of Hongkong, will be appointed to the professorship of Chinese at Oxford.

of the working of the new jail system, are all necessary preliminaries. We all know the saying uttered first by a little man and approved by a great one—"the very worst use to which you can put a man is to hang him." Surely it is nearly as bad to condemn a man to weeks or months of inutility—to leave him to brood over his past in sullen gloom, and to punish a citizen for offending society by keeping him under conditions where he must learn to hate it. We hope therefore, some day, to see this admirable suggestion carried out, and a jail with its European and Chinese sides conducted on a reformatory plan. But we fear, for the reasons we have stated, the prospect is not near at hand. However that may be, a permanent Foreign Assessor would be the only person who could undertake to carry out these extensive and beneficial changes, and we trust the first effort will be directed to having such an officer appointed to the Mixed Court.

THE CUSTOMS AND THE MANDARINATE.

We took occasion, some weeks ago, to comment on an incident arising out of a late collision case at Tientsin, when the Commissioner of Customs sought to sit, in a Mixed Court, as representative of the Taotai. A correspondent objects to our criticism, without, however, bringing forward any new feature. The case is a very simple one. Art. XXVIII. of the U. S. Treaty provides that controversies between citizens of the United States and subjects of China "shall be examined and decided conformably to justice and equity by the public officers of the two nations, acting in conjunction." A Commissioner of Customs is not a public officer of China in the sense here implied. He is an employé of the Chinese Government, or of Mr. Hart, as the case may be, but he is not a Chinese official; and there can be no question that what the treaty means is—American officials and Chinese officials. It is not suggested that any particular harm could have ensued to either party in the present case, from Mr. Twinem's presence on the bench. The question was one of principle; and we consider Mr. Sheppard was entirely right in the course he took. If the case should come before the Ministers, as "A. B. C." suggests, we imagine they will know how to reply; but we do not think the Chinese are so anxious in the matter. It is rumoured, indeed, that the Taotai at once acquiesced in Mr. Sheppard's objection, when stated before the trial, and that Mr. Twinem's persistance in open Court was of his own motion. Unless, then, it is urged on by the members of the service on whose behalf our correspondent disclaims a desire to arrogate mandarinal functions, we feel pretty sure we shall hear no more of the matter. This however is not to say that we rely greatly on our correspondent's disclaimer. On the contrary, it would be consistent with the spirit which has inspired Mr. Hart's policy, to push the question before the Ministers; and he seems to have found in Mr. Twinem a gentleman willing to supply him with the needful data. We are told that the rather painful scene which occurred in the *Shantung* collision case, was repeated on the occasion of a more recent enquiry into a collision by the *Chihli*, and that all the firmness of the Court was evoked by the occasion. If we could see that the Chinese could be got to employ foreigners as permanent judges in Mixed Court cases, we would be glad to help along so desirable a result; but we see nothing in the present case which points that way; and we repeat the opinion we previously expressed, that Mr. Sheppard is perfectly right in refusing to recognise any attempt by Foreigners in the Chinese Customs service to stand between Foreign and Chinese Officials in the adjustment of international affairs.

SEIZURE OF THE BR. STR. "CARISBROOKE."

From the *Daily Press* of the 16th June, we extract a full account of the capture of the British steamer *Carisbrooke* by a Chinese gunboat, off the coast of Hainan. The *Carisbrooke* was on her voyage from Singapore to Hongkong, and had on board a number of passengers for Hainan whom she was stopping to land, when the Chinese gunboat *Peng-chao-hai* came in sight and ordered the master to steer for Canton, and to keep her company. He obeyed until nearing Hongkong waters, when he repented of his acquiescence, and put his helm for Hongkong. After vainly repeating the summons to accompany her, the *Peng-chao-hai* fired, and completely carried away the *Carisbrooke's* rudder and rudder post. She then took charge and conveyed her up the Canton river to Tiger Island, some two miles from Canton. It is said that for some time past the Canton authorities have been in receipt of information to the effect that passengers, well stocked with opium, had been landed on the East Coast of Hainan, close to where the P. & O. steamship *Gwalior* had to anchor when she recently broke down. And on the present occasion, it is understood that a telegram was received from Singapore, stating that a steamer had left that port, and would call at Hainan, and the *Peng-chao-hai* was promptly despatched to that locality. It does not seem however that the *Carisbrooke* was the vessel of which she was in search. She was come upon incidentally, and "bagged" out of hand.

The action against the *Carisbrooke* is of course taken under articles XLVII and XLVIII of the Tientsin treaty. But it is denied on the part of the *Carisbrooke* that there was any intention of smuggling in this case. She had on board a number of passengers for Hainan, and a few bales of piece goods and 12 chests of opium belonging to them. But it has been a common practice for steamers plying between Singapore and Hongkong to land passengers off Hainan, and the idea of calling the proceeding smuggling, in the ordinary sense of the term, is ridiculous. It may not be in strict accordance with the letter of the treaty, but it is a very long way from coming under the spirit of the clauses which talk of confiscation. So far from there having been any "clandestine" design, the *Carisbrooke* cleared from Singapore for "Hainan" and Hongkong. She may thus claim that she had official recognition of her intended proceeding, and that if the Chinese have any thing to say, it is to the Straits Government they must say it. Yangtze Steamers stop to land passengers off various ports other than Chinkeang and Kiukiang, on their way to Hankow; are they to consider themselves liable to be fired into, and taken to Wuchang?

A strong point is made by the *China Mail* on Art. XI of the Tientsin Treaty, which runs as follows:—

"In addition to the cities and towns of Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai, opened by the Treaty of Nanking, it is agreed that British subjects may frequent the cities and ports of New-Chwang, Tang-Chow, Tai-Wan, (Formosa), Chau-Chow (Swatow), *Kiung-Chow (Hainan)*.

They are permitted to carry on trade with whomsoever they please, and to proceed to and fro at pleasure with their vessels and merchandize."

Literally, therefore, according to the Treaty, the *Carisbrooke* was perfectly justified in visiting Hainan. It must be observed that the wording is not "*may be* allowed to frequent," or "*will be* permitted to trade." In such a case the unfulfilled action would allow of prohibitory construction until certain arrangements had been made. But the words are MAY *frequent* and ARE *permitted to trade*. We have certainly submitted with characteristic tameness, to have obstructions thrown in the way of a formal opening. But no obstructiveness can alter the fact that, by treaty, Hainan *is* open.

The *Daily Press* says that the *Peng-chao-hai*, after leaving the *Carisbrooke* at Canton, came down the river again, and was seen the same evening, with another gunboat in her company, dodging about near Green Island. A large junk coming up from the West Coast was pounced on before she could get into Hongkong waters. The junk showed fight, but was captured and taken to Canton. It will be remembered that the *Peng-chao-hai* was in search of another steamer when she dropped upon the *Carisbrooke*; and the *Press* says another gunboat has gone down to complete that errand. It is some satisfaction to hear it reported that H. M. S. *Egeria* has gone to watch the actions of the latter; and that a British gunboat from Singapore has been sent up in company with other steamers cleared for the Treaty port of Hainan and for Hongkong. At any rate, the *Egeria* left port on the 17th under sealed orders; and H. M. S. *Ringdove* has gone to Canton.—In the meantime, as if the capture of the *Carisbrooke* were not a tolerably bold experiment in itself, for the result of which the Customs might be content to wait without aggravating it in detail, the *Daily Press* tells us that the passengers on board the *Carisbrooke*, who were bound for Hongkong, had their luggage searched on arrival at Canton, and all goods liable to duty in that port, but not

dutiable in Hongkong, whither they were bound, were seized and confiscated :

"It is difficult to reconcile this act with any "principle of law or equity, It seems to "us a flagrant violation of them all. The "passengers were bound for Hongkong "and not for Canton ; their effects could, "therefore, on no possible pretence, be re-"garded as destined for Canton. Even "supposing the Customs Officials there had "reason to believe that these passengers "intended ultimately to smuggle the goods "into Canton from Hongkong, they had "still no proof, and therefore had no "right to presuppose the offence. This "confiscation, if true, and there is small "doubt of that, is a high-handed and "arbitrary proceeding, for which there is "no sufficient justification, and for which "it is to be hoped the Canton authorities "will be induced to make compensation. "Whatever justification they may have "had for the capture of the vessel and "cargo, we can find none for the seizure of "the passengers' goods, and they may rest "assured that they have imported an "element of weakness into their case by "this illegal and unjust proceeding. It is "the desire of this community, we feel "convinced, that the course of law and "justice should have its way in the whole "matter ; but this particular act is so "utterly irreconcileable with the commonest "notions of equity, that it can only be re-"garded with indignation and displeasure."

But there seems no end at all, to the extraordinary proceedings that are going on in the South. The inquiry into the seizure of the *Carisbrooke* was heard with closed doors ! reporters sent up from Hongkong being refused admission. We are surprised beyond measure to learn that Sir Brooke Robertson consented to such a course, and emphatically endorse the assertion of the *China Mail*, that "the action which excluded the defendant's counsel, the representatives of the Hongkong journals, and the general public, from being present at an enquiry of this nature, was most unwarrantable, justified neither by regulation nor good policy." The *Mail* declares that the Custom-house officials were anxious that no veil of secrecy should be cast over the proceedings which took place. "The responsibility of denying publicity lies between the Chinese and British Consular officials ; and if, as alleged, the former requested that this course might be adopted, it was the business of the latter to emphatically refuse their consent." The *Mail* has, however, been able to obtain a sketch of the proceedings at the first day's trial, including a statement read by the master of the *Carisbrooke*, which we regret that we have not space to re-print. The Court seems to have been composed of the Haikwan, who sat in the middle, with Mr. Tong Yin-sing, the Canton agent of the C. M. S. S. Co. at his side, to watch the interpretation ; and Mr. Wright, Commissioner of Customs, beyond ; while on the left of the Haikwan sat H. B. M.'s Consul, with Mr. Gardner, who acted as interpreter, at his side. It would have seemed more natural that a British Consul would occupy the chief position, in a Court where a British ship or a British subject was to be tried ; but we believe some peculiar regulations on the subject have emanated from Peking, which yield the *pas* to the Chinese in this as in most other respects. Mr. T. M. Brown, Deputy-Commissioner of Canton, was first examined, and stated the facts of the seizure pretty nearly as they have been described in our columns. Captain Palmer, of the *Peng-chao-hai*, and his chief officer confirmed the testimony. Captain Scott, when called on for his defence, said—There were twelve chests of opium on board for Hainan and seven packages of piece goods, all belonging to the passengers, of whom there 140 for Hainan, some from Penang, and some from Singapore, the former paying $8.50 each, the latter $6. The freight for the opium was $15 a chest from Penang, and $12 from Singapore. The amount of freight for Hainan was $1,635 altogether. Captain Scott then read a very straightforward defence, raising various contentions against the legality of the seizure. He denied that the ship had the slightest idea of smuggling ; was it likely a vessel worth $140,000 would risk confiscation for the sake of $1,600 freight? Ships were in the habit of calling at Hainan, as he had done, and he did not dream he would be interfered with, even when he saw the gunboat approach. Kiungchow was open by treaty. He was anchored more than three miles from the shore, and any ship had a right to tranship cargo at sea. If there were reason to interfere with anything, all the *Peng-chao-hai* could touch was the junks, into which she was transhipping, &c., &c. "Of course," Captain Scott concluded, "I cannot pass by the consideration that the goods which these passengers for Hainan had, viz., 12 chests of opium and 6 cases of piece goods, were goods on which, when landed, duties were leviable, and that it may be urged against the ship that she was concerned in a scheme assisting these passengers to smuggle. On my own part, I can emphatically say that I had no such intention. I did not know then, nor do I know now, what arrangements have been made by the Chinese authorities for the collection of their duties at Hainan, but that there are Customs stations established there I have never had reason to doubt. The exceedingly small interest which the ship had in the matter is sufficient proof that she did not intend to risk any offence against the revenue laws of China. Moreover, if the Court should hold that the ship was, under the circumstances, to however slight an extent, "concerned in smuggling," within the meaning of Art. XLVIII. of the Treaty, that goes no further than to condemn to confiscation the contraband goods, and does not extend to the ship or the innocent portion of the cargo, which was not intended for Hainan. I must, therefore, ask the Court clearly to sever in their minds the offences which may or may not have been committed against Arts. 47 and 48 of the Treaty respectively. The two things are, and even clearly meant to be, distinct. The "trade" mentioned in Art. 47 is neither more nor less a breach of it, because the goods carried happened to be subject to duties. The former Article was meant and solely meant to preserve to the Chinese Empire the exclusiveness to which it has elected to lay claim, and differs, *toto cœlo*, from the article which is meant to protect its revenues. For the protection of its revenues one scale of penalties has been deemed sufficient ; for the protection of its exclusiveness, another. In construing a clause in a Treaty so exceptional and peculiar as this, the marked distinction made in the Treaty between the two classes of offences cannot be too distinctly preserved. In the one case the punishment is made to fall on the right persons—viz., those who own the goods and choose to run the risk ; in the other, it may, and probably must, be to a great extent vicarious. The owners of ship and cargo cannot, I submit, be reasonably made responsible for any possibly illegal acts on the part of the passengers over which they had no control."

We learn by telegram that the *Carisbrooke* is to be released under security, pending reference to Peking. It is to be presumed, therefore, that the Consul and the Haikwan have been unable to agree in their judgment.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

A Newchwang correspondent writes :—The rumours you get as to a rebellion in this part, are not reliable. Brigands are plentiful enough, and there is or has been a corrupt executive. The new military Governor seems disposed to put an end to such conditions ; hence a stirring up of mud which attracts attention.—Messrs. Bush Bros., writing from Newchwang on the 16th June, say,—Business has not much improved. 8¼-lb. *Shirtings* are quoted Tls. 1.65.—*Produce* remains dear for want of rain, and we quote : Beancake, Tls. 3.80 per 10 ps. ; Peas, Tls. 2.32 per 300 ; Oil, Tls. 2.48 per picul. The demand for tonnage, except at low rates, is small, but we look for a revival with a change in the weather.

TIENTSIN.

H. E. General Raasloff, the Danish Minister, would, I understand, leave Peking, for Shanghai, on the 15th instant ; and I suppose he will reach Tientsin in time to leave by the S. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Chihli*, which has been notified to start on the morning of the 18th instant.

We hear here from Chang-kea-kow and Koo-pe-kow, that rain has not fallen in the country around these towns in quantity to preserve the wheat crops ; and the consequence has been that they have all failed. Locusts have already appeared in several parts of the north and west of this province. Four days back, one of my people brought to my place several catties of locusts to feed my young turkeys with. In all parts around us, but more especially in the country lying to the north and west from Tientsin, rain is greatly required to preserve the millet crops.

The late acting Customs Taotai, Sun Szeta, leaves to-morrow, in the Chinese merchants' steamer *Hochung*, for Shanghai. He has held office as acting Customs Taotai for ten months. During the course of a long residence in China, I have come officially into contact with a number of Chinese officials of high and low degree, and I am thus in a position to be able to make a comparison between Sun Szeta and the others. I can bear testimony that Sun Szeta has stood very favorably, as respects ability, in the discharge of his international duties and, as respects courteousness, in his personal intercourse with the Foreign functionaries at this port. If you addressed him on an official matter in the forenoon, you would, ere the day expired, even as late as eleven o'clock in the evening, receive a reply. If you wrote that you wished to call on him on business at a particular hour, it would be strange indeed if he did not promptly reply that he would be ready to see you. In respect to the new regulations for this river, he gave himself considerable trouble to arrange and establish them on a sensible basis. He last winter addressed all the Consuls of the port on the subject, requesting them to furnish him with their views as to the establishing of new river regulations, to avoid in future, as far as practicable, injury to the grain junks coming to this port. He, besides, through the Commissioner of Customs, obtained the views of the Foreign river pilots on the best places for mooring the junks—views which were

based on daily practical experience of the navigation of the river in their steam-tug and lighter crafts; and at their suggestion, he put up pyramids at the extremities of the places where junks should moor. He had likewise a map-chart made of the river, shewing the mooring places. There was also, by his orders, a Foreigner, speaking Chinese, detailed from the staff of the Customs service to preserve order in the mooring of the junks. In short, Sun Szeta did everything possible on his part to establish and carry out proper river regulations. It must, however, be borne in mind by your readers that the grain junks have at times to move up and down the river on their business as well as the Foreign steamers; and consequently there are times when they will be moving, and not lying in the mooring places assigned to them. Hence, and taking it for granted that the new regulations are properly carried out, when accidents have since occurred, it is quite possible that the new river regulations of Sun Szeta had no power in preventing them. To close, it is my opinion that Sun Szeta has on the whole left a favorable impression on the Foreign officials of this port; and that the Sovereign of China has in him an able servant.

It must not, however, be supposed that I am not perfectly aware that Sun Szeta is at the same time what Foreigners call "a Chinese Mandarin;" but Foreign officials who are in the habit of meeting "Chinese Mandarins" on international business, know that there is an immense difference between the different men. Then, on the principle of speaking well of the bridge which has carried us over, let us honestly speak truth of Sun Szeta.

This afternoon, soon after Sun Szeta had reached the residence of the Chinese Merchants' Steamer Company, to go on board their steamer *Hochung*, which was lying off their offices, the Consuls of the port, the territorial functionaries—the Taotai, the Chefoo, and the Cheheen; the Customs and the Salt Taotais, and the high Military Mandarins stationed at Tientsin, all called upon him to bid him good-bye, and to wish him a pleasant passage to Shanghai. The *Hochung* was dressed with all her flags for the occasion.

16th June.

In the *N.-C. Herald* of the 5th inst., I read the following paragraph in regard to the Yunnan outrage:—"It is generally "understood that Messrs. Grosvenor and "Baber are the officials designated to con- "duct the investigations, and the China- "man who has been designated as their "escort is here in Shanghai. Why do "they not start?"

I have, in consequence of this announcement, considered it my duty to again approach, with your permission, the subject of the Yunnan investigations, with the view of laying before the British public the following observations; and I trust my countrymen will attribute my doing so purely to an earnest desire to aid, as far as such may lie within my limited sphere of knowledge of China and Chinese, in the effectual carrying out of the intended investigations.

I have hitherto stated it as my opinion that in China, when a British subject has any charge, either of a civil or a criminal nature brought against him by Chinese, the British Consul ought alone to be the judge of the Court; Chinese officials—Cheheen, Chefoo or Taotai—being, however, at the same time at perfect liberty to come into Court, sit at one side (not on the bench) [illegible] to ask, through the Consul, the witnesses questions, and to produce or call for witnesses. On the other hand, in order to be strictly just, I have hitherto stated it as my opinion that, when a Chinese subject in China has any charge, either of a civil or criminal nature, brought against him by a British subject, the Chinese District Magistrate ought alone to be the judge of the Court, the British Consul being, however, while the investigations are going on, at perfect liberty to go into Court, sit at one side (not on the Bench) and watch the proceedings, ask, through the Magistrate, the witnesses questions, and produce or call for witnesses.

In the Yunnan case, the British Government are the plaintiffs, and charge several Yunnan officers with having caused, either as principals, or as abettors, or as accessories, the assassination of a British officer and his servants, while travelling under a passport bearing the seals of Great Britain and China, in a province in the Empire of China; and with having caused, either as principals, or as abettors, or as accessories, a military attack on a British officer and his escort, while similarly travelling under a passport bearing the seals of Great Britain and China, within the Empire of China. I have, for certain reasons which I have already stated in a former letter, given it as my opinion that, in carrying out the investigations on the spot, and holding the trials of the accused in this Yunnan case, a High Chinese official, or in other words an Imperial Commissioner, just such a man as the Central Government lately appointed to Formosa (Shun Pao-chen) and to Manchuria (Chung-shih,) should be the judge; and that the British officers deputed by Her Majesty's Envoy should be present at all the investigations, examinations and trials, to watch proceedings, to point out to the judge when necessary any witnesses who ought to be interrogated; and finally when the examinations have been concluded, in an address to the court, to demand on the part of the British Government that justice be strictly and honestly meted out. Should the British officers be in the end thoroughly convinced that the judge, notwithstanding clear evidence and the logic of facts, has decided unjustly, they will hand in a written protest against such a proceeding; and after that make it their duty to lay before Mr. Wade, H. M. Minister, a complete statement of the case, and their views on the action of the judge; leaving it to the patriotic feelings of Mr. Wade, as an Englishman to take justice by the sword, to teach the Chinese government that in China a British subject and his servants cannot be murdered with impunity.

It must, it appears to me, under all the circumstances, be clearly manifest to every Englishman who chooses to take the trouble to give the subject any consideration, that the duties demanded by England of the British officers are of the gravest international importance; and that it is incumbent on Mr. Wade to adopt beforehand, every measure and precaution likely to prevent the investigations, so far as the British officers are concerned, becoming abortive.

I have now to make the observation that, no matter who the British officers may be, whom Mr. Wade may send to Yunnan, they will have to encounter there a climate to which their constitutions have hitherto not been accustomed; and as they will, undoubtedly, have to undergo many physical hardships and mental vexations, daily, such will try their healths; and tend to make them from time to time quite unfit to carry out *effectually* the duties incumbent on them and the objects of their journey. We are told that Mr. Wade intends to send only two officers to Yunnan—Mr. Grosvenor, as chief of the mission, and Mr. [illegible] as the interpreter. Should Mr. [illegible] on his arrival at Yunnan-fu fall ill and [illegible] and Mr. Grosvenor take ill and [illegible] on [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] when [illegible] I ask, will the British nation see the Yunnan investigations *effectually* carried out; and see justice done for the assassination of Mr. Margary and his servants?

In the London *Daily News* of 17th March, in the House of Commons, I find the following in regard to the massacre of Mr. Margary:—

"Mr. Wait asked the first Lord of the "Treasury whether it was the intention "of the Government to demand the punish- "ment of the perpetrators of the treacher- "ous massacre of Mr. Margary and his five "servants at Manwein.

"Mr. Disraeli—We have sent instructions "to Mr. Wade, her Majesty's able Minister "at Peking—for it is impossible to speak too "highly of his qualification—to call upon the "Chinese Government to make a strict in- "vestigation into all the circumstances con- "nected with this deplorable affair, and until "we receive his report, it will be of course "out of our power to decide upon the steps "that we will take. The death of Mr. Mar- "gary is a public calamity."

Mr. Wade first received tidings of the assassination of Mr. Margary on the 11th March, now over three months ago; and the only progress which has been made, as far as the British public in China are aware, "into a strict investigation into all the "circumstances connected with this de- "plorable affair," has been Mr. Wade's removal from his residence in Peking to a residence in Shanghai; and the selection by him of Messrs. Grosvenor and Baber as the British officers to go to Yunnan, accompanied by Sung Paou-hwa, appointed by Li Hung-chang the Governor-General of the province of Chihli, to be present when the Chinese Government shall be making a strict investigation into the Yunnan outrage. Mr. Wade's policy has been, we can see, to wait till Colonel Browne came to him. Causes, however, arose which prevented Colonel Browne coming to China at once; hence Mr. Wade has had to spend the time literally doing nothing in the south of China. I should have acted very differently, on the principle of "Faint heart ne'er won fair lady." I would have handed, the day after receipt of the news of the Yunnan outrage, in Chinese, the account to the Tsung-li Yamen, and told them at the same time to stay all investigations or trials till I could have British officers present; but that, before doing so, as the affair also concerned the Indian Government, I must go to India to consult with the Governor-General. I should after that have hurried to India and seen the Governor-General and Col. Browne together; come to a calm decision as to the course to be pursued; after which I should have rapidly returned to Shanghai, prepared for all eventualities; and commenced action in regard to the despatching of the mission to Yunnan. Instead of two British officers, I should have deputed two chief officers and ten interpreters. The three Northern Consulates could easily spare the gentlemen filling the position of intepreters at them; and the Consuls could—as "England expects every man to do his duty," and on an important occasion something more—perform the duties of interpreter for three months besides that of Consul, the performance of which, in the hot summer weather, is I beg to say exceedingly healthful exercise. The other Consulates in the South could also furnish their quota to the Mission; and in this manner the proper number of officials could be raised, which, in my opinion, is required to effectually carry out the Yunnan investigations. If half-a-dozen of these gentlemen should unfortunately be on the sick list, the nation has six offi- [illegible]

AMOY.

The light-house on Fisher Island is very shortly to be commenced. The *Ling Feng* leaves at an early date for the Pescadores, taking Mr. Beazeley—Customs' Engineer and successor to Mr Bryson—to superintend the operations.—A pamphlet has been published here by the Missionaries, announcing the establishment of a "Union Church of Amoy," which is to embrace Christians of all denominations — English Churchmen, Presbyterians, Unitarians, Catholics, Unsectarians, and, in fact, members of all Churches, who are to sit down and worship together. The scheme sounds very well, but the reverend promoters seem over sanguine.—The Club Committee have decided to erect a new Club House, near the site of the old one. It is to be two-storied, and is to contain, amongst other things, a theatre hall.—*Foochow Herald.*

FORMOSA.

According to late and private information from Formosa, the Imperialists seem to be gaining ground. On the 20th ulto., General Tang, the Imperial Generall commanding about 7,000 soldiers, encamped at Che-tong-ka, gained a signal victory over the savage tribe Sai-to 獅頭. Early in the morning of the day in question, General Tang with 4,000 soldiers attacked the fortified position held by 2,000 savages. The latter, after a determined resistance, retreated further into hills, with the loss of 200 killed and ten made prisoners. The position evacuated by the savages has been transformed into an entrenched camp occupied by Imperial troops. The casualties amongst the Chinese amounted to a few men killed and a number of soldiers slightly wounded. The savages made prisoners were taken to the head-quarters at Che-tong-ka, and there beheaded on the sea-beach. It is more than probable that now the main body of the troops will be withdrawn, as, from the outset, the expedition was only intended to punish the savage tribe above referred to, for having killed a number of inhabitants and soldiers at the commencement of the present year.—*China Mail.*

HONGKONG.

Hongkong papers contain particulars of the capture of the Br. str. *Carisbrooke*, by the Chinese gunboat *Peng-chao-hai*, off Hainan. She was on her way from Singapore, and the charge seems to be that she was landing passengers who were smuggling opium. —Discussion on the blockade question is continued in the local papers, and the *Daily Press* repeats, with reference to a late article in the *Pall Mall Budget*, a truth which has been urged in China, till repetition has been almost given up in despair :—
"The *Pall Mall* institutes a comparison by "fancying the Isle of Wight in the possession of France or the United States, and "Cowes converted into a free port, from "which goods could be poured into the "country by 'a swarm of bold and adventurous smugglers.' It considers it very "doubtful 'whether any British Government would willingly submit to a "perpetuation of the evil.' There is no "doubt at all that in such a case the British Government would look very sharp "indeed after its Customs Revenues ; but "it is also very unlikely that there would "be the same abuses of power to complain "of. Home journals too frequently forget, when writing on Chinese questions, "that the circumstances are wholly "different from what they would be if "China was a Western and Christian "state. China is at best but a semi-civilised power not at all remarkable for "keeping good faith with foreigners, "known to be hostile to them and to "their admission into the Empire ; unwilling to recognise them as equals ; and "desirous at every turn to overreach and "betray trust. The Chinese system of "levying and collecting taxes and duties "is also essentially different from that "prevailing in the civilised countries of "Europe ; and the corruptness of officials, "the arbitrary powers with which they are "entrusted, and the exactions under which "Chinese commerce is laid, render the case "wholly different to the one supposed." The *China Mail* remarks, on the same subject, "that the fate which has overtaken the relatives of the Club Compradore, is not likely to encourage native residents to come forward and give evidence on the Blockade matter. There is no doubt that our chief difficulty as regards both legal and commercial matters with the native community, arises from this abominable course of action on the part of the mandarins. We have already stated the only course which seems open to us in cases like these. If that cannot be adopted, and the Chinese refuse satisfaction, we must simply put up with the outrage,—and accept our true place behind China in the scale of nations!"—Bad weather having prevented the usual boating performances on the real day of the Dragon boat festival, they were held on the 14th, when two boats, each containing about 80 men, engaged in a race.—A. M. Vertelli and Madame Eugénie are giving some performances in which tight rope walking seems to be prominent. Vertelli walked the length of the rope with a soldier on his back.—A snake of the boa species, measuring some 10 feet long, and 10½ inches in circumference, has been caught in the Colony.—News has reached Hongkong by telegram, that the new Indian 4 per cent. Public Works' loan was allotted on the 17th instant, at Rs. 102.—The *Jornal de Macao* places the number of native boats and junks lost in the late typhoon at 139, of an approximate value of $160,000.—The following is the record at the Peak of three heavy days of rain, in succession :—

Wednesday, June	9,	5 hours rain,	quantity fallen	2.64
Thursday, "	10, 12	"	"	1.28
Friday, "	11, 11	"	"	2.97
	28			6.89

Among the passengers to Hongkong by the Messageries Maritimes str. *Ava*, was Mr. Augustine Heard.—The *Zambesi* ran down a junk on her way into harbour and some lives were lost. A Marine Court of Enquiry is sitting, and an inquest will be held.—The opium farmer of Hongkong has made a considerable haul. Hearing that a large quantity of prepared opium was being smuggled away from the colony on board the P. M. S. S. *Great Republic*, for San Francisco, without first paying him duty, with his detective and others in his employ, he went on board and seized 267 brass canisters filled with prepared opium, each canister worth about $3—the total worth about $800.—The *Belgic*, the second steamer of the new Occidental and Oriental Line of Steamers from San Francisco to China and Japan, arrived on the 19th. The *Gaelic* was to follow in about a fortnight.—The *Galley of Lorne*, from London, passed Singapore on the 16th.—The *Hankow*, from Hankow, with teas, passed through that port on the 11th instant, *en route* to London, merely slowing down for news and letters, after a passage of 8 days 4 hours 40m. from Woosung.

CANTON.

The destruction to life and property by the typhoon of the 31st ultimo was greater than most people would believe. On land the effects were not so great, but to craft that happened to be on the water, either to or from the port, the result was fearful. A passage boat having started to return to Tung-koon with a very large number of passengers, chiefly of scholars who were returning after having passed their examination at Canton. The boat capsized and over 40 scholars were drowned.—A few days after the typhoon, a boat-woman picked up a box in the water, and was agreeably surprised to find that it contained over 20 taels in silver, a packet of pills and a few account books, also a set of opium-smoking apparatus. No doubt the box was the property of some one whose ship was wrecked in the typhoon.—The native papers are full of accounts of casualties from the typhoon, and one of the most noticeable was the capsizing of a boat in which some robbers were being conveyed to the Provincial city for trial. They committed depredations on a certain village, and were caught. Several of the villages escorted them to Canton, but on the way their boat was wrecked, and all of them were drowned.—The typhoon seems to have travelled as far north as Waichow. A yamen was blown down there and two military officers were killed. The boating population also suffered terribly. Among the craft destroyed were two Lekin-tax Guard-boats, and their commander was among the drowned.—On the 1st instant, a singular phenomenon took place at Canton. There was no flood tide at all throughout this day. This was regarded as remarkable, as a similar occurrence had not taken place since the 6th year of Hienfung (1856).—The Provincial Treasurer has issued a proclamation announcing that on and after the 28th June, all officials are at liberty to shave their heads, the mourning for the Empress expiring at the end of the 5th moon.—A rumour is in circulation that the Viceroy intends demolishing the Bogue Forts so far as their reconstruction has been at present accomplished, and rebuilding them entirely on more solid principles. This is said to be in consequence of the frequent complaints in the native papers published here, the *Chinese Mail* having been loudest in its denunciations.

Messrs. Deacon & Co's Market Report, dated 17th June, says :—

A quiet tone has pervaded our Tea market since last mail, and though native reports show a fair extent of business, yet most of the settlements were booked in the previous fortnight. Buyers, in the face of the large shipments of Scented Teas already made, and with the knowledge that of previous purchases there is still some quantity to go forward, have generally held aloof, unless tempted by fine and fancy parcels, or compelled to operate in completion of special orders.

Considering the continued unsatisfactory accounts regarding the state of the London market, and prices current here, a fair demand has existed for Silk during the past two weeks, and in some instances a slight advance on former rates has been paid. For last French mail 500 bales were taken, and since then 200 bales have been added to the settlements. Almost all classes of Silk have been dealt in, and speaking relatively, the finer grades appear to be better value than the more common sorts.

Second crop samples are now arriving. The late heavy rains have tended to impair the quality, which is not equal to that of previous yield, and there is said to be a preponderance of yellow thread. About 2,000 bales Tsatlee are looked for.—*China Mail.*

YOKOHAMA.

The *Gazette* says cock-fighting seems to be rapidly becoming a favorite amusement among Japanese. On the 4th inst., about forty men were arrested at Koishikawa, Tokio, for indulging in that pastime.—Owing to the illness of Mr. F. W. Marks, solicitor for the prosecution in the case of Regina *versus* C. Adds, for complicity in the recent embezzlement from the Comptoir

d'Exemple de Paris, the trial was postponed until the 17th instant.—The same paper mentions a specimen of the new postal-card, value one *sen*, just issued by the postal department. It is noticeable only from the fact that the paper of which it is made is the produce of the Wardlaw Paper Mills, Mita, Tokio, which are now in successful operation, under the direction of Mr. W. H. Doyle.—The magnificent steamer *Oceanic*, the first of the Occidental and Oriental S. S. Co.'s fleet to reach Yokohama, entered the Bay at a late hour on the night of the 10th inst., after a remarkably fast passage from Hongkong of 4 days, 23 hours, being the quickest on record. —A large bath-house is about to be erected at Sanjikenbori, Tokio, in the European style, the promoter of the project being one Takaragi Matabei, of Kakigara-cho, Ichome, Tokio. The building is to be a three-storied one, and, contrary to the present system, each person is to have a separate bath-room. The furniture is to be brought from Austria, and the earthen-ware from Owari. The cost is estimated at $20,000.—A destructive fire has occurred at a place named Motomachi Nihonmatsa, Iwashiro, by which 700 houses were consumed, and 100 godowns and four large temples were totally destroyed. Twenty persons were hurt, and 6 were burned to death in a shocking manner.—The *Herald* reports at length the trial of Archibald King, a British subject, in the service of the Japanese Government, employed in the Engineering College, for a rape on a Japanese girl aged 13 years and eight months. The evidence, so far, is rather contradictory. The trial has occupied two days, and was again adjourned.—The plant, etc., of the defunct *Bulletin* has been sold at auction, and realised the sum of $750.—A miscellaneous entertainment was given on the evening of the 10th instant, in the Temperance Hall. The band of H.M.S. *Challenger* was in attendance. The audience was large, and a very pleasant evening was spent.—The half-yearly meeting of the Société Suisse de Tir has been held, and was very successful. Three prizes were offered, one of which was won by M. Hurliman and the other two by M. Favre Brandt.—Burglaries by armed thieves continue in undiminished numbers, and the *Herald* says, "as the Japanese police are so evidently inefficient and unreliable, we see no way out of the difficulty but the adoption of a system which will place the protection of the lives and property of foreign settlers in the hands of foreigners themselves." —The *Echo du Japon* contains a translation of a petition addressed by a samurai named Katsou Yamamoto to the Mikado, against four of the leading Ministers—Okuma, Okuro, Kido, and Iwakura. The principal complaint against them appears to be their predilection for European customs and civilisation ; but another charge is that all the former gradations of rank have been swept away, and that whilst the ancient nobles and samurai are being ousted from every position of trust and confidence, the present ministers, two of whom the petitioner describes as being of a very low class of society, have formed an irresponsible bureaucracy, which is monopolising all the power in the country. The petition calmly winds up by requesting the degradation and death of the four ministers named.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

May 29th.—(1) An official monthly list of appointments.

(2) An Edict, in reference to a case of considerable present public interest at Hangchow. Information has been tendered by memorial by a certain person, that, at a re-trial of an important case, the judges sitting have been guilty of connivance and condonement. The informant states that a woman, Koh-pi, poisoned her husband, Koh-ping, and falsely accused a Chü-jin (2nd literary degree), Yang Nai-ou, of being party to the crime, from adulterous intentions. The Governor, Yang Chong-yuh, deputed an official to re-hear the case, when she made a true deposition, acknowledged the accusation to be false ; but, severe torture being applied, she was coerced into repeating in Court her original accusation ; that the woman still firmly declares Yang Nai-ou had no concern with the murder, and that she was induced by others, who had an enmity with Yang Nai-ou to involve him, by an unfounded statement, &c., &c. The circumstances of this case are of the greatest gravity, and it behoves that a sifting investigation be made, in order to procure a just verdict, and that an innocent man be cleared of an injurious charge. Wu Shui-chien is hereby commanded to arraign before him the parties to and witnesses in the case, and with justness and severity to investigate the real circumstances. "As the water falls the stone will appear." Let there be no shelter given to colleagues in office. And let not the case be patched up, and the sitting judge thereby render himself guilty of misdemeanour.

(3) Edict.—The Censor Liu Shun-chi petitions, requesting that the scheme of repairing the Grand Canal be considered, and that the conveyance of Government grain by canal be resumed. In consequence of communication by the canal having been intercepted, grain from the south has been conveyed to Tung-chow, by sea route ; but this has been a temporary measure of expediency only ; and the remarks by the Censor to the effect that it is to be feared that with the canal conveyance stopped, the silting-up of the channel will be allowed to go on unchecked ; that it should be at once deepened and attended to, &c., &c., are not without reason. We, therefore, command the Viceroys and Governors of Chihli, the Two Kiangs, Shantung and Kiangsu, also the Commissioner-General of Grain Transit, and the Governor-General of the east division of the Yellow River, to examine in concert into the general state of the entire canal, and to consider what measures should be taken to deepen the canal channel, and establish through communication—that the grain transit be thereby facilitated. Let satisfactory measures he devised and a report he sent in. Respect this.

The remainder of the *Gazette* is taken up by Provincial reports respecting official movements, and in one case the erection of a temple to the memory of an official who distinguished himself some years since during the rebellion.

May 30th.—(1) A monthly list of appointments of officers of instruction throughout the Provinces.

(2) Edict, appointing Shun Pao-chun 沈葆楨 (recently Imperial Commissioner to Formosa) to be Governor-General of the Two Kiangs and Minister for the direction of Foreign Trade. Liu Kun-yih is still to continue in the acting post until the new Governor-General's arrival.

(3) Memorial from the Governor of Honan—also temporarily Acting-Inspector of the Eastern division of the Yellow River—respecting works completed and attention given generally to the question.

(4) The Governor of Chekiang, Yang Chong-sing, on his knees, respectfully presents a memorial reporting that in consequence of the loss of a C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamer at sea by collision, while engaged in the transport of Government grain, arrangements have been required to make good the grain lost ; and request is made that marks of Imperial regard be bestowed on a deputy-official lost by the catastrophe. He would humbly set forth that, by regulations laid down and reported to the Throne, the Government import-grain pertaining to last year was decided to be conveyed to Tientsin during the present year, partially by the steamers of the said Company. According to report made by the Intendant of Grain Transit of Chekiang, the fourth shipment of import-grain, consisting of 7,270 *shehs*, was sent forward in the steamer *Fusing* from Shanghai. That on the morning of 28th of 2nd moon, while approaching the "Black water" sea, dura thick fog, she was run into by a steamer, the *Ocean*, belonging to the E-wo foreign Hong. The steamer immediately sank ; all the grain was lost, and, including deputy-officers belonging to the Chekiang jurisdiction, and general passengers and sailors, 65 persons in all perished with the vessel. In respect to the grain lost, a communication had been received from the C. M. S. N. Co. to the effect that they had made purchases to make good the loss, and that the quantity would be sent forward to Tientsin ; but, in regard to the special service, (or duty) officer in charge of the Tientsin establishment, Shih Shï-shen, who had lost his life while engaged in the public service, it is prayed that a memorial be made to the Throne, asking for an Imperial mark of regard, &c., &c. The Governor here goes on to say that, since the tranquilisation of affairs in Chekiang, rice has been conveyed to the North for ten years by sea route, on which for three years steamers have been partially employed. In the case of merchant boats (junks), although losses have occurred from stress of weather, still means have generally been taken to avoid loss of life, and no considerable number of individuals have at any time been drowned ; at the same time, it is to be assumed that, owing to the collision arising from the fog, and to the sudden foundering of the *Fusing*, human power was insufficient to cope with the emergency. The grain lost will be made good by the Company, and the arrangement is satisfactory ; but the case of the official, Shih Shï-shen, leaves much to be deplored. Imperial marks of favor on his behalf are therefore craved.

(5) The foregoing Governor reports that the shipment of the total quantity of Chekiang import grain for last year by sea route had been completed. The total quantity of grain contributable by Chekiang—from three Prefectures—is set down at over 435,000 *shehs*. This, according to report from the Shanghai forwarding office, had been sent on by sea in three instalments. The shipment of the first instalment, 164,000 *shehs*, was commenced on the 20th of the first moon, as already reported to the Throne ; of the second, 142,700 *shehs*, 45,300 *shehs* were, on the 15th of second moon, handed over to the C. M. S. N. Co. for conveyance by steamer, and the balance, 97,400 *shehs*, were divided amongst 39 junks, which sailed at different dates. Of the third instalment of 127,700 *shehs*, 51,300 *shehs* were deputed to the C. M. S. N. Co., and the balance to junks —32 in number.

May 31st.—This *Gazette* is filled up by provincial reports as to the movements and appointments of officials, principally by Liu Kun-yih, Governor of Kiangsi and Acting-Governor-General of the Two Kiangs. In one case, a vacancy is caused by an assistant-major in the army, who committed suicide by cutting his throat when being carried in his chair. A strict investigation was instituted to ascertain whether or not the account of his death was *bonâ fide*, or whether he might have been influenced to commit the act by being the victim of injustice. The depositions taken prove that he was observed to be absent-minded and dejected before he got into the chair ; but no reason can be discovered to account for the circumstances.

June 1st.—(1) Several official appointments are gazetted.

(2) The Ministers of the Civil Service Board, in reference to the disorganisation of affairs in Moukden (which have been reported on by Tsung-shi, after a special committee of investigation), and in accordance with the Imperial command (contained in a previous *Gazette*,) record the sentence arrived at by the Board against the officials whose conduct was impeached. A long list of degradations and dismissals from office follow.

(3) The Governor of Kiangsu also reports to the Throne on the loss of the *Fusing* steamer. A list of special-service officials, varying in rank from expectant sub-prefects downwards—altogether twenty-three in number—had been drafted by the Government Grain Service Transport Office of Kiangsu, to repair on duty to Tientsin and Tungchow; and these, with another official charged with the convoy of the rice, having arrived at different times at Shanghai, took passage, with their servants, by the *Fusing* which happened to be leaving for the North, with Chekiang province rice. The vessel had proceeded to within 100 *li* of the "Black Water" sea, and, during a dense fog, rendering it impossible to discern the length of the ship, she was run into by the E-wo foreign hong's English steamer *Ocean*, which struck her on the starboard bow. The side of the ship was crushed in; the water rushed into the hold, and all the people on board scrambled for the boats. But in the hurry of the moment only one boat could be cleared and lowered (*lit.* could cut the tackle off). The ropes of the remaining three boats could not be unfastened in time, and, in the short space of three minutes, these and the large vessel were all immersed in the watery deep. Of the officials belonging to the jurisdiction of Kiangsu, only three, with seven of their servants, were saved and brought back in the *Ocean* to Shanghai. The Governor then goes on to say that the case of these officers—meeting with so unexpected a fate while engaged on public duty—is much to be deplored, and he therefore craves that instructions be given to the Board to confer posthumous honors on the deceased, in order that their souls be comforted in the other world. He also states that funds would be additionally provided to assist their families.—Rescript, made known through the Cabinet: Noted.

(4) Tsing-pao-chen reports that he had returned to his seat of Government in the capital of Shantung, after personal supervision of river works at Chia-chwang.

June 2nd.—(1) Edicts. Shun Ping-cheng (formerly Taotai of Shanghai) is transferred to the Chief Justiceship of Szechuen, and Fou Sheu-tan will fill up the Chief Justiceship, vacated, of Honan. The Intendant of Canton Customs, Wen-tien, is commanded to continue in his post.

(3) An Edict commanding that a charge of violent assault lodged by one Mau-lau, of Tientsin, be investigated and severe punishment dealt out.

(4) Ying Kwei memorialises the throne in reference to the case of the widow of a Hanlin, Fung, resident in Shen-si, who had been oppressed, assaulted and coerced by her brother-in-law to re-marry, that he might thereby come into the possession of certain property. The case had been referred to the local court, but bribery is declared to have been used to prevent justice. The case, considered in respect to its bearing on public morality, is deemed by the memorialist to be one of great gravity; and it is desired that the Imperial order be given to have the circumstances thoroughly investigated.

(5) The Viceroy of Shansi and Kansuh, referring to the recent regulation abrogating the previous amalgamation of the examinations in the two provinces, requests (according to custom) that the Kansuh province being free from disorder, Chief and Assistant-Examiners be appointed for the approaching autumn. Minor details as to the number of candidates to be admitted, are also entered into.

June 3rd.—(1) A memorial, collectively signed by the authorities of Fuhkien, and headed by Shun Pao-chun reporting that a certain sea god in Koh-ma-lan had vouchsafed divine assistance, and praying that the Imperial assent be given to erect a temple in token of gratitude. Last year, General Lo Fa-chun was stationed there with his troops. Owing to rapid currents and to heavy winds, boats conveying the army provisions found it extremely dangerous to anchor in the cove, and considerable anxiety as to supplies was the result. Accordingly, on the 23rd of the 8th moon, the General drew up, in writing, a form of prayer, and reverently prayed for the intervention of the sea gods. Before a month had elapsed, a sandbank suddenly formed. The strength of the tide was diminished, and a harbour constituted, which afforded excellent and safe anchorage to boats of over 100 shehs tonnage, as also to small steamers. The boatmen and residents all joined in praise of the divine response thus made, and the memorialists deem it their duty, in deference to the wishes of the people, to pray for the erection of a temple in honor of the sea gods of the locality.—Rescript: Let it be as desired. The Board will take note.

(2) Shun Pao-chun reports on the falling in of and repairs to the city wall of Tai-wan-fu. Owing to violent and heavy torrents of rain during the 6th moon of last year, over one thousand changs of the wall collapsed, and in obedience to the Imperial command given at the time, repairs were immediately commenced. These were finished by the end of last year, and the work is represented to have been substantially carried out. The Imperial Commissioner further reports on the erection of a powder manufactory, and a military store yard at Tai-wan. The former, consisting of 33 houses, &c., and surrounded by an outer wall of 102 changs in length, has been constructed after Foreign designs and with the aid of Foreign mechanics. The latter, comprising 42 houses, enclosed by a wall 85 changs in circumference, is designed to afford shelter to the Foreign rifles, cannon, and military equipments purchased last year—to the storage and preservation of which care should be given.

(3) Shuy-lien prays that certain officials engaged in capturing and bringing to justice, a notorious robber chief, Chang-mao, in the Tung-kwang locality, be promoted for their success. Chang-mao, it appears, has been at large and an object of pursuit for years past. About the 8th or 9th year of last reign, he collected around him a numerous band of associates, whom he organised into a force for the purpose of loot and robbery. Many of the chiefs acting with him, and their followers, have from time to time been exterminated, but all efforts to capture Chang-mao have hitherto been unavailing. Eventually, according to official report received on 8th of the 2nd moon, a detachment of soldiers was sent to Chi-lin, where Chang-mao was ascertained to be in hiding, and it was not till a battle, extending over a day and night, had been fought—Chang-mao having the audacity even to fire off cannon—that he was at length, after a most determined resistance, taken prisoner. The capture, under such difficult circumstances, of so dangerous a criminal, and the benefit thereby accruing to the public, is considered to entitle the officials engaged to promotion or reward.

(4) Other matter of local and minor importance follows.

June 4th.—(1) Imperial edict. Peng Yuh-ling memorialises as to the necessity of purifying official administration, of improving the dicipline of the army, of lightening the burdens of the people, and of giving a proper direction to the minds of the literary classes. The measures advocated are of vital concern to the well-being of the country, and many valuable suggestions are comprised in the memorial. Prefects and magistrates are the officials placed in closest contact with the people. If a wrong selection be made, calamity to the inhabitants of the locality is the result. The avaricious and unprincipled should, therefore, be impeached and dismissed; and, in the punishment of official delinquencies, no leniency should be shewn. To the incompetent and worthless, also, no indulgence should be extended; and the Governors and Governor-Generals will throw off all considerations of friendship, and keep rigid check over their subordinates. They will likewise, in the matter of reorganisation, look facts in the face and take action accordingly. Recently the expectant officials attached to each province have been in excess of the usual number, and a desire of equalising the bestowal of terms of office amongst them has led to vacant magistracies, &c., being filled up successively by acting incumbents. Official posts have thus come to be regarded as temporary sinecures. The welfare of the people is set at nought, and a greater injury to the interest of the nation cannot be conceived. Henceforth, let the Governors and Governor-Generals be careful in their selection, and allow each official to remain longer in his post. No partizanship or hastiness in appointing acting incumbents will be permitted.

To the reform of the military organisation of each province, immediate and close attention shall be given. All the high authorities will hold periodical reviews, and see that special care is devoted to the instruction and drill of the troops. Should any of the officers in command make deductions from the soldiers' pay, or be addicted to idleness or opium-smoking, it is commanded that they be brought to task and severely punished.

Colleges are institutions devoted to the nurture and development of talent. To rectify the disposition of man, a proper direction should be given to the habits and course of the student. If the officers of instruction be not men of parts, and of unblemished character, they cannot be patterns for imitation. The Governors and Governor-Generals and Literary Chancellors will, therefore, institute from time to time investigation. To the worthy they will hold out reward. The unworthy they will deal with according to their deserts.

Since the ravages of internal war in the various provinces, the people have not regained their normal condition of prosperity; and the authorities will accord every consideration to their welfare. The memorialist states that, in addition to the collection of the ordinary revenves, heavy exactions are made, and the people thereby are unable to gain sufficient for their subsistence, or to put by savings; that legal cases are suffered to linger on, and are, in some instances, never concluded; that unprincipled and rapacious yamên underlings are allowed to extort from and live upon the country-people; and that one visit by one of them to a village means the ruin of several families. Such condition of affairs is truly abominable; and all the local authorities are hereby commanded to issue instructions to their subordinates requiring that such practices be at once suppressed. Should any unworthy official be found making light of the rights of the people, and embarrassing and oppressing them at their pleasure, let them be forthwith reported and rigorously punished.

In those districts recently devastated by war, large uncultivated tracts still exist. The Governors and Governor-Generals will enquire into the circumstances, and, as expediency may suggest, issue instructions for their recultivation. In order to encourage immigration, they are authorised to remit the taxes on the land.—Respect this.

(2) Pih Pau-li and Chang Tsing-hwa are appointed respectively to the Chief and Assistant-Examinership of Kwei-chow, and Chang Kai-chu and Wang Yüen-kwan are also appointed for Yunnan

(3) The Governor of Shantung, Ting Pao-chun, reports on the progress of repairs decided upon for the present to the Yellow River, and also that satisfactory arrangement had been made as to their continuation. The sums received and disbursed to date amount to Tls. 987,954.6.9.8, being Tls. 200,000 under the reduced estimate made last year. The original scheme laid down was to raise banks on the North and South sides of the river—aggregating a length of over 500 *li*—to cost, as per subsequently reduced estimate, Tls. 1,500,000 to 1,600,000. But, owing to the land on the North being relatively higher, it was subsequently determined to leave the raising of the bank on that side to a future period, and to devote attention first to the South bank. The works now under way comprise 190 *li* in the Ho-tseh district, in Shantung; 43 *li* in the Tungming district, in Chihli; 108 *li* to be continued at Li-lien, also in Tung-ming—being a total in the two provinces of over 250 *li*. The land in Shantung is comparatively low, and the banks are decided to be made relatively higher—*i.e.* 14 feet in height—being 100 feet wide at the base and 30 feet at the summit. For this the people are paid at the rate of Tls. 2,400 per *li*; extra allowance being made where piling is required. In Chihli, the banks are being made 12 feet high, 80 feet wide at the base and 20 feet wide at the top—for which Tls. 1,600 per *li* are paid. The province of Chihli having been unable to pay for its share of expenses, the money has been provided by Shantung. Of the above works, 30 to 40 per cent. had already been finished by the middle of the 4th moon, and the entire completion will be reportable by the end of the 4th moon. Some temporary measures in regard to the North bank are referred to; also the necessity of requiring the local officials to be on the alert, in case of exigencies; to obtain the assistance of the people to make necessary repairs from time to time, and also to have material at hand. The money for the above uncompleted portion of the works has been disbursed to the local officials.

4.—The same Governor hands in a supplementary memorial in regard to the above works. The amount expended is represented to be extremely moderate, and much less than would have been required by many River Works' Commissioners. In instance of this, he cites the fact that he was originally in correspondence with the former River Commissioner, Chian Sung-nien, who estimated that about Tls. 700,000 would be required; and it was out of deference to his experience that the Governor was in excess in his original estimate. It is asked that the statutory form of schedule of expenses be not required, and that an ordinary account (based on actual prices) of the total cost only be rendered. (Note.—In the regulation schedule all material bought, and work done has to be rendered at established prices, and not at market rates; hence the regulation schedule requires much manipulation and "cooking.")

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FOR SETTLEMENTS NORTH OF THE YANG-KING-PANG.

Council Meeting of 14th June, 1875.

Present:—Messrs. J. G. Purdon (Chairman), G. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, F. E. Heyden, W. Kidner, A. A. Krauss, F. W. Lemarchand, R. Mackenzie, and S. D. Webb.

Of the resident Medical men practising in Shanghai, to all of whom invitations had been sent to attend, the following were present:—Dr. G. K. Barton, Dr. D. J. Macgowan, Dr. E. Henderson, Dr. R. A. Jamieson, Dr. J. Johnston, Dr. L. S. Little.

The time of the meeting was taken up in discussing matters connected with the proposed new Hospital.—After the Doctors had withdrawn, ordinary business was resumed.

The *Wheelbarrow fees.*—The subjoined letter from the French Municipal Council was read.

[The French text was published last week, with the Minutes of the French Council of the 10th June.]

[*Translation.*]

10th June, 1875.

SIR,—I have submitted your letter of the 8th May, to the Conseil, who still consider that the responsibility of our unfortunate difference rests with the Council, who in the first instance destroyed the *entente*, by breaking the agreement for the half division of wheelbarrow fees, and thus caused the other to refuse the half division of expenses of the bridges.

To withdraw your refusal to divide the receipts (of wheelbarrows) equally, would then do away with the only reason on which this Conseil has refused on its part to divide the expenses (of bridges) equally. Also, it is with pleasure that the Consel see in your letter a proposal for an arrangement which seems to them should put an end to all difficulty, and which I beg to transcribe here, so as to avoid all misunderstanding:—

"The Municipal Council is disposed to "come to an arrangement on the following "basis—To place wheelbarrows on the same "footing as jinrickshas—that is to say, that "each Council issues its own licenses, of "which the tax and the number will be equal "for the two Settlements, and will also be "limited for the two Settlements."

Regarding this proposal, you remark that nothing can be more just than such an arrangement.

This is also the opinion of the Conseil, who hasten to accept it, seeing that, by giving them the opportunity of receiving the half of the receipts from wheelbarrows, this arrangement does away with all reasons for refusing to bear an equal share of the expenses of the Yang-king-pang bridges.

The regrettable discussion which has taken place between the two Municipalities would never have occurred, if this Conseil had been informed in writing before this of the proposition which you write me was made verbally to their delegates.

In fact, the Conseil have learnt it to-day, only; as by an unaccountable accident, none of their delegates remember having heard your proposition, which is so fair, and in conformity with the ideas and claims of the Conseil, that it would have been accepted by them at once. However, if the dispute was unavoidable, at least it ends here, as the Municipal Council have been good enough to again submit the basis of arrangement, which this Conseil accept with pleasure.

Too happy of this settlement, the Conseil put an end to a dispute which has always been repugnant to them, and trust that you and your colleagues will appreciate the reasons for abstaining from answering your letter otherwise than by expressing the hope and the wish that, from their endeavors to co-operate cordially with you in the advancement of public interests, and the good feeling you express towards the French Concession, amicable relations between the two Municipalities will be re-established.

Accept, &c.,
(Signed), A. VOISIN,
Chairman.

And the following reply was agreed to:—

14th June, 1857.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 10th instant.

The Council wish again to disclaim the responsibility of the question of the bridges, as they have always maintained, and still maintain, that it has no necessary connection whatever with the question of wheelbarrows.

They also wish to remark that they never refused to apportion the receipts from wheelbarrows fairly—that their whole contention has been that the division was unfair, and it was for this reason and no other they desired a change.

The plan of each Municipality taking one half the fees of the whole number of licenses issued, and which were unlimited, was at the beginning looked upon as an equal division, and so spoken of and agreed to temporarily, because it was supposed the number of licenses would be as nearly as possible the same on each side; but when it proved that we issued nearly three times as many as you, and yet received only one half of the fees, it was evident the apportionment was not at all fair. This disproportion might have increased, until we issued five or ten times as many as you, and yet we would have to give you half the fees.

This Council have always been ready to make an arrangement by which a fair division should be made, and they regret that the proposition to put wheelbarrows on the same footing as jinrickshas, made to your delegates, should have escaped their memory. The reason it was not put in writing was that you had, in a letter received just before the delegates met, written that your Council could not alter their determination, already expressed, and the delegates from this Council prefaced their remarks by saying that this almost debarred them from alluding to the subject; but, nevertheless, they would like to submit two propositions—of which this was one; but they understood your delegates distinctly to decline altering the previously expressed determination of your Council.

That this Council had no reason to believe that such an arrangement would be acceptable to you, might also further be inferred from the fact that, when invited to suggest an arrangement, you never proposed this one which was a most natural one, as the jinrikshas were already under it.

But the Council are greatly pleased that you agree with them that it is a fair and just arrangement; and, to prevent any misunderstanding, the Council beg leave to repeat more in detail what it is:—

1st.—That the number of wheelbarrows allowed to run in both Settlements shall be limited to six thousand.

2nd.—That every wheelbarrow should be licensed to run in either or both Settlements.

3rd.—That each Council shall have the right to issue one half the whole number of licenses—say 3,000 for each Council.

4th.—That each Council shall collect and retain the fees from its own licenses.

5th.—That the tax or fee for the licenses shall be fixed at the same rate for both Settlements.

6th.—That either Council shall be at liberty to withdraw from this arrangement whenever they see fit, giving six months' notice of such intention to the other Council.

7th.—That in future, should it be necessary to make any police regulations regarding wheelbarrows, such as carrying lights, having stands, &c., such regulations shall be agreed upon by the two Councils and made uniform for the two Settlements.

In conclusion, this Council are pleased to see you consent to paying half the cost of Bridges; and trust that, now these questions are satisfactorily settled, it will be long ere again any cause of disagreement between the two Councils will arise.

(Sd.) J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

A. VOISIN, Esq.,
Chairman, French Municipal Council.

The Minutes of the last meeting were passed for publication, and the meeting then adjourned.

Miscellaneous.

ORDINATION OF A NATIVE DEACON IN THE NINGPO MISSION.

The important step of admitting a Chinese Christian to holy orders has, for the first time in the Cheh-kiang Mission, been taken by Bishop Russell. For years has this event been desired both by friends at home and by brethren in the field; but although the candidate was ready long ago, the ordination was for various reasons deferred.

This first native ordination in the Church of England Cheh-kiang Mission, took place on the second Sunday after Trinity, June 6. Two Sundays before, the Bishop had, by the invitation of the Incumbent and Trustees of Trinity Church, Shanghai, set apart that Church as the cathedral for his diocese in North China, and had there and then been installed.

Thus recognised by the British community as head of the Church of England in North China, it was highly fitting and proper that Bishop Russell, as a Missionary Bishop, should immediately after exercise his highest episcopal functions in connection with the Native Church, illustrating thereby in his own person and procedure the subject of one of his discourses on the day of installation—"the Unity of the Church"—as perhaps no other Bishop in this country had before been able to illustrate it.

The two great events, occurring so closely together, bind the Church of the West with the Church of the East under one Chief Pastor in a very marked and memorable manner.

The Chinese Christian admitted to the sacred ministry of the Church by Bishop Russell, is a native of Ningpo, by name Sing Eng-teh—Sing being his surname, and Eng-teh (grace and virtue) his baptismal name. He is a thin wiry man, about fifty years of age, of very active habits, and possesses much natural eloquence. For nearly twenty years past he had been a paid evangelist or catechist of the C. M. S. Mission; and of late years has been located in the district of San-poh; residing at the small walled town of Kwun-hoe-we, a short distance from the sea coast, and about 35 miles due north from Ningpo. In this place and neighbourhood, a mission was opened by the Bishop (then Mr. Russell), upwards of twenty years ago, in the face of much opposition, and even at the risk of life,—for the natives of the district have the character of being a fierce and independent people. Mr. Gough also devoted much evangelistic labour to this field during the earlier years of his missionary course. A year or two after the commencement of the mission, the first convert was baptized; and since that time, chiefly under the fostering care of the Brothers Moule, the mission has been extended further and further, and converts have been added from year to year, so that now, in connection with the Kwun-hoe-we church, there are (including the outlying branch-stations) a hundred and fifty Christians. There is a pretty church, with native parsonage and missionary's lodge at the back, and also a flourishing day school for boys.

Over this church and congregation the Rev. Sing Eng-teh has been called to preside.

On the day of ordination, the Bishop, the Rev. G. E. Moule of Hangchow, the Rev. A. E. Moule of Ningpo, and the Rev. J. D. Valentine of Shaouhing, were present; together with Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Valentine, and Miss Laurence, Superintendent of the Ningpo Girls' Boarding School. The Native congregation at morning service numbered about one hundred and seventy; probably there would have been a much larger assembly if the weather had not been, as it was, excessively wet. In the forenoon there were two services—the first consisting of morning prayer and hymns only; and the second of sermon, ordination service, and the Holy Communion. The ordination sermon was preached by the Rev. G. E. Moule, who took for his text II. Cor., xii., 9., and pointed out at length the weakness of human agents in sustaining the immense resposibilities of the ministerial office. The newly-ordained Native Deacon read the Gospel, habited in surplice and stole, which Foreign friends had presented to him; and also took part in the administration of the Lord's Supper, when 50 Chinese and 7 English Christians communicated.

At the afternoon service, there was a large attendance of heathen, as well as a good number of Christians. After Mr. Valentine had read prayers, and Mr. A. E. Moule the Lessons, the Rev. Sing Eng-teh delivered an earnest discourse from the words "We preach Christ crucified" (I. Cor., i., 23), in the course of which he showed how the preaching of Christ's cross was a stumbling-block to the Jew and to the Chinaman alike; but how, after St. Paul's conversion, it was what he delighted in; and he concluded by telling his hearers that, though his fear was greater than his pleasure at being called to the office of the Ministry, yet that, as in the past, so in the future, he should always endeavour to set before them Christ only and Him crucified. Late in the day the Native Christians, some of whom had travelled for miles to be present at the interesting service, had to return home in the drenching rain.

SEIZURE OF THE BRITISH STEAMER "CARISBROOKE" BY THE CHINESE GUNBOAT "PENG-CHAO-HAI."

(Daily Press.)

On the morning of the 12th instant, at daylight, the *Carisbrooke* anchored off the East Coast of Hainan, about three miles from shore, abreast of Chin-lan river, to allow passengers and their luggage to leave the ship. A short time after anchoring, two Chinese Revenue gunboats (one of which was the *Peng-chao-hai*) anchored alongside. Captain Palmer and Mr. Commissioner Brown boarded the *Carisbrooke*, and asked Captain Scott what he was doing on the coast of Hainan, as there was not a Treaty Port there. Captain Scott replied that he had passengers from Singapore for Hainan, and that he had called there so that they might land. He was then asked if he had any cargo on board, and they requested to see his manifest. This was shown them, but the captain was not certain if it was correct, as he had not time to look over it. He told them this, and then showed them the ship's papers and port clearance from Singapore for Hainan, Hongkong, and Amoy. Captain Scott was then told that he was breaking the law of China in anchoring at the place, and was requested to accompany the *Peng-chao-hai* in his steamer to Whampoa, and have the matter settled there. They asked if he was willing to go, and he replied that if there was no other alternative he supposed he would be obliged to do so. It was not till after getting out to sea and thinking the matter over, that Captain Scott came to the conclusion that the Chinese Authorities had no power or right to make him accompany the gunboat to Whampoa, and that he was perfectly justified in taking the vessel, under his own command, to Hongkong. After the Captain of the *Carisbrooke* had been told that he was breaking the law of China, Captain Palmer asked him if he would allow the chief officer and three European quartermasters of the *Peng-chao-hai* to go on board the *Carisbrooke* to represent the Chinese Customs Authorities. Captain Scott replied that he would, and shortly afterwards these men went on board the *Carisbrooke*. Captain Scott then gave orders that they were to be made as comfortable as circumstances would permit, as the *Carisbrooke* was crowded with passengers. Captain Scott then wrote a note to Mr. Brown, asking him if the Hainan passengers could land, and he replied that they could, provided that the boats first went alongside the *Peng-chao-hai* to have their luggage searched. Shortly after this all the Hainan passengers left the ship, and Capt. Scott told them to go alongside the gunboat before going on shore. When all the passengers had left the *Carisbrooke*, Captain Scott gave orders to get under weigh, which was accordingly done, the *Peng-chao-hai* getting under weigh at the same time. This was about half past ten o'clock in the morning. As the course from Chin-lan to Hongkong and Whampoa is the same after the Taya Islands are cleared, both vessels were steering near abreast till about two o'clock in the afternoon. At this time the Captain came to the conclusion to proceed direct to Hongkong and land the passengers and mails, and bring the matter before the authorities there. Late in the afternoon, the *Peng-chao-hai* signalled to the *Carisbrooke* to alter her course, at the same time telling her to follow the gunboat. Captain Scott answered that he could not do this, that he was bound to Hongkong, to land his passengers and mails, and that after doing this he would then, if it was necessary, go to Whampoa to answer for his actions. He then shaped his course direct for Hongkong. The whole of Saturday night the *Peng-chao-hai* followed closely in the wake of the *Carisbrooke*. On the following morning (Sunday, the 13th) at six o'clock, the *Peng-chao-hai* sheered close up alongside the *Carisbrooke*, and signalled the latter to steer N.E. by N. Captain Scott replied that he could not do so. He was then asked to follow them. He again answered that he must proceed to Hongkong to land his passengers and mails. They then signalled him again to announce that they would be compelled to use force if he did not follow them. He rejoined that if they did so it was on their own responsibility, and not his. They once more requested him to accompany them, but he still refused. Captain Scott was then told that he was not acting honourably, and asked if he would stop his ship and allow a boat to come alongside. He answered that he would not; they had already boarded the *Carisbrooke* and placed their representatives on board; and that he was now going to proceed to Hongkong. The *Peng-chao-hai* then fired at the *Carisbrooke*. The first shot appeared to be blank, but the second was supposed to have taken some effect. Thinking of the lives of his passengers, and finding that the ship had made two feet of water aft, he requested the Captain of the gunboat to come a little closer, and said that he wished to speak to him. The *Peng-chao-hai* then came nearer, and he told Mr. Brown and Captain Palmer that he would not follow them to Whampoa, but that he would give up the vessel to their control if they persisted in demanding it, sooner than risk the lives of those on board and the safety of his vessel. Captain Scott asked them at the same time to write him a letter stating that they had taken possession of the *Carisbrooke* and her cargo. They acceded to this request, and Captain Scott gave up the *Carisbrooke* to Mr. Brown in about Lat. 21.29 N. Long 113.26 E., Cowlan Island bearing N.N.W., Wycamp W. ½ N. This was at half-past eight in the morning. The *Carisbrooke* has sustained serious injury, although to what extent it is difficult to say until a survey is made.

Correspondence.

THE CUSTOMS AND THE MANDARINATE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I have read the article in your issue of the 5th instant, under the head of "The Customs and the Mandarinate," the substance of which is that there is a tendency on the part of the foreigners in the Chinese Customs' employ to arrogate to themselves the functions of Chinese Magistrates. In support of your views, or rather as a text for your article, you quote two cases. One occurred in the infancy of the Customs in days long gone by. The popular report of what really

Bi-Monthly Quotations of Stocks and Shares as quoted in the Shanghai Share Lists, from July 1873, to May 31st, 1875.

Stock.	Paid-up	1873. July 1st	July 15th	July 31st	Aug 15th	Aug. 31st	Sept. 15th	Sep. 30th	Oct. 15th	Oct. 31st	Nov 15th	Nov 29th	Dec 15th	Dec. 31st	1874. Jan. 15th	Jan. 31st	Feb. 14th	Feb. 28th	Mar 16th	Mar 31st	April 15th	Apr 30th	May 15th	May 30th
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
H'kong & Shai. Banking Corp.	$ 125	55	58	59½	59	53	50	49	49½	53	47	47	47	49	50	48	44	33	46½	39	37	37	37	33
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co.	Tls. 100	135	125½	125	121½	118½	114	114	107	108	110	110	113	111	104	107	107	108	113	116	116	113	110	108
Union Steam Navigation Co.	,, 100	77	86	85	84	81	73	60	60	62	58	50	75	76	76	76	76	74	70	60	60	60	55	55
North-China Steamer Co	,, 100	50	...	48	42	42	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	30	30	30	30	30	30
China Coast S. N. Co.	,, 40	40	58½*	58½	60	60	57	57	57	55	55	60	66	62½ x.d	62½	59	57	57½	62½	61	60	60	58	57
Shanghai Dock Co	,, 500	271	202	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	195 x.d	195	195	195	195	205	205	205
Pootung Dock Co.	,, 100	90	85 x.d	85	88	88	88	88	92	92	92	92	94	95	95	90 x.d	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Shanghai Gas Co.	,, 100	145	144	144	144	138 x.d	138	138	138	135	138	138	139	140	140	139 x.d	139	140	140	141	141	142	144	144
French Gas Co.	,, 50	62½	62½	61 x.d	61½	61½	61½	62	62	62	62	62	63	63	65	65	66½	65 x.d	65	66	66	66	67	67
China Traders Co.	$ 1000	2100	2100	2100	2100	2100	2100	2100	2100	2100	1950	1950	1950	1950	1950	1950	1850	1650	1650	1700	1700	1700	1700	1700
North-China Insurance Co.	Tls. 300	412	412	412	412	412	412	412	412	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	410	350	350	350
Do. Do. (new)	,, 600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Union Insurance Socy. of Canton.	$ 1000	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1550	1550	1550	1550	1550	1550	1550	1550
Do. Do. (new)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	500	500	500	500	500	560
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tls. 500	780	710 x.d	730	725	730	737½	737½	737½	737	730	725	725	715	673 xd.	670	685	685	705	710	710	710	710	710
China & Japan Marine Ins. Co.	,, 100	116	110 x.d	112	115	114	111	108	100	105	100	96	94	94	93	95	95	95	105	105	100 x.d	97	103	99
Chinese Insurance Co.	$ 200	230	215	218	220	216	219	217	215	215	210	200	186	187	187	175 x.d	175	175	195	205	205	203	205	205
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co.	$ 200	550	530	537½	540	540	540	545	555	555	555	550	555	557½	557½	560	560	500 x.d	500	505	500	500	500	500
Victoria Fire Ins. Co.	$ 100	123	117 x.d	121	120	120	119	116	121	121	120	120	123	123	115 x.d	119	117	119	125	121	120	120	123	124
China Fire Ins. Co.	$ 100	126	128 x.d	131	131	131	129/130	125	131	133	132	133	133½	133	126 x.d	129	129	129	133	133	132	132	134	134
Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co.	Tls. 850	550	520 x	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	500 x.d	500	550	550	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.	,, 100	154	148 x.d	145	146	146	147	140	138	137	135	135	135	120	120	120	117	110	114	117	119	117	117	1234
Municipal Debentures	,, 100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Spr	S pr	S pr	S pr	S½ pr	S½ pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 x5 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Theatre Debentures	Tls. 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Stock.	Paid-up	1874. Jan 15th	Jan 30th	July 15th	July 31st	Aug 15th	Aug. 31st	Sept 15th	Sept 30th	Oct. 15th	Oct. 31st	Nov 15th	Nov 30th	Dec. 15th	Dec. 30th	1875. Jan. 15th	Jan. 31st	Feb. 15th	Feb. 27th	Mar 15th	Mar 31st	Apr 15th	April 30th	May 15th	May 31st
		pr	pr	pr	pr	pr	pr	¼ pr	pr	par	%	%	¾	pr	pr	pr	dis	dis.	dis.	dis.	dis.	dis.	dis.	dis.	dis.
H'kong & Shai. Banking Corp.	$ 125	28	27	20	11	8	8	5	6		4	4	4½	4	2	2	3	15	20	15	15	16½	24	22	22
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co.	Tls. 100	105	102	85	90	89½	90	90	90	85	83	80	80	80	80	79 x.d	78	75	70	84	79	75	70	71	73
Union Steam Navigation Co.	,, 100	55	55	55	55	63	17	17	17	17	20	21	22	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	20	21	21	21	21
North-China Steamer Co	,, 100	30	20	5	5	4	10	10	8	11	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
China Coast S. N. Co.	,, 40	57	55	55	52½ x.d	52½	52½	52½	52	52	50	70¶	65	73	73	70 x.d	70½	70½	70½	70½	70½	68	65	65	60
Shanghai Dock Co	,, 500	205	205	195 x.d	200	200	205	205	205	201	205	205	205	205	205	205	205 x.d	205	205	215	220	220	220	220	220
Pootung Dock Co.	,, 100	90	90	85 x.d	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	84 x.d	84	84	85	88	88	88	85	85
Shanghai Gas Co.	,, 100	143	145	145	141 x.d	144	144/5	145	145	145	145	143	144	144	144	140 x.d	141	141	141	141	141	140	139	139	138
French Gas Co.	,, 50	67	67	68	68 x.d	69	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70 x.d	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
China Traders Co.	$ 1000	1700	1700	1700	1750	1750	1750	1700	1700	1700	1500	1500	1500	1475	1475	1475	1475	...	...	...	...	...	...	875	875
North-China Insurance Co.	Tls. 300	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	365	365	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. Do. (new)	,, 600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	650	650	650	650	650	660	660	660	660	660	700
Union Insurance Socy. of Canton.	$ 1000	1550	1550	1550	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. Do. (new)	...	560	560	560	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	500	500	500	500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tls. 500	700	700	695	662½x.d	662½	655	655	620	620	620	620	610	610	610	573 x.d	580	585	585	585	585	585	560	550	545
China & Japan Marine Ins. Co.	,, 100	99	97	97	85	85½	82	83	85	80½	83	82	78	78	78	77	82	84	86½	86	81	78	80	80	90
Chinese Insurance Co.	$ 200	200	200	198 x.d	195	195	192½	190	190	190	190	190	196	200	200	188 x.d	196	195	188	190	190	187	187	187	192
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co.	$ 200	500	520‡	515	515	520	525	525	530	530	530	525	522½	525	530	530	530	537½	500 x.d	485	480	480	580	470	470
Victoria Fire Ins. Co.	$ 100	123	125	120 x.d	121	120	120	120	123	126	129	129	125	125	126	121 x.d	121	123	119α	125	126	125	146	158	164
China Fire Ins. Co.	$ 100	134	134	130	130	130½	130½	131	131	140	136	136	132	134	134	129 x.d	129	130	131	133	133	133	133½	142	142
Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co.	Tls. 850	...	...	...	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.	,, 100	115	122§	100	103	102	102	96	98	100	95	93	85	81½	90	89	86	90	104	100	98	96	96	95	90
Municipal Debentures	,, 100	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	7 pr	107	107	107	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	102
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 x 5/7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98	98	98	98/10	99	98	99/10	99/10	100
Theatre Debentures	Tls. 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

* Tls. 65 paid. † March. ‡ Dec. § May.

The depreciation in the quoted value of the stocks represented, since 1st July, 1873, amounts in round numbers to Tls. 3,100,000.

¶ Tls. 50 returned. * Tls. 85 paid-up. α x. bonus.

occurred in that instance is a great exaggeration of the real state of the case, the facts of which could prove to an unprejudiced critic nothing more than that the Customs' service has had—perhaps has—in it, as every other service may have, a certain proportion of silly men. In the second case, without entirely disagreeing with the general conclusions of your article, I must take exception to many of your remarks on the *Shantung* case.

You must know that, in addition to the article of the U.S. Treaty which you quote, there is another (Art. XI. of the 1862 treaty) saying that all citizens of the United States "shall be punished only by the Consul or other public functionary thereto authorised according to the laws of the United States." From this I infer that had the Taotai himself sat on the bench with Mr. Sheppard, it would only be to examine witnesses, to express his views on evidence, and to generally aid in bringing forward a fair exposition of the Chinaman's side of the case, and to so endeavour to assist Mr. Sheppard in arriving at a decision conformable to "justice and equity." As a judge in the case, by the article referred to, his power is *nil*. Now if in such a case the Taotai cannot himself attend, custom permits him to send a deputy, a man of a rank inferior to his own and to that accorded to the Consul by Treaty, which deputy the Consul, as a rule, in ordinary cases does not object to receive as his Chinese Assessor, and presumably by doing so lets it be understood that he does not consider his dignity or the dignity of his Court lessened thereby. This was evidently Mr. Sheppard's idea, for he made no objection to sit with the Taotai's *wei yuens*, of whom there were two. He might have objected to receive more than one, but, having allowed that number to be exceeded, there seems no reason why he should not as readily receive three as two. This, however, is unimportant, as it is not the ground of objection to Mr. Twinem which he appears to have taken. The *wei yuens* were very small people indeed. Had he permitted Mr. Twinem to sit with him, he would have been sitting with the Taotai's colleague—from a Chinese point of view his equal, not his subordinate. In fact it seems from the Taotai's having asked Mr. Twinem to act for him, that he considered the case a difficult one, and that it would be only the correct thing to have a representative on the Court of position commensurate with the importance of the case. In such a case, I can see no reason why the Consul should have objected to receive Mr. Twinem, considering that the judicial decision was solely in his own hands; while, as to arriving at a just and equitable judgment (which the article in the Treaty says is the object of the Chinese official being present, and which is, or should be, the object of every Court), one would imagine that a fluent Chinese-speaking foreigner, accustomed to Western laws, capable of sifting evidence, and of generally aiding to bring the Chinaman's side of the case honestly and fairly before the Court, and preventing the native from suffering from ignorance of the procedure of a foreign tribunal, would have been found by Mr. Sheppard a more useful assessor than any small mandarin could be. Presumably, Mr. Sheppard thought so too, for if what one hears is true, though he refused to let Mr. Twinem sit with him, he did not object to his being present and actively bringing forward the case in Court, and the Taotai or the Emperor of China himself would have been debarred by treaty from doing any more.

It must be remembered that Mr. Twinem took no steps of his own originating towards constituting himself a magistrate, that he assumed or professed to assume no judicial authority as a Chinese official in this or any other case, and that he appeared in the present suit merely as the representative of the Taotai in a case in which the latter must himself have known that he had no legal power,—(it was not merely an arbitration case, the question of negligence was raised)—and that he, Mr. Twinem, never pressed the question of his right to sit or not beyond making a formal protest on the Taotai's, more than on his own behalf, that the latter might have grounds to refer the matter, if he chose, to higher authority. I hope I have made it clear that even the appearance of assuming authority was not of Mr. Twinem's originating, and that there was no actual assumption at all. As far as I can see Mr. Twinem did not, and I believe the Customs' service generally do not, want to arrogate to themselves mandarinal, any more than they do archidiaconal, functions. I should be sorry to criticise the acts of a man of Mr. Sheppard's ability and knowledge, but I think, as a humble individual, that he might have done worse than accept the Taotai's nomination of Mr. Twinem. His decision has done nothing towards settling the question as to whether Mr. Twinem is a Chinese official or not. Had he agreed to Mr. Twinem's sitting, he could have done so under protest, and civilly objected after the case was over, for I imagine no one would say that Mr. Twinem's sitting would have done any harm. By doing so he would have avoided raising the suspicion, which is sure to be raised, in the Chinese mind, that, having refused to receive a foreign assessor, there must have been something it was intended he should not know or something that should not be seen; consequently, the Chinese would have less belief in the decision. Had he afterwards addressed a protest to his own superiors, and left the question as to foreigners to be settled between the Tsung-li yamên and the American Minister, aided perhaps by the representative of Mr. Twinem's nationality, whatever that may be, then there would be no reason why the Chinese officials should not yield any point that might be presented to them without feeling any loss of face. Now the question will probably be submitted to the same authorities on a Chinese initiative; and if, as is quite on the cards, backed up by the weight of the Viceroy of Chihli, the Tsung-li yamên, in defence of the action of its own officials, has to take the side of its foreign employés and contest their status with their countries' representatives, it will either crow over a victory should the Ministers yield the point, or, should they differ from and decide against the Chinese view, the yamên will accept the decision with a bad grace, and will put it down as one more example of foreign dictatorialism, or, as one of your correspondents inelegantly termed it "the-jump-on-the-nigger" policy; and so another point of friction between Chinese and foreigners will be made, and the general tenor of the way made less smooth.

I should like to go further into the general question of Chinese official position as held by foreigners, and perhaps may do so at a future time, but apologising for the length of my present communication, and assuring you that I have written it in no carping or unfriendly spirit—for I agree in much of what your article says, I remain,

Yours obediently,

A. B. C.

11th June.

SHANGHAI WATER SUPPLY.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—Nearly a month has now elapsed since the last Landrenters' Meeting, at which the Municipal Council was authorised to take steps for obtaining the opinion of an Engineer upon the estimates for the construction of Works for affording the Foreign Settlements under their jurisdiction an adequate Water Supply. In spite of this long interval, the public are still without any information as to the course, if any, which has been decided upon for giving effect to this resolution; and it is to be feared that the consideration on a comprehensive basis of a subject of such vital importance may eventually be deferred until a disastrous epidemic re-awakens the slumbering energies of the community and its representatives. While deprecating on the one hand anything which may tend to create groundless and dangerous alarm, yet on the other I would draw the attention of the community to the dangers which further delay in the final settlement of this question may produce. It cannot be doubted that the absence hitherto of any serious outbreak of typhoid, cholera, or other zymotic disease in the Foreign Settlements, has been in spite of, and not in consequence of, the insalubrious conditions which prevail in our midst. The water-logged state of the subsoil, and the consequent excessive humidity of the atmosphere, doubtless contribute in no small degree to the amount of disease at times prevalent, but the most serious item of all is no doubt to be found in the fact of our notoriously insufficient and dangerous Water-supply,—insufficient not only in quantity, on account of the circumstances affecting and limiting its carriage, but dangerous in the very nature of the supply thus obtained. The plain, unvarnished Annual Reports of the Health Officer to the Municipal Council, and the equally valuable Reports of Dr. Jamieson to the Customs Authorities, teem with allusions to the manner in which our present supply is drawn from the river and the creeks, and both these authorities agree in condemning the system of relying upon the offices of native servants for the proper purification of the water, foul though it be. It is, therefore, needless to expatiate further on this point; and indeed, the question may fairly be said to have passed from one of expediency to one of ways and means.

A retrospect of past proceedings shews us that the Municipal Council, after due consideration of the information collected by Mr. Oliver, their Engineer, and utilised by him in the preparation of alternative schemes and estimates, decided in 1872 that the execution of the necessary works by the Municipality was not feasible, and thus the whole matter remained *in statu quo* until within the last few months. Briefly, the present state of things is, that three sources of supply have, in that period, been proposed,—viz., the river Whangpoo below the Settlements, the river Whangpoo above the junction of the Pagoda Creek, and the Soochow Creek near Batt's bungalow. This much has, therefore, been attained, that the matter has been reduced to within a much smaller compass than at the time when waters were collected for analysis from all conceivable places, including the distant lakes. It may now be asserted, that water, if brought to the Settlement at all, will be taken from a point not more distant than the remotest of these three named, and, lest be it objected that this is but little as the result of three years' waiting, I would remind objectors that the value of this limitation is still considerable. The samples of water analysed by Dr. Frankland were not selected with reference to any distinct scheme or schemes, and it was, therefore, impossible to devote such attention to the selection of these specified samples as would now be practicable. Thus, in taking samples now, we should be confined to these three sources, and would take such at all states of tide, settling, amongst other moot points, the theory of arsenical and sewage contamination of the Whangpoo above the Settlements. This is a chief reason for

advocating, as I now do, the re-analysis of these waters.

The object of the Council's recent motion was rightly explained by their Chairman to be the definite settlement of this long-vexed question, and all will agree with him that this is a most desirable object to be attained, even at a larger expenditure than that mentioned by him. In a matter involving such a large outlay of possibly public money, nothing should be left undone to render permanent steps the right ones, and I believe it will be found that nothing short of consulting an eminent English engineer, whose speciality lies in Water Works, will succeed in bringing about this much-to-be-desired consummation. Lest there be any misconception as to the means of doing this, I am enabled to state that it would not be necessary that the Engineer consulted should either visit Shanghai personally or send one of his assistants here. A Commission, consisting of, say, two members of the Council, their Engineer, and any others, such as medical men, whom these should decide on admitting to their deliberations, would be able to draw up such information and plans, as, placed in the hands of the consulting Engineer chosen, would enable him to arrive at a decisive conclusion on the questions submitted to him; Mr. Purdon suggested at the Landrenters' Meeting that perhaps it might not be necessary to go beyond Shanghai to find an Engineer capable of reporting on this matter; but, without in any way wishing to depreciate the talents of those Engineers who form part of our community, I would only urge that our present want is the opinion of an *authority* on this subject—of one whose name carries sufficient weight to render further cavilling and delay needless, and upon whose opinion the Council could decide whether to carry out the work themselves or allow private enterprise to take up and execute what they have already once declined to do. The opinion which I thus venture to advance is supported by the fact that, after three years' possession of the detailed Reports of the Municipal Engineer, who has practically exhausted the question as far as can be done by any one in Shanghai, we are still but little nearer the end towards which he and others have aimed. Some other element is, therefore, evidently wanting, and I believe that the course pointed out above would supply this. Every successive failure in endeavouring to promote this object will have the effect of discouraging future effort; there is thus all the more reason why the present action of the Council should not be rendered abortive by the inefficiency of the means adopted.

I will conclude, what I fear has already become a long letter, by pointing out that great misapprehension seems to exist with regard to the existence of a Water Company in these Settlements. The argument has often been advanced that such a Company would eventually become a dangerous monopoly, charge what they like for their water, and so forth—on which I would merely remark, that these fears arise from simple ignorance of the real facts of the case. It will be perfectly open to the Council, in the event of a Company performing what most people rightly think are the duties of a Municipal Council, to make such conditions with that Company as will effectually prevent the latter from exercising its functions in any manner at variance with the general well-being and convenience of the community. Mr. Kingsmill pointed this out at the Landrenters' Meeting, but the erroneous idea still seems to linger.

Apologising for this lengthy trespass on your space.

I am, Sir,

AQUEDUCT.

Law Reports.

H. B. M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, June 19th.

Before Sir EDMUND HORNBY, *Chief Judge.*

NORMAN HILL *v.* E. A. REYNOLDS.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT for the plaintiff.
Mr. EAMES for the defendant.

His LORDSHIP, in this case, to-day delivered the following

Judgment:—

In this case, the plaintiff seeks a declaration from this Court, that he is entitled to recover from the defendant so much as still remains unpaid to the plaintiff of ½-share of the disbursements and payments made on account of the steamship *Iron Prince* since the 3rd July, 1862, together with interest thereon, due allowance being made for the earnings and the proceeds of the sale of the said steamship; and that an account may be taken on the footing of such declaration; and also that it be certified what sum is due to the plaintiff from the defendant.

The facts appear to be as follows:—In 1862, the plaintiff suggested the purchase of a steamship called the *Iron Prince*, to the defendant, on joint account. The defendant said that he had already tried to purchase the steamship, but the owner did not wish to sell it entirely; and, defendant declining to be a joint-owner with him, the negotiation had gone off; but he was willing to purchase in conjunction with plaintiff. Upon this understanding, the plaintiff attempted to purchase the steamer, but, the owner objecting to part with the whole of his interest, plaintiff only purchased a half share from him. The defendant hearing that negotiations were going on for the purchase of the steamship, and being under the belief that he was buying the whole of the ship on joint account, sent him funds to pay his, the defendant's half share, *i. e.* $12,000, *i. e.* Tls. 8,000, the balance, to be paid by Captain Lane. On the plaintiff, however, informing him that he had only succeeded in purchasing half the interest in the steamship, and that consequently the defendant only had a quarter share, the defendant does not appear to have done more than write to the effect he was sorry the plaintiff had not bought the whole of the vessel, inasmuch as he objected to having anything to do with the owner. He, however, did not object to the portion of the funds sent down being expended on the purchase, on his behalf, of a quarter share, and he did, during a portion of the time the ship ran on the coast, contribute his quarter share of the expenses. The ship was registered in the name of the plaintiff only. I do not, however, think that this constitutes any point in the case, as it is not unusual to register a ship in the name of one owner only, and in this case it was probably done for convenience. The speculation turned out a bad one—the vessel was temporarily, but only in form, transferred to the defendant's name, to enable him to sell her, but he was unable to do so, and she was afterwards retransferred into the plaintiff's name, or rather, the transfer never having been legally effected, it is more correct perhaps to say the vessel remained in the plaintiff's name, and was by him placed in the hands of the original owner for him to do what he could with her. He sent her to the plaintiff's agents at Hakodadi for sale, representing the plaintiff as having with himself a half share in her; and before she was sold, the defendant was asked if he would agree to the sale. He (see Mr. Hanssen's evidence) refused, saying he would have nothing to do with her, as he would have nothing to do with the original owner, who he considered was injudiciously using her. She was subsequently sold—on the sale there was a great loss. The original owner's *firm* sent an account of the amount due to them in respect of half the loss to the plaintiff, and at the same time sent it to the defendant, saying that as they understood he had a quarter share in it, he ought to pay his quarter's loss. The defendant did not reply to this communication.

Many years afterwards, the plaintiff being in England, the original owner, being also in England, conjointly with other members of his firm, filed a Bill in Chancery against the plaintiff, setting forth his joint ownership with himself, and asking for a decree ordering the plaintiff to pay his half share of the losses. The plaintiff replied that he only owned a ¼ of the ship, the present defendant owning the other ¼, and that the defendant ought to be held responsible for his ¼ share. Upon this, the plaintiff amended his Bill by denying that he ever heard of the defendant's joint-ownership, or had anything to do with him. The suit never came on for hearing, but was compromised by the present plaintiff paying to the original owner of the steamship (the plaintiff in the Chancery suit), a sum of money by way of compromise, and in settlement of the Chancery suit. He now brings the present claim. The defendant has not answered—the effect of this is, accordingly to the rules of this Court, the same as if he denied all the material allegations in the petition. When the case came on for hearing, the defendant first employed Counsel, who applied for leave to plead the Statute of Limitations. I refused to allow this on the ground, 1st, that he was out of time; and, 2nd, that he ought to have applied before the plaintiff's Counsel applied for a commission to examine witnesses (in which commission defendant did not join, although he had full notice of it, and was asked to join in it.)

I have now to ascertain whether the plaintiff has any right to come to this Court for the relief he asks.

The evidence of the plaintiff, taken under the commission, substantially comfirms the statements in the petition; and there is also the evidence of the original owner, who certainly *now* admits that he heard that the defendant had a ¼-share in the vessel; there is, however, the owner's amended Bill in evidence, in which he as distinctly says that he had no knowledge of the defendant's ¼ ownership, that he had nothing to do with him, and did not consider him as part-owner, and in confirmation of this, it appears in his evidence that his firm began a suit against Mr. Reynolds, in Shanghai, to recover from the defendant on Captain Hill's account, but they had no case. Now the first question that occurs to me is this:—

Admitting that the defendant thought himself a partner or joint owner in the steamship with the original owner and the plaintiff—is he so liable, when, if the allegations of the original owner of the steamship are true, it would appear that the plaintiff never actually placed him in the position of co-partner with himself and the original owner, who still retained his interest in the vessel to the extent of one-half. In other words, can he now apply to this Court for the equitable relief he prays, not having done that which the defendant, however much he disliked it, thought he had done—namely, constituted him a partner to the extent of one-fourth of the ship with the plaintiff and original owner. If he has not been put in this position by the plaintiff, can the plaintiff simply assert that he, the defendant, is in that position, and that he always thought himself in that position—simply to enable him (the plaintiff) to make the defendant contribute to the losses which have been since incurred.

I think I must take it for granted, looking at the amended Bill in Chancery, that the original owner did not know that the defendant was a co-owner with himself, and looking at the fact of the compromise of the suit by the plaintiff, notwithstanding his answer and his evidence under the Commission—that this compromise was effected because the plaintiff felt he could not make out and establish the partnership in the steam-vessel, of the defendant, and felt also that he was liable to the plaintiff in the suit (*i.e.*, the original owner) for his *half* share of the losses, and could not successfully resist the suit.

Now, I take it to be a rule of Equity that a suitor cannot claim Equity unless not only he is prepared to do Equity, but has throughout the transaction done Equity.

It is also a rule of Equity Courts (apart from any question of their being within the jurisdiction of the Court) that all partners ought to be joined in a petition for an account, on the principle laid down in Hill *v.* Nash, (Lindley on Part., vol. 2, p. 913)—where a Bill was filed by one partner against the Executors of a deceased partner, to obtain the proportion of loss due from the estate of the deceased, the whole of the loss having

been paid by the plaintiff, and all the other partners having been settled with, and where it was held that the other partners ought nevertheless to have been partners to the suit, for as no settlement had been come to which was binding as between them and the defendants, so no decree in the suit as framed, would be binding on the absent partners, and they, notwithstanding the decree and their settlement with the plaintiffs, would have a right to institute another suit against the defendants to settle the proportion of their respective contributions.

If this is so, and there can be no doubt about it—no decree, in the Chancery suit against the present plaintiff, even if it had been made, which it was not, would have been binding as between the then plaintiff to that suit and the present defendant; and certainly where there was no decree no compromise would be so binding—and the defendant would be exposed to a suit at the suit of his alleged partner, the original owner of the vessel.

It is now said that the present defendant was not within the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery at the time the Chancery suit was brought, and that the original owner is not within the jurisdiction of this Court, but there are no allegations of this kind on the face either of the proceedings in England or on those now before this Court, and there is certainly nothing in either proceedings to show that any attempt has ever been made to bring either of the parties within the jurisdiction, either by asking them, or by obliging them.

To go back to the principle I alluded to—it appears to me that the plaintiff has failed to make out the to be implied statement in his petition, that the defendant was a part owner of the steamship *Iron Prince* with the original owner and himself. That he thought himself so, has nothing do with the question, which really is reduced to this: Did the plaintiff *really make* him a partner with himself and the original owner—if he did, then he might be liable, but then he ought to have been made a defendant in the original suit, and the original owner ought also to be made a defendant or plaintiff in this suit; at any rate something ought to have been done to have made the decree or compromise binding, so as to have estopped the original owner bringing a suit against him, which on the assumption that he is a partner of his, it is even now open for him to do. But did the plaintiff make him a partner with himself and the original owner? The original owner disavows it, however much he may have sought before the Commission to take evidence, for the purpose of assisting the plaintiff,—to modify the statement made in his Bill; and the only evidence is therefore that of the plaintiff, but, after all, that evidence only amounts to this, that he intended to make him a partner, thought he had done so, and that the defendant thought and acted as if he was a partner. But would either or any of these allegations have availed the defendant, supposing it had been necessary for him to have filed a similar application to the present against the original owner of the steamship; or would they have availed him in a suit against the original owner, who had set off any profits which the steamship might have earned against any monies which the present plaintiff might have owed him; would any of these allegations have been proof of partnership sufficient as against the original owner, who flatly contradicted them, to have enabled the present defendant to have recovered his proportion of profits in respect of his quarter-share—notwithstanding the original owner had credited the plaintiff with the whole of the profits due on his half-share? Certainly not, and if they would not, then it is difficult to see how the plaintiff can be said to have made out that he ever constituted a partnership between the original owner, himself, and the defendant. He in fact never put the defendant in a position to receive the benefit of his position as a partner against the original owner of the steamship, and not having done this, it is too late now to come to this Court and ask him to bear the losses consequent on a position which he never filled. I am far from saying that the plaintiff improperly or fraudulently neglected to put the defendant in this position; it is sufficient to disentitle him to the relief he now asks, to say that he did not put him in that position. And this consideration becomes important with reference to a statement in the plaintiff's sworn answer, to the effect, "It also appeared from the said account, and I believe it to be the fact, that plaintiff, A. Scott, or his firm of A. Scott & Co., had throughout the year 1863, and until her departure for Japan in 1864, chartered the ship in conjunction with other persons to carry passengers and goods to and from the west coast of China, and that considerable loss had thereby been occasioned. I have since been informed and believe that the said plaintiff or his firm of A. Scott & Co., made a large profit on the goods and passengers thus carried by the vessel, and I contend that he or his said firm ought to account to *me* for *my* share of such profit."

But it is argued that whether there was a partnership between the three, there was at any rate a partnership between the two, *i. e.*, the plaintiff and defendant, and upon this ground he is entitled to an account and a decree. No doubt there was a partnership as regards a half share in this vessel between the parties to this suit, inasmuch as a partnership between three involves a partnership between two; but to grant the decree prayed for would be to declare a partnership different from that which really existed and which was sought to be declared by the suit in Chancery, and to settle the accounts between the two partners now before the Court, and not to settle them as between all the co-owners of the steamship, and to leave them as between the defendant and his third partner—the original owner—unsettled and open to litigation, which a Court of Equity will not do. On the whole, and for the reasons given, I think the plaintiff has failed to make out the case disclosed in his petition, and is not entitled to the relief he asks.

Although it has not weighed with me in coming to the conclusion which I have come to with regard to this case, I would observe that ten years has elapsed since the vessel, the earnings and losses of which are the subject of this suit, was sold, during which time, until 1871, no settlement was come to between the plaintiff and the original owner, and it was only late in 1874 that the present suit was commenced. It is impossible to say to what extent the present defendant may have been damnified by these delays. I do not, however, say that he has been. I shall not give costs, as I think the defendant should, as he certainly ought in his own interests to have done, answered the petition—pleaded the Statute of Limitations, and thus have in all probability saved the plaintiff from the expenses he has thus uselessly incurred.

In Admiralty.

THE STEAMER *Fusing v.* THE STEAMER *Ocean.*

Collision.

Mr. DRUMMOND and Mr. EAMES appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT (solicitor for Peter Denny, of Dumbarton, Scotland, the owner of the *Ocean*) and Mr. HANNEN, for the defendants.

His LORDSHIP to-day made the following

Decree.

The question of whether or not the master, crew, and passengers of the *Fusing* can recover damages against the owners of the *Ocean* in respect of the loss of their effects, was by consent argued before me after the trial of the cause, on motion as to the form of the decree. At the trial, the Court came to the conclusion that those in charge of both vessels were to blame, and decreed that the damage to *ships and cargo* should be borne equally by both ships. The question I have now to decide is whether the *master, crew, and passengers* of the lost vessel, or any of them, are entitled to be put upon the same footing as the owners of ships and cargo, and have their damages assessed and defrayed in equal proportion by the two vessels.

I have in vain looked in the text-books and reports for any distinct authority for the proposition that, *where both vessels are to blame*, any of these parties would be so entitled. In the absence of any such authority, therefore, I must look to the principles which have guided the Courts of Admiralty and Common Law in the decision of cases in any way similar to the present. I shall first refer to those decided in the Common Law Courts, and then endeavour to see how far the authority of these cases has been recognized by Courts of Admiralty, or departed from. And I shall deal, first, with the case of the passengers, and next, with that of the master and crew.

First, as to the passengers.

The Common Law rule as to these may be gathered from the two cases of *Thorogood* v. *Bryan* (18 L.J., C.P., 336) and *Armstrong* v. *L. and Y. Railway Co.* (10 L.R., Ex., 47). In the former of these cases, a passenger was held disentitled to recover for injuries sustained in a collision caused by the joint negligence of the defendant's servant (an omnibus-driver) and of the driver of the omnibus in which he himself was conveyed. In the latter, a passenger by rail (who was also a servant of the railway company), was similarly—and on the authority of the case just cited—held unable to recover against the defendant railway company, because the collision which caused the damage sued for, was attributable to the joint negligence of the servants of the two companies. It is true that in these cases what was claimed was compensation for *personal injuries*, but I see no distinction in principle between the loss of luggage and the loss of an arm.

Now what is the rule in Courts of Admiralty? Direct authority there is, as I have stated, none; but it is impossible to read the reasons given by Dr. Lushington in the case of the *Milan* (31 L.J., Adm., 105), for upholding the right of the owners of cargo to recover one-half of their loss from the one of two delinquent ships in which their goods were not carried, without recognizing their equal applicability to the case of the effects of passengers. That learned judge says (p. 111)—"It is abundantly clear that the owner of the cargo cannot, on any supposition, have contributed to the loss,—certainly not by himself personally—certainly not by his agents, for masters and crew are in no respect under his control; it is difficult to conceive upon what principle it can be contended that he is *particeps criminis*, when he is not so either as principal or agent. But it is said that he shall be so considered, and deprived of his remedy, by reason that he himself or his agent selected the ships by which his goods were carried. Now, how by such selection of the ship he could, by any refinement of reasoning, be the cause, in part or in whole, of any collision, it is beyond any understanding to discover. There are, in my judgment, in the mere selection of the ship for the conveyance of his cargo, none of the ingredients which can constitute responsibility for a collision; for I cannot conceive a responsibility for an act done where the individual has no power of action, interference or control—where, indeed, he has nothing whatsoever to do with the management or navigation of the vessel."

Every word of this passage seems to me to apply with equal force to the case of passengers' effects, and as no reason was suggested, and none has occurred to me, why passengers should be put in a worse position than owners of cargo, I feel bound to give them also the benefit of the decree I made in favour of the latter—that is, that they recover one moiety of their damage from the *Ocean* and the other moiety from the *Fusing*. For, though for this portion of the relief given there is as little direct authority as there is for the other, it seems to me to be only in consonance with those equitable principles which govern Admiralty Courts, that each wrongdoer should be made to compensate the innocent sufferer in his fair yet full proportion of the damage that he has contributed to cause. My former decree secured this so far as the owners of cargo were concerned, and I am now but extending the same measure of relief to the passengers. In the present instance, though the *Fusing* is not within my jurisdiction, I am fortunately able to secure that my decree will be complied with by her in the matter of her half contribution to the whole damage, because I shall direct the Registrar, if need be, to pay out of the monies that otherwise would be paid over in full to her owners in respect of her loss by the owners of the *Ocean*, her moiety of the claims of passengers and owners of cargo. Her owners having come into a Court of Justice, I assume that they are ready and willing to do justice: if it should be that in this, or in any similar case that may arise in the future, they are not, then, where it is in my power, I shall see that even-handed justice is done.

At the same time, however, as I so decide,

I am not without grave doubts as to the correctness of the conclusions to which I have come. Suppose that, in the contract of carriage, the owners of the *Fusing* had stipulated that they would not be responsible for the loss of baggage unless paid for as cargo, or any losses or damage to the effects of passengers carried gratuitously, or for any loss in respect of private effects above the value of £10. How far would a Court of Admiralty consider these stipulations as protecting the owners of the *Fusing* in a case like the present? If the Court were to admit the validity of these protecting clauses, it would in fact be recognising in favour of the owners of the *Fusing*, a rule of the Common Law as well as of Equity Law, which prevents a man recovering that which by a special contract he has estopped himself from claiming—while at the same time it would be refusing to recognise another principle of the Common Law, which limits the liability of owners in the position of the owners of the *Ocean*.

Moreover it strikes me as strange that when the Common Law limits the liability of persons in the position of the owners of the *Fusing*, from recovering such articles as, for instance, valuable jewels, under any express or implied contract to carry with reasonable care personal baggage or effects,—a Court of Admiralty should refuse to limit the liability of persons in the position of the owners of the *Ocean*. Thus, apart from any express limitation on the contract of carriage, a Common Law Court would not allow a passenger to recover under the head of personal effects or baggage, a valuable diamond which he carried in his waistcoat pocket or in his portmanteau. But it would seem that a Court of Admiralty would enable him to recover its value, simply because it would refuse to enter into any question relating to the contract of carriage between the passengers and the owners of the vessel in which he was traveling.

Second,—I have now to consider the position of the master and crew of the *Fusing* as against the owners of the *Ocean*, and impliedly also (for the reason already given), as against their own owners; and I confess I am fairly puzzled. If I allow the losses claimed, I am disregarding the well-known rule of Common Law, and introducing a rule in Admiralty, but I am at least consistent, and am only giving to the officers and crew what I have given, and for the same reasons, to the owners of cargo and to passengers. All three classes of claimants are identified with the ship in exactly the same way; all equally selected the ship — the one to send his goods by, the other to convey himself and his baggage in, the third to serve in. The same rule of the Common Law is applicable to all,—none of them, under the circumstances which occurred in this case, could recover. Admiralty Law like Equity Law, however, has apparently stepped in, and in what is called a milder spirit relieves them from the consequences of the harsher rule of Common Law. This is at any rate true of the owners of cargo, if the decision of Dr. Lushington is good law, and the reasoning by which he supports that decision seems to me to be applicable to the case of the officers and crew at least. The captain's I consider a different case; he is one of the two real delinquents, and ought not to be allowed to recover from his innocent owners or the equally innocent owners of the *Ocean* (their so-called guilt being only an inference of law) anything in respect of a loss that was brought about in part by his own act. The officers and crew I distinguish from the captain on the simple ground that, being merely the instruments in the hands of the captain to navigate the vessel, and bound by law to obey his orders, however imprudent or foolish, they are in no sense responsible for the loss that was caused. The officers and crew, then, will have their damages assessed and borne like the passengers' damages, by the two ships in equal moieties. The Registrar will take the same precaution in the matter of these claims as in the matter of the others, to see that the *Fusing* contributes equally with the *Ocean* to the satisfaction of the various claims.

I have thus, to the best of my ability, and after considerable thought, disposed of the questions submitted to my decision. Still I do not pretend to be satisfied either with Dr. Lushington's judgment or my own, and if there is any fault to be found it arises from the absurdity of having two rules of law, one contradictory of the other,—for no other reason, as it appears to me, than that there happens to be two Courts which can, to the inconvenience of all parties, administer different systems of law. If the Common Law is harsh, the obvious duty of the Legislation is to alter it. If the Admiralty is foolishly weak and sentimental upon such matters, it ought to be restrained; but there can be no reason why there should not be one law obligatory in all Courts, and that law need neither be harsh on the one hand, or weak or sentimental on the other.

I find that I have omitted to say anything on the subject of costs. The order I shall make on this head is the usual one where both ships are in fault—that each party bears his own costs; and this will apply as well to the first hearing as to this subsidiary one.

Shanghai, June 21st.

F. H. Balfour *v.* J. D. Bishop.

Mr. Hannen appeared for the plaintiff.

Defendant appeared in person.

This was a re-hearing, on the application of the plaintiff, of a case heard in the Court below, on the 11th instant, to recover $6.50, subscription to the *Celestial Empire* newspaper, with which is incorporated the *Shanghai Budget*,—the question at issue being whether the contract for the supply of the paper terminated at the end of 1874.

Mr. Hannen, in opening, said he fancied it was just possible that all he required in the way of further evidence, the defendant would admit. He would, therefore, before going further, ask him if he admitted, 1,—"That the *Celestial Empire* contains all that the *Budget* did, with the addition of other matter; that its staff of correspondents, contributors, sub-editor, are the same, with the addition of others; that its advertisements and subscribers are substantially the same, the only difference being that Mr. Balfour edits it in the place of the late Mr. Lang.—2, That subscriptions to newspapers here, are "till further notice."

His Lordship said he did not think it was possible for defendant to do that, nor did he see how it affected the issue of the case.

Mr. Hannen did not wish defendant to admit it, unless he chose to do so.

His Lordship—It is immaterial.

Defendant, on the question being put to him, said, as far as he was concerned, he did not admit it.

Mr. Hannen said he must then prove it. He called

Harold Howell, who deposed—I am sub-editor of the *Shanghai Courier and China Gazette*, and also of the *Celestial Empire and Budget*. I was sub-editor of the *Shanghai Courier*. The correspondents of the present *Shanghai Courier and China Gazette*, at the outports, are the same, with additions, who contributed to the *Shanghai Courier* under Mr. Lang's editorship. Most of the persons who contributed various articles then, still contribute. The type and plant are still used, with additions; and in fact the only change is in the editorship—that of Mr. Balfour in the place of the late Mr. Lang. The *Budget* was a collection of articles and items of news from the *Courier*, and the *Celestial Empire* is such a collection from the *Shanghai Courier and China Gazette*. Some of the advertisements that now appear, also appeared in the old *Courier*. I have been about eighteen months connected with the management of newspapers in Shanghai. Subscriptions to newspapers here are until further notice, unless some other agreement is made. The transfer of the paper to Mr. Balfour was made during the currency of a quarter, and the subscribers who had paid their subscription in advance, were supplied free of charge during the remainder of the quarter by Mr. Balfour, with the *Celestial Empire*, in consideration of their subscription to the *Budget*. All the subscribers to the *Budget*, with the exception of the defendant, treated the *Celestial Empire* as a continuation of the *Budget*—at least, all that I am aware of. Mrs. Lang, as executrix of Mr. Lang, collected any outstanding accounts due on the *Budget* account.

By Defendant—I cannot recollect all who were contributors to the *Budget*, nor all who were subscribers. I know that some of those who contributed to the *Budget*, do so still to the *Celestial Empire*. I know of one who does not. There have been changes in the subscribers. Some have written to say they wished to withdraw their subscription. They were supplied with the *Celestial Empire* in consideration of their having been subscribers to the *Budget*. Some persons who had received the *Budget* free, now subscribe to the *Celestial Empire*.

Defendant, addressing the Court, said he did not understand that plaintiff was going to employ legal advice, or he would perhaps have done so himself. He must say he did not feel called upon to pay for the *Celestial Empire*, because there was no reason why it should have been sent; but if the account had been asked for in a polite manner, he would have paid it willingly. He had heard nothing of the office with which Mr. Balfour was connected since October last, and when the account was sent in to him (defendant), he sent it back saying he knew nothing about it. It was returned to him, with a wrapper attached—the same Mr. Lang used to send. He then wrote to them to say the account was for the *Celestial Empire* and not for the *Budget*, and that he did not want the *Celestial Empire*, and it was not to be sent to him again. He had refused to pay, because he thought one man should not make another reponsible for anything until he ordered it. He never ordered the paper. The late Mr. Lang was a personal friend of his, and one morning when he dropped in to breakfast, he (defendant) consented that the *Budget* should be sent to Mrs. Bishop, who was then in England. She went home in September last. He (defendant) subscribed to the *Courier* to the end of 1874, and then told Mr. Lang he did not want it any longer, but Mr. Lang said Mrs. Bishop would like to see the Shanghai news while she was away, and said, "Let the *Budget* be sent to her in England." He (defendant) had been a contributor to the paper, and thought it was meant to be supplied free after the end of the year.

His Lordship—The claim against you is from the 1st of April to the 1st of June.

It was explained that for one month of the quarter ending June, the *Celestial Empire* was supplied gratis to those who had previously received the *Budget*.

His Lordship asked defendant if the paper was sent to his wife after January?

Defendant replied that he did not know, but probably it was, because Mr. Lang was a friend of his, and might have continued to send it; but he (defendant) only paid until the end of last year. He never received any request from Mr. Balfour to subscribe to either of the papers. He had known Mr. Balfour as editor of the *Evening Gazette*, because he was himself interested in it; but did not think he had any right to charge him for the *Celestial Empire*, as he had never ordered it, and did not want it.

Mr. Hannen said part of the statement just made by defendant amounted to fresh evidence. Nothing had been stated at the first hearing as to the specific arrangement with the late Mr. Lang. He asked if defendant was on his oath?

Defendant was then sworn, and, questioned by Mr. Hannen, repeated the main facts of his preceding statement. He distinctly recollected that it was arranged his subscription should cease at the end of the year.

Mr. Hannen said the defendant had taken up quite new ground.

His Lordship said it was one of the inconveniences of a rehearing.

Defendant, in reply to his Lordship, said—I am most positive that no claim was sent to me for payment of the March quarter subscription.

His Lordship here said he would adjourn the case for the production of Mr. Lang's books. It was an important point, for, if the bill was sent in for the March quarter, it would be evidence that the contract had not ceased.

Mr. Hannen said perhaps it would be as well to reserve the question until the Court had heard what he had to say on other points—it would save time.

His Lordship acquiesced, and asked who collected the March bills?

Mr. Howell said they were to be collected by Mrs. Lang or her agents.

Mr. Hannen then addressed the Court on the plaintiff's case. He said the case was of the nature of a claim for goods sold and delivered to the defendant, and not so much of the

nature of a contract. Posting a newspaper was delivery of it, and if his Lordship asked for mention of any authority in support of that argument, he would refer him to Lord Abinger's decision in "Gibson *v.* Carruthers" (11, L. J., Ex. 146.) Then the question of course arose,—There being a delivery of goods in accordance with an order from Mr. Bishop, and there being no offer to return the goods, was the defendant entitled to refuse payment on the ground that the person supplying them is not the person to whom he gave the order? Plaintiff said if defendant had notice of the transfer, if he saw the advertisement notifying the transfer, then he was liable to the person supplying the goods. (Boulton *v.* Jones, 27, L.J., Ex. 117.) Mr. Bishop's evidence showed that he saw the advertisement relating to the transfer, and that was notice to him. The only point upon which the inference from Boulton and Jones could be rebutted, was that the present case fell within the line of cases referred to by Baron Bramwell,—where personal skill is called in question. Mr. Lang's editorship was no doubt of great value, but it was not of the essence of the contract. The test was, could the defendant have refused payment in the lifetime of Mr. Lang, on proof of his having been absent during the time the contract was to exist, and that he did not contribute to the paper in any way. Clearly not,—therefore it was not of the essence of the contract. The plaintiff now said the *Celestial Empire* is in fact the *Shanghai Budget*, the only difference being that it is edited by Mr. Balfour and not by Mr. Lang. But if the Court held that Mr. Lang's editorship and contributions were of the essence of the contract, it would follow that every time a correspondent or regular contributor died, or ceased to correspond or contribute, the subscribers could refuse to pay for the paper. That might, in such a case, have been done with respect to the *North-China Herald*, during Mr. Gundry's absence in Europe. If it could be, it would give rise to very serious results. Such a thing could not arise at home, where editors and sub-editors were not generally known, but in a small place like Shanghai—

His LORDSHIP said in this case, the contract was with the proprietor, and not with the editor—the contract passed to the person who purchased the business.

Mr. HANNEN would next refer the Court to the fact that Benjamin, in his work on the sale of personal property, included the case of "Boulton *v.* Jones" under the head of "mistake of person contracted with," but also showed that the mistake must prejudice the buyer. Here there was no mistake, for defendant could not have thought the *Budget* itself was being sent; and if there was any prejudice, it remained for the defendant to prove it. *Prima facié*, he had got more for his money than he contracted for. Further, he (Mr. Hannen) thought it would be seen that the defendant was estopped from saying that there was no contract for the supply of any newspaper except one called the *Shanghai Budget* edited by Mr. Lang. He had no right to assume that the parties taking it over were not going to complete the contract. He knew that the proprietors of the *Celestial Empire* were going on, that they were supplying it to the subscribers to the *Budget*, and, in his case, expending money in postage, yet he allowed them to continue, and was therefore estopped from denying the contract, they, the proprietors of the *Celestial Empire*, assumed to exist. That doctrine was one that had been laid down by Lord Denman; but without troubling the Court further, he would just mention that the converse of the present case had arisen and been decided in "Weatherby *v.* Banham" (*Fisher's Digest*, p. 5,983). In that case, Banham might have refused to pay on the ground suggested by the Court below—that there was no contract between the plaintiff and defendant, and that the defendant was not bound to write and stop the delivery, but he was held liable for goods sold and delivered. He thought he need not say any more on the point; but with regard to the express agreement with Mr. Lang, he (Mr. Hannen) must contend that it was an afterthought on the part of the defendant,—that it was not thought of at the first hearing. The defendant ought to have seen that a specific agreement was made, and he ought to have sent a notification to Mrs. Lang to stop the paper, whereas it had been said that in Mr. Lang's books there was an entry that the paper was to be supplied until further notice.

His LORDSHIP said there was strong evidence that defendant was not asked for the March quarter's subscription. They kept on supplying the paper, and it might be that, being a contributor, he thought he was entitled to receive a copy. Mrs. Bishop went home in September, and defendant did not want the daily paper sent to him, but, he said, the weekly one was, by arrangement with Mr. Lang, sent to Mrs. Bishop in England until December, up to which time it was paid for, and he knew nothing about it afterwards.

Mr. HANNEN said, but defendant afterwards allowed Mr. Balfour to go on sending the paper to England, and paying the postage for it, making no attempt to stop him. Upon the grounds he had stated, he should now ask that the judgment of the Court below should be overruled.

His LORDSHIP said as far as the law of the case went, he was clearly of opinion, whether it might be on an original order or not, that articles sold and delivered must be paid for. In this case, he could not make any difference between the paper being sent to Mrs. Bishop in England or to Mr. Bishop here. But if there was no evidence forthcoming to rebut the defendant's statement as to the termination of his contract with Mr. Lang, there must be a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. HANNEN asked if he understood his Lordship correctly—That the case was left open for the production of evidence as to the March quarter?

His LORDSHIP said that was what he meant.

Mr. HANNEN said perhaps his Lordship would leave it open to the plaintiff to bring any evidence he could get on the point.

His LORDSHIP acquiesced, and

The Court adjourned.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, June 23rd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

SINDAH *v.* E. H. GORE-BOOTH.

Plaintiff claimed $42.50, for work done and materials supplied. It appeared that, in Sept. last, an arrangement was made between the parties to paint and re-cushion defendant's trap, and to make two new wheels for it. Defendant, while admitting $17.50 of the sum claimed, disputed the remainder on the ground that the plaintiff had not put in two new bushes, the consequence being that, on the trap being again brought into use, the wheels rattled as much as before, causing the pony to take fright. A collision with a trap of Mr. Charrier's ensued; the pony, continuing its career, ran into the native city, defendant's trap being smashed, and damage done to the amount of Tls. 50. Before the accident happened, defendant told plaintiff that he would not pay him for the wheels unless he put in new bushes.—Plaintiff denied that he was instructed to put in new bushes, and asserted on the contrary that it was arranged at the time that the old bushes were to be made use of in the new wheels,—adding that if new bushes had been put in, a new axle would have been required. The charge he had made was for wheels only, Tls. 16; two new bushes would cost Tls. 10 more, and a new axle about Tls. 5.—Defendant contended that a new axle was not necessary, and he clearly understood that new bushes were to be provided.—The hearing was ultimately adjourned, in order to ascertain if plaintiff's charge for the wheels, minus the bushes, was a fair one, or whether the bushes should have been included in the charge.

June 24th.

C. E. HENRICH *v.* Captain COWIE.

Claim Tls. 62 for Pilotage.

Plaintiff, a pilot, sworn, stated—I piloted the *Cawdor Castle* in November, 1874. I claim from Captain Cowie Tls. 62 for my services, he having been then in command of that vessel. The charge made is according to the tariff. I have applied for payment, but have been refused.

By defendant—I was in charge of the ship. I gave orders from the bridge to "let go the anchor." The chief officer on the forecastle, replied: "Don't let go the anchor." I asked you to stop on the bridge and attend to the telegraph. I went forward and gave the order a second time to "let go the anchor." He then pushed so that I had to jump on the main deck, and said it was not necessary to let go the anchor. A collision occured with a brig (*St. François*) lying at the wharf, within two minutes afterwards. It was impossible in my opinion to avoid the same if my orders were not acted upon. After the collision, the Captain entrusted me with the duty of taking the ship alongside the wharf.

Capt. COWIE, sworn, deposed—I was master of the *Cawdor Castle*. The pilot was on the forecastle as he has described. I was on the bridge and superintended his directions. I suggested that he should go upon the forecastle as he could see better. I heard an argument between the pilot and the chief officer. The chief officer called out to me that "I had better go ahead." I saw then that the ship was getting near to a vessel at the wharf. I answered "we are getting near, shall we go astern?" I had no reply. I jumped off the bridge and went forward. As soon as I got close to the forecastle, I called out "full speed astern." It was too late, and we struck the brig immediately afterwards. The anchor was then let go by my orders. I then took charge of the ship, and took her alongside of the wharf myself. The pilot remained on the forecastle.

By Plaintiff—I swear positively that I did not give you charge of the ship. I told you that I would take the vessel alongside the wharf myself. I do not remember making any statement in presence of witnesses, that I did not blame you for the collision.

In answer to His HONOR, Capt. Cowie replied—That the proper orders would not pass through him, he being on the bridge. He heard no order given to "let go the anchor." He heard loud talking, and the words by the chief officer, "you had better go ahead and she will clear."

The case was then adjourned until 11 a.m. to-day.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, June 24th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. *v.* KETTEL.

The prisoner was charged some time ago with being in unlawful possession of some clothes and threatening to use a knife.

MUSTAPHA, accused's brother, appeared in Court, and corroborated the prisoner's statement that the clothes were given him by witness. The charge of theft was accordingly dismissed. On the other charge, of drawing a knife, his Worship thought that prisoner had been sufficiently punished by his confinement under remand, and therefore discharged him.

R. (SEE FONG) *v.* CADAR ALLEE.

Assault.

SEE-FONG declared, stated—I am the defendant's wife. On Sunday last I wanted some money, and asked my husband for some. He refused and beat me with a rattan on the legs, arms and hands. He then threatened me with a pistol at another time, saying that if he shot me he would only be in prison for three years. I was frightened, and later on took the pistol to the Police Station.

Defendant denied that he had flogged her or made any threats whatever. He had grumbled because when he returned from his business his "chow" was not ready.

His WORSHIP—Are you really married to this woman? (The defendant is a Mahomedan and the complainant a Chinese).

Defendant—Sir, in the Mahomedan style. I allow her $15, her mother $2, and the boy $2 per month, for chow-chow for myself and them.

His WORSHIP—What wages do you receive?

Defendant—$45 a month, I am engineer in one of the customs steam-launches.

Complainant said that she did not wish to live with her husband any longer. He did not give her any money so she had to pawn some things, for which he had beaten her.

His WORSHIP said, according to defendant's statement in Court, he would in future pay her $15 per month, $5 to her mother and $4 to the two servants, and as they have been married one year he thought that they should not separate now. Costs against defendant.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, June 23rd.

Before Fan 范, Magistrate of Quinsan; Wong Yung Woo 王永和, Interpreter to the Taotai of Shanghai; and Chen 陳, Local Magistrate; with Mr. A. Davenport, British Assessor.

Yang Heding acted as Court Interpreter.

The Quinsan Outrage.—Charge of Attempted Murder.

Four Chinese, from the neighbourhood of Quinsan, named Kung-ah-Qwang, 孔阿廣; Kung-lin-Qwang, 孔林廣; Chên-yuen-Kwon, 陳雲光; and Chên-woo-Kwon, 陳和光, were charged by Mr. W. Cooper with being concerned, in conjunction with others, in the attempt to murder him by strangling, and also with stealing his house-boat and other property, on the 24th April last.

Prosecutor, examined by the Court, deposed—I was at Quinsan on the 24th April. I arrived at an island near there, about three o'clock in the afternoon. I went on to the island, shooting. I saw no one near. There were some men with buffaloes about a quarter of a mile away. As soon as I had fired, a Chinaman jumped up from among the barley, and put his hand to his head to show he was hurt. I asked him to come to the boat. He came, and I and Mr. Hague, who was with me, examined him. We saw he was but very little hurt. There were three shots in his cheek, only one of which entered the skin—two sticking in it. There were not eighteen shots. The shot could not have hurt him, as he was 60 yards away. I saw by the newspaper that the man has been examined here. None of the man's household folks came to me. I gave him a dollar, and he went away perfectly satisfied. A rabble came in about an hour and a half to two hours afterwards. I do not know if any of them were members of his family. The man walked away from the boat as well as I could. After he had gone, I crossed over to the small joss house, at the opposite corner, and went out shooting. While I was away, about twenty or thirty people collected round the boat. Mr. Hague was in the boat. They made a great noise and gave great trouble. They came to make a noise and to threaten.

Mr. Davenport here asked where the prisoners were, there being none in Court?

The question was interpreted to the Magistrates, who gave an order in Chinese, and in a few moments, the man who was wounded was led into Court, seemingly a pitiable object.

In reply to questions, he said, after he was shot he fell down, and although he had received medical advice, he was not now able to work on rainy days.

Prosecutor, in reply to Wong, said—I used about 800 shot in the charge. The man was 60 yards away from me,—considerably further away than the snipe I shot at.

By Chen—Mr. Hague will be able to speak better about the twenty or thirty people congregating. They came on the Saturday evening.

Mr. Davenport directed Heding to inform the Magistrates that he did not wish to interfere with the proceedings of a Chinese Court, but it was usual in other Courts, when evidence was being taken, for the persons accused to be present. The prosecutor was now making his charge, and there were no prisoners to hear it.

A man was here brought into Court, and identified as having taken an active part in the attack.

Prosecutor resuming, said—When I came back to the boat, it was surrounded by Chinese, shouting and yelling. I cannot describe how they were going on,—they were like perfect fiends or madmen.

After a consultation between the Magistrates, Heding interpreted to the effect that the reason they wished the prosecutor to describe the yelling, was because if it were proved there was any reason to apprehend danger from it, the persons would of course be punished.

Prosecutor said there was very good reason indeed, as other people knew.

Fan said he had seen the boat, and if it had been much injured or damaged it could not have been got along.

Prosecutor said others had also seen it, and knew what was done to it; but it did not matter about the boat now. He thought the Court wanted to know what took place otherwise.

Fan consulted with Chen, and several other questions about the boat were put in rapid succession, which were not interpreted, Heding merely saying they were concerning the boat.

Prosecutor repeated that it did not matter about the boat now; it was the assault that was being investigated.

Fan asked for proof of the assault.

Prosecutor—What proof?

Fan—How they beat you and assaulted you—how it took place.

Prosecutor—They beat me with bamboos and other things, until I was black and blue from the blows.

Fan—I have not seen the wounds.

Prosecutor's examination resumed—They brought a boat alongside my boat, with 20 men in her, armed with cutlasses, matchlocks, and knives, and stayed alongside all night. They would not go away, nor let me go. That was on the Saturday night. I did not say they used the arms. They told me I could not go away. At half past five on the Sunday morning they went away. At six o'clock Mr. Overbeck's boat came up, with Mr. Siegfried and Mr. Rodewald also on board. We stopped them and went on board, and told them what had occurred the night before, and asked if they had any dollars. Mr. Overbeck said he was sorry he had no spare dollars. He then went on with his boat, and we were to go and breakfast with them at twelve. We remained until the tepao came, and told him we had no dollars and could not get any. The people then began to collect on the bank, and shouted to the tepao, asking him if he had got the dollars. He told them no. They then began to run up and down the bank, with bamboos, like madmen. They then called to the tepao to bring the boat ashore. I would not allow it to be done. We offered to give the tepao an order on Shanghai, but he refused. It was for $50. We tendered it to the tepao, and he refused it. We also offered to take the wounded man to Quinsan, to Nokobon, or to Shanghai, but the tepao would not allow us. When they found they could not get $50, they put off from both sides the creek in small boats, came to our boat, and beat the lowdah. They next took my boat on shore by force. There was then a regular rush on board by men armed with bamboos, grass knives, ropes, and all sorts of things. They then began to cut the boat to pieces. They cut the ropes and blocks, and dragged the sail ashore. They took everything out of the boat they could, and taking hold of me, put a rope round my neck and tried to drag me out of the boat. They had two other ropes also ready if they could have got them on my neck. They took my gun from a rack, and rushed out with it. All this was going on for 20 minutes or half an hour. The two coolies had gone on to Mr. Overbeck's boat to get them to come back. In the meantime they knocked the lowdah into the creek off the bow of the boat with a bamboo, and also knocked the tepao into the creek. Mr. Overbeck, Mr. Siegfried, Mr. Rodewald, and Mr. Tucker and their coolies then came up. The crowd then made a rush to get away, We captured two and put them on board Mr. Overbeck's boat. One of them was the man who was cutting the rigging of the boat. He was not the only one who did that. I do not know if they cut the sail; they took it ashore. We then went towards Shanghai, and heard gongs sounding all over the country to summon the country people to come and rescue the two men. The people came out, but did not interfere.

Fan—Have you finished yet?

Prosecutor—No, I have not. We went along for two miles. Some Chinese came and said [illegible] the two men, they [illegible] We ceased to do [illegible] began to beat gongs [illegible] after we met [illegible] and when [illegible] we had seven or eight foreigners on the bank of the creek together, they went away. That is my statement.

Chen asked if the paper offered to the tepao was a bank note?

Prosecutor said no, they offered an order for the money.

Mr. Davenport asked if the Court had any other questions to ask.

Fan ordered the tepao to be called.

A man here came into the open space in front of the dock, representing himself as the tepao alluded to.

Prosecutor said this man was not the man who said he was the tepao—that was an old man with a grey beard. (The man in Court was young, with the characteristic coal-black hair.)

Mr. Davenport said, with reference to the non-production of the prisoners in Court, he had nothing to do. If it was the mandarin's practice to investigate a case without the presence of the accused, he (Mr. Davenport) could not help it. He was sitting there merely as British Assessor, to see that the trial was conducted fairly, but he could not interfere with the mode of procedure.

The case was then for some time conducted in Chinese, in a manner utterly incomprehensible to outsiders, nothing being interpreted. At length, another man came forward, and was recognised by Mr. Cooper as being one of those who had taken a chief part in the attack. He gave a long statement in Chinese.

[This man and the other above-mentioned were the two captured by the prosecutor and his friends. No others have been apprehended.]

Fan asked if the lowdah was present, and was answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Davenport suggested that as the trial was likely to be very long, it would be better to take the evidence of the foreign witnesses first, so that they could go away.

The Court acquiesced.

H. Overbeck then deposed—We arrived at the island about six on the Sunday morning. We saw Mr. Cooper and Mr. Hague making signs to us from their boat. They were on deck. There were no Chinese there then. We went alongside Mr. Cooper's boat, and he gave us the whole story of what had happened the day before. He showed us the wounded Chinaman, whom we found lying in a corner of Mr. Cooper's boat, well provided with blankets and a pillow. He was asleep. We examined his face afterwards, and found three pellets just stuck in the skin. We could just see the black marks. We asked Mr. Cooper if he apprehended any immediate danger, as we would remain with him. He told us about the armed boat, which had gone away just before we came, and said he thought there was no danger. We therefore set sail again, and went towards Quinsan, and about four *li* off went ashore shooting. In about twenty minutes or half-an-hour, we heard a fearful shouting and noise. I look round and saw about 400 or 500 Chinamen all making for Mr. Cooper's boat. We immediately went on board our boat, and went towards Mr. Cooper, and on the way met Mr. Tucker. On nearing the place we saw the sail had been taken from Mr. Cooper's boat, and there were several Chinese on the deck. On our arrival, a large number of those on shore went away, leaving about 100 or 120 round the boat. Mr. Cooper pointed out the ringleaders, and I brought one down to the boat. The man now present is one of the ringleaders. We then proceeded on our way back towards Shanghai. There was then a general gong-beating, and people turned out not in hundreds, but in thousands. The whole of the villages around were alarmed, and the people climbed on the graves. They did not come near us, because they saw we were now seven or eight armed foreigners together.

By Mr. Davenport—We did not see the attempt to strangle Mr. Cooper. That was done while we were away. When I saw the wounded Chinaman, he seemed perfectly well, and had not the sickly appearance he now has. The pellets could not have penetrated his skin.

Prosecutor's lowdah next made a lengthy statement in Chinese. In the course of it he said the man who now said he was the tepao, was not the one meant by the prosecutor.

Mr. Davenport again asked where were the prisoners—if there were none, it was of no use going on with the trial.

The following prices have been paid— Exchange, 5/9½. Freight, £3.10 per steamer Against 1874.

Oopacks, etc.	Tls. 19 *a* 28	=	1/1¼ *a* 1/6½	= 1/3½ *a* 1/8 per lb.
Oonahms and Oonfaas	Tls. 19 *a* 31	=	1/1¼ *a* 1/8¼	= 1/1 *a* 1/6⅝ ,,
Hohows and Ningchows	Tls. 16 *a* 40	=	1/1½ *a* 2/1½	= 1/2 *a* 2/2½ ,,

Green.—Musters of 3 chops of Taiping and 12 chops of Pingsuey of the New Season have arrived, but have attracted very little attention, and indeed there appears to be so far no interest whatever taken in the new arrivals. Under the exceedingly adverse reports from the home markets it is difficult to place safe values on Teas here, and buyers have up to the present time held aloof. Teamen seem to be very much at a loss to know what prices to ask or what course the market may probably take, and a reliable scale of quotations cannot at present be given.

The best chops of Pingsuey have not yet come forward, but those shown so far are of inferior make, mixed in leaf and thin in the cup, wanting briskness and character; at the same time the Teas appear to be cleaner if less strong, and it is quite possible that a larger experience of the Crop may modify the opinion formed on these few first arrivals.

Stock 5,000 ½-chests, against 8,900 ½-chests in 1874.

Export to Great Britain is as under:—

	1875-76.	1874-75.	1873-74.
BLACK	28,853,929 lbs.	26,228,095 lbs.	18,703,209 lbs.
GREEN	16,357 ,,	23,413 ,,	19,157 ,,
	28,870,286 lbs.	26,251,508 lbs.	18,722,366 lbs.
Export to United States and Canada—			
BLACK	148,575 lbs.	538,316 lbs.	28,790 lbs.
GREEN	1,348 ,,	..... ,,	..... ,,
	149,923 lbs.	538,316 lbs.	28,790 lbs.

Total Export to Great Britain from all China is as follows:—

	1875-76.	1874-75.	1873-74.
From Shanghai to date	28,870,286 lbs.	26,251,508 lbs.	18,722,366 lbs.
,, Foochow to 29th May	9,431,008 ,,	..... ,,	..... ,,
,, Canton to 20th May	5,375,992 ,,	4,978,858 ,,	3,841,440 ,,
	43,677,286 lbs.	31,230,366 lbs.	22,563,806 lbs.

HANKOW.—Dates from this port extend to the 22nd June, and report continued activity during the fortnight, at prices which on the whole showed no decline. Musters of second crop Teas were hourly expected, and it was confidently asserted on all sides that both the quantity and the quality would be seriously affected by the constant heavy rains.

Settlements and Shipments—

	To date.....320,928 chests.	Against in 1874.....	282,941 chests.
	Stock ..... 5,000 ,,	,, ,, ...	5,000 ,,
Do.	Ningchows .....131,500 ½-chests.	Against in 1874.....	128,194 ½-chests.

SILK.—The last public telegram from London dated 22nd June reports the silk market quiet, business confined to a few auction sales, "Chick" No. 3, 17s. 2d.; Dancing Bear No. 1, 15s. 4d.; Kukee's "Chin Jan" and "Kin Hock," 15s. 6d. and 14s. 7d.; Blue Elephant, 15s. 1d., and Red Peacock, 14s. 3d. per lb.

The French mail of the 19th inst. took 3,697 bales, (78 bales for Milan, 979 bales for Marseilles, 27 bales for Basle, 42 bales for St. Etienne, 1,256 bales for Lyons, and 1,315 bales for London), which were settled at prices showing a wide margin on the above home quotations. Amongst the reported purchases were:—

	Per picul.	Per lb. Ex. 5/10	Per kilo. Ex. Frs. 7.40.
Koo-fong-sing Chop No. 3, 3½ and 4	Tls. 400, 380, 360	19/11, 18/11, 17/11	Frs. 55.82, 53.08, 50.34
Incense Chop Nos. 3 and 3½	Tls. 360 & 335	17/11 & 16/8	Frs. 50.34 & 46.91
Gold Lion, Nos. 3 and 4	Tls. 340 & 320	16/11 & 16/0	Frs. 47.60 & 44.86
Kukee's "Chin Jan" and Kin Hock"	Tls. 340 & 315	16/11 & 15/9	Frs. 47.60 & 44.17
Phœbus, Nos. 1, 2 and 3	Tls. 340, 320, 300	16/11, 16/0, 15/0	Frs. 47.60, 44.86, 42.12
"May-foong" Elephant	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.17
Yellow and Green do.	Tls. 305 & 285	15/3 & 14/3	Frs. 42.80 & 40.06
Beautiful Woman, No. 2	Tls. 317½	15/11	Frs. 44.50
Pagoda No. 2 and 3	Tls. 325 & 305	16/3 & 15/3	Frs. 45.54 & 42.80
Buffalo, No. 2	Tls. 317½	15/11	Frs. 44.50
Double Phœnix "Ting Fong"	Tls. 315	15/9	Frs. 44.17
Dancing Bear, No. 2	Tls. 320	16/0	Frs. 44.86
SSS Dollar	Tls. 285	14/3	Frs. 40.06
"Chay-shen" Tsatlee	Tls. 285	14/3	Frs. 40.06
Chin Yuen Sing's "Ting How" "Kahing Taysaam"	Tls. 350	17/5	Frs. 48.97
Do. "Kin Ling," do.	Tls. 290	14/6	Frs. 40.75
Tung-Yih's "Cheang Foong" do.	Tls. 355	17/8	Frs. 49.66

Business during the past week is estimated at about 2,000 bales, (exclusive of 500 bales left over from last mail), and has been confined principally to common and market Tsatlees and Taysaams. Prices in some instances show a decline of Tls. 5 *a* 10 per picul, but many settlements have been made at rates showing no change on previous quotations. Prospects are in favor of lower and safer prices, unless the Continental buying (with has sensibly *decreased* this week) is resumed at the absurdly high rates which marked the previous four weeks business. But even the *most sanguine* must halt, when cost goes up to 2s. 6d. per lb. *over last known sales!*—(Gold Lion at Tls. 380, at 5s. 10d. = 18s. 11d.; London quotation 16s. 6d.

The unsold stock has increased to 13,500 bales.

HANKOW.

Messrs. Gordon Bros. write on the 22nd June:—In our Report of 8th inst. we characterised the fortnight as an entire blank so far as sales of goods were concerned, and the period elapsed since then has if possible been worse. Scarcely a day has passed without unusually heavy rain, and dealers have done nothing.—The probability of a flood is freely discussed, and appearances are certainly in favor of one. Natives and Foreigners alike dread the occurrence, with the exception of those interested in the River steamers, to whom visions of large Cotton Freights during the winter more than compensate for the inconveniences of an inundation."

There has been no diminution in the demand for tea during the past fortnight, business reaching a considerable total.

A marked improvement in the quality of the Oanfaas, of which the bulk of arrivals since last mail have consisted, caused fair competition for them, resulting in all supplies being settled promptly—Tls. 20.5 *a* 21.5 for common rather dusty, Tls. 22 *a* 26 fair to good, and Tls. 27 *a* 31.5 for fine kinds. Oopacks from the Yung-Low-Toong, Sun-Yang and Chong-Sow-Kai districts have ruled at Tls. 20 *a* 22.5 for common to fair, and Tls. 23 *a* 29 for good to fine. Ping-Kongs have been taken at Tls. 17 *a* 23.5, Lye-Lings at Tls. 18 *a* 19.5, and Nip-Ka-Sis at Tls. 17 *a* 21 per picul. Seangtams have realised Tls. 13.90 *a* 15.50 per picul.

Prices immediately after last mail left, ruled rather easier for all kinds, but latterly, taking the low quality of the Teas into consideration, any slight decline has been regained. Seangtam kinds can now be bought at Tls. 13.75 *a* 14.50 per picul.

The 1st crop of Hankow Teas to date is 3,430,500 lbs. over last season's entire yield.

Three musters of 2nd crop have been placed on the market to-day, but we defer our opinion regarding them until our next circular. The wet weather is the cause of their late arrival as compared with the 1st crop. The cost of Oopacks laid down here *is said* to be Tls. 24 *a* 27 per picul.

It is reported that offers of Tls. 24.5 and Tls. 20.5 have been made for two of the chops of 2nd crop Tea on the market—one from Yung-laou-toong, the other from Nip-ka-si.

The total export to date is 30,264,000 lbs. against 24,582,000 lbs., exclusive of re-exports, which are also in excess. The departures for London are 20,414,000 lbs. against 20,812,000 last year.

The *Craigforth* and *Cawdor Castle* are on the berth for London at £4, the former being about half full. The *Tchihatchoff* is loading for Odessa at £5.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

June 26, 1875.

Arrivals.—(Not reported above.)—None.

Departures.—(Not reported above.)—June 19th, British ship *Cutty Sark*, for London.

The English mail steamer *Nizam* takes about 2,100 bales of Silk, and about 700 tons of Tea.

Exchange.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 8⅞d. *a* 5s. 9d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 9½d. *a* 5s. 9⅝d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 9¼d. *a* 5s. 9⅜d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 9⅜d. *a* 5s. 10d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 7.32½. Private, Frs. 7.40. On India—Bombay Bank, demand, Rs. 310 *a* 312. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 310 *a* 312. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27½ per cent. discount. Private 15 days' sight, 28. Gold Bars, Tls. 172.50. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 72.70 per 100. Carolus dollars, Sh. Tls. 79.80 per 100. Copper cash, 1,600 per tael.

Shares.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report, at noon, 26th June :—

Banks.—Business has been done to-day at 24 % dis., at which shares are still obtainable.

S. S. N. Co.—There has been scarcely any demand since our last—the only sale reported being at Tls. 74 cash, at which there are sellers.

Fire Insurance,—Hongkongs have been placed, and are still wanted, at $480. There has been no business reported in *Chinas* and *Victorias*.

Marine Insurance.—Yangtszes have been sold at Tls. 565, and there are still buyers. *China & Japans* have been placed at Tls. 94, at which a few are on offer. *North Chinas* have also been placed at Tls. 725.

Gas Shares—English Gas shares have been sold at Tls. 137, and are still wanted. *French Gas* shares have also been sold at Tls. 72.

The Weather.—It has again rained steadily throughout the week, since Sunday. A thunderstorm occurred on Tuesday, with the heaviest rain we have seen in Shanghai. A meteorological bulletin from the Sikaway Observatory, published in the *Courier*, notes that the total rainfall this month up to the 24th inclusive, is 381.6 millimètres. (*i.e*, roughly, about 15 in.) exceeding by 122.3 m.m. the maximum rainfall at Shanghai in June, for the last ten years.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Divid. Last Year.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and S'hai Banking Corpn	$ 125	....	24 % dis. Ex. 72½.
Steamer Cos.			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co...	Tls. 100	7 %	Tls. 74
Union Steam Navigation Company.	50	....	21 nominal
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tls. 85	10 %	Tls. 65 1 July.
China Merchants S. N. Co.....	500	10 %	nominal
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T.20p.sh	220
Pootung Dock Co..	,, 100	10 %	85
Gas			
Shanghai Gas Co..	100	11 %	Tls. 137
French Gas Co. ..	50	11 %	72
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	$1,000	$150p.sh	875 noml.
N.-China I. Co. 72/4	Tl. 300	....	70
N.-China I. Co. 75/7	600	first year	725
Union Ins. Society of Canton 1874..	500	....	$ 500
Yangtsze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	15 %	Tls. 565
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co....	100	....	Tls. 94
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited) ..	$ 200	12 %	$ 192 nominal
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	200	$ 51.75 p. sh.	480 Ex. 72½
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited) ..	100	12 % & Bonus 4½	160 nominal
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	12 %	142 nominal
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Compy..	Tl. 850	12 %	600
S'hai and Hongkew Wharf Co. ...	100	5 %	90 Cash
S'hai Tug Boat Asso	100	....	nominal
S'hai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	8 %	102
Do. ,, 1873.	100	8 %	105
Chinese Imperial Loan	£95 a 5/7	first year	£102
Theatre Debentures	25	8 %	Tls. 20 noml.
Exchange.			
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong..			72⅜

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

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A

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FOR

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29th March, 1875.
7, Hankow Road. tf 2828

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Established 1825.

THE undersigned begs to notify that the Board of Directors at this place have power to pass proposals for Assurance, on the Lives of Persons residing at any Port of China or Japan.

ED. HOLDSWORTH,
Agent & Secretary to the Local Board.
2080 Z Shanghai, 6th Oct., 1874.
n o-a-f (c.a.) 31de-75.

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RISKS secured by a collective Capital of Fcs. 18,000,000. Claims settled according to London Lloyds' Rules.

[illegible] & Co.,
Agents.
[illegible] Shanghai, [illegible] Oct., 1874.

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	All Risks.	Free of Particular Average.
Hankow to London, Tea,	2¾ %	2¼ %
Shanghai to London, Tea,	2¼ %	1¾ %
Shanghai to London, Silk,	1½ %	1¼ %

Subject to an immediate cash discount of *Twenty-five per cent* 25 %.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
n 27ap to 3my *Agents.*
tf 2084 Shanghai, 27th April, 1875

The Royal Exchange Assurance, of LONDON.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents of the above Corporation, are prepared to grant policies against Fire, at Current Rates, less 20 per cent discount.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
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30se 2902 *Z* Shanghai, 1st April, 1872.

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

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20 PER CENT. Discount allowed on all premia contributed.

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Z *Agents.*
5fe-76 2442 Shanghai. 16th July, 1872.

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tf 2890 Shanghai, 1st Jan., 1873.